**Kingshighway/Forest Park Parkway intersection reconstruction expected to begin in July or August**

Frequently Asked Questions

**What does the construction at Forest Park Parkway and Kingshighway entail?**

There are actually two projects:

1. The creation of a traditional intersection at Forest Park and Kingshighway – currently Forest Park Avenue/Parkway lanes run under Kingshighway. The lanes will be filled in, creating a four-way intersection.

2. The replacement of a bridge over the MetroLink tracks west of Kingshighway.

**When will the construction begin?**

Work is expected to begin in July or August.

**How long will the project take?**

The intersection should be finished by the end of 2016. However, Forest Park Parkway west of Kingshighway cannot open then. The bridge over the MetroLink tracks will take about a year because contractors can work two hours daily when the trains aren’t running to rebuild the bridge over the tracks.

Everything should be completed by early July 2017.

**Why is the intersection being reconstructed?**

There are a couple of main reasons:

1. The current configuration is challenging for drivers accessing the medical center, the Central West End and Forest Park. Turns are limited to and from Kingshighway and Forest Park Avenue.

2. Pedestrian safety is a big concern both at Kingshighway and at Euclid. The intersection at Euclid is especially dangerous with faster eastbound traffic emerging from beneath Kingshighway mixing with slower eastbound vehicles.

**Why is it being done now?**

With the new BJH north and SLCH expansions opening in August 2017, more patients will be traveling to the north end of the medical center. Reconstructing the intersection
now will enable the contractors to complete the work before the new facilities open.

**Who is paying for the project?**

The bridge over MetroLink is being funded with a $2.5 million federal grant. The City of St. Louis will oversee construction.

The intersection is being funded by BJC ($5 million) and Washington University School of Medicine ($2.5 million). BJC will manage the construction.

**What are the benefits of the project?**

As the volume of patient care increases on the north end of the campus when the new facilities open, traffic volume also will increase. The new intersection will improve the accessibility of the garages, enhance wayfinding and reduce confusion. Additional benefits include:

- Improved safety for drivers and pedestrians at the Forest Park Parkway/Euclid Avenue intersection
- Improved access to the Central West End neighborhood
- Improved access to Forest Park with turn lanes from Kingshighway to Forest Park Parkway
- More visually appealing streetscape
- Slowing of east/west traffic benefiting pedestrian safety
- Reduced crisscrossing of vehicles on Forest Park Parkway near Euclid

**What is the impact on traffic?**

The greatest impact will be on Forest Park Parkway west of Kingshighway, when it closes July 5 to through traffic. Contractors will keep Kingshighway open in both directions.

- Work will be completed during overnight hours, 7 p.m.–5 a.m.
- North-south lanes on Kingshighway will remain open during the day
- Limited north/south Kingshighway lane closures will occur during overnight hours
- East/west lanes on Forest Park Parkway between Kingshighway and Euclid will be limited to one lane in each direction
What do employees need to do differently?

Avoid Kingshighway. Patients frequently arrive under stressful circumstances. We can help ease their stress by taking alternate routes. Highway exit ramps and streets east of Kingshighway provide easy access to employee parking and typically will take less time.

What is the affect on the shuttles that take Forest Park to Kingshighway?

The shuttles will experience delays.

Interchanges at Boyle and Tower Grove – a convenient “back door” alternative to Kingshighway

In August 2014, Interstate 64/Highway 40 interchanges opened at Boyle and Tower Grove – providing employees with convenient access to parking as an alternative to the Kingshighway congestion. The new interchanges were built to improve campus circulation for employees, ease traffic on Kingshighway for patients and visitors, and accommodate development in the Cortex district. Traffic counts last fall indicated the interchanges are significantly underutilized, while Kingshighway continues to be congested, causing delays for patients and employees. Employees are encouraged to take advantage of the easily accessible interchanges.

If you commute I-64/40 and live west of the medical center:
Exit at Tower Grove Avenue
After work, take the ramp from Boyle onto westbound I-64/40

If you commute I-64/40 and live east of the medical center:
Exit at Boyle
After work, take Boyle to Papin Street onto eastbound I-64/40