



Mid-Missouri Regional
Planning Commission

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

February 2006 Announcements

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

On January 11, 2006 Governor Matt Blunt presented his second "State of the State" address to the citizens of Missouri. Within his address Governor Blunt has issued a challenge to Missouri Legislators to revise "Eminent Domain" laws in order to protect property owners from eminent domain abuses. Governor Blunt's challenge comes in response to the Kelo v. City of New London, Connecticut case. In that case, the decision issued by the U.S. Supreme Court allows governments to take private property for the use and profit of private interests. Kelo v. City of New London raises many issues that communities within the Mid Missouri Regional Planning Commission boundaries face when planning for city growth and revitalization. As a result of the Court's decision and the Governor's challenge there are many House and Senate Bills currently under review. The following is a list of Bills to be aware of:

Bill	Sponsor	Bill	Sponsor
HB1193	Jane Cunningham	HJR37	Mark Wright
HB1363	Nathan Cooper	HB1533	Jim Lembke
HJR30	Wayne Henke	SB560	Chuck Gross
HJR38	Jane Cunningham	SB611	Kevin Engler
SB794	Harry Kennedy	SJR29	Kevin Engler

HB1264-Tax Increment Financing Agreements: Requires developers to comply with tax increment financing agreements. Sponsored by Paul LeVota, Jeff Roorda and etal.

HB1346-Qualified Investor Incentive Tax Credit: Authorizes a qualified investor incentive tax credit for certain agricultural producers investing in a new generation cooperative or new generation processing entity. Sponsored by Peter Myers, Bob Nance, and etal

SB645-Modifies the "Missouri Business Use Incentive for Large Scale Development Act." Sponsored by John Griesheimer

MoDOT 2006 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA:

On January 26, 2006 MoDOT hosted the 2006 Transportation Conference, in cooperation with the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and the Missouri Farm Bureau. From this conference many safety issues were identified and revisited. The following is a list of goals MoDOT has determined are a priority for legislative passage in 2006.

1. Passage of a "Primary Safety Belt Law".
2. Legislation increasing penalties for repeat traffic offenders in highway work zones.
3. Bonds issued to fund multimodal improvements.
4. Legislation to refuse, suspend or revoke the registration of motor carriers who are prohibited from interstate travel by federal law.

For detailed information regarding these MoDOT legislative goals go to:
<http://www.modot.org>

UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS

Nearly all of Missouri's metropolitan areas created jobs in December while unemployment rates fell in most of the remaining parts of the state, the Department of Economic Development reported last week. Over the past year, all metropolitan areas except Jefferson City experienced growth. In Jefferson City, decreases of 800 jobs in state government, 400 in goods-producing industries and 100 in local government more than offset the 1,100-job growth of the private service sector, resulting in an overall decrease of 200 jobs. The most rapid growth was in Columbia where employment grew by 2.9 percent or 2,600 jobs. Joplin and Springfield each experienced 2 percent growth, resulting in gains of 1,800 and 4,300 jobs, respectively.

Missouri Unemployment Rates

Area	Dec. 2005	Nov. 2005	Oct. 2005	Dec 2004
Columbia MSA	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.3
Boone	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.2
Howard	4.2	4.1	3.3	4.4
Jefferson City MSA	4.0	4.2	3.5	4.2
Callaway	4.4	4.2	3.6	4.7
Cole	3.6	4.1	3.4	3.7
Moniteau	4.5	4.6	3.7	5.3
Single Co. LMA- Cooper	4.0	4.4	3.6	4.9

Source: Mo. Department of Economic Development in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics.

MMRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Karen Miller
Chairman
Commissioner
Boone County

Lowell Eaton
Vice-Chairman
Presiding
Commissioner
Howard County

Bob Jones
Secretary
Presiding
Commissioner
Cole County

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Planning
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Fulton

Pat Cunningham
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Howard County

Eddie Brickner
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Darrel King
County
Assessor
Moniteau
County

**Debbly
Lancaster**
Mayor
City of
Huntsdale

Gabe Craighead
Commissioner
Callaway
County

Isaac Edwards
At-Large
Member
Boone County

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missouri Community Betterment

MCB invites you to attend a regional meeting to be held March 9th in Columbia. The MCB Board wants to develop a program that will help community's progress. The regional meeting will inform attendees of the planning process, entering competition and being ready for the judging visit to your community. MCB Executive Director Jan Simon will give an update on the MCB program and information regarding the new project registry form and mentoring program. For additional information contact Jan Simon @ email: webmaster@communitybetterment.com, phone 660.259.4409, or visit the MCB website- <http://www.mocommunitybetterment.com>

Missouri Trails Advisory Board

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is accepting nominations for three positions on the Missouri Trails Advisory Board. The primary function of the board is to review and evaluate grant applications submitted for funding through the federal Recreational Trails Program and make funding recommendations to the department. The Board consists of eight members appointed by the director of MoDNR. The members represent the following trail uses: pedestrian, equestrian, off-highway motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, bicycling, mountain bicycling, accessibility, and general trail use. The three vacant positions for which the department is accepting nominations are off-highway motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding and bicycling. The nomination form and instructions are available at www.mostateparks.com/grantinfo.htm. Deadline February 15.

Economic Development

The February 14th meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee will include a presentation by the Missouri Department of Economic Development's central region team members-Kevin Stover-Project Manager, Mike Nichols-Project Manager, Terry Maglich-Project Manager and Sharon Gulick-Project Manager. Please make plans to attend-the meeting offers an excellent opportunity to establish your community's working relationship with MoDED representatives in developing your economic development projects. For additional information, contact the MMRPC office @ 573.657.9779 or email to: mmrpc@mmrpc.org

CALENDAR

February 7 and 8, 2006--Missouri Economic Development Council Winter Conference. Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City. For details see: www.showme.org

February 13, 2006--Lincoln's Birthday--MMRPC Office closed

February 14, 2006--MMRPC Economic Development Committee meeting. 10 a.m. MMRPC office in Ashland. Contact Lisa at 573.657.9779 or lisanichols@mmrpc.org.

February 20, 2006--President's Holiday--MMRPC Office closed.

February 22, 2006--MMRPC Board of Director's meeting. MMRPC office in Ashland. Contact Lisa at 573.657.9779 or lisanichols@mmrpc.org.

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