



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MANCHESTER ROAD GREAT STREETS PROJECT KICKS OFF WITH A SERIES OF PUBLIC VISIONING SESSIONS set for NOVEMBER 16, 17, 18, AND 19, 2009

St. Louis, Mo., November 3, 2009 ... On November 16, 17, 18, and 19 citizens from the West St Louis County area, including the communities of Manchester, Winchester, Ballwin, Ellisville, and Wildwood, , will have a chance to learn more about the Manchester Road Great Streets project at a series of Visioning Sessions hosted by East-West Gateway Council of Governments. During the visioning sessions, East- West Gateway Council of Governments, the regional metropolitan planning organization, will present information on the scope of current planning efforts along Manchester Road, current conditions along the corridor, and next steps in the master planning process. In addition, the public will have the opportunity to comment on their vision and expectations for the project.

The visioning sessions will be conducted Monday, November 16 – Thursday, November 19, 2009 with each session beginning at 7:00PM and lasting until 9:00PM. On Tuesday, November 17, 2009 the public will have the opportunity to attend either a mid-day session from 12:00PM – 2:00PM or the evening session from 7:00PM to 9:00PM. Each session is designed to provide participants the opportunity to visit informational stations staffed by planners and engineers who will provide information on the project, address key issues, and accept comments from the community. They will also have the opportunity to participate in a polling exercise that will start promptly at 12:30 p.m. for the mid-day session on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 and 7:30 p.m. for all four evening sessions. The polling process will take place via a keypad system allowing participants' responses to be tabulated instantly during the meeting. This will provide real-time feedback from the community concerning the future of the corridor and will allow the participants to see how their opinion compares to others in the audience.

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The consultant team retained by East West Gateway is charged with developing a Master Plan for an approximately 5-mile stretch of Manchester Road between Missouri Routes 141 and 109. Ultimately the municipalities involved (Manchester, Winchester, Ballwin, Ellisville, and Wildwood), as well as MoDOT and the West County Chamber of Commerce, can use the document as a blueprint for considering roadway and other infrastructure improvements and economic development strategies along the corridor. The consultant team, led by the urban design firm, Design Workshop, will look at ways to improve infrastructure, manage traffic and parking, increase the potential for economic development, make the corridor safer for pedestrians, and enhance aesthetics in an environmentally responsible manner.

All comments received will be reviewed and considered as the design team begins developing alternatives for the Manchester Road Master Plan over the next few months.

The goal is to make Manchester Road a Great Street and a great destination in West County.

OPEN HOUSE and VISIONING SESSION DETAILS:

Monday, November 16, 2009
Crestview Middle School
16025 Clayton Road
Ellisville, Missouri
7:00 - 9:00 PM
(Polling Exercise at 7:30 PM)

Wednesday, November 18
Wildwood Middle School
17401 Manchester Road
Wildwood, Missouri
7:00 - 9:00 PM
(Polling Exercise at 7:30 PM)

Tuesday, November 17
Manchester United Methodist Church
129 Woods Mill Road
Manchester, Missouri
12 (Noon) - 2:00 PM
(Polling Exercise at 12:30 PM)

Thursday, November 19
Morgan-Selvidge Middle School
235 New Ballwin Road
Ballwin, Missouri
7:00 - 9:00 PM
(Polling Exercise at 7:30 PM)

Tuesday, November 17
Manchester Police Facility
200 Highlands Boulevard Dr.
Manchester, Missouri
7:00 - 9:00 PM
(Polling Exercise at 7:30 PM)

The mid-day session on Tuesday November 17, 2009 will start promptly at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) and all evening sessions at 7:00 p.m. Individuals wishing to participate in the polling must be seated 30 minutes after the hour for each meeting.

To learn more about the project, visit www.ewgateway.org/manchester. Funding for this study is provided through the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

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