

Be the Designer: Summary

Design Activity Directions

Help *Re-Imagine US-71* by placing the game pieces (below) on the map. Using the draft Purpose and Need along with additional community goals as your guide, your team will determine what improvements are needed, where they should go, how they should be implemented, and who should be involved.



Be the Designer Pop-Ups and Mini-Summits

Community Summit #2 – June 24

Blue Hills Park Day – July 12

Community Advisory Group Meeting #2 – July 17

Club KC Night Swim – July 18th

Citadel Neighborhood Community Pop-Up – July 19th

Technical Advisory Group Meeting #2 – July 21

ArtsTech: Mini-Summit – July 24

KC 360 Listening Session – July 31

Concerned Clergy – July 31

Tri-Blenheim Neighborhood Fair – August 2

Water Services Pop-Up – August 6

Washington Wheatley Neighborhood Fair – August 7

Club KC Mayor Hoops Pop-Up – August 9

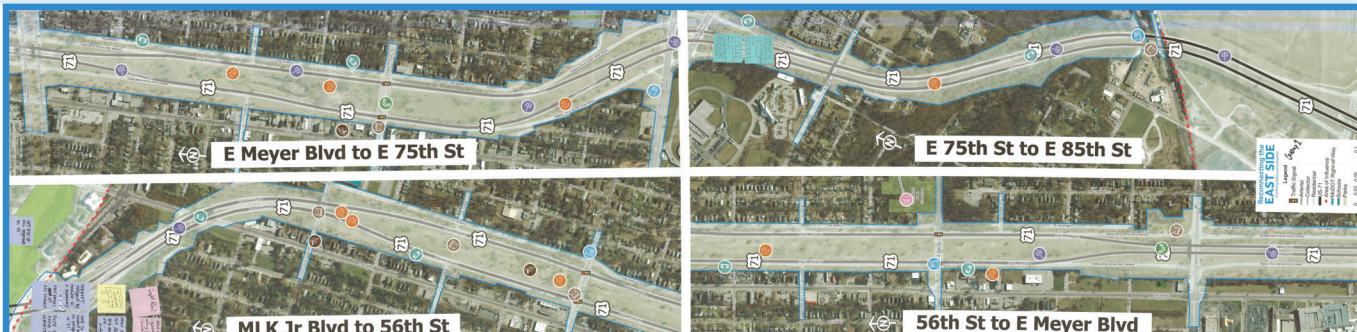
816 Day & All that Jazz Festival – August 16

Key Coalition Neighborhood Event – August 23

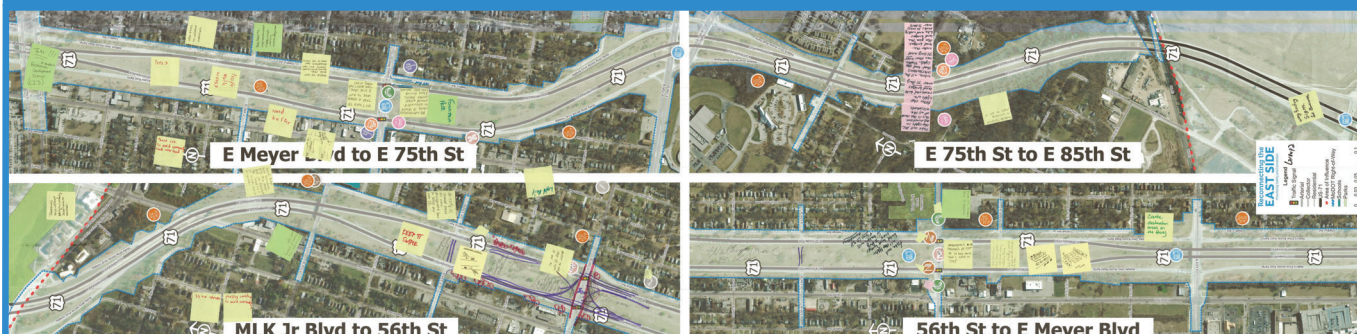
3rd District Meeting – August 25

Event: Community Summit #2

Group 1



Group 2



Group 3



Group 4



Group 1

- **Expanding Highway 71** to three lanes each direction (49th–55th) to reduce congestion.
- **Overpasses** at major intersections (e.g., Blue Hills) to improve east-west traffic.
- **Pedestrian walkways** with **green buffers** for safety and aesthetics.

