

Public Meeting Summary of Outreach

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) hosted two in-person, public open house meetings in March of 2022 for the Improve I-70 KC Environmental Impact Study (EIS) re-evaluation. Identical information was presented at each come-and-go meeting. Details are as follows:

Meeting #1

Tuesday, March 1, 2022
4-6 p.m.
Gregg/Klice Community Center
Center
1600 E. 17th Street
Kansas City, MO 64108

Meeting#2

Thursday, March 3, 2022
4-6 p.m.
Linwood YMCA/James B. Nutter
3800 Linwood Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64128

Overview and Outreach Efforts

The project area spans five miles of I-70 from The Paseo to U.S. 40 and several factors were taken into consideration to reach a wide-variety of stakeholders, such as offering materials in multiple formats (print and digital), through a variety of communications channels (community publications, social media, news media, postal service, physical locations along the corridor), and in multiple languages (Spanish and Vietnamese). Additionally, the in-person public meetings were offered at two different locations along the corridor accessible by public transportation, and the same information is presented through a video accessible through the project webpage.

The goal of the public meetings was to:

- Provide multiple opportunities for the project team to re-engage stakeholders, update nearby stakeholders and inform the general public about the current project status, future plans and verify previous feedback.
- Determine if the needs of the community have changed since the December 2017 Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision.
- Re-evaluate potential impacts of the preferred alternative, existing conditions, and related mitigation measures that may have changed.

Printed and Mailed Postcard Invitations

Postcard invitations were mailed through the United States Postal Service to approximately **853** property owners, business owners and residents in the immediate project area. Postcards were also mailed to approximately **360** stakeholders and organizations, including neighborhood leaders, community

leaders, resource and social services agencies, state and city elected officials, faith-based institutions, civic organizations, city leadership, state leadership, and addresses collected from stakeholders in past studies for the project area.

Additionally, the printed postcard and fact sheet were translated for Vietnamese- and Spanish-speaking stakeholders.

Email Invitations and Toolkit

Email invitations and a toolkit of promotional information were mailed to approximately **449** stakeholders including neighborhood leaders, city leadership, state leadership, elected officials, organization leaders, large employers, environmental agencies, resource and social service agencies, community centers, school districts, and Native American groups.

Reminder emails were sent to all email addresses associated with the project (**over 449**).

The toolkit consisted of materials that could be shared electronically or in print form with organization contacts, including an invitation graphic with a QR code, introductory content, ready-made Facebook and Twitter posts, a link to the project website, fact sheet, interactive map and project team contact information.

Media Relations and Publications

A media alert and a news release were emailed by MoDOT Communications to news media representatives.

Printed ads were placed in the Kansas City Call and Dos Mundos (Spanish) community newspapers.

Postcard Drop

The week before the public meetings, the Parson + Associates team personally delivered stacks of postcards to the following locations along the corridor. Recipients were able to choose between English, English/Spanish and/or English/Vietnamese postcards.

Postcard Drop Locations

Location	Address
Clymer Community Center	1301 Vine St, Kansas City, MO 64106
Kansas City Missouri Police East Patrol Campus	2640 Prospect Ave, Kansas City, MO 64127
El Mercado Fresco - Fresh Market	2620 Independence Ave, Kansas City, MO 64124
Elotes De Sabores	2313 E 12th St, Kansas City, MO 64127
Friendly Assembly of God	1215 Benton Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64127
Friendship Baptist Church	3530 Chelsea Dr #3500, Kansas City, MO 64128
Gregg/Klice Community Center	1600 E 17th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64108
Happy Food Center Inc	4019 E 31st St, Kansas City, MO 64128
J.A. Rogers Elementary School	6400 23rd St, Kansas City, MO 64129
Kansas City Public Library: Lucile H. Bluford Branch	3050 Prospect Ave, Kansas City, MO 64128
Kansas City MLB Urban Youth Academy	1622 E 17th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64108
Linwood YMCA/James B. Nutter, Sr. Community Center	3800 Linwood Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64128
Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church Of Jesus Christ	2411 E 27th St, Kansas City, MO 64127
Negro Leagues Baseball Museum	1616 E 18th St, Kansas City, MO 64108
Kansas City Public Library: North East Branch	6000 Wilson Ave, Kansas City, MO 64123
Phap Hoa Temple	1001 Bales Ave, Kansas City, MO 64127
Rincon De Las Americas Restaurante Catracho	2349 Hardesty Ave, Kansas City, MO 64127
St Stephen Baptist Church	1414 E Truman Rd, Kansas City, MO 64106
Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center	825 Euclid Ave, Kansas City, MO 64124
San Antonio Meat Market	2904 Independence Ave, Kansas City, MO 64124
Soe Soe Grocery Store	3615 St John Ave, Kansas City, MO 64123
Splitlog Coffee Co. Pendleton Heights Coffee Shop	546 Olive St, Kansas City, MO 64124
Kansas City VA Medical Center	4801 Linwood Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64128
Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce	2657 Independence Ave, Kansas City, MO 64124
St. Michael's Veterans Center Apartments	3838 Chelsea Dr, Kansas City, MO 64128

Resources and Attendance

The project team prepared a number of educational resources for the public meetings and to post online, including a glossary of terms, informational boards, a comment card, and a fact sheet in English, English/Spanish and English/Vietnamese.

Project team members were stationed next to six, 3'x4' informational boards with an overview, purpose, goals, general timeline and four draft images of the 2017 Preferred Alternative for attendees to review.

