# Equity in Transportation



David Grachen Senior Environmental Manager Edwards-Pitman Environmental Inc.

> Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference September 14, 2022





#### A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

... Ensuring equity and accessibility for every member of the traveling public is one of the Department of Transportation's highest priorities.

... As we continue to advance this work, it's important to recognize that past federal transportation investments have too often failed to address inequities, or even made them worse.

... This Equity Action Plan is a major milestone for the Department of Transportation that represents a shift in how we view and deliver transportation programs. We have a long way to go toward creating a truly equitable transportation system.

... Done right, transportation policy can help level the playing field. It can transform economies, connect people to opportunity, and empower underserved communities to build generational wealth for the future.





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Administration Priorit

Implem	The list of Justice40 covered programs are being released in groups of agencies over the coming weeks. Agencies that have released their covered	
Covered	programs include:	
On August 18 below to lea	<ul> <li>Army Corps of Engineers </li> <li>Corporation for National and Community Service / AmeriCorps </li> </ul>	nks
Federal Hi	• Department of Agriculture >	
1. <u>Carbon</u> 2. Chargir	• Department of Energy ↗	
3. <u>Conges</u> 4. Conges	• Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency 7	
5. <u>Disadva</u>	<ul> <li>Department of Housing and Urban Development 2</li> </ul>	
6. <u>Nation</u>	• Department of the Interior 🤊	
7. <u>Nation</u> 8. <u>Nation</u>	• Department of Health and Human Services 7	
9. <u>On the</u>	Department of Labor 7	
10. <u>Promot</u> Formul	• Department of Transportation >	
11. Protect	• Department of Veteran Affairs 🛪	
12. Reduct	• Environmental Protection Agency 🤊	
13. Transpe	• Appalachian Regional Commission 7	
14. Tribal F		
15. <u>Tribal T</u>	• Delta Regional Authority 7	
16. <u>Tribal T</u>	Denali Commission 7	ion
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17. Tribal T	The full list of Justice40 covered programs is available, here.	

