

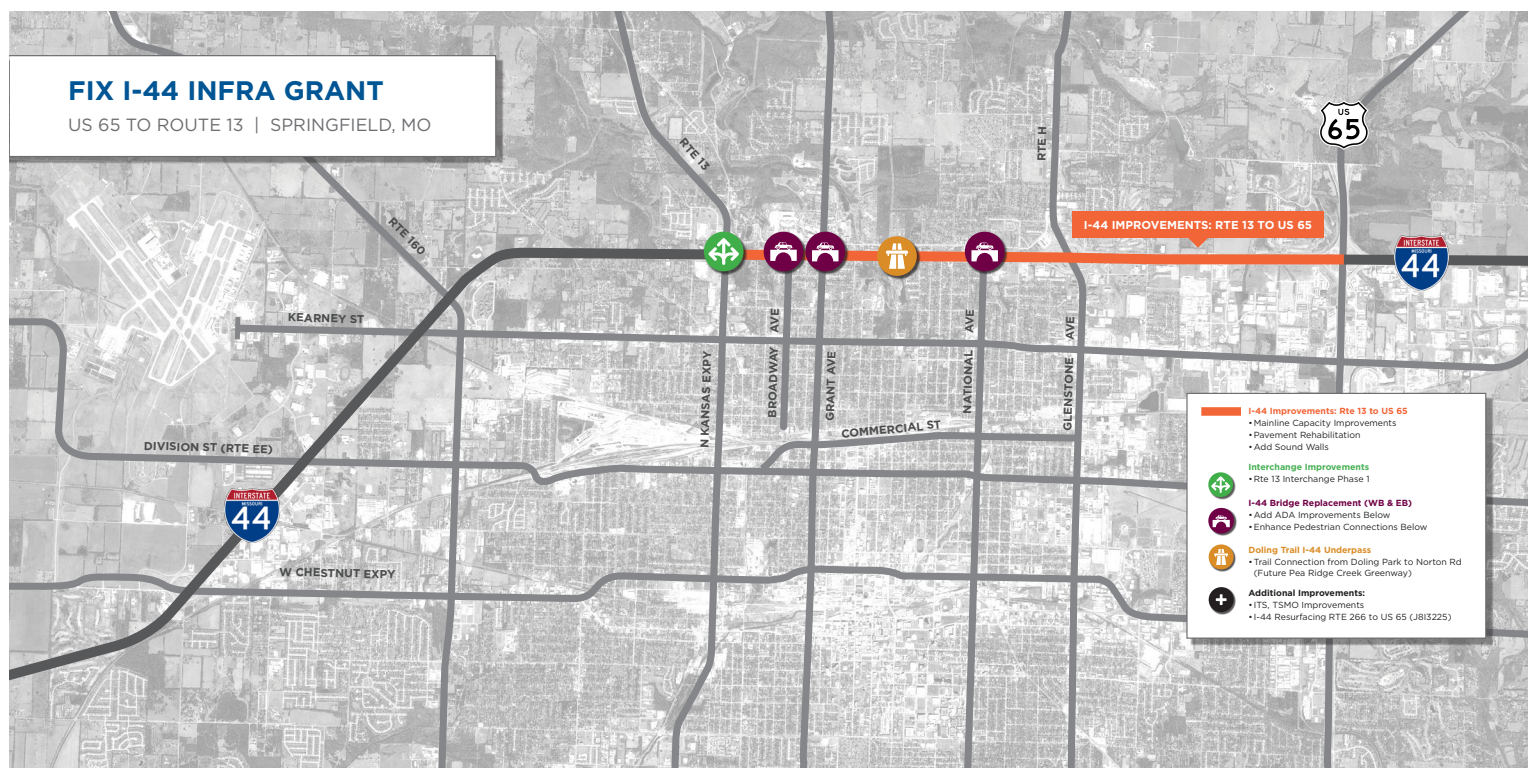


The Ozarks Transportation Organization (OTO) is partnering with MoDOT, Greene County, and the City of Springfield on a discretionary grant application for the US Department of Transportation's INFRA program.

Fix I-44 would serve the goals of the INFRA program, which focuses on nationally significant freight and highway projects. I-44 is a key corridor for the movement of freight to market in Missouri, and the portion through the City of Springfield presents additional challenges due to the high volume of passengers, including tourist traffic to the Ozarks. Upgrades are needed to keep up with growing demand, improve safety, and strengthen economic vitality of the region.

The project would:

- Enhance freight mobility by expanding I-44 to six lanes and adding auxiliary lanes
- Improve safety through reduced backups and quicker access for emergency responders
- Reduce delays by replacing the Kansas Expressway Interchange, based on the recommendations of the North Highway 13 Corridor Study
- Address state of good repair by improving condition of 50-year-old pavement through rehabilitation or rebuild
- Upgrade connectivity by replacing bridges and adding a pedestrian underpass between Grant Avenue and National Avenue
- Create a cohesive community by improving three existing pedestrian connections and adding a new pedestrian walkway under I-44 with wide sidewalks, safe lighting, and aesthetic improvements
- Include noise walls as needed and approved by residents
- Use innovative technology – including Transportation System Management and Operations Strategies (TSMO) – to improve safety and flow of traffic



The project scope will be further refined to align with the program's Notice of Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2022.

