

Prioritizing Safety and Connection

The Focus

- Safety within the US-71 Highway Corridor is essential
- Economic, community, residential, and other connections are key
- Considerations include areas of influence and potential effect

Community Voices Matter

- Identification of key people and groups
- Community and Technical Advisory Group meetings
- Listening sessions with neighborhoods and others
- Storytelling and sharing

Refine the Vision

- Review the initial alternatives and evaluation criteria
- Help refine the visions for Reconnecting the East Side



SCAN QR CODE

What future do you see for US-71? Share ideas and *Refine the Vision* by submitting your comments online.

Missouri Department of Transportation anticipates incorporating recommendations made as part of the PEL study into future NEPA studies, per Title 23 of the US Code, Part 168.

Process and Schedule for Reconnecting the East Side

What's Happening

The City partnered with Accelerator for America to secure a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to fund Reconnecting the East Side project in 2022. During 2024, the City selected the Hg Consult-led consultant team to lead Reconnecting the East Side.

Project Outreach Schedule

*WE ARE
- HERE!*



The Purpose and Need (Draft)

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the Reconnecting the East Side project is to address safety, multimodal access and mobility, and congestion challenges on the US-71 corridor.

Project Needs

- **Improve safety:**
The US-71 Corridor crash rate is twice the statewide average and has a high number of fatal and serious injury crashes.
- **Enhance multimodal access and mobility:**
The US-71 Corridor is a barrier for east-west multimodal access and mobility in the Study Area.
- **Reduce congestion:**
The US-71 Corridor is congested during peak hours and impacts Study Area residents in multiple ways.

Additional Community Goals

- Address the existing effects of US-71 Highway on nearby properties and residents.
 - Promote opportunities for economic development and affordable housing that builds on existing efforts and makes US-71 a neighborhood amenity and regional destination.
 - Address public health issues.
- Implement feasible and cost-effective solutions.
- Develop strong partnerships with the local community so that corridor improvements reflect community priorities.

Sharing East Side Stories

Talk with the Project Team

If you have an East Side story to share, the project team would love to hear it. A team member will listen and take notes as you speak with them.



Online Comment Form

If writing is your preference, the project team encourages you to use the comment form to share your East Side story with us.

Share Your Stories

We want to hear from you!



Scan QR Code to access our online comment form to share and submit your stories to the project team.

Questions to Consider for Your Story



SELF-DESCRIPTIONS:

How would you describe yourself or your family in relationship to Kansas City's East Side?



MEANING:

What does "Reconnecting the East Side" mean to you today? What should it mean in the future?



TIME:

How long have you and/or your family lived or worked on the East Side? Did you experience the highway construction?



GOALS:

What's the most important thing for the Reconnecting the East Side project to accomplish for the community in the next few years? Longer term?



IMPACTS:

How has US-71 impacted you, your family and friends, and/or community?



OTHER:

What other comments, thoughts, or ideas would you like to share?



Prospect-Hickman Mills Corridor

Infrastructure and Economic Development

The Marlborough Community Coalition (MCC) envisions vibrant economic districts along Troost, Paseo, Hickman Mills and Prospect and works for grant funding to update and build out the infrastructure that will bring that to life.

Currently, the MCC is working with the Prospect Business Association to bring more opportunities for small businesses to develop in south Kansas City. The MCC won a \$100,000 PIAC grant for a development planning study to be completed on the Prospect-Hickman Mills Corridor from East 75th Street to East 85th Street.

Source: WeAreMarlborough.org



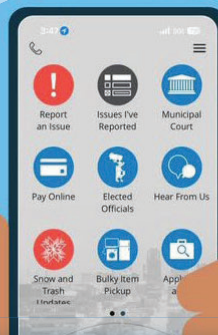
SCAN QR CODE

Learn more about Marlborough Community Coalition and their work in Kansas city



Download the app to request and track city services.

Report potholes, illegal dumping, missed trash pickups, and more.



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

311 & myKCMO App

Residents' hotline for City services and information. Report a problem, request a service, or ask a question about a city service.

How to submit a request or check status of a request:

- Using the **myKCMO** app
Download from App Store, Google Play, or Web use web app online
- Call 311 or (816) 513-1313

Source:
kcmo.gov/city-hall/311



Assistance in any language

Simply send an email to
311CallCenter@kcmo.org

A 311 Customer Service Specialist will reply to your email within 24 – 48 business hours.

You may also call 311 at **(816) 513-1313**
Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Let the Customer Service Specialist know what language you speak, and they will get an interpreter on the line to translate and help provide assistance.

Download myKCMO the City Services app

Faster and easier connection to city services.

