



Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 5, 2023

Re: Setting a public hearing for Interstate 70/Highway 63 Interchange enhancement design concepts.

## Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration a resolution setting a public hearing for June 20, 2023 for the inclusion of the Interstate 70/Highway 63 Interchange enhancement design concepts with MoDOT's design-build request for proposal for the connector reconfiguration. An interested parties meeting was held on May 17, 2023.

## Discussion

On July 6, 2022, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission approved \$140 million for an Interstate 70/Highway 63 connector reconfiguration project. MoDOT will use the design-build process for the design and construction of these improvements. The improvement criteria used for the design-build process will include safety, reduced congestion, and reliability. The design-build request for proposal process will begin this fall.

Since MoDOT is utilizing the design-build process, the exact design elements are not known at the start of the project and will develop through the request for proposal process. With functionality being paramount in the design-build scoring, MoDOT's funding will include standard design and materials for the project. Thus, enhancements and beautification within the project limits will need to be championed and funded by others. Therefore, the City of Columbia, Boone County, the University of Missouri, the Loop CID, Shelter Insurance, MU Healthcare, and many others are working together to develop enhancement design concepts which will provide an attractive appearance that reflects Columbia and will draw people into the city. The enhancement design concepts will also set a precedent for other bridges over Interstate 70 and Highway 63 throughout Columbia as these bridges are reconstructed or improved in future improvement projects.

Enhancement design concepts can include both hardscape and landscape areas at the interchanges and will address two primary groups of road users. The design concepts will address slower-moving and stopped vehicles, as well as pedestrians and cyclists on the bridge, all of whom will be able to appreciate more detailed components of the design. The design concepts will also address faster-moving vehicles, who will be unable to perceive smaller design elements as they pass under the bridge. Hardscape enhancements to be considered include:

- Powder coated signal poles and roadway lighting
- Decorative pattern on the exterior concrete guardrail and bridge facades
- Decorative pattern on the interior concrete pedestrian barrier



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- Decorative end components on each end of the bridge
- A decorative metal railing or fence on the bridge
- Decorative lighting on the bridge
- Decorative retaining wall systems
- A custom City or County seal, street names, graphics or other features
- Accent lighting under the bridge or along the bridge facade
- Graphic elements to enhance components and/or create a design that reflects the community
- Other custom features

Landscape enhancements can be completed once the construction has finished and will reflect the uniqueness of each location. Maintenance of the hardscape enhancements will most likely be provided by the City and the landscape enhancements may be maintained by various groups adopting each area.

An interested parties meeting was held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023. At the meeting, enhancement design elements were displayed and members of the public were able to review and comment on the elements.

Construction of the improvements is expected to begin in 2025 and take several years to complete. Additional improvements to the Interstate 70 and Highway 63 corridors are expected to be completed over the next 10 to 20 years, as funding continues to become available.

Funding for the enhancements has yet to be determined and will most likely be provided through both public and private funding sources. It is anticipated that funding needed will be approximately \$2.6 million, but will be largely dependent of the awarded design-build scope for the project.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total estimate for the proposed enhancements is approximately \$2.6 million and will most likely be provided through both public and private funding sources.  
Long-Term Impact: Maintenance of the both the hardscape features and the landscape features.

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### [Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Reliable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Resilient Economy, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

### [Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Land Use & Growth Management, Tertiary Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility



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## Legislative History

Date	Action
NA	NA

## Suggested Council Action

Adopt the resolution setting a public hearing on June 20, 2023 for the inclusion of the Interstate 70/Highway 63 Interchange enhancement design concepts in MoDOT's design-build process for the connector reconfiguration.