



# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Weekly Briefing

July 31, 2009



Missouri Department  
of Transportation

- On Monday, U.S. Transportation Secretary LaHood announced that the USDOT will accelerate stimulus spending and announce \$1.5 billion in TIGER Discretionary Grants as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act one month early. As part of the ongoing effort to accelerate spending, Secretary LaHood created a review team to expedite the application process for the \$1.5 billion TIGER Discretionary Grant program. That will enable the Department to announce the grants in January 2010 – one full month ahead of the statutory deadline. Missouri continues to prepare their TIGER application for 30 miles of dedicated truck lanes on I-70.
- The Multimodal Operations Division - rail section staff will be meeting with the Federal Rail Administration - Recovery Act Midwest team next week in Chicago to go over MoDOT's pre-applications and obtain feedback in preparation for the four shovel ready projects that MoDOT is on track to apply for by the August 24 grant application deadline.
- As of July 31, there are 26 complete MHTC Recovery Act projects and 37 active projects.
- Obligations to date are \$392.7 million. This is 62% of the total \$637 million that must be obligated by March 2, 2010. Of the \$93 million in sub allocated funds, 11.4 % are obligated.
- The US Governmental Accountability Office (GAO) completed their second report of the 16 states chosen for review of Recovery Act implementation. Items noted in the report include, lack of resources for the single audit provisions and a recommendation to the Secretary of Transportation to develop clear guidance on identifying and giving priority to economically distressed areas that are in accordance with the requirements of the Recovery Act and the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended, and more consistent procedures for the Federal Highway Administration to use in reviewing and approving states' criteria.

## Important Dates

- August 5 - MHTC meeting
- August 10 - FHWA Monthly Project Status report due
- August 10 - Maintenance of Effort certification report due
- August 20 - FHWA Monthly Employment Summary report due
- August 24 - Application for High Speed Intercity Rail Program Grant due
- September 15 - TIGER grant application due date
- ***All current MoDOT reports for Recovery Act projects can be found on MoDOT's Ready To Go Web site at the following link: <http://www.modot.mo.gov/arra/DocumentsandTransparency.htm>.***