



NEWS RELEASE

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City Announces HUD designation for new Crime Lab and East Patrol Police Campus

Federal designation increases relocation dollars for residents

Residents in the four-block area selected as the campus site for a \$57 million Crime Lab and East Patrol Police Station will be eligible for larger relocation packages after the City of Kansas City, Missouri entered an agreement with federal officials at Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The HUD designation required the project to be located in a blighted area. More than 50% of the properties in the project area are vacant, and only 25% are owner-occupied within the boundaries of the site, which is between Prospect and Brooklyn, and 26th and 27th Streets. About 60 residents will benefit from the new federal agreement, according to Don Frank, Division Manager of Right of Way and Relocation Services.

“We are working with individual property owners and renters to share the new relocation benefits package with them,” said Mr. Frank. “Our staff is helping to determine their relocation needs and preferences, explain the new benefits, and inform the residents they will receive their offers in early 2012.”

The City has initiated an Environmental Assessment and Historical Review that will take place during the next three months. At the same time, three independent appraisal companies will be providing appraisals on properties not previously purchased or owned by Land Trust.

Another benefit now available to local workers and businesses is the federal provision known as Section 3, which helps foster local economic development, neighborhood economic improvement, and individual self-sufficiency through job training, employment and contracting opportunities for low- or very-low-income residents. Information about Section 3 and assistance to become eligible is available by calling the City’s Human Relations Department at (816) 513-6817.

(more)

New Police Campus is Significant Eastside Investment

The \$57 million police campus planned for Prospect Avenue and 27th Street will have a significant economic impact on Kansas City's eastside citizens and businesses, while also benefiting the City's taxpayers.

“By combining several critical capital improvement projects on one campus, we achieve economies of scale and use the Public Safety Sales Tax dollars in the most prudent way possible,” said Major Jerry Gallagher of the Kansas City Police Department. “Shared utilities and other shared facilities allow us to lower project construction and maintenance costs. At the same time, we improve the security of the surrounding area by our concentrated police presence.”

The Crime Lab will be better located to collect crime scene evidence and is in closer proximity to the Courts, according to Major Gallagher, saving time and money for the department. Other benefits are the site's close proximity to Hwy. 71, and how accessible the site is to people traveling by foot, bike, car or bus.

The centralized location also serves as a redevelopment anchor for Prospect Avenue. There will be construction workers in the area for the two years the project is underway, and the City of Kansas City, Missouri, is working with HUD to be sure low-income residents and businesses benefit.

Officials said well over a thousand jobs will be generated and maintained by this project within this four-block area between Prospect and Brooklyn, 26th and 27th Streets, with the following employment projections:

Crime Lab – 800 jobs
East Patrol Division – 340 jobs

The City's other 3rd District investments nearby include Beacon Hill, and 22nd-23rd Street—Brooklyn to I-70 improvements.

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