

Project Overview

I-70 in St. Charles County was the first interstate project in the nation. Its intended use was to move people and goods across the state and country. It was not designed for the urbanization that has occurred during the last 60 years.

The I-70 corridor connects the St. Louis region to the City of St. Charles and provides access to many of the city's top attractions, retail destinations and employment centers, including Ameristar Casino, Historic Main Street, St. Charles Convention Center, The Family Arena, Mark Twain Village (Bass Pro), Streets of St. Charles and SSM St. Joseph Health Center.

Owners of existing businesses and companies looking at properties along the I-70 corridor often comment that there is great visibility but poor access to and from the interstate. Additionally, they say that too many traffic signals and congested interchanges make it difficult for interstate travelers to exit and find their businesses. As a result, many businesses have closed, including K-Mart, Mr. Steak, Georgia Carpet Outlet and Chevy's, and new businesses have not moved in. It is time to take a closer look to determine the root cause of stagnant economic conditions and to identify improvements needed to upgrade the I-70 corridor to support a 21st Century economy.



Why is the I-70 Corridor Important?

- 48 percent of the sales tax revenue collected in St. Charles County comes from within one mile of I-70
- 46 percent of the jobs within St. Charles County are within one mile of I-70
- 27 percent of residents in St. Charles County reside within one mile of I-70

Conceptual Improvements

- Promotes economic development along the corridor by increasing traffic volumes on outer roadways between interchanges
- Doubles the number of routes to I-70 from **three to six** by adding access at Fairgrounds Road/Convention Center Boulevard, Hawk's Nest Drive and the future Sandfort Creek Road
- Reduces congestion on major corridors by providing additional access points via outer roadways and reducing the number of signals at the Zumbuhl Road Interchange