#### The corridor is long and goes through several different counties and municipalities. How is that going to work?

Each jurisdiction has its own development plans, which are at different stages. Sections along the corridor have varying and significant economic and infrastructure needs. This project aims to link the existing efforts with a fresh look at improving transportation for the future. It will also guide redevelopment while prioritizing basic needs: access to transportation, housing, jobs, health care, and education.

This phase of the study will take a holistic approach to the corridor plan, informing land use decisions, economic development plans, and coordinating the policies of the jurisdictions.

## Why is this project important?

#### A strong transportation planning

**strategy** is vital to connecting people with employment centers and housing options. People need a dependable and affordable way to get to work. A convenient public transportation system across the corridor could enable residents of Independence to reliably commute to work in downtown Kansas City, Missouri, or make it easier for those living in downtown Kansas City, Kansas to get jobs near Village West. Evaluating the corridor for bus rapid transit and other modes will strengthen transportation options and establish a main artery along the corridor that meets zero-emission and \*Vision Zero goals.

Communities can be transformed when people are connected with opportunities through reliable transportation, including employment options, healthcare, education, and recreation. Reducing transportation emissions also improves overall community health and offers longterm environmental benefits.

There is tremendous economic potential along this corridor for both Kansas and Missouri, as well as across the wider Midwest.

# What else is important about this project?

This initiative will **identify opportunities**, **approaches and funding sources** to develop sustainable communities in and around highly-traveled corridors.

### Ultimately, the **plan will create a**

framework and land use policies that allow municipalities to choose the right projects to support communities as they grow over the long term. This will help garner the support of public-private partnerships and government funding into the future.

\*Vision Zero: a program to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for everyone.

# For more information

Contact Ron Achelpohl or Lukas Yanni by email at transportation@marc.org or call 816-474-4240



Scan QR code for more information about the project, or visit **marc.org/bistatecorridor** 

# **Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor**











# What is the Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor?

Starting west at Village West in Kansas City, Kansas and heading east to Independence, Missouri is a 24-mile long corridor which crosses State Line. This area is made up of diverse communities of people and businesses with unique needs.

From densely populated urban centers to metropolitan attractions, and small town historic communities to industrial areas, the corridor has tremendous potential to connect people to transportation, housing, health care, employment, and educational opportunities.

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is coordinating a long-term **multijurisdictional strategy to support infrastructure, transportation, and economic development along this 24-mile corridor connecting Independence, Sugar Creek, and Kansas City, Missouri, with Kansas City, Kansas**. Meaning, multiple organizations and government entities are coming together to thoughtfully develop a specific area in several phases.



#### Who are the Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor project partners?

The partners involved in the corridor project include civic and business organizations, along with the **Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas; City of Kansas City, Missouri; Jackson County, Missouri; City of Independence, Missouri; City of Sugar Creek, Missouri; Kansas City Area Transportation Authority; and MARC.** 

## How is this project funded?

The **US Department of Transportation awarded a competitive \$5.6 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)** 

**Grant** to the Mid-America Regional Council to conduct this work in partnership with the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority and the cities and counties along the corridor. This funding will be used for planning activities for the east-west high-capacity transit corridor and related improvements.

Phase I engagement and conceptual design of this project are currently underway, and will conclude in mid-2025, followed by detailed engineering and early implementation programs of Phases 2 and 3. **The goals of this project include:** 



The Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor project will connect four cities in two states and two counties, with the goal of implementing a 24-mile, zeroemission regional transit route. **The project includes:** 



Completing project development and environmental documentation for zero-emission transportation elements.

Completing conceptual engineering design for one or more high-capacity transit routes.

\*Zero emission transportation: Fast, frequent transit on electric buses; new mobility hubs; pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.