

I-94 Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Project in Jackson County
CS 38101 - JN 120273C

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

June 20, 2014

Project Background

The I-94 freeway in Jackson, Michigan was opened to traffic in 1960. The growth in development adjacent to the corridor, especially in Blackman Township at and near its I-94 interchanges, coupled with the growth of international trade traffic between the United States, Canada, and Mexico, has significantly increased traffic in the corridor since the freeway's initial construction. The current corridor is, in part, functionally obsolete and is scheduled to be upgraded to current design standards in the next seven to ten years. The segment of I-94 from Lansing Road easterly to the westbound entrance/eastbound exit ramps at Elm Road will be reconstructed, including the reconstruction of the Grand River Bridge and the interchanges at Airport, Cooper, and Elm Roads. The remaining freeway segment from east of Elm Road easterly to the Sargent Road interchange will be rehabilitated, including operational upgrades to the ramp exits/entrances from and to I-94. Additionally, the proposed improvements will respond to community transportation needs, enhance the character of the community's physical environment, and add lasting value for the community.

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the project is to improve the operational efficiency needs of this freeway and enhance safety for all users.

Project Goal

The goal of the project is to balance safety, mobility, lifecycle costs, aesthetics, and environmental sustainability. A Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process will be utilized to develop solutions to improve the physical setting. This process will be accomplished through early and continuous public and agency involvement that will serve to establish a clear understanding of community values.

Project Objectives

The following objectives have been established to support the project's goal. These objectives will be achieved through MDOT's Context Sensitive Solutions process which includes public and agency involvement throughout the project.

1. Ensure compatibility with community character and values.
 2. Ensure compatibility with existing community themes and/or aesthetics.
 3. Minimize disruption.
 4. Provide for a gateway entrance for motorized and non-motorized transportation into the community at the Cooper Road Interchange.
 5. Develop a landscaping theme for the I-94 corridor.
 6. Implement community-specific themes and/or aesthetic elements.
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