For both meetings, there was a combined total of 55 attendees and 18 completed comment forms.

Meeting #1

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Time: 4-6 p.m.

Location: Gregg/Kilce Community Center

A total of **33** community members attended the March 1 open house at Gregg/Klice Community Center; **10** of them completed comment forms.

Meeting #2

Date: Thursday, March 3, 2022

Time: 4-6 p.m.

Linwood YMCA/James B. Nutter Center

A total of **22** community members attended the March 3 open house at Linwood YMCA; **8** of them filled out comment forms.

KSHB Channel 41 reporters attended and reported on the March 3 meeting.
<https://www.kshb.com/news/local-news/modot-meets-with-residents-about-improving-stretch-of-interstate-70>

To complement the in-person experience and hard copy comment card, an interactive map and survey were posted on the project webpage to repeat information presented at the public meeting and to provide an opportunity for people to submit feedback online. The interactive map also outlines the primary changes from existing conditions for each segment for people to review and confirm.

Summary of Comments from Attendees

A total of 18 comment forms were collected at the open house events. Below are some of the highlights and comments as submitted:

What is your relationship with the I-70 corridor between the Paseo and U.S. 40? Check one.

Note: While the question asked respondents to “check one,” most checked multiple options.

Resident	Commuter	Business Owner/Employee	Property Owner	Renter/lessee	Other
12	3	4	1	2	Employee of urban design center Occasional user Local church Safety advocate Forgotten Homes NA Interested citizen

Preferred Alternative Concept: what do you think of the previously prepared preferred alternative concept? Select one and share why?

Note: 5 respondents did not answer this question.

Love it	Like it	It's okay	Needs work
0	3	3	6

Why?

Note: Most respondents did not answer this question.

Destroy homes	1
GHG emissions	1
Stormwater runoff	1
Noise	2
Need ped bridges	1
Need ADA access	1

What has changed in the I-70 corridor between The Paseo and U.S. 40 over the last 10 years?

Traffic/commuter increase	5
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Demographics (increase)	3
Climate change	3
Increased environmental justice knowledge	2
More trash	2
Speed increase	2
Lack of other transit options	2
Poor entrance/exit in terms of distance	2
Deterioration of bridges	1
Green infrastructure options	1
Economic factors	1
Signs	1
Homelessness/panhandling	1
Increased accidents	1
Lack of community resources	1
Bigger trucks/more damage	1
More lanes/wider road	1
Destruction of homes/businesses	1
Increased commercialization near Paseo	1

What are your biggest concerns along the corridor? Check those that apply and explain if necessary.

Noise	12
Bike/pedestrian accessibility	9
Crashes on local streets	6
Interstate congestion	6
Restore/maintain existing infrastructure	6
Access to interstate	3
Crashes on interstate	3

Driving Experience	2
Movement of goods	2

Other:

Environment (climate change, ghg emissions, pollinator spaces)
(5)

Connectivity (3)

Clear crossings (2)

23rd Street access dangerous

Speed

Landscaping

Assure good on/off for transit

Make it a parkway

Repair what we have and focus new development on BRT and commuter rail

Overpass lighting

Homelessness

Expansion will increase demand

Addition of new baseball stadium

Traffic backup

Trash removal

Energy consumption

What else would you like us to know about the I-70 Corridor between Paseo and U.S. 40?

Big Goals: - understand the change in commuter traffic. KC has seen a huge reduction of local traffic due to COVID and the general population driving less. - prioritize reconnecting and rebuilding neighborhood connectivity and urban fabric. - Implement innovative research and solutions found on carbon reduction, sustainable/green infrastructure and noise reduction - green overpasses at strategic points - major beautification, water management solutions, signage, natives species planting. - Incorporate Census data! so much has changed in the last 10

years in the communities connected to interstate. - Allow for community feedback once the design process begins. Looking at conceptual drawings is way harder to understand than seeing a rendering with actual design solutions - many people may not understand the solutions you come up with until you give them an image of what it looks like, or a virtual experience of what it would be like to drive through the area.

Concern #1: Bridges at Woodland/ I-70 - Erosion on the slopes on the east/west side - Dirt needs to be replaced by rock or something that slides down on the sidewalk - On-going maintenance is needed - Better lighting Bridges at Brooklyn Ave - Dead plants on slopes - Better lighting Bridges at Prospect Ave - Entry onto I-70 going Northbound does not allow enough room to gain speed to merge onto traffic Bridges at Paseo - Erosion on slopes - Better lighting Concern #2 Noise Barrier from Paseo-Prospect Residential community

As you revise the study to arrive at a NEW preferred alternative to get a NEW ROD, do not miss climate change and its affects. Greta and I will be watching!

Cross country travel should be routed around KC via 435 and I-70. Must be removed in the urban core.

I hope this does not impact my home. I don't want to move.

We (KCATA) are planning to advance bus-on-shoulder operations at a future date.

Climate change changes everything.

Access and connectivity of exit ramps that currently restrict mobility, especially near downtown area.

Please continue to update study info on your website. Thank you!

We already lack quality, affordable homes. Expansion would destroy hundreds of homes making existing homes more expensive.

Better presentations - Speaker, introductions, video presentations, Q&A.

Expansion brings cost, destruction, pollutions and provides no benefits but initial jobs.

Lack of diversity, community impact. There should be a presentation video of the information.