April 12, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Transportation Management Center Ribbon-cutting April 13

The new Transportation Management Center of the Ozarks, designed to improve traffic flow, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance driving safety along major streets and highways in Springfield and along Interstate 44 through the region, will be dedicated in a 1 p.m. ceremony Wednesday, April 13.

The center is located at 1111 W. Chestnut Expressway inside the Springfield Public Works Operations Center complex.

The event is open to the public. Detailed guided tours of the TMC will be available after a short ceremony.

The new 11,500-square-foot facility was built and equipped for $3.2 million, with about half of that cost coming from federal earmarks and the other half coming from state and local funds. It is a partnership project between the City of Springfield and the Missouri Department of Transportation. Construction began in January 2010.

The TMC is anticipated to meet LEED Silver Certification standards after it is in operation for at least a year. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Silver certification is based on "green" building design and construction elements.

Initially, the new TMC will provide "real time" oversight of the joint MoDOT/City signal system — more than 250 traffic signals and 42 traffic-monitoring cameras. Included are seven cameras positioned along I-44 in Greene, Webster and Laclede counties. (The state-city traffic management operation has been located in rented space since 1998. The first location was in The Discovery Center.)

The new TMC of the Ozarks is designed to expand its capabilities to remotely manage signals in other communities in MoDOT's 12-county Springfield Region who choose to become a TMC partner.

The new TMC also is the nerve center for the Advanced Traffic Management System under construction. This project includes installing 27 additional traffic-monitoring cameras, 16 permanently mounted electronic message signs and 32 traffic detection locations, all located along major City and MoDOT arterials and freeways.

The new TMC contains an 845-square-foot training room, which can function as an operations center for transportation emergencies or planned events, such as the temporary closing of a major roadway for construction.
The TMC of the Ozarks was designed by Esterly Schneider and Associates Inc. of Springfield, with construction by Denali Construction of Springfield.

Please note: The Chestnut Expressway entrance to the Public Works complex is temporarily closed. To reach the TMC building, head north from Chestnut Expressway on Broadway Avenue and turn west on Poplar Street. A north entrance to the complex can be reached from Nichols Street between Broadway Avenue on the east and Kansas Expressway on the west.

For more information, contact Jason Haynes, Co-Interim Traffic Engineer with the City of Springfield, at (417) 864-1167, or Adam Humphrey, traffic operations engineer with MoDOT, at (417) 874-2177.