



Welcome!

**The City of Jefferson
Cole County and the
Missouri Department of
Transportation
*Welcome You!***





Please Sign In!

We're glad you're here!

**At tonight's meeting, we need your
input on:**

the Draft Purpose and Need

and

Cultural Resources in the Study Area

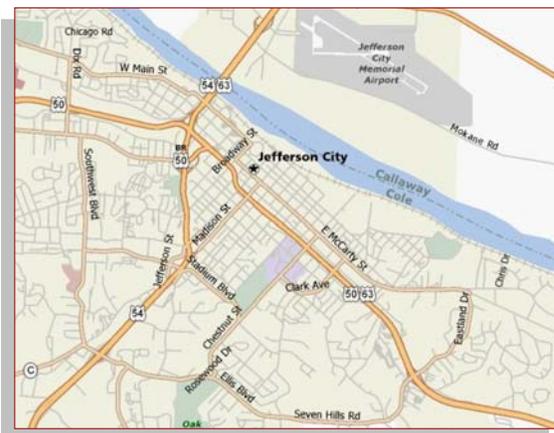
Why Improve Whitton Expressway?



The Whitton Expressway needs to serve:

- **Local** travelers within Jefferson City,
- Travelers to and from the **Missouri State Penitentiary** redevelopment,
- **Regional** travelers to or through Jefferson City, and;
- **Long-distance** travelers to or through Jefferson City.

Traffic is expected to increase, so Jefferson City, Cole County and MoDOT are planning now for the future.

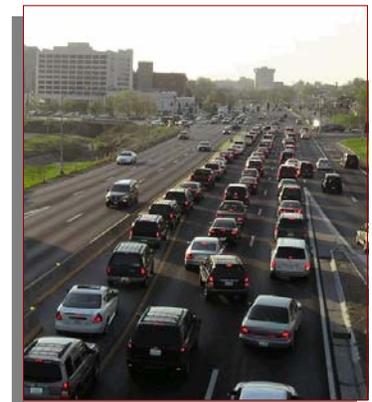


Isn't There Already a Plan?



The April 2006 *Problem Definition Study*:

- Established need for **additional capacity** on the Whitton Expressway in the future as redevelopment at the Missouri State Penitentiary site is completed;
- Outlined the **challenges** and **opportunities** related to those needed improvements; and
- Determined that the community would need to complete federally mandated **environmental study** – specifically an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.



Road Map to Improvements



PLAN

1. The planning process often includes an **early analysis** like a feasibility study, or a problem definition study.

Timeline: The *Whitton Expressway Problem Definition Study* Completed in April 2006

2. Highway improvements (like most projects that use federal funds or need federal permits) must be planned in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NEPA requires the completion of an environmental study to help communities identify **the best way to** meet future needs and avoid or minimize negative impacts to both the man-made and natural environment.

Timeline: Summer 2007 – Early 2009



DESIGN

The design phase includes creating **preliminary** and **final designs** and developing detailed construction drawings.

Timeline: Only when funding is secured.

BUILD

Final project plans are completed, land purchased, construction contracts awarded and **construction begins**.

Timeline: Only when funding is secured.

What is an EIS?

(Environmental Impact Statement)



An EIS is one kind of environmental study. It helps agencies and the public make well-informed decisions about investments in their community. The EIS documents the decision-making process and answers the following questions:

- What is the **purpose and need** for the improvement?
- How would the proposed improvement **function**?
- How might improvements impact the **natural environment**?
- How might improvements impact the **cultural** and **social environment**?
- Which alternative **best meets the purpose and need** while minimizing impacts?



EIS Process



1. Purpose and Need

Summer 2007

- Current Needs
- Future Needs
- Project Goals
- Public Input

2. Screening Criteria

Summer 2007

- Design Goals
- Functionality Goals
- Unacceptable Outcomes

3. Alternative Development

Fall 2007

Environmental Research

- New Data and Information
- Alternative Development
- Preliminary Screening

4. Alternative Screening

Winter 2007

Detailed Screening

- Public Input
- New Data and Information
- Refined Alternatives

5. Draft EIS

Summer 2008

Draft Document Prepared



6. Formal Review Period

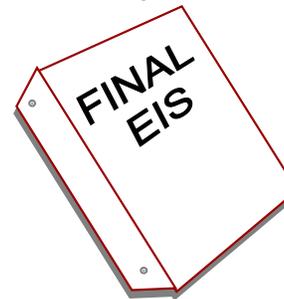
Summer 2008

- Public Hearing, Review & Comments
- Agency Review & Comments
- New Data and Information

