

Interstate 44, Missouri

Park Over the Highway (CityArchRiver)

2017



Construction of St. Louis' Gateway Arch was completed in 1965. However, it was soon cut off from the rest of the city by I-44 (then I-70), which in 2015 carried over 100,000 vehicles, including around 20,000 trucks, per day. The CityArchRiver project is reconnecting the Arch and the community. Public engagement and public-private partnerships were key aspects of the planning process. The project includes a dramatic Park Over the Highway, that for the first time since the construction of the interstate, allows visitors to walk from the Old Courthouse to the Arch grounds to the riverfront on one continuous greenway, without a curb or stair step in their way. Prior to construction of the Park Over the Highway, pedestrians had to cross two intersections to reach the Arch grounds.

The CityArchRiver project is a public-private partnership between a number of stakeholders, including the National Park Service, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), Great Rivers Greenway District, City of St. Louis, Bi-State Development Agency, CityArchRiver Foundation, U.S. Department of Transportation, and others.

Before photo (left) shows I-44 running in front of the Gateway Arch grounds. After illustration (right) shows the Park Over the Highway in front of the Arch grounds.

“You had a group of people that had very different cultures and goals coming together to accomplish common goals. It will be an entirely different experience for the better, in terms of getting to work and getting around the Arch grounds.”

—Ryan McClure,
Director of Communications, CityArchRiver Foundation



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Contributions & Crossroads
Our National Road System's Impact on the U.S. Economy and Way of Life

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Quick Facts

- The CityArchRiver project began as an international design competition in December 2009, called Framing a Modern Masterpiece: The City + The Arch + The River.
- The competition was funded by private donations and called for plans to enhance the Arch experience for everyone by “making it easier and safer to access and connecting, invigorating and expanding the park grounds, museum, and neighboring public spaces.”
- A nonprofit organization called CityArchRiver Foundation was established to raise private funds and oversee the overall project.
- The \$380 million construction project was funded through a combination of public funds from federal, state, and local sources such as a U.S. DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant, MoDOT funds, other federal grants and funding from Great Rivers Greenway District; Proposition P bond proceeds approved in 2013 by voters in St. Louis County and St. Louis City; and private funding from gifts, grants, and donations raised by the CityArchRiver Foundation.
- Public engagement is an important part of this project, which includes regular public meetings in addition to

Completed freeway cap and Gateway Arch park grounds construction.

- four standing committees to support the project. The committees include the Technical Advisory Group, which consists of 20 local, state, and federal agencies; the Universal Design Group, which represents individuals with disabilities; the Design Review Team, which provides feedback on cultural and historic resources; and the Citizen Advisory Committee, which comprises regional citizens.
- The Gateway Arch, the park grounds, and the adjacent Old Courthouse are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, so the National Park Service made additional considerations during planning to meet requirements included in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.
- MoDOT began construction on the Park Over the Highway in 2013 and completed work in 2015. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in 2017.
- CityArchRiver Foundation estimates that the project provides an economic impact of \$367 million and 4,400 permanent jobs to the region, as well as 530 construction jobs to the region throughout the project.

Reference and Additional Information

www.cityarchriver.org

<https://www.transportation.gov/fastlane/secretary-foxx-helps-break-ground-on-iconic-arch-revitalization>

http://modot.org/stlouis/major_projects/parkoverthehighway.htm