Lincoln Corridor Plan Overview

The Lincoln Corridor is unique. The corridor is growing and already reflects an eclectic mix of existing uses—historic neighborhoods, retail, industrial, and natural areas—as well as a developing technology campus. In addition, this portion of Lincoln Avenue lacks basic infrastructure in many places and needs to be brought up to current City standards. Years ago Lincoln Avenue was a main entrance to downtown, and over the years it has declined in prominence.

The Lincoln Corridor Plan (the Plan) represents a planning project with two primary objectives: to develop the ultimate multi-modal roadway design for Lincoln Avenue from Jefferson Street to Lemay Avenue and to identify and implement related neighborhood improvement projects in the planning area.

Lincoln Avenue

City Plan (2011) identified the Lincoln Corridor as an important project and a gateway for the downtown and East Mulberry corridor area. In addition, City Plan recognized the potential for Lincoln to become a "Great Green Street" by developing a new road design to address context-sensitive solutions to connect with Downtown and surrounding areas. The Lincoln corridor is also recognized as a priority gateway in the Downtown Plan (1989) and the adopted Streetscape Standards which indicate where a standard arterial streetscape approach should apply and where other corridor segments and gateway intersections warrant their own tailored and more enhanced approach to streetscape design and management.

Based on this guidance, the new design for Lincoln Avenue in the Plan seeks to provide an enhanced level of amenities and a design that restores its importance as a primary entry to the heart of the City as well as providing an important connection from Downtown to the east and northeast.
Neighborhood Projects

The Plan also identifies a priority list of related neighborhood improvements that address existing deficiencies and that celebrate and enhance the surrounding neighborhoods.

Some of these projects were already identified in previous plans (e.g., Northside Neighborhoods Plan, Pedestrian Plan), and some projects are new ideas that have arisen during the public process for the Lincoln Corridor. The list of potential neighborhood projects was refined to best align with the corridor vision and objectives and meet realistic expectations for implementation.

Community Engagement

The public process to develop the Plan was comprehensive. The Plan represents an attempt to balance the competing interests of various users as well as meet the intent of the City's Transportation Master Plan and other standards. The planning process was initiated in March 2013, divided into three phases:

- Phase I - Vision (April - July 2013)
- Phase II - Corridor Design Alternatives (August - October 2013)
- Phase III - Preferred Alternative/Implementation Planning (November 2013 - May 2014)

Next Steps

Following adoption of the Plan in May, 2014, next steps for implementation over the next few years include: coordination of development projects, securing funding for developing final design/construction plans for Lincoln, preparing final plans, finalize phased construction, and secure funding and implementation for neighborhood improvements.

The Plan provides a guiding framework for the area and is flexible to meet changing conditions and circumstances. Initial project costs and potential phasing and funding have been identified in this framework plan and will be further refined during the future Final Design process. Final design will be implemented in phases, starting with the functional roadway improvements and then later adding enhancements, such as enhanced landscaping and gateway amenities.

For more information and to see a copy of the Plan, visit the project web page at: fcgov/Lincoln.