

### 2.1.3 Proposed CAR 2015 Interstate Access Modifications

These transportation initiatives include eight discreet components that impact Interstate-70 access, as listed in Table 2.1 and described below. The proposed future I-70 ramp configuration is shown in Figure 2.5 and the existing access is shown in Figure 2.4.

Table 2.1: I-70 Access Modifications Related to the CAR 2015 Project.

Modification
Remove existing Memorial Drive northbound to I-70 westbound on-ramp (250B).
Construct new I-70 westbound to Memorial Drive northbound off-ramp.
Remove existing I-70 eastbound to Memorial Drive southbound off-ramp (250B).
Construct new Memorial Drive southbound to I-70 eastbound on-ramp.
Construct new U-turn connection from Memorial Drive northbound to Memorial Drive southbound, south of Washington Avenue.
Modify North 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street between the Eads Bridge and Lacledes Landing Blvd and extend North 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street across the west end of the MLK Bridge landing to connect with existing North 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street in the vicinity of the I-70 westbound on-ramp (250A).
This connection replaces the I-70 westbound on-ramp that would be removed at Memorial Drive.
Construct off-ramp from the new (currently under construction) I-70 eastbound to NMRB eastbound ramp to the new Cass Avenue/North Tucker Boulevard intersection.
This off-ramp replaces the I-70 eastbound off-ramp that would be removed at Memorial Drive.

The proposed interstate access modifications and the requirement for this AJR stem from the impact of the proposed land bridge which closes portions of Memorial Drive and bridges over the depressed section of Interstate highway (currently I-70). The proposed land bridge connects two separated portions of the JNEM National Park – Luther Ely Smith Plaza and the Arch Grounds – creating a seamless connection for pedestrians, bicycles and the mobility impaired between the Arch grounds and the heart of downtown St. Louis. However, the land bridge partially restricts vehicular access to the North end of downtown, currently accessed from the Interstate via Memorial Drive. Thus, modifications to Interstate access are proposed in several locations, including modifications to existing ramps, a street level connection to an existing ramp, and a proposed new link connecting two future highway ramps.

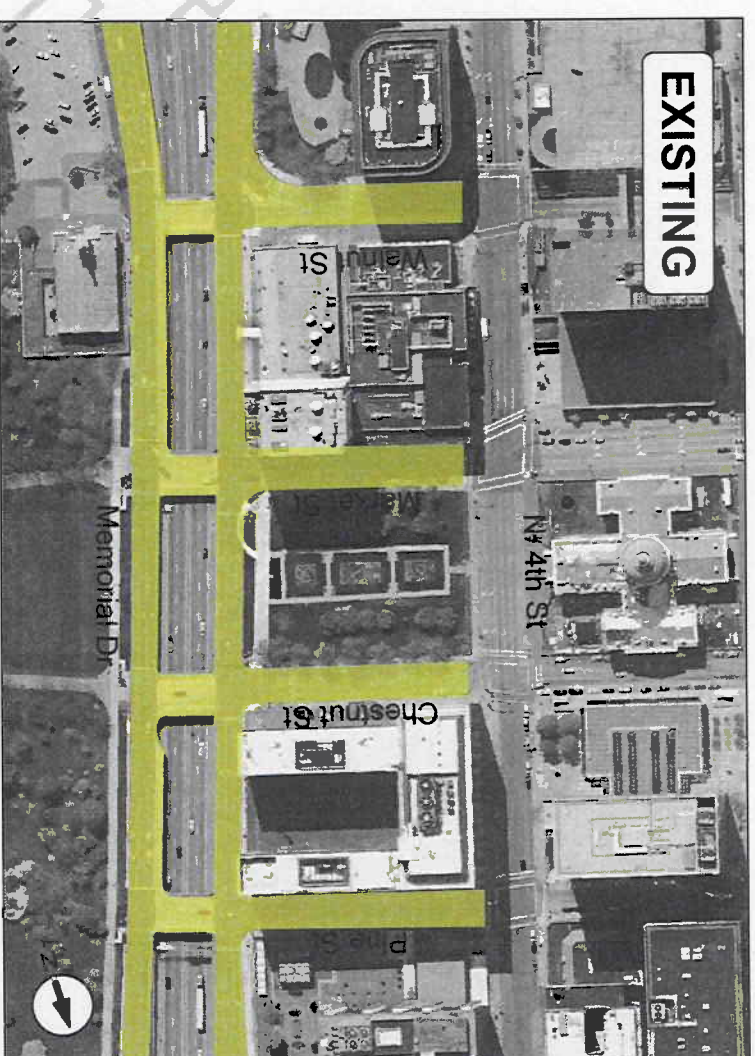


Figure 2.4: Existing Memorial Drive Layout, Downtown St. Louis

