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How Would the Strategies Affect the Environment?

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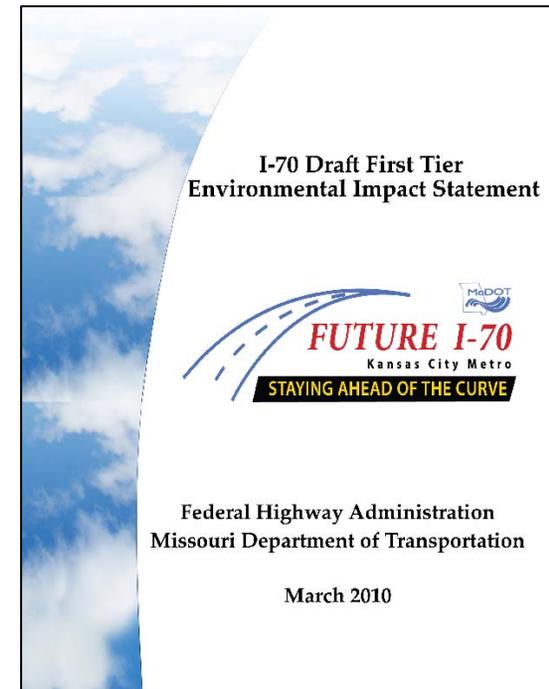
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Draft First Tier Environmental Impact Statement (FTEIS)

- Discusses and evaluates strategies for improving I-70.
- Discusses effects on human and natural environment in 23 different categories.
- First Tier document provides an initial evaluation, Second Tier documents will discuss effects on the environment in greater detail.



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Presentation Contents

- Provides highlights of major environmental effects of the strategies for improving I-70.
- Discusses where the strategies have different effects on the environment.
- More detail can be found in the Draft First Tier Environmental Impact Statement.
- All effects discussed are subject to further update and evaluation during Second Tier Studies. Impacts for the Identified Preferred Strategy are for the wider possible footprint from I-435 to I-470.



[Click here to read the Draft FTEIS](#)

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Land Use

- Land uses next to I-70 include single family homes, apartments, businesses, industrial areas, offices, parks, open space, and community facilities.
- All Build Strategies will affect adjacent land use by converting some properties to transportation use.



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Communities and Neighborhoods

- I-70 improvements (Build Strategies) would affect adjacent neighborhoods including homes, businesses, and community properties.
- Improvements may change access to certain locations.
- No-Build Strategy may increase use of alternate routes through neighborhoods.



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Public Lands

- Public lands include parks and community facilities
- All Build Strategies will affect some parks by acquiring land or placing traffic lanes closer to the park
- Number of parks potentially affected:
 - No-Build Strategy – 0
 - Fix Key Bottlenecks Strategy – 6
 - Add General Lanes Strategy – 10
 - Transportation Improvement Corridor Strategy – 9
 - Identified Preferred Strategy - 6



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Homes and Businesses

- All Strategies would require the relocation of homes, businesses, and community facilities. The table below contains estimates of the relocations required.*

Strategy	Single- Family Home Relocations*	Multi-Family Home Relocations*	Business Relocations*	Community Facility Relocations*
No-Build	0	0	0	0
Improve Key Bottlenecks	170	18	55	3
Add General Lanes	271	32	93	11
Transportation Improvement Corridor	399	45	111	12
Identified Preferred	228	19	67	4

* Subject to further update and evaluation during Second Tier Studies. Impacts for the Identified Preferred Strategy are for the wider possible footprint from I-435 to I-470.

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Environmental Justice

- Federal Executive Order mandates that MoDOT identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effects of the project on minority and low income populations.
- All Build Strategies may have adverse effects on minority and low income neighborhoods, most likely in the neighborhoods between downtown Kansas City and I-435.
- Adverse effects include relocations and noise.
- Future Second Tier studies to further evaluate these effects.



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Visual Effects

- Views of I-70 and from I-70 will not change much with the Strategies.
- Opportunities exist to provide aesthetic enhancements throughout the corridor.
- Future second tier studies will explore aesthetic enhancements in more detail.



