



Fact Sheet

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The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in Missouri **Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in Missouri**

On February 13, 2009, the Senate approved the final version of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and sent the legislation to President Obama to be signed into law (P.L. 111-5). The *Recovery Act* is an extraordinary response by Democrats to an inherited economic crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. The legislation represents an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can not only recover but prosper once again.

Nationwide, we have already seen companies rehiring laid-off workers, construction and renovation of facilities, and the re-starting of environmental remediation activities. And, just a few months into the two-year *Recovery Act* programs:

- **We have minimized and avoided reductions in essential services in Missouri** by providing aid to help stabilize state and local budgets, protected critical safety-net programs, and saved teaching and law enforcement jobs.
- **Plans for job-creating infrastructure projects in Missouri are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$338.5 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration); \$16.3 million for transit modernization, repair, and other capital needs (through the Federal Transit Authority); and \$18.4 million in airport grants for development projects that enhance safety, capacity and security and airport facilities and equipment upgrades (through the Federal Aviation Administration) (as of June 2, 2009). These *Recovery Act* projects deliver jobs and make important investments in the safety of our transportation systems. [DOT Allocation Report, 6/2/2009].
- **Families and communities in Missouri that have been hard-hit by the recession** can access increased unemployment benefits, assistance with health insurance premiums for those who have become unemployed, and food aid. And 2.2 million households in Missouri – approximately 95 percent of all families and individuals – have already begun seeing an increase in their take-home pay through the landmark Making Work Pay tax credit. The typical family will have about \$800 extra cash delivered to them in their paychecks over the next year. [The White House, 4/2/2009]

Here is a sampling of projects in Missouri that have been covered by local media and press releases in the past several weeks, demonstrating the real-life impacts that the *Recovery Act* has already made for Missourians, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **\$121,000 from *Recovery Act* will bring smaller class sizes and high-quality technology to Southland School District.** “According to Superintendent Raymond Lasley, the money will be used to further reduce class sizes and add more technology to the upper elementary school...the goal is to have about half the number of students per classroom as the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) standard. “[The smaller classroom sizes] provide each student with more attention and makes the teacher more available to help the individual students needs. [[Daily Dunklin Democrat](#), 6/14/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funds will go toward improvement projects in the Mark Twain National Forest.** The projects include road and bridge maintenance and access improvements in parts of the forest in Christian, Shannon and Stone counties in southwest Missouri. [[News-Leader](#), 6/3/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funds will be made available in Missouri to restore fish and wildlife habitats on private lands.** Program projects are typically constructed by local contractors, channeling dollars to the local economy. [[Kansas City infozine](#), 5/27/2009]
- **Three *Recovery Act*-funded transportation projects will create more than 100 jobs in northeast Missouri.** [[Hannibal Courier-Post](#), 5/20/2009]
- **Missouri is receiving \$2.6 million in *Recovery Act* funds to hire and retain criminal justice and victims services personnel who respond to violent crimes against women.** [[St. Louis Business Journal](#), 5/20/2009]
- ***Recovery Act*-funded projects at the Neosho National Fish Hatchery will provide the hatchery with a renewable energy source and improve safety and air quality of existing buildings.** [[News-Leader](#), 5/21/2009]
- **Missouri will use *Recovery Act* money to expand its senior jobs program.** State officials think the extra funding will help about 300 more people secure jobs. [[Associated Press](#), 5/19/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* will fund the renovation of the Route 66 Welcome Center and three trail projects.** [[The Joplin Globe](#), 5/18/2009]
- **Missouri was awarded \$25.3 million in *Recovery Act* funds for public safety projects and to create or retail law enforcement jobs.** [[Kansas City Business Journal](#), 5/13/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funding provided for new cargo hub at St. Louis International Airport.** [[St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#), 5/9/2009]