

SUMMER 2014



# Core of the Zoo Interchange

The Core of the Zoo Interchange, the intersection of US 45, I-894, and I-94, is the most complex component of the Zoo Interchange project.

## BACKGROUND

When the Zoo Interchange opened to traffic in 1963, the designers envisioned 163,000 vehicles per day using the interchange. Today, the interchange is the oldest and busiest in the state, used by approximately 350,000 vehicles per day.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

The Core of the interchange will be a four level system interchange, connecting three major freeways. The construction includes 23 new bridges and 12 new retaining walls. The design includes additional through lanes on US 45 and additional lanes on connecting ramps to facilitate safer freeway traffic.

As is becoming standard with the new freeway interchanges, the entrance and exit ramps will be moved to the right hand lanes to avoid the dangerous weaving across lanes which contributes to the unacceptably high number of crashes.

Construction of the mainline freeway leading to the Core will begin in late 2014, with the Core bridges and ramps under construction through 2017.

There are significant long term closures planned. In an effort to reduce the impact to the surrounding area, the service interchanges and local roads in the area are being improved prior to the Core reconstruction to accommodate increases in traffic.



## Redesign of the Core of the Zoo Interchange

### TIMING

Late 2014-17

### CONTACT

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