## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**



Issue 1 - SPRING 2007

#### I-64 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT GETS UNDERWAY

Spring and its warmer temperatures may be getting off to a slow start but the pace of construction on I-64 is picking up speed.

The project's three-year construction schedule has been released by the Missouri Department of Transportation's (MoDOT) contractor, Gateway Constructors, who was awarded the \$535 million project. As the project gets underway, a clearer picture of what to expect during the first year of construction can now be seen. The I-64 project covers the area from west of Spoede Road to just east of Kingshighway Boulevard.



Above: Crews break up the Tamm Bridge as it lies across I-64 after the implosion on April 20. Hundreds of St. Louis residents came out late Friday night and lined both sides of the interstate to get a front row seat for the first of 12 interchange demolitions.

As on any construction project, large or small, the various work activities are subject to change due to weather or equipment problems, or balancing schedule and staffing loads. Throughout 2007, most work on I-64 will be occurring around I-170 and eastern segments of the project.

In March, construction began on the freeway-to-freeway interchange for I-170 and I-64, with the demolition of 33 homes in the northeast corner of the interchange. MoDOT purchased a total of 65 homes along I-64 that will be demolished by the end of summer 2007.

On April 4, the project's first long-term traffic restrictions were implemented with the permanent closure of the southbound entrance ramp to I-170 from Galleria Parkway and the closure of one lane of southbound I-170. On April 11, I-170 was closed overnight for the removal of the pedestrian bridge over the freeway.

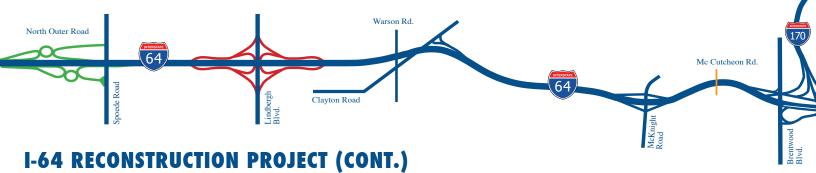
Demolition of the Tamm Avenue bridge occurred the weekend of April 20 – 23, requiring a full closure of I-64 between Hampton Avenue and Oakland Avenue. The Tamm Avenue bridge was imploded shortly after the freeway closed at 10 p.m., and over the rest of the weekend, the debris was broken up into smaller pieces and hauled away. The interstate was cleaned up and reopened a day early, well before the deadline of Monday morning rush hour.

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On April 23, the southbound Hanley Road ramp to I-64 westbound closed to make room for construction of a collector distributor road to Brentwood Boulevard and the flyover ramp from westbound I-64 to northbound I-170. The northbound Hanley Road ramp to westbound I-64 will close in early June. These ramps will remain closed until early 2010.

Work also began in April at the Kingshighway Boulevard interchange. In May, traffic will be narrowed to two lanes in each direction on Kingshighway Boulevard between Hospital Plaza Drive and Oakland Avenue. Demolition of the eastern half of the Kingshighway bridge over Clayton Avenue will take place following that traffic shift.

Also in May, all I-170 traffic will be shifted to the west on a temporary bypass and narrowed to two lanes in each direction between Galleria Parkway and Eager Road to allow for the new interchange ramp construction. The ramp from northbound I-170 to Galleria Parkway will close permanently at this time.

Demolition of the bridges at Bellevue and Boland Avenues and at Highland Terrace is also scheduled to occur later this summer. Reconstruction of each bridge is estimated to take from four to six months to complete.

New ramps will be built to provide two lanes from westbound I-64 to northbound I-170 and from southbound I-170 to eastbound I-64. Once these ramps are complete, I-64 will be completely closed from Ballas Road to I-170. This closure is currently scheduled for January 2008. The two-lane ramps at the I-64 and I-170 interchange will enable drivers to more easily access the other east-west roadways during the I-64 closure. MoDOT and St. Louis County are making improvements to these other roadways to help traffic flow.

In 2008, reconstruction of the nearly five mile long segment between Spoede Road and I-170 will begin, and can be completed much faster and less expensively than if traffic had to be maintained. All of the existing pavement, interchanges and overpasses will be reconstructed. Traffic will be able to use Lindbergh Boulevard and Brentwood Boulevard to go north and south under I-64 during the reconstruction. Clayton-Warson will also remain open while I-64

is rebuilt above it.

