

MAY 2026

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ozarks Transportation Organization's Monthly Update



Local Project Update

- Construction is underway to extend the Finley River trail through Finley Farms. This is a very exciting trail extension! It is scheduled to be open in spring of 2026.
- Work will begin soon on the Cheyenne Trail project in Nixa.
- Construction continues on I-44 through Springfield. Watch out for work zones!

A big THANK YOU to FHWA Administrator Sean McMasters for celebrating the Route 66 Centennial Kickoff with us!



Upcoming Meetings

All meetings at OTO Offices
2208 W CHESTERFIELD BLVD SUITE 101
SPRINGFIELD, MO

OTO Board of Directors
Meeting

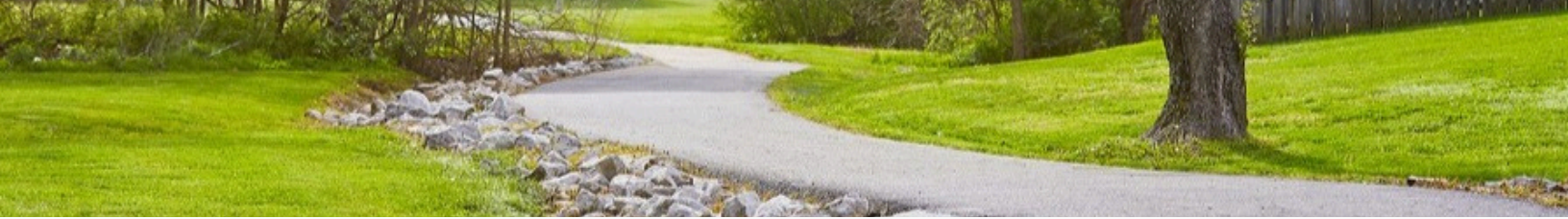
MAY 21, 2026
12:00 PM

Public Meeting:
US60/US65 PEL Study
May 28, 2026 - 5:30 pm
at the Courageous Church
South Campus

OTO Technical Planning
Committee Meeting

JUNE 17, 2026
1:30 PM



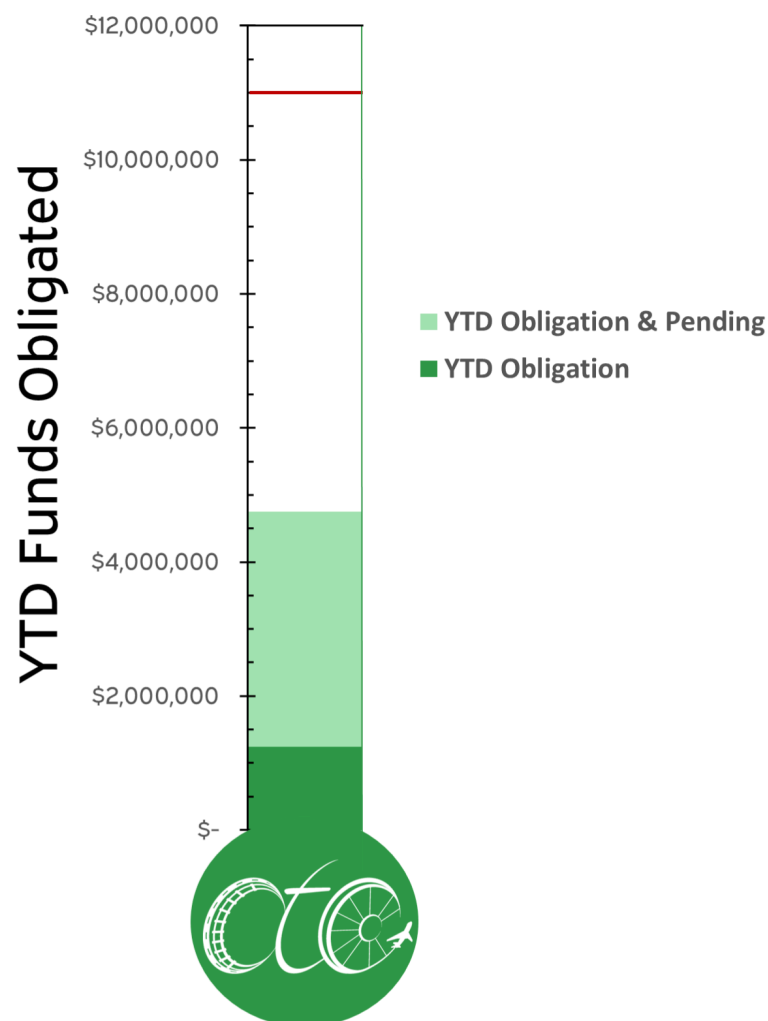


Federal Funds Balance

THE OTO AREA MUST OBLIGATE ANOTHER \$9.7 MILLION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2026 OR MODOT WILL TAKE FUNDING TO USE ON MODOT ROADS.