Group 2

- **Streetcar extension** from UMKC to 90th Street to boost connectivity and green coverage.
- **Elevated bridges** at every intersection, citing Colorado highway models.
- **Native grasses** for stormwater management and **sustainable landscape design**.

Group 3

- **Raised concerns** about displacement, requesting changes to consent agreements to protect residents.
- **Opposed removing stoplights**, fearing unchecked suburban traffic.
- **Viaduct system** for east-west neighborhood access.
- Funding directed to **Prospect Avenue revitalization** through consent agreement adjustments.

Group 4

- **Roadside parks** and gathering spaces.
- Youth highlighted **business development** and more stoplights as crime and safety solutions.
- **Digital traffic signs** on current roads or fully elevated highway to free up land for community development.

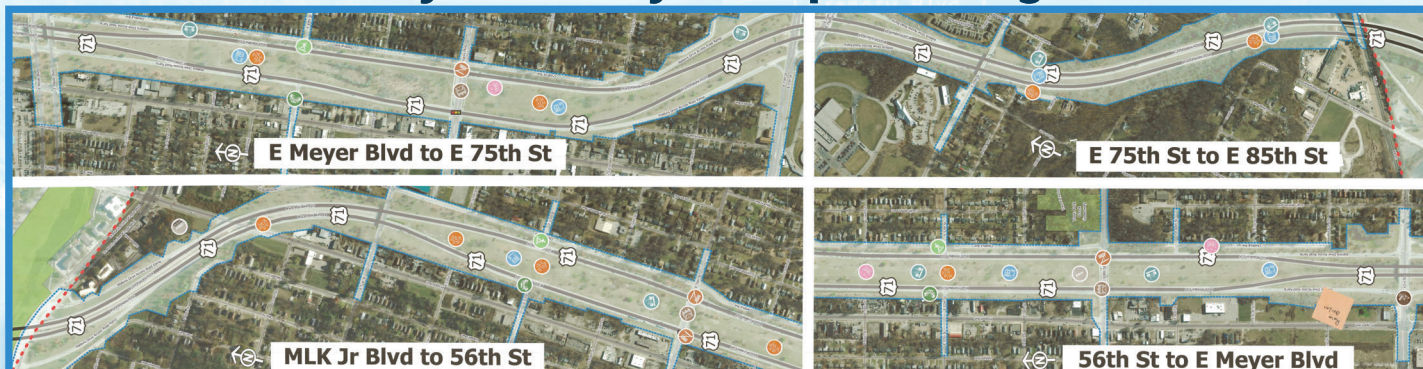


Event: Blue Hills Park Day



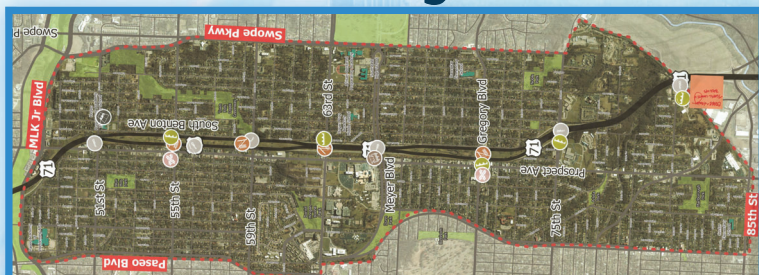
- Remove **traffic signals** and add **overpasses** at the signal locations.
- Add **rail transit** with convert the highway to a **parkway/ boulevard**.
- Improving pedestrian walking with **land bridges**.
- Adding **developments**, i.e., New QuikTrip, grocery stores.
- Add **traffic calming** measures.

Event: Community Advisory Group Meeting #2



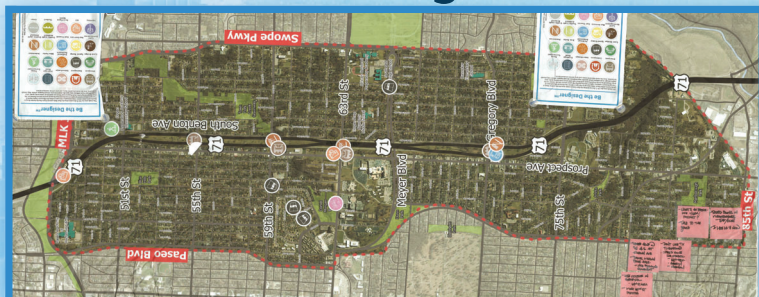
- **Traffic signal removal** recommended at all intersections with vehicular **overpasses** for crossing.
- **Parkway boulevard** system proposed with **rail transit**, **slower traffic speeds**, and **landscaping**.
- **Limited highway access** suggested at major intersections only: Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, 63rd Street, 75th Street.
- **Pedestrian/bike land bridges** recommended to reconnect neighborhoods at 53rd, 57th, and 69th streets.
- **Development opportunities** identified at interchange locations with community input on acceptable types.

