



OZARKS  
TRANSPORTATION  
ORGANIZATION  
A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## OTO Approves Priority Project List for 2018-2022

The OTO Board of Directors approved the Priority Project list for submission to MoDOT for use in the development of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for 2018-2022 on December 15, 2016. This list of prioritized projects was developed in the event that MoDOT is able to fund transportation expansion projects. The projects will only be considered after consideration of an asset management plan ensuring that pavement and bridges are kept in good condition.

It is expected there will be funding to add projects to state fiscal year 2021 and 2022. The passage of the USDOT administered FAST-ACT has provided the stable funding needed to be able to consider system expansion. It is important to note that needs are much greater than anticipated funding and that no more than a few of these projects will be able to be considered. However, the OTO Board of Directors realizes the importance of being ready in the event that grant opportunities arise or a national infrastructure spending package is developed.

The list adopted by the Board of Directors will now be forwarded to MoDOT for consideration. The Missouri Statewide Transportation Improvement Program will be developed in late Spring and is expected to be adopted by the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission in July.

The Ozarks Transportation Organization is the Springfield-regional Metropolitan Planning Organization, or MPO. The MPO is a body of elected and appointed members who work together with local, state and federal elected officials and policy-makers, serving to make funding and planning decisions for transportation within the Springfield, MO region.

A complete list of projects can be found on the OTO's website at:  
[http://www.ozarkstransportation.org/Documents/STIP\\_Priorities.pdf](http://www.ozarkstransportation.org/Documents/STIP_Priorities.pdf)

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*Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Andy Thomason at 417-865-3042 at least 2 working days prior to the expiration of the public comment period.*

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