



Route Z Road and Bridge Improvements Community Briefing Nov. 14, 2012

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of tonight's meeting?

The purpose of the meeting is to gather input about plans to replace the Route Z interchange bridge over Interstate 70 in Boone County. The project also includes constructing a new roundabout at the intersection of Route Z and St. Charles Road, constructing a new asphalt overlay and three-foot, hard-surface shoulders with rumble stripes on Route Z from St. Charles Road to I-70.

What is the purpose of this project? Why is it needed?

Columbia Public Schools is in the process of completing construction of the new Battle High School on St. Charles Road. The new school is scheduled to open for classes in August 2013, with an initial population of 1,700 students and 175 staff and faculty members. Ultimately, the high school will house 2,000 students and 190 staff and faculty members. Our proposed project will improve the connection at Route Z and St. Charles Road and increase highway capacity to allow for safe and convenient travel for area motorists and student drivers.

A roundabout is shown at the intersection of Route Z and St. Charles Road. What is a roundabout and how does it work?

A roundabout is an intersection that accommodates traffic flow in one direction around a central circular island. As drivers approach a roundabout, they slow down and yield to traffic already circulating. When a gap appears on the left, drivers enter the roundabout by turning right and following the circle until reaching their exits. Roundabouts are safer than signalized intersections because there are fewer conflict points where vehicles could collide. Roundabouts also reduce driver delay by allowing motorists to yield rather than stop.

Will the Route Z interchange be closed during construction?

Yes. We are proposing to close the Route Z interchange at I-70 during construction. Closing the interchange will give the contractor more flexibility to complete the work faster, safer and more cost effectively. Motorists will be detoured to Route Z via the Route A/DD (Millersburg) and St. Charles Road/Lake of the Woods interchanges, then along the outer roads.

How is this project funded and what is the schedule?

This project is funded through a cost-share agreement between MoDOT and Boone County. Boone County is funding approximately 33 percent of the project cost, while MoDOT is funding 67 percent of the project cost. The total project cost is approximately \$2.3 million. The project is scheduled to be bid in February 2013. Construction is anticipated to begin in March 2013 and to be completed by August 2013, prior to the opening of the new Battle High School.

How can I learn more?

You may learn more by contacting us toll free at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636) or by visiting us on the Web at www.modot.org/central.