Event: Club KC Night Swim



- Remove **traffic lights** and create a **viaduct** for US-71.
- Create **interchanges** where the current traffic signals are located.
- Creating a **highway** with **no stops** to improve and reduce traffic backups.

Event: Citadel Neighborhood Community Pop-Up



- Talk to the Youth.
- **Speed humps** on side streets from the highway.
- Make **intersections** like 63rd street **prettier**.
- Add **playground amenities**.
- Remove **traffic signals** and add **overpasses** at the signal locations.

Event: ArtsTech: Mini-Summit

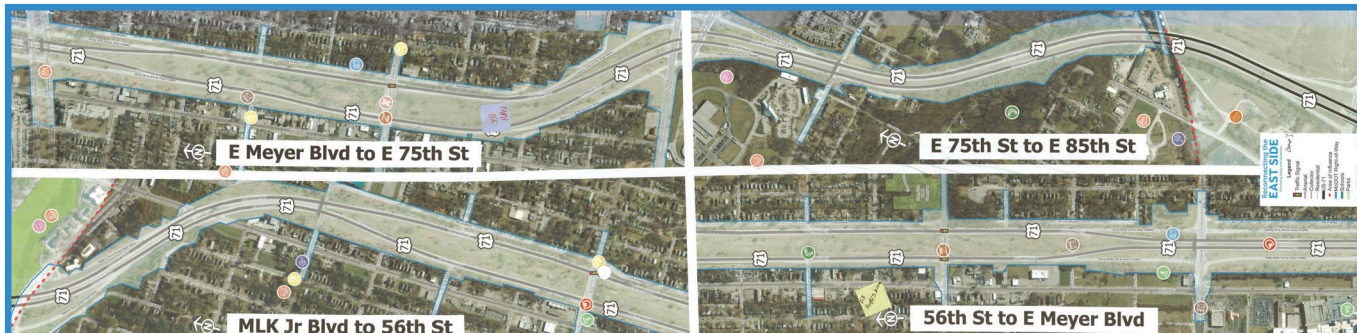
Group 1



Group 2



Group 3



Group 1

- Proposed an end-to-end **light rail system** integrated with the downtown streetcar.
- Highway design prioritizes **faster speeds** with **frontage roads** for local traffic.
- Intersections include **roundabouts, lighting, and pedestrian overpasses**.
- **Rail line** would run parallel to the highway for **multimodal access**.

Group 2

- Focus on north-south traffic flow, with **added lighting and pedestrian paths**.
- **Highway narrowing** keeps local side streets accessible.
- **Land bridges** and lighting improve pedestrian safety.
- **Interchange** expansions support local and through-traffic, plus **rail transit**.
- **Traffic calming, art installations, and park development** planned.
- **Commercial development** proposed for a new business corridor.

Group 3

- Emphasis on **parks and open space**, including a **fountain feature**.
- Integrated **art and lighting** throughout public spaces.
- New **bus services** and **pedestrian overpasses** improve access and safety.
- **Speed limit adjusted** to 55 mph with **fewer traffic signals**.
- **Land bridges** and a **Parkway Boulevard** added for scenic travel and recreation.



