

# IOWA CITY GATEWAY IN BRIEF

Dubuque Street serves as Iowa City's main entrance and key gateway into the community for residents and visitors. It parallels the Iowa River, and carries more



*2008 Flooding in Iowa City*

than 25,000 vehicles a day between Interstate 80, the downtown business district and the University of Iowa campus. Park Road Bridge also serves as a critical transportation link for Iowa City. Together, these corridors provide vital connections for the community's safety, commerce, neighborhoods and recreation.

Due to its low elevation, the corridor also has a history of flooding. In 1993, floodwaters inundated Dubuque Street for 54 days. Flooding covered the street again for a month in 2008; that year Park Road Bridge was also over-topped and closed. More frequently, locally heavy rains flood and close northbound lanes of Dubuque Street.

The Iowa City Gateway project is planned to: reduce closures of Dubuque Street and Park Road Bridge due to localized flash floods and historic Iowa River flood events; minimize backwater flood impacts created by the existing Park Road Bridge; better serve transit, pedestrians and bicyclists; and preserve and enhance the natural entry to Iowa City from I-80.

Planning and design of the project will be closely coordinated with University of Iowa work to relocate Hancher Auditorium and the Mayflower Residence Hall Flood Mitigation project, along with other Iowa City and Iowa DOT projects.

Phase 1 of the Iowa City Gateway Project will be the completion of a federally required planning process called for in the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. Through that process, the team will evaluate how various design alternatives impact the Iowa River and its floodplain, as well as impacts to nearby properties and community resources. Phase 1 will include several opportunities for community input and will to be completed in mid 2012. Phase 1 will result in a recommended approach for improvements.

Following federal approval of the NEPA document, detailed design work will begin. Phase 2 is expected to take approximately 18 to 20 months.

Construction is anticipated to begin following the conclusion of Phase 2 and take approximately two construction seasons.



*Iowa City Gateway Study Area*



*The Iowa City Gateway Project is led by Iowa City in coordination with the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration and in cooperation with the University of Iowa*

More information about Iowa City Gateway can be found at: [iowacitygateway.org](http://iowacitygateway.org) or by phoning 319-356-5140.

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