

21st Century Transportation Task Force Proposes Fuel Tax Increase

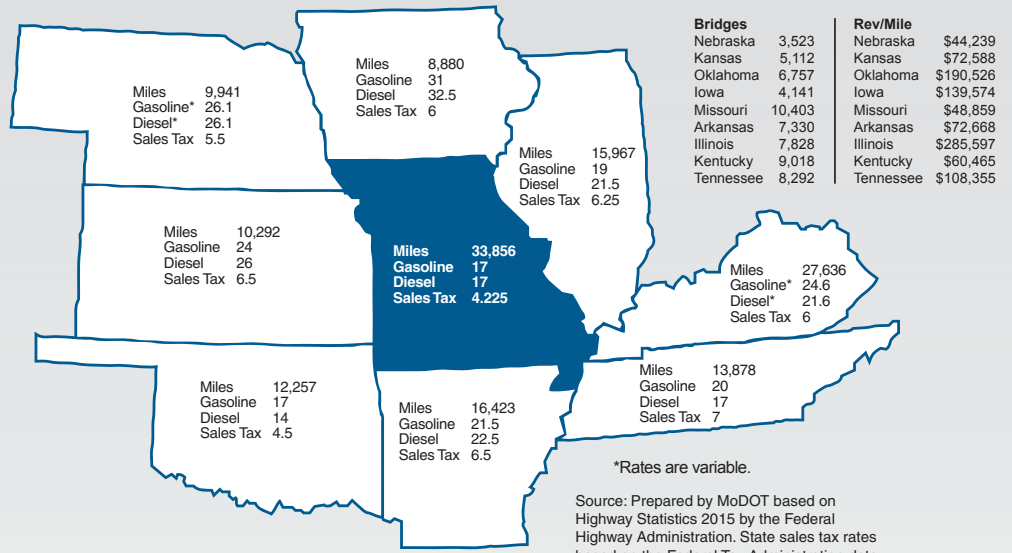
The much-anticipated report of the "21st Century Missouri Transportation System Task Force" was released on Jan. 2, 2017, during a press conference at the Missouri State Capitol. Additional funding for state roads and bridges would come from increased user fees. If the gas tax were raised by \$0.10 and the diesel tax by \$0.12, the state would take in an additional \$430 million annually. These increases must be approved by the voters, so lawmakers are being asked to pass a resolution that places this proposal on the ballot.

In addition, the task force has recommended that the registration fees for hybrid and electric vehicles be doubled. They also included ideas about changing the current system by tying registration fees to fuel mileage or imposing a tax that would be charged at electric recharging stations. These ideas are in line with the concept of keeping fees tied to actual vehicle use on the roadways.

Other recommendations include: the use of express managed lanes in metro areas to increase highway capacity, reduce congestion and improve travel reliability; encouraging the legislature to evaluate greater flexibility in enabling state P3 (public-private-partnerships) legislation for transportation projects; advance safety measures including legislation requiring primary seatbelt use and enforcement, enhanced distracted driving legislation (prohibition on texting while driving for all drivers),

Missouri Lags Behind

Missouri has a lower fuel tax rate than almost any of its neighbors. Yet it has a larger state-maintained highway system than any of them.



Gasoline and diesel fuel tax rates are shown in cents per gallon. Miles are shown in center line miles of the state maintained highway system.

graduated driver's license training requirements; and eliminate or reduce the two percent timely filing discount for retailers paying the state sales tax.

Find the full report at: <http://house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills181/commit/rpt1723/Transportation.pdf>.

