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# Letters to the Editor

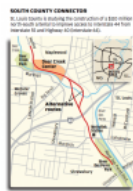


## South County Connector not worth the small benefit

July 24, 2013 12:00 am

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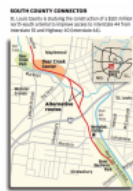
### South County Connector is needed for better access



In response to the Post-Dispatch's editorial "Disconnect" (July 23) regarding the lack of a need for the South County Connector, I am

sure tha... Read more

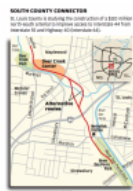
### The South County Connector: Can we get a better return on investment?



The time to rethink how we spend infrastructure dollars has clearly arrived.

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### South County Connector is opportunity for transportation innovation



County should build connector as a high-occupancy toll route.

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### Editorial: Disconnect the South County Connector

In early 1997, George R. "Buzz" Westfall, a Democrat who was then the St. Louis

Members of The American Institute of Architects St. Louis Chapter have reviewed the South County Connector Draft Environmental Impact Study, and we have concerns on many levels, including the estimated cost of spending \$110 million for a roadway to run from Big Bend and Flora avenues in Maplewood to River Des Peres at Watson in Shrewsbury, approximating the route of Metrolink.

We share the concerns that have been expressed by Maplewood, Shrewsbury, Citizens for Modern Transit, Trailnet and the Board of Aldermen in St. Louis, where one-fourth of the roadway is to be located. We believe that the connector's impact on the newly redeveloped Deer Creek retail center, its impact on residential areas and its impact on recently developed trails places automotive transportation issues over economic development and quality of life issues in our community.

One of our primary objections is perhaps more subtle. That is, we are concerned that the development of this limited access primary conduit may diminish the character of adjacent neighborhoods, reduce their walkability and even harm the small businesses located on the many secondary alternative routes that we all use when traversing the many options available to travel from Shrewsbury to Maplewood.

The board of directors of AIA St. Louis, on behalf of its members, believes that the environmental impact of the current proposal for the connector is not worth the marginal benefit it might provide by reducing a short trip by minutes.

Michelle Swatek • St. Louis



County executive, was faced with one of the more ticklish decisions... Read more

*Executive director, The American Institute of Architects St. Louis Chapter*

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St. Louis County needs to rethink its potential investment in the South County Connector and consider transit instead. New, unwanted roadway c... Read more

**Opposition builds to South County Connector proposal**



Officials in Maplewood and St. Louis are on record against it, and environmental activists are voicing their worries, too. Read more

**Proposed South County thoroughfare no relief to some**



Road would cost \$110 million to build. Read more

Once you find an old friend, it's like you were never apart.

 A photograph of two women laughing together, one with curly hair and the other with straight hair, both smiling broadly.
 

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 The logo for 'cm', featuring a blue graduation cap above the letters 'cm' in a bold, sans-serif font.

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**Tags** River Des Peres, The American Institute Of Architects St. Louis Chapter, Board Of Aldermen In St. Louis, Maplewood, Deer Creek, Michelle Swatek

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