

Missouri Department of Transportation
Patrick K. McKenna, Director

1.888.ASK MODOT (275.6636)

April 27, 2020

Mr. Tyler Schwartze
Executive Director
Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: Resolution to Halt the Planting of Non-Native Invasive Species on State Owned Property

Dear Mr. Schwartze,

The Missouri Department of Transportation concurs with your resolution to halt the spread of invasive species and is committed to eradicating invasive species that have already spread onto the state's vast right-of-way.

As stated in your resolution, we have partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri Prairie Foundation in the past and will continue to work together to stop the spread of invasive species. Our agency has used non-native species in the past, not for ornamental reasons, but for erosion control purposes and our experience has taught us that native species have the dense root systems needed to assure the integrity of our right-of-way slopes.

MoDOT spends over twenty million dollars each year in a total vegetation management program on the state right-of-way, including mowing, herbicide applications, brush cutting and the application of plant growth regulators. Educational outreach is performed annually to inform our maintenance staff of the various invasive species that they may encounter on our right-of-way. Educational materials such as posters are placed in all of our maintenance facilities informing our staff of the various invasive species that might be found on our right-of-way to promote efforts to manage them in our routine operations.

Our Maintenance Division, Roadsides Unit will reach out to you soon to develop a continuing partnership with your Federation.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,


Patrick K. McKenna
Director



Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation system that is safe, innovative, reliable and dedicated to a prosperous Missouri.

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