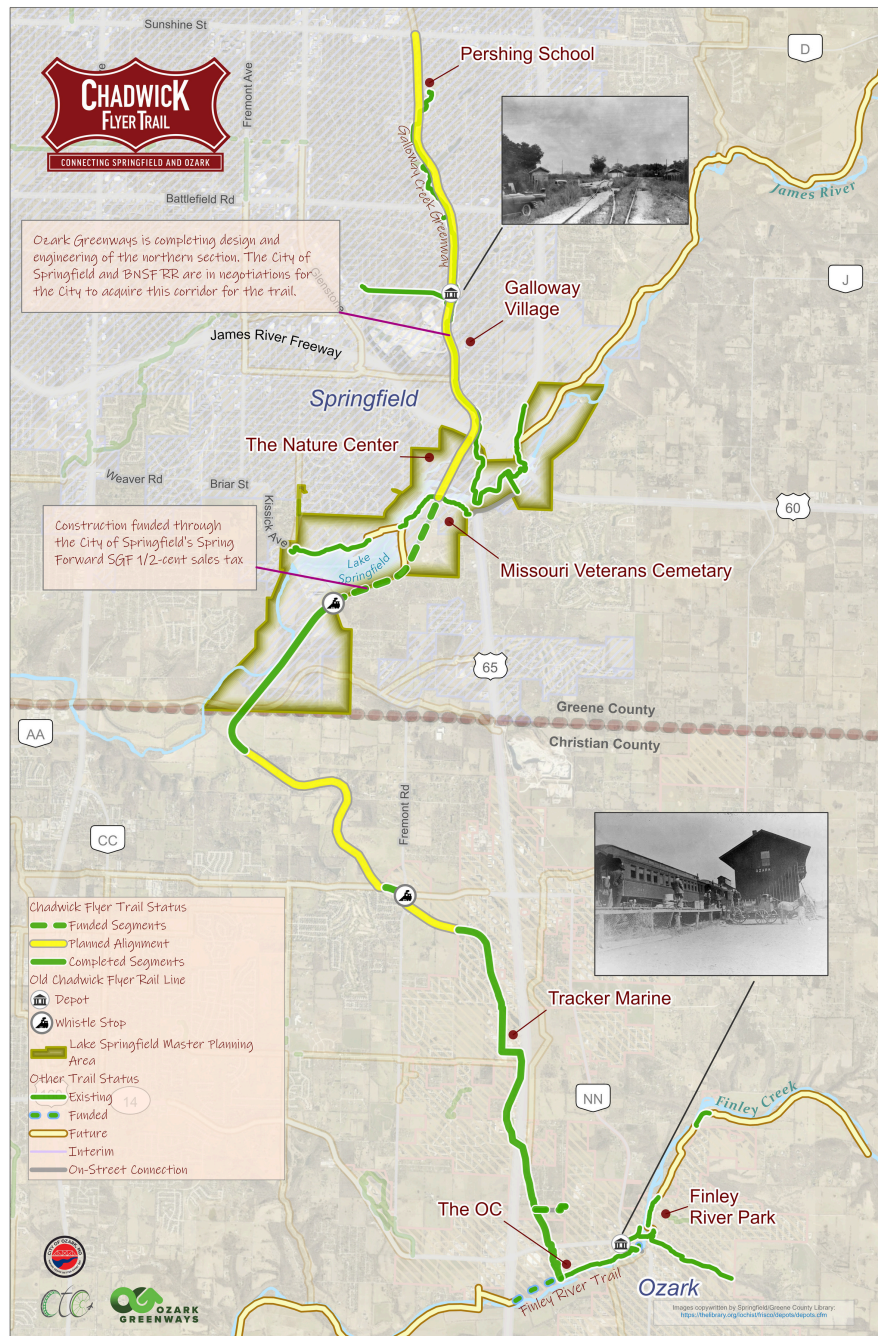
In the past, MoDOT has limited OTO to no more than three years of accumulated funding as a balance. To limit the accumulation of funds and to maximize August redistribution, MoDOT has now established a statewide goal that 100 percent of allocated funds are obligated each year. To meet the 100 percent goal, OTO must obligate another \$9.7 million by September 30, 2026.