7. Final EIS

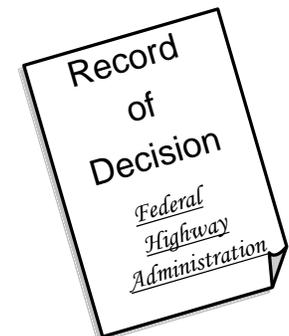
Fall 2008

Final Document Prepared



8. FHWA Approval

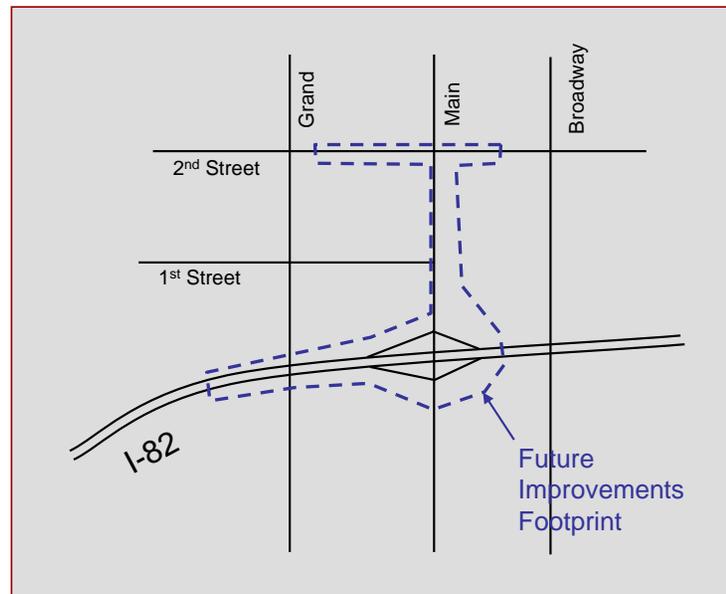
Early 2009



EIS Outcomes



The Whitton EIS process will identify a general idea of what improvements might be built, their impacts and “footprint” – the area in which future improvements might be built.



Typical future improvements footprint.

Actual construction of improvements to the Whitton Expressway cannot begin, however, until funding for design and for construction is identified and secured.

Draft Purpose and Need



Within the EIS process, the first step is to create a formal Purpose and Need. When finalized, these goals will direct the rest of the study process.

We need your input on the draft goals for future transportation improvements in the study area.

The Draft Purpose and Need Statement:

- **Provide Sufficient Roadway Capacity and Improve Traffic Operations** - Traffic on the Whitton Expressway is expected to double by 2035, largely due to redevelopment at the Missouri State Penitentiary site.
 - As Jefferson City grows, the Whitton Expressway will need to safely serve local, regional and national traffic.
 - There will also continue to be a need for north-south connections that allow traffic to move safely and efficiently.

Draft Purpose and Need



The Draft Purpose and Need Statement (continued):

- **Improve Traffic Safety**
 - As traffic increases, the Whitton Expressway will need to be improved to function safely.
- **Address Road and Bridge Needs:** The community needs to plan those improvements so that they work together.
 - There are locations where bridges or other structures need to be improved or replaced for better traffic flow and safety.
- **Improve Access to Major Activity Centers and Encourage Development:** This access will help ensure the success of past and future investments and the overall economic health of the community.
 - Access needs to be provided to key locations, including downtown and the Missouri State Penitentiary redevelopment.

Please complete the comment form and let us know your thoughts on the Draft Purpose and Need!

Cultural Resources



Cultural Resources are one of the many environmental factors that must be considered during the EIS process. Cultural resources are: ***Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure or object. We then identify those included – or eligible for inclusion in – the National Register of Historic Places.***

The “Section 106 Process” includes systematic identification of cultural resources, and an analysis of project effects and steps to eliminate or minimize adverse effects.

1 Establish Area of Potential Effect (APE)



Define the geographic area to evaluate possible effects (either direct or indirect) of proposed improvements to historic properties.

2 Identify Resources and their Significance



Work with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and other consulting parties to identify and document properties and evaluate their significance and integrity.

3 Determination of Effects



Evaluate if improvements might effect historic properties within the APE. Adverse effects can include destruction of a resource or even changes in character or setting.

4 Resolve Adverse Effects



Identify ways to avoid or lessen those effects. That could include changing the location of proposed improvements or otherwise minimizing effects. An agreement between the SHPO and agencies is prepared and becomes part of the study’s formal documentation.

Please help us identify area resources on the next map!



Please fill out a comment form!

Thank you for your time and interest!