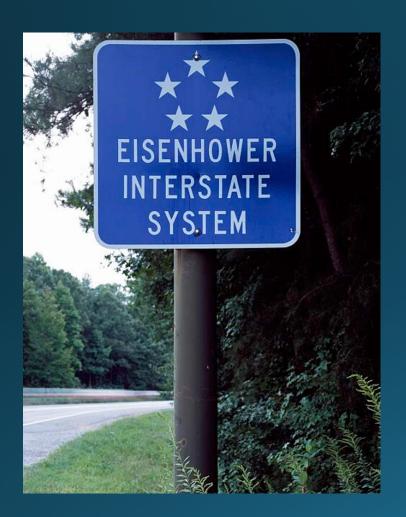




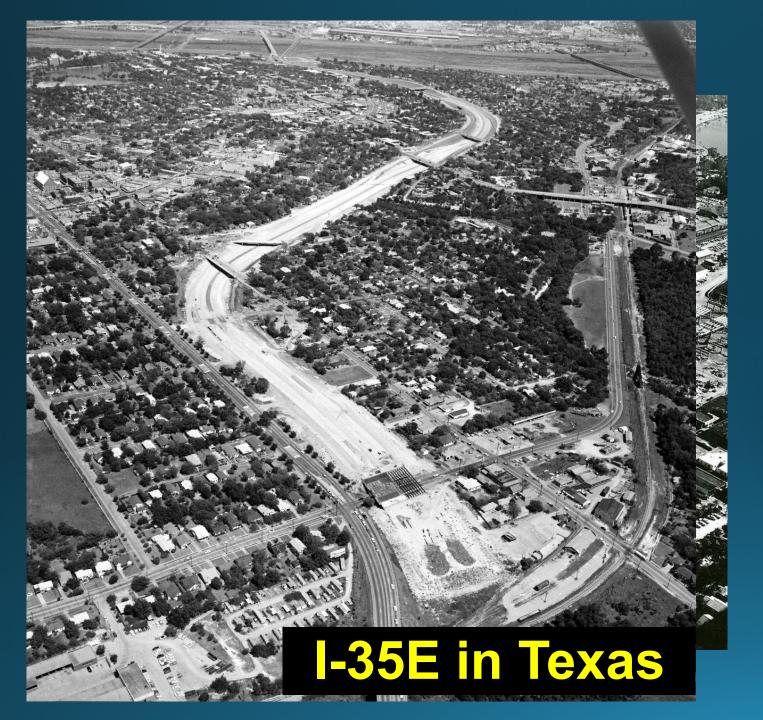
# Transportatio n Project Development



### **Interstate Construction History**







### Interstate Construction

### That was then.

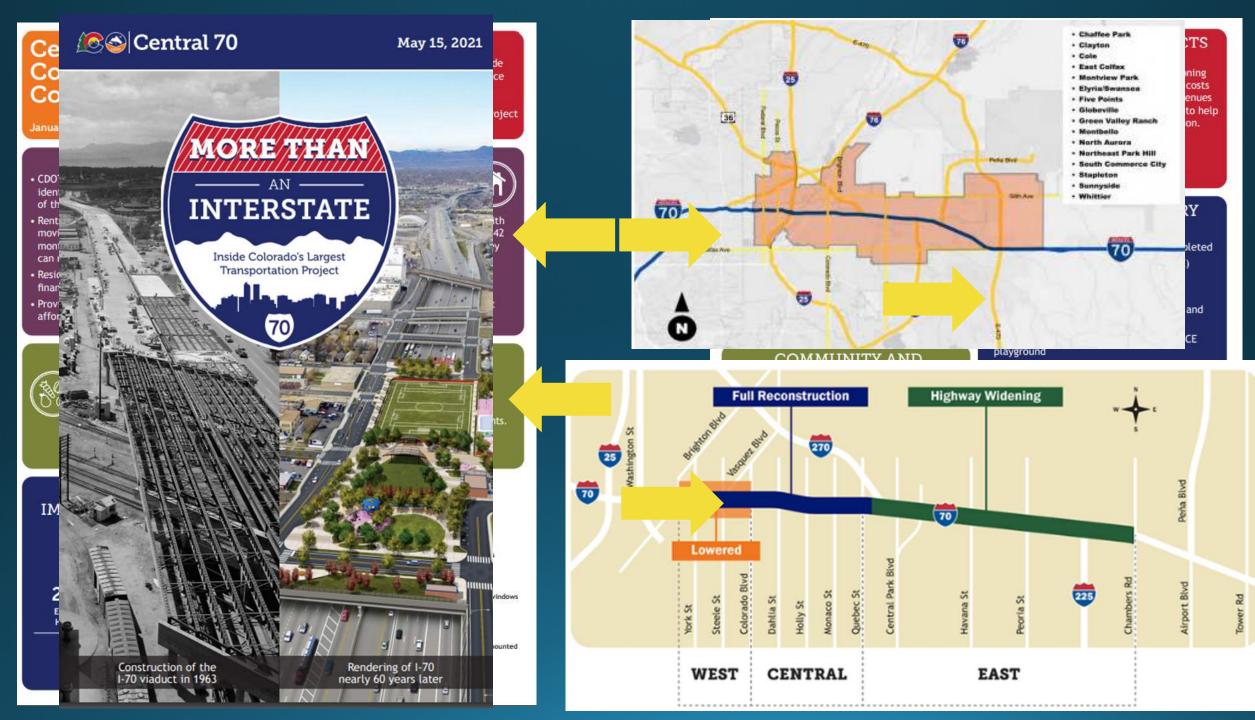




## This is now?







#### **Newton Pike Extension - KY** PUBLICROADS

Kenneth Demus photographed at his new home on DeRoade Street. Kenneth is the third of five generations of the Demus family to have lived in DB, now known as Davis Park. Demus became a homeowner and serves as vice president of the LCLT board of directors. He also serves as an ambassador for Grounded Solutions, a national network of CLT organizations, traveling around the country educating people about CLTs.



"This is a story of conflict and resolution between a nment highway project and a disenfranchised rse, low-income, historic neighborhood that doesn't end in tragedy or trust atio

#### **DOING** the **RIGHT THING:**

Building a Road and Preserving a Community— The Newtown Pike **Extension Project** 



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#### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

NEW LOOK! GUEST Editorial Focuses on Equity in Transportation Partnering to Address Flooding, Protect Assets ITS-JPO Marks 30 Years of Innovation

LEXINGTON KENTUCKY

Day



### I-94 in MN / Rondo Land Bridge



For issues related to the highway itself, MnDOT is the leader and partners with local agencies and communities. This is the agency's primary and traditional mission. Examples include repairing pavement or addressing congestion issues on the freeway.



#### Partner

For issues or situations that cross over agency disciplines or missions, MnDOT is a partner with communities and other agencies. Even though MnDOT might not be leading a conversation or an investment, the agency may be involved in important ways. Examples include bridges that cross a freeway or local roads that connect to a MnDOT road.



While MnDOT's primary mission is focused on transportation, the department also has the capacity to assist with other issues that may arise — from local transportation issues, to housing and public health, to economic opportunity. While these are not issues MnDOT controls, the agency has a role in the broader health of its communities. MnDOT staff often know an interest who to contact at other state and local agencies for assistance.



#### **MnDOT's Roles**

EVALUATION PROCES:



"We serve as a catalyst, convenor, collaborator and facilitator to solve problems and develop solutions to our community's issues...Our value derives from our dual capacity to shine a light on issues of critical, local importance and to attract resources to meet those needs."



OKLAHOMA CITY, OK | AUGUST 16-19, 2022

### In Georgia...The Stitch

The Stitch is a proposed transformational investment that aims to reclaim approximately 14 acres of new urban greenspace atop a new, <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile platform spanning the I-75/I-85 Downtown Connector between the Civic Center MARTA Center at West Peachtree Street and Piedmont Avenue.

Stated project objectives include, "Redress the long-standing physical separation characterized by largescale infrastructure, noise, pollution, and flooding in the community created by the construction of a 16-lane interstate highway."

"The Stitch is not unlike other projects recently completed around the country to reclaim and re-stitch large segments of urban areas that were fragmented by urban highway development."

https://youtu.be/TGJQ-4ht1DU

## In Georgia...Targeted Public Engagement

Example: GDOT Project PI 0013992, SR 520 BU Bridge over Flint River