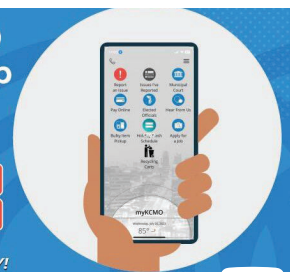
311 requests Track your case Upload photos
Report Potholes Connect with staff Make payments



DOWNLOAD myKCMO TODAY!

Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play



SCAN QR CODE

Learn more the **myKCMO** App
to Access City Services from
your Mobile Device



Evaluation Criteria (Draft)

Which **SIX** priorities are most important to consider for an improved US-71?

PROJECT NEEDS

Improve Safety

crash rates, fatal and serious injuries

Enhance East-West Multimodal and Connectivity

pedestrian, bicycle, vehicular, transit access

Corridor Congestion

peak period travel times and level of service

ENVIRONMENTAL

Social Environment

community impact, people or areas sensitive to pollutants or project-related stressors

Built Environment

surrounding land use, parks, recreation, historic resources, and subsurface utilities

Natural Environment

water resources and threatened and endangered species

ENGINEERING

Constructability and Design Complexity

roadway geometry, structures, phasing

Estimated Construction and Associated Costs

high-level cost estimates

System Resiliency and Maintenance

ability to improve transportation system redundancy, long-term maintenance considerations

Systemwide Network Impacts

traffic diversion impacts to connected state and federal highway systems

OTHER

Criteria Not Listed

(please specify)

