

How State Avenue **Connex** Improvements are Funded

A Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation is funding the State Avenue **Connex** bus enhancements. The grant awarded last year included \$10.5 million for the design and implementation of these physical enhancements along the corridor. State Avenue **Connex** is an intermediate step to a MAX Bus Rapid Transit Line.

Questions/Comments

For more information, please contact:

Keith Sanders, Project Manager
Kansas City Area Transportation Authority
816-346-0359
ksanders@kcata.org
www.kcata.org

Emerick Cross, Interim Transit Manager
Unified Government Transit
913-573-6784
ecross@wycokck.org
www.wycokck.org



Enhanced Transit Facilities Planned for State Avenue

The Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) and Unified Government Transit (UGT) of Wyandotte County Kansas City, Ks. have secured federal TIGER funding to improve the existing Minnesota/State Avenue transit corridor. The improvements will be made along the transit route that begins at the 10th and Main MetroCenter in downtown Kansas City, Mo., travels through Downtown Kansas City, Ks., and ends at Village West at 109th and Parallel Parkway in Wyandotte County before returning in the opposite direction. The route will serve activity centers and neighborhoods along State and Minnesota avenues. State Avenue **Connex** will be complete in 2013.



Why Transit is Important to State Avenue

Effective transit connects employment centers, educational facilities, neighborhoods and shopping and entertainment areas. As a major east-west route through the Kansas City metropolitan area, State Avenue links Kansas City's revitalized urban core with new development occurring farther west. With two new transit centers providing regional connections, State Avenue **Connex** supports the regional vision for enhanced and expanded regional transit in Kansas City. State Avenue **Connex** will improve transit facilities and continue to provide access to jobs, support economic development, and provide efficient transportation.

What's Included with the Improvements

State Avenue **Connex** will include new transit centers at 7th and Minnesota Avenue and at 47th and State Avenue (Indian Springs). Both transit centers will be custom-built with improved passenger waiting areas and amenities such as real-time passenger information. Other State Avenue corridor **Connex** stop improvements include:

- Bus passenger shelters and benches
- Bus stop platforms
- Landscaping and environmentally friendly features
- Improved pedestrian connections

Design Process and Schedule

KCATA, UGT, business leaders, neighborhoods, elected officials, the general public, other stakeholders, and a consultant design team are working together to develop State Avenue **Connex**. The preliminary design process began in the spring of 2011, and final design will be complete by winter 2011-2012. Construction is scheduled to begin immediately thereafter and conclude in 2013. The process involves:

- Developing preliminary and final transit design plans for the corridor.
- Meeting with an advisory board of targeted State Avenue stakeholders to discuss needs, concerns, and ideas for improving the transit corridor.
- Holding public meetings to gather feedback about the design plans.
- Communicating with riders and the public in a number of ways, including online at www.kcata.org.

State Avenue Connex Route

