

MoDOT, the State Auditor's Office, and other governmental entities to make necessary revisions to the TDD-related statutes.

MoDOT'S COMMENTS

As you are aware, Missouri has many more transportation needs than can be funded with existing revenues. In some instances, TDDs have provided funds for state system highway improvements that might not have been built were it not for the additional funds provided by the TDDs. We report the dollars generated through cost-sharing and other partnering agreements, such as TDDs, in our performance measurement tool, TRACKER. During fiscal year 2005, \$65.5 million in additional state transportation system improvements were generated through such agreements.

In 2005, MoDOT supported Senate Bill 77. That proposed legislation included many of the safeguards mentioned in the audit report. For example, the bill required the appropriate transportation authorities to approve projects before filing TDD court petitions and submit TDD tax increases to voters. The bill also contained a provision to help the State Auditor's Office meet its requirements to audit each TDD every three years. Unfortunately, the legislation did not pass.

As your report noted, MoDOT provides financial and/or project management on many TDD projects, particularly those that substantially involve the state highway system. We will continue to do so. We would also be happy to work with the General Assembly on future TDD legislation.