



Bridge replacement at Loughborough/Weber over I-55

What is the problem?

The Loughborough Avenue bridge over Interstate 55 in the city of St. Louis needs to be replaced as part of the ongoing work of keeping the state highway system in good repair. When replaced, it will be updated to meet current standards. The bridge is 69 years old and was rehabilitated roughly 40 years ago. The interchange hasn't been updated since the interstate was constructed in 1956. Vehicle sizes and speeds have changed significantly since the 1950s so a replacement would include bringing the bridge up to modern standards. In addition, the city of St. Louis needs to replace the Loughborough Avenue bridge over the railroad tracks just to the west for the same reasons. It makes sense to replace both bridges at the same time to minimize impacts to drivers and to get a better finished product. MoDOT is partnering with the city to complete these bridges at the same time.

The Weber Road bridge over Interstate 55 also needs to be replaced. That bridge is also roughly 60 years old and was rehabilitated about 40 years ago. This bridge will also be replaced and adjusted to meet current standards for the interstate, which includes raising the bridge and minor adjustments to the ramps themselves.

What is the proposal at Loughborough?

Work in this area would not start until late 2027. MoDOT and the city of St. Louis will remove and replace both the bridge over the interstate and the bridge over the railroad tracks at the same time. Crews will raise the bridge to meet Federal standards, accommodate the needs of all future users, and improve safety. Based on the city's current bike and pedestrian planning, a shared use path is being included in the plans on the south side of the bridge. The northbound ramp from the interstate will be moved from Idaho Avenue to connect directly to Loughborough to eliminate interstate traffic driving on city streets. This will mean, however, that Idaho Avenue will no longer connect to Loughborough, on either side of the intersection. Idaho Avenue will become two-way between Haven and Loughborough and Blow and Loughborough.

What are the impacts?

Both bridges at Loughborough (the bridge over the interstate and the city's bridge over the railroad tracks) will be closed for around 14 months as the bridges are removed and replaced. Fully closing the bridges to replace them will reduce the amount of time it takes to complete the work on the bridges and the new interchange. Trying to keep one lane open as crews work through this project is less safe for both the people traveling through the work and for the construction crew and will take more than twice as long. We will work to stagger the ramp closures to reduce the impact of the work to all Loughborough users. Replacing the Weber bridge is estimated to take about 8 months and will include various ramp closures as well.

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What kind of pedestrian accommodations will be made during work?

There are roughly 200 pedestrian trips per day using the Loughborough bridge to cross over the interstate to Loughborough Commons, and the nearest crossing is more than 3 blocks away at Koeln. The department did look at putting in a temporary pedestrian crossing; however, accessibility issues, utility lines and the roadway layout between the east and west side of the interstate made that impractical. The department is interested in hearing ideas from the community to address pedestrian crossings, which may include shuttle services or coupons for ride-hailing services or delivery services.

Timeline	Date
Roadway and bridge design	Currently underway
Public meeting 1 held	Spring 2025
Preliminary Plans - Public meeting 2	August 24, 2026
Right of way acquisition	Fall 2026
Project awarded	Fall 2027
Project complete	Fall 2029