Event: Water Services Pop-Up



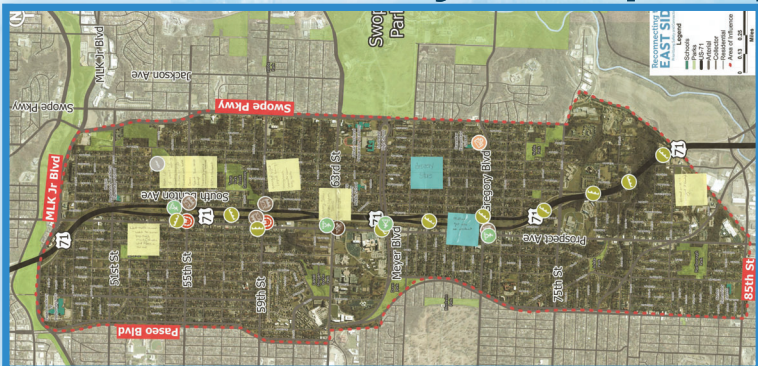
- Add **native plants** and **beautify** along the highway.
- Increase **police presence** for increased safety.
- **Traffic calming** to reduce speeds.
- Raised **pedestrian crossings** that are American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible.

Event: Washington Wheatley Neighborhood Fair



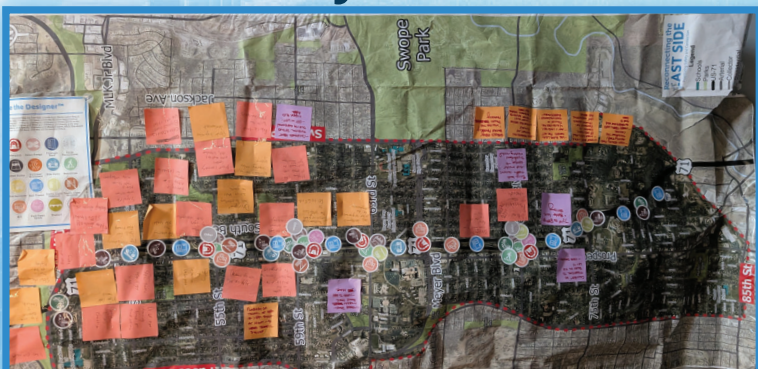
- Increase **police presence** for increased safety.
- **Interchanges** at 51st, 59th and Gregory Blvd.
- Addition of **lighting** along the highway.
- **Pedestrian overpasses** and **landbridges** at intersections.
- Eliminate **traffic lights** at intersections.
- **Traffic calming** throughout the corridor.
- **Development** of grocery stores.
- Use **green space** for **parks** in the highway center. (ADA) accessible.

Event: Club KC Mayor Hoops Pop-Up



- Turn highway into a **viaduct**.
- Build **overpasses** and underpasses at intersections.
- **Land development**, i.e. Grocery Store.
- **Traffic calming** to reduce car accidents.
- **Reduction in crime** related to drugs.
- **Pedestrian crossing improvements**.

Event: 816 Day



- Add **rail transit** to highway with connection to streetcar.
- Build **pedestrian land bridges** to improve safety.
- **Land development** in the neighborhoods for the neighborhoods, i.e., affordable housing, grocery stores, shopping center, and community centers.
- **Traffic calming** on highway with **increase of signalized** intersections like near 75th St.
- **Art** along the highway from local black artist.

Event: Key Coalition Neighborhood Event



- **Pedestrian overpasses** with parking at the intersections at 55th St. and 59th St.
- Protect and maintain the **vegetation** along the highway.
- **Traffic calming** for **pedestrian** crossing.
- Install **roundabouts** where traffic lights are located.
- Create **viaduct** to reduce congestion south of Gregory Blvd.

Event: 3rd District Meeting



- **Land Development** along the highway, including: youth entertainment district, multi-family housing, and job training centers.
- Increase **lighting** along the corridor.
- **Pedestrian land bridges** or underpasses near high traffic intersections to improve crossing.
- **Bike path** along the highway.
- Add **bus stops** and **travel lanes** for transit on the highway.

Event: Technical Advisory Group Meeting #2



- **Digital signs** to inform drivers on the highway.
- **Landscaping** barriers to reduce residents exposure to highway noise and particulate pollution.
- Include **rail transit** with increased seating.
- **Traffic calming** through speed bump throughout the surrounding neighborhoods.
- **Land bridges** with **parks** and **bike paths** throughout the corridor.
- Increased **lighting** along and around the corridor.
- Alternative of turning the highway into a **parkway**.

- **Art** throughout the corridor, including: murals, on bridges done by local artist.
- **Signage** for business in surrounding neighborhoods.
- Improve **traffic signal** timing.
- Add raised **crosswalks** with improved **lighting**.
- Make part of the **highway depressed** into the earth.
- Increase **parks** and **recreation** opportunities, to increase crossing safety.