As of May 13, 2026, OTO has obligated \$1,241,023 or about 11.4% of OTO's annual allocation.



Chadwick Flyer Trail

This spring, the Ozark's trail system is blooming into a more connected network, much like wildflowers emerging across the landscape. With the completion of the bridge over USB Highway 65, the Chadwick Flyer Trail now offers over three miles of uninterrupted travel, with additional connections already extending its reach. Like bees drawn to fresh blossoms, users are flocking to the Chadwick Flyer Trail, where counts show daily trips increasing by nearly 100 percent near the Ozark Community Center and well over 150 percent on the westside following the bridge's completion. As the Garrison Spring's Trail is finalized and linked to the Finley River Trail later this year, these segments will come together to form a system of more than five miles, continuing to flourish and expand opportunities for residents to get outside and stay connected.



2025 Growth Trends

OTO 2025 Growth Trends Report

Each year, the Ozarks Transportation Organization (OTO) analyzes residential construction activity and demographic information for the MPO study area and member jurisdictions.

To see the complete report, please visit: [OTO 2025 Growth Trends Report](#)

If you have questions regarding the Growth Trends Report, please contact Dave Faucett at dfaucett@ozarkstransportation.org.

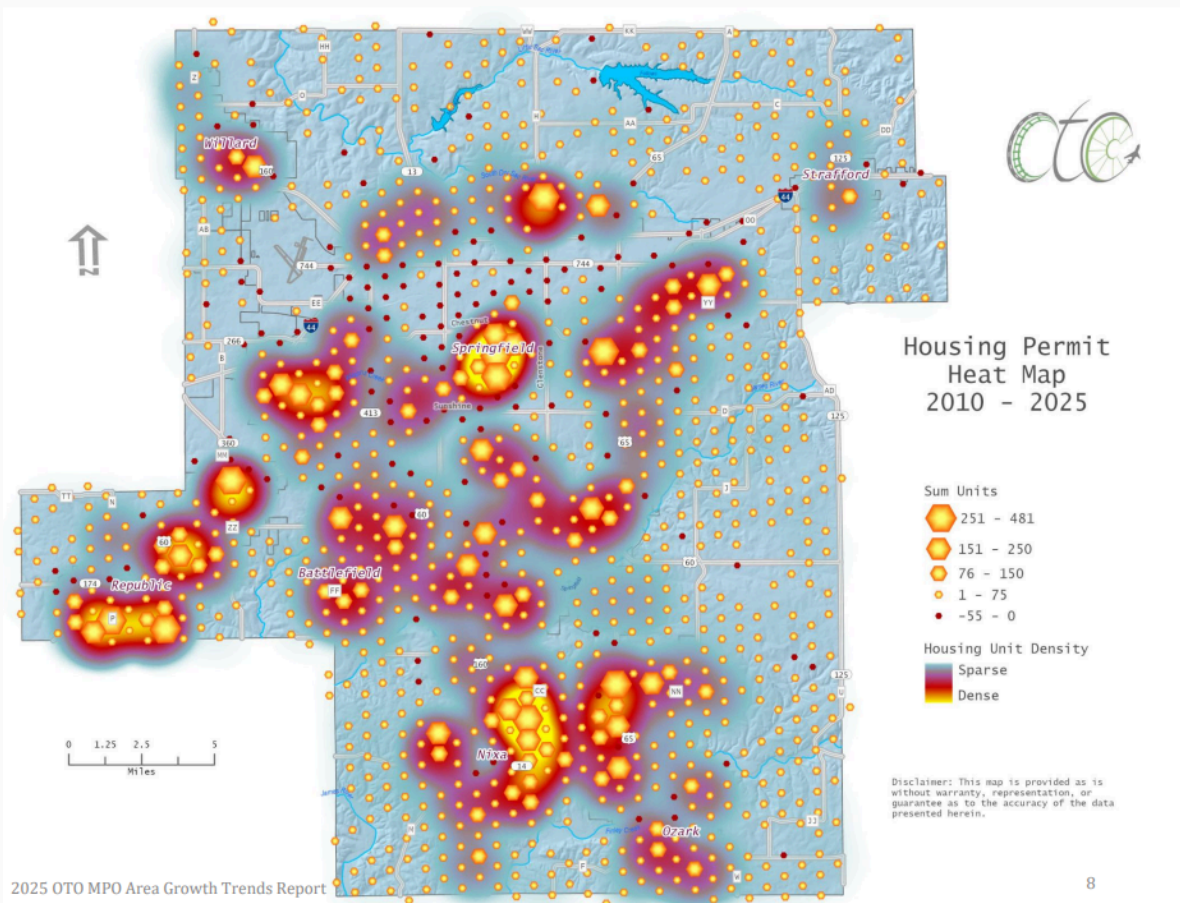




Photo credit - FHWA

Grant Notices of Funding Opportunities

Missouri Coalition
for **Roadway Safety**



Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety Grant Show-Me Zero

The Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety has a grant opportunity for funds to help reduce the fatal or serious injury crashes that occur on Missouri's roadways. They must be tied to a Strategy or Action outlined in the Show-Me Zero Plan. Examples include purchasing radar equipment to help with speed enforcement or educational programs for pedestrian safety.

Projects are typically limited to around \$5,000 per agency.

For more information please email David Knaut, dknaut@ozarkstransportation.org or SWMOCcoalition@modot.mo.gov.

Applications are due by July 2, 2026. Agencies who are selected will be notified in August 2026.



Railroad Crossing Elimination (Crossing Safety) Program

The Railroad Crossing Elimination (Crossing Safety) program seeks to promote the safety and efficiency of the national rail network by providing funding for highway-rail or pathway-rail grade crossing improvements - including projects that focus on safety and mobility enhancements. The Crossing Safety program supports the elimination of railroad crossings that pose a safety risk to motorists, pedestrians, and railroad passengers.