Also in 2008, the Hampton Avenue bridge over I-64 will be closed for reconstruction in the Fall and re-opened in the Spring of 2009.

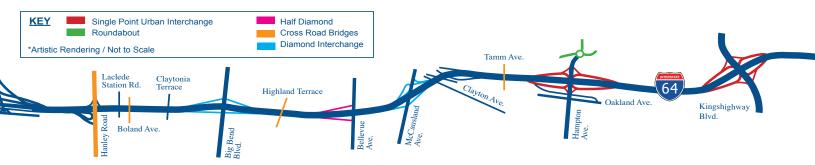
Beginning in early 2009, once the west portion of the project is reopened, the east portion will close between I-170 and Kingshighway Boulevard. The remaining overpasses and interchanges will be re-constructed during this phase. All lanes of I-64 and I-170 will be opened by Dec. 31, 2009, with final completion of the project scheduled for July 31, 2010.

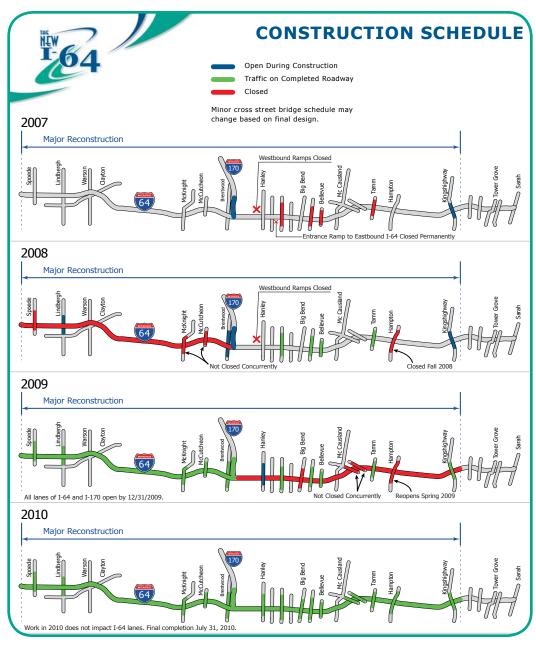


## WINTER 2007 OPEN HOUSE PHOTOS!

Above: A 48-foot map showed attendees an overview of the entire construction project.

Left: A local Boy Scout troop stopped by to learn how overpass bridges are built.





# WHAT WILL THE INTERCHANGES LOOK LIKE?

As the project gets underway, many people have asked whether the new I-64 interchanges will look the same as they do now. The answer is no. They'll look significantly different.

In addition to changes in the roadway design, there are approximately 30 bridges along the 10-mile project that will be rebuilt over the next three years. These include interchanges and overpasses. Two basic interchange types will be used - diamond interchanges and single-point urban interchanges. Roundabouts will be constructed at the I-64 interchange with Spoede Road and at the intersection of Hampton Avenue and Wells Drive. Examples of the different designs for the new interchanges are illustrated across the top of this page.

## **CONTACT US**

WEBSITE: www.thenewi64.org

MAILING ADDRESS: 8474 Delport Drive Vinita Park, MO 63114

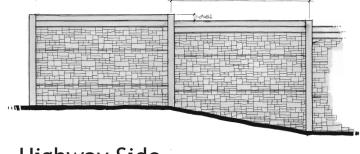


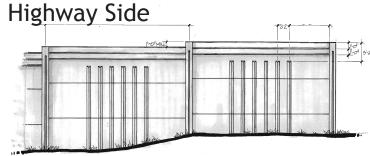


### WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR SOUNDWALLS?

- Gateway Constructors will complete noise analysis and design for the height and location of walls.
- Once design information is ready, adjacent property owners will be contacted by MoDOT and provided with the details.
- These property owners will vote on the wall with a simple majority to decide.
- All property owners will be contacted between summer and fall 2007.
- Walls will be built with the project and complete by July 31, 2010.
- Wall heights can vary between 6 and 18 feet depending on height needed to reduce noise by 5 decibels.

## Residential Side











Ride a Bike





Car or Van Pool