

MoDOT launches Impaired Driver Holiday Campaign

**IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT,
YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT.**



DRIVING IMPAIRED AFFECTS LIVES

Do you realize that your last drink could be someone else's last breath?

If you're planning a special celebration for the holidays, think first about a safe and sober ride home. Holiday safety advertising across Missouri serves as reminders of the importance of choosing a completely sober ride such as a taxi. Law enforcement will be out in full force December 17 - January 1, cracking down on impaired drivers. If you feel different, you drive different. Don't let anyone drive impaired.

STATS AND FACTS

706 PEOPLE

Were seriously injured in traffic crashes in 2020 that involved at least one substance-impaired driver.

6 MONTHS

The amount of time you can spend in jail on your first conviction.

\$1,000

The amount of money you could be fined on your second offense.

Source: www.savemolives.com

Pershall Road between Elizabeth Avenue and Knollway Drive converted to One-Way



Drivers who travel Pershall Road between Elizabeth Avenue and Knollway Drive should note that the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) has permanently converted this portion of Pershall Road to one-way eastbound traffic as of December 15. This change allows for final design plans of Pershall to move forward.

Drivers are encouraged to visit the I-270 North Project website to learn more about planned traffic impacts and details of the project, including a project overview and graphic displays of planned construction.

Current Closures and Work Areas:

- Dunn Road closure between Washington and Hanley through 3/1/22.
- Permanent closure of Pershall westbound movement from Elizabeth Avenue to West Florissant Avenue.
- Northbound 67 to westbound 270 ramp closed until 6/8/22.
- Westbound 270 exit ramp to New Halls Ferry-closed permanently.
- Dunn Road closure between Old Halls and New Halls-- conversion to one-way.

Current and Upcoming Openings:

- Pershall Road at Cold Water Creek to open on 12/23/21.

Learn more about the I-270 North Project at www.i270north.org



Muath Alhiyari

Board President
North County Islamic Center

Muath Alhiyari is board president for the North County Islamic Center, located within the I-270 North Project boundaries. He says that while change can be difficult in the beginning, the difficulty is temporary. In the end, the upgrades that are being done as part of the I-270 North Project will be very easy to adapt to.

“While there are currently a lot of detours, I think the end result will allow more convenient travel and much safer road configurations for drivers and pedestrians. We have people at the Center whose lives were taken due to unfortunate accidents caused by speeding in this area. Some were just crossing the street. Safety is one of our most important beliefs, whether you are a Muslim or non-Muslim.”

The Islamic Center is located along Dunn Road in Florissant. It serves approximately 1,200 people on a weekly and monthly basis and about half of those live in North County. Muath has been at the center for about 10 years.

“I think everyone sees safety as a quality of life issue and a top priority. That is the good thing about the project. It will provide more safe and efficient routes to travel both on the highway and outer roads, and eventually it could help to save lives. During completion of the project, we all just need to be careful, especially as we drive through the construction zone. If we do that, we could see fewer accidents.”

As a graduate of Hazelwood High School, he hopes that the project will also lead to an economic boost in the area. He believes the project could create more convenient access to local businesses.

“We are excited about the I-270 North Project. It is a step up for the entire area, and we absolutely look forward to it being completed. We are already planning an expansion of our Center as this work supports our long-term vision. But we all should play a role in decreasing the numbers of accidents occurring throughout the corridor. If we focus on being safe during construction and even after the work is completed, lives will be saved.”