



### **Sikeston DED Takes Future Interstate 57 Discussion to Arkansas**

LITTLE ROCK – The future extension and designation discussion concerning U.S. Highways 60 and 67 through Southeast Missouri received a large nod recently in Little Rock. Mike Marshall, president and CEO, Sikeston Area Regional Chamber of Commerce and Area Economic Development Corporation, spoke October 31 to the Delta Grassroots Caucus (DGC) in the Arkansas State Capitol Rotunda on the future designation of Interstate 57 from Little Rock to Sikeston.

A team representing Dexter, Poplar Bluff and Sikeston continue to push for funding and designation with Missouri state and federal officials to bring U.S. Highways 67 and 60 up to interstate grade from the Missouri/Arkansas state line to Sikeston at the junction of Interstates 55 and 57.

An Arkansas delegation lead by U.S. Senator John Boozman has already laid the ground work to continue to upgrade Highway 67 in Arkansas to interstate grade to the Missouri state line just south of Poplar Bluff. The Arkansas Highway Commission last summer unveiled signage designating a stretch Highway 67 from North Little Rock to Walnut Ridge as Future Interstate 57.

“It is important that we continue the momentum of getting Highway 60 between Poplar Bluff and Sikeston designated and upgraded to an interstate,” said Marshall. Our coalition is stressing

the safety of an alternate route from Dallas to Chicago. This give distributors and travelers a great advantage to ease travel and bring relief to east/west corridors of Interstates 40 and 70 in Missouri and Arkansas. It also improves the economic conditions for business and job growth.”

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The Greater Delta Region of the DGC conference featured discussion from state and municipal leaders on economic development across an 8-state region in the Mississippi Delta. DGC is a broad coalition of grassroots leaders and a founding partner of the Economic Equality Caucus, which advocates for economic equality across the U.S.

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