COMMUNITY GOALS

Economic Revitalization

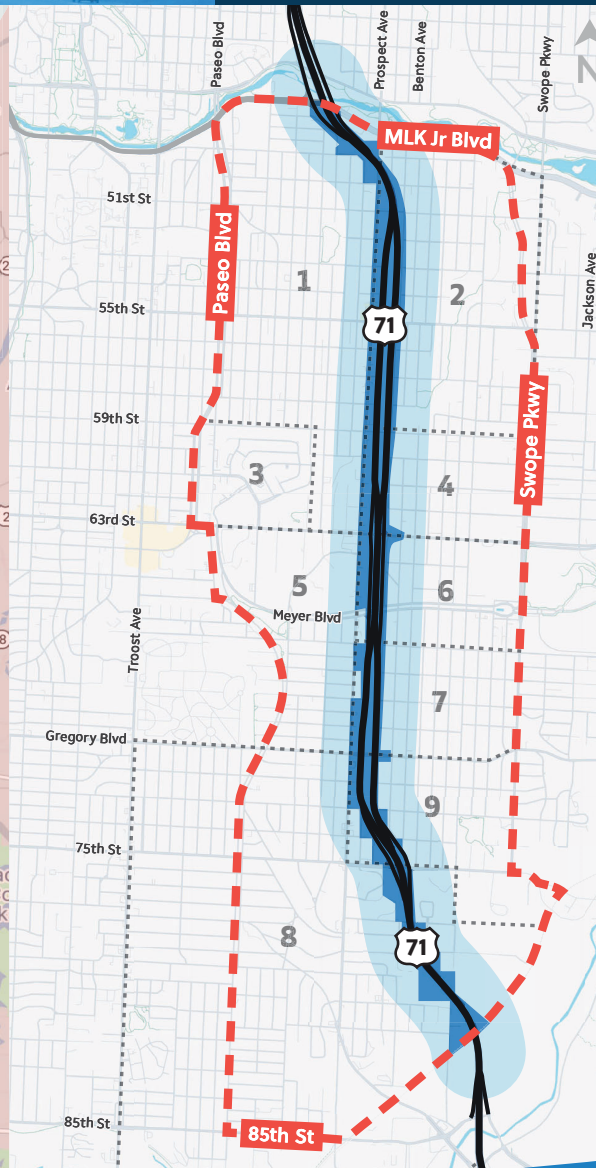
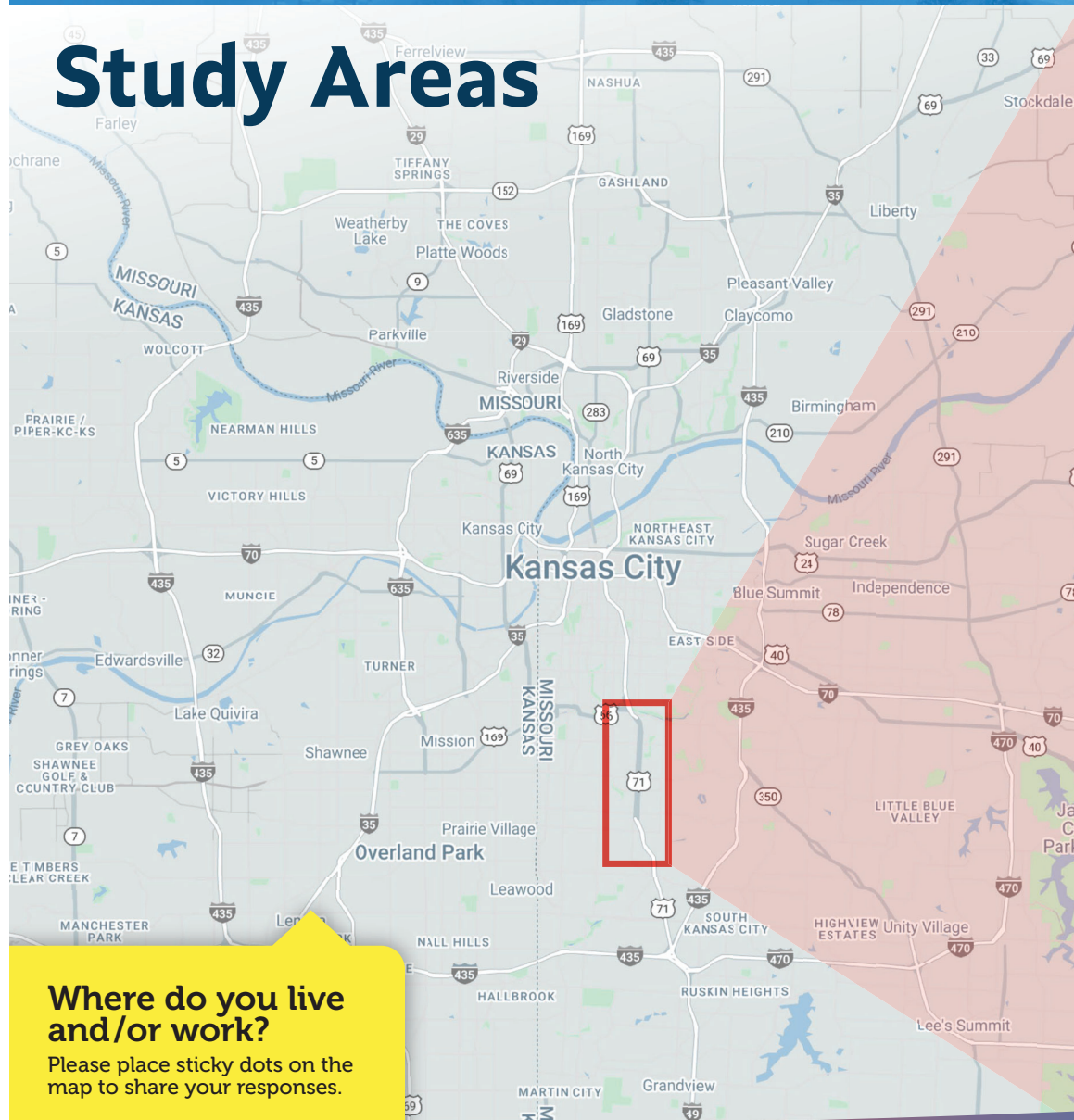
land development, housing, etc.

Public Health

walkability, noise and air pollution exposure



Study Areas



Reconnecting the East Side has two Study Areas.

AREA OF INFLUENCE:
Bounded by Paseo Boulevard to the west, Swope Parkway to the east, Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to the north, and East 85th Street to the south.

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT:
Generally follows US-71 between Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and East 85th Street, including a narrow buffer on either side of US-71 (roughly Prospect Avenue to South Benton Boulevard.) This area is intended to be wide enough (plus about 50 feet in either direction) to cover any potential improvement strategies and their potential construction limits.

LEGEND

- Area of Influence
 - Area of Potential Effect
 - Previously Impacted Properties
 - Neighborhood Boundaries
- 1 Blue Hills Neighborhood Association
 - 2 North Town Fork Creek Neighborhood Association
 - 3 Citadel Center Homeowners Association
 - 4 South Town Fork Creek Neighborhood Association
 - 5 Tri-Blenheim Neighborhood Association
 - 6 Swope Park
 - 7 Self Help Neighborhood Council
 - 8 Marlborough Community Coalition
 - 9 NOBLE Neighborhood Organization

Where do you live and/or work?

Please place sticky dots on the map to share your responses.