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Cultural Resources

- Several historic properties and districts border the Study Area.
- No historic bridges, properties, cemeteries, or designated sites are expected to be affected.
- No known archaeological sites would be affected.
- Future investigations would determine if there are unknown archaeological sites that would be affected.



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Noise

- Many noise-sensitive land uses in the Study Area, most are homes.
- No-Build Strategy may increase noise levels as traffic and congestion grow.
- Build Strategies are also likely to increase noise levels.
- Future studies will determine noise analysis and mitigation required based on MoDOT's noise policy.



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Energy Use

- No-Build Strategy will increase energy use due to more fuel consumption in stop and go traffic.
- Build Strategies would reduce energy use due to improve traffic flow.
- Vehicles are becoming more energy efficient and reducing emissions.
- Overall, energy use in the I-70 corridor is expected to go down over time.



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Air Quality

- No-Build Strategy would be worst for air quality due to increase in traffic congestion.
- Build Strategies would potentially improve air quality by reducing congestion and stop and go traffic.
- Vehicles are becoming more efficient and reducing emissions.
- Moderate expected increase in number of vehicles on I-70 may negate some of the air quality benefits.

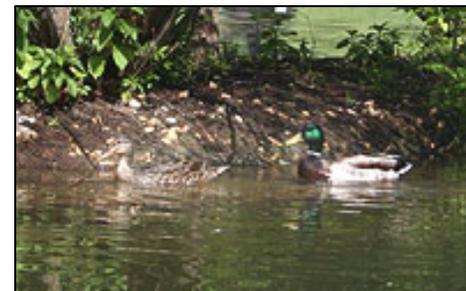


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Water Quality

- Pollution risks on I-70 include:
 - Pollution of rivers as a result of storm water runoff carrying fuel, oil, and debris.
 - Exposure of rivers to particles in the air and combustion of gases from traffic.
- The Build Strategies increase the amount of water runoff from the road.



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Floodplains, Streams, and River Crossings

- All Build Strategies widen bridges over the floodplain at the Blue River, Little Blue River, and smaller streams.
- Amount of floodplain potentially affected:
 - No-Build Strategy – 0
 - Fix Key Bottlenecks Strategy – 6
 - Add General Lanes Strategy – 10
 - Transportation Improvement Corridor Strategy – 9
 - Identified Preferred Strategy - 6



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Wetlands

- All Build Strategies would require the filling of wetlands. MoDOT is required to compensate for/replace filled wetlands.

Strategy	Estimated Acres of Wetlands Affected*
No-Build	0.00 acres
Improve Key Bottlenecks	1.38 acres
Add General Lanes	2.03 acres
Transportation Improvement Corridor	1.99 acres
Identified Preferred	2.03 acres

* Subject to further update and evaluation during Second Tier Studies. Impacts for the Identified Preferred Strategy are for the wider possible footprint from I-435 to I-470.

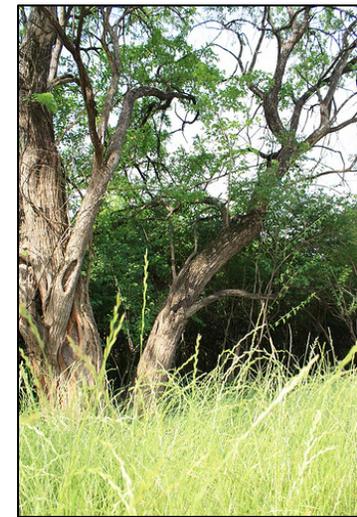
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Plants and Wildlife

- No pristine or unique habitat in the Study Area.
- No threatened or endangered species found in the Study Area.
- Existing wildlife and plants would be disturbed by construction.



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Other Resources

– The Draft First Tier EIS also examined potential for effects of the strategies on:

- Hazardous materials sites
- Farmland
- Tax base
- Utilities
- Long-term use of resources



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What are your thoughts?

- Are there certain environmental issues of greatest concern to you?
- What environmental resources do you value the most?
- How would the project affect you?
- If you would like more detail on the effects of the strategies on the environment, please review the Draft FTEIS.



[Click here to read the Draft FTEIS](#)

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