



WEST STATE GROUNDBREAKING KICKS OFF TRANSFORMATIONAL ROAD PROJECT

Phase I of West State Begins to Take Shape!

- WHAT** The Illinois Department of Transportation and the City of Rockford invite you to the official groundbreaking for the First Phase of the West State Street Reconstruction Project.
- WHEN** Thursday, May 23 2013 at 12:30 p.m.
- WHERE** Southwest Corner of West State and Avon: Parking available on Elm Street.
- PARTNERS** All corridor stakeholders, City of Rockford, IDOT, Rockford Park District, and partner agencies such as RMTD, RMAP, Crusader Community Health, and local neighborhood associations

ABOUT THE WEST STATE STREET PROJECT:

- The West State Street Corridor project grew out of a recognized need for significant infrastructure upgrades within the corridor.
- The City, corridor stakeholders, and IDOT began to work together in 2001 to assemble a West State Street Corridor Framework Plan.
- The Plan, which serves as the template for the project being designed today, was issued in September 2002.
- The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), as the lead agency, began the project design in 2004. Both Phase I & Phase II of the design stage are now complete.
- The City of Rockford has been working with nationally renowned Landscape Architect, Terry Guen of Terry Guen Design Associates, the Rockford Park District, and corridor

stakeholders to create a design for a linear park for both the north and south sides of the corridor.

- The linear park will reflect sustainable design features and will incorporate the cultural heritage of the corridor.
- The park will be another step towards a multi-modal transportation being implemented for the City and region and will be pedestrian and bike friendly and will also be another step toward implementing healthy communities' initiatives within the City.
- The project involves the reconstruction of West State Street from Kent Creek to Pierpont Avenue into a five lane cross section that includes a landscaped barrier median. The improvement will generally follow the existing alignment.
- The project includes construction of curb and gutter, new driving surface, sidewalks, multi-use path, and landscaping.
- The project will also include improvements at intersections. Traffic signals will also be upgraded along with the current roadway lighting.
- Approximately 150 properties were acquired and about as many structures demolished to make way for the project.
- The primary purpose of the West State Street Corridor Project is to provide an improved transportation facility along U.S. BR 20 (West State Street) from Kent Creek to Pierpont Avenue.

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