

# THE CITY OF DES MOINES

## SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR

MLK

US65

# The City of Des Moines Southeast Connector

The Southeast (SE) Connector is an arterial roadway construction project under development by the City of Des Moines. The purpose of the project is to construct a major, multi-lane roadway connecting Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway at S.W. 2nd Street to the U.S. 65 beltway.

The SE Connector improvements will fulfill significant and far-reaching goals for the city of Des Moines and the greater metropolitan area. Development of the Southeast Connector will greatly benefit the City's overall transportation system.

### What Is Happening?

The SE Connector has been under construction since 2006. Roadway is now open from SW 2nd Street to SE 9th Street, including dual bridges over the Des Moines River. This new section of roadway provides more efficient access from the heavily traveled SE 6th Street to the downtown area.

The United States Department of Transportation has announced \$10 million TIGER funding for the Southeast Connector. The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funding will allow construction of the next phase of the project, consisting of two lanes, multi-purpose trail and intersection improvements between SE 15th to SE 30th Street.

Construction of the two lane roadway between SE 15th and SE 30th will begin summer (2013).

### SE Connector SE 15th to SE 23rd

Design is underway for the portion of roadway from SE 15th to SE 23rd Street. This project includes:

- Mainline paving from SE 15th to SE 23rd Street with signalized intersections at SE 18th and SE 23rd Streets.

- Reconstruction of SE 18th Street between Market Street and Maury Street.
- Construction of a new SE 23rd Street from SE Connector south to Maury Street.
- Dual bridges over the Union Pacific Railroad near SE 21st Street
- Dual bridges over the Norfolk Southern Railroad near SE 21st Street
- Expansion of Deans Lake
- Installation of a new culvert to carry Deans Lake beneath the SE Connector

Along with design, property acquisitions and relocations are taking place for impacted businesses and homes. Utility coordination and relocation plans are underway.

In addition to the TIGER funding, the Iowa Department of Transportation has awarded the project \$12.7 million in RISE funds and the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization has allocated Federal STP funds.

### SE Connector SE 23rd to SE 30th

Preliminary design is being completed for the portion of roadway from SE 23rd to SE 30th Street. This project includes:

- Mainline paving from SE 23rd to SE 30th Street with signalized intersections at SE 25th Court and SE 30th Street.
- Pedestrian crosswalk with signalization at SE 26th Court.
- Reconstruction of SE 25th Court between Scott Avenue and Shaw Street.
- Modifications at the SE Connector for SE 26th Court, SE 27th Street, SE 27th Court, SE 28th Street, and SE 28th Court.
- Widening of SE 30th Street to accommodate turn lanes.

Along with design, property acquisitions and relocations are taking place for impacted businesses and homes. Utility coordination and relocation plans are underway.

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### SE Connector SE 9th to SE 15th

Final design has been completed for the next portion of roadway from SE 9th to SE 15th Street. This project includes:

- Mainline paving from SE 9th to SE 15th Street with signalized intersections at SE 12th and SE 15th.
- Reconstruction of SE 10th Street between Raccoon Street and Scott Avenue.
- Reconstruction of SE 12th Street between the SE Connector and Maury Street.
- Reconstruction of SE 15th Street between the SE Connector and Scott Avenue.
- Funding is in place for this project. Roadway construction is anticipated to begin in early 2013, pending a project agreement with the Norfolk Southern Railway.

### SE Connector SE 30th to US 65

Design has not progressed beyond the EIS for the project between SE 30th Street and US 65. As the other sections of the project move forward and when additional funds become available, further design will begin on this section. This portion of the project is not currently programmed in the City's Capital Improvement Program.

### Who's Involved?

Kirkham Michael (KM), the city's consulting engineer and its subconsultants RDG and Terracon are leading the effort for the roadway design and construction between SE 9th and SE 30th Street. The project team works closely with the City of Des Moines, The Iowa Department of Transportation, and all major utilities whose facilities are impacted by the construction.

Community input is a valuable part of this process. A variety of communication channels has been employed to keep stakeholders informed and involved.

Southeast Connector

P.O. Box 8368

Des Moines, IA 50301

Phone: 1-800-797-0565

**Public meeting will be  
scheduled in September.**