**The Senate Minute: Digital Audio File Script on Session Preview**

When the gavel falls next week, two items look to be of high importance for many in the Missouri Senate.

Those two issues are transportation and ethics reform.

Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard of Joplin says transportation has gone unanswered in this state for several years…

-Richard 1-

*“That’s the debate now, and we’ll just have to see. I mean, we talked about — last year, probably this year — I don’t know if there’s an appetite on either side of the building for a tax increase. Maybe there is. The speaker and I will be conferring on that shortly.”*

Senate Minority Floor Leader Joseph Keaveny of St. Louis adds he believes better roads come down to more revenue…

-Keaveny 2-

*“I think we need to raise a tax. We need to raise revenue, be it the gas tax — which I would prefer — be it a sales tax, or just increase the income tax, take it out of general revenue.”*

An effort at funding state infrastructure was attempted this year, as was an overhaul of Missouri ethics laws.

Reporting for the Missouri Senate, I’m Dean Morgan.