Eligible Applicants:

Class I railroads are not eligible to apply for the Crossing Safety program; however, they may partner with an eligible applicant listed to pursue funding for projects. Applicants may identify that grantees selected for project funding will need to enter into agreements with railroad corridor owners for projects using railroad right-of-way.

- State governments
- Political subdivisions of states
- Federally recognized Tribal governments
- A unit or group of local government(s)
- A public port authority
- Metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs)
- Any group of entities described above

Applications are due June 8, 2026

For more information: <https://railroads.dot.gov/crossing-safety-program>



Missouri Department of
Economic Development

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS COMPETITIVE CYCLE

The Missouri Department of Economic Development FY26 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Competitive Cycle is now open! This funding opportunity supports community facility construction, infrastructure improvement and demolition of qualifying structures. The deadline for submission is July 31, 2026 at 5 p.m.

Funding limits for Community Facilities or General Infrastructure: \$500,000
Funding limit for Demolition: \$300,000

For more information: <https://ded.mo.gov/programs/community/community-development-block-grants-competitive-cycle>



Job Openings

City of Springfield - Associate Planner

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo/jobs/5312103/associate-city-planner>

City of Springfield - Professional Engineer - Public Works - Traffic/Transportation

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo/jobs/5313412/professional-engineer-public-works-traffic-transportation>

Springfield-Branson National Airport - Director of Aviation

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo/jobs/5258924/director-of-aviation>

Greene County - Transportation Planner

<https://greenecountymo.criterionhcm.com/jobs/429/1/#1217>

SMCOG - Transportation Planner

<https://jobs.missouristate.edu/postings/85736>

SMCOG - Planning Internship

https://www.smcog.org/_files/ugd/40e61a_02d30bf976da40e7afb5e6efd27e237d.pdf

SMCOG - GIS Internship

https://www.smcog.org/_files/ugd/40e61a_9be2f30b13f34d8cb78fe4a84c4b2b65.pdf



R.O.U.T.E.S. to Safety

Regional Opportunities Using Transportation Engineering Safety for the Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG) region

SMCOG is taking input for their SS4A Plan:

<https://wilsonco.mysocialpinpoint.com/smcog>