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.

**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:

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**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.