ReconnectEastSide.com



@KansasCity



KANSAS CITY

The Story of US-71 Highway's Construction

Project History

Early Plans and Community Concerns

1950s:

- Plans to connect Lee's Summit, Grandview, and the Northland to Downtown take shape

1960s:

- Proposed design plans for US-71 Highway raise community concerns
- Opponents filed the first petition at City Hall

Early Impacts and Community Reaction to US-71 Highway

1970s:

- US-71 Highway construction begins
- Widespread displacement occurs
- Advocacy groups and residents file a lawsuit in 1973 with concerns about dividing neighborhoods, civil rights violations, and questions about potential economic and environmental impacts

Legal Challenges and Consent Decree

1980s:

- Federal Consent Decree acknowledges the negative impacts of US-71 Highway construction and outlines commitments to address concerns

Construction Continues

1990s:

- US-71 Highway construction continues, dividing neighborhoods

2000s:

- US-71 Highway construction is completed in 2001.
- 10,000 people displaced but compensated for their property and relocations costs



STORY OF US-71 HIGHWAY

US-71 Highway: Impact on Transportation, Communities, and Neighborhoods within a Regional and National Context. The story of US-71 Highway is closely tied to the evolution of the U.S. highway system. This timeline will highlight the highway's impact and role in shaping the neighborhoods and communities along its path, while examining the political and social contexts in both regional and national settings.



SCAN QR CODE

Learn about highway development in the United States and its impacts on Kansas City



The Path Forward

Beyond 2028:

- Final design and implementation of improvements and initiatives

2026 – 2028:

- Advancing to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and developing conceptual design solutions

2025 – 2026:

- Addressing the 1985 Federal Consent Decree

2020s:

- City partners with Accelerator for America to secure a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to fund the Reconnecting the East Side project in 2022
- During 2024, the City selects the Hg Consult-led consultant team to lead Reconnecting the East Side



US-71 Highway in the Media

Press Conference

In June 2024, the Mayor and City Council approved the contract with HG Consult to utilize the \$5 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funds for a safer, more connected, and more equitable community.



SCAN QR CODE

Watch Mayor's press conference: Reconnecting Communities Divided by US-71
Runtime: 11:31



PBS Video Series *Land of Opportunity* by Nico Wiggins



SCAN QR CODE

Watch Video: *Land of Opportunity: The Road to Resistance*
Runtime: 26:31



SCAN QR CODE

Watch Video: *Land of Opportunity*
Runtime: 26:46

Meeting with the Advisory Groups

Community Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

The Community Advisory Group (CAG) is a diverse group of neighborhood representatives, advocates, and key East Side members who will collaborate with the Reconnecting the East Side project team to identify strategies, shape concepts, and refine solutions that enhance safety, equity, accessibility, and connectivity along the US-71 Corridor.

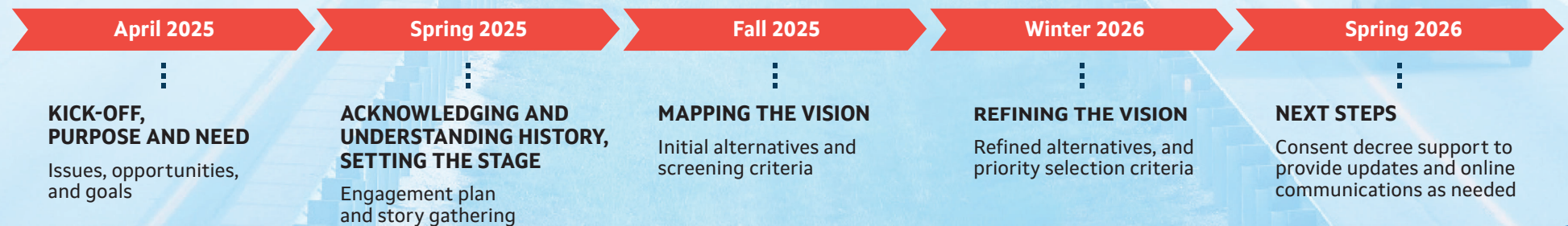
Meeting five times over 18 months beginning in March 2025, the CAG will work alongside the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and Project Ambassadors to ensure community needs and aspirations are integrated into the project's outcomes.

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is composed of city leaders, department representatives, and public agency members who will provide expert guidance to the Reconnecting the East Side project by identifying strategies, shaping concepts, and refining solutions to enhance safety, equity, accessibility, and connectivity along the US-71 Corridor.

Meeting five times over 18 months, beginning in March 2025, the TAG will collaborate with the Community Advisory Group (CAG) and Project Ambassadors, ensuring that technical expertise and community priorities are integrated into the project's development and implementation.

Advisory Group Meetings, Themes and Input Needed



Children's Corner

Your Ideas Are Important



WHAT DO YOU **LOVE** ABOUT
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

IF YOU COULD **FIX** **①** **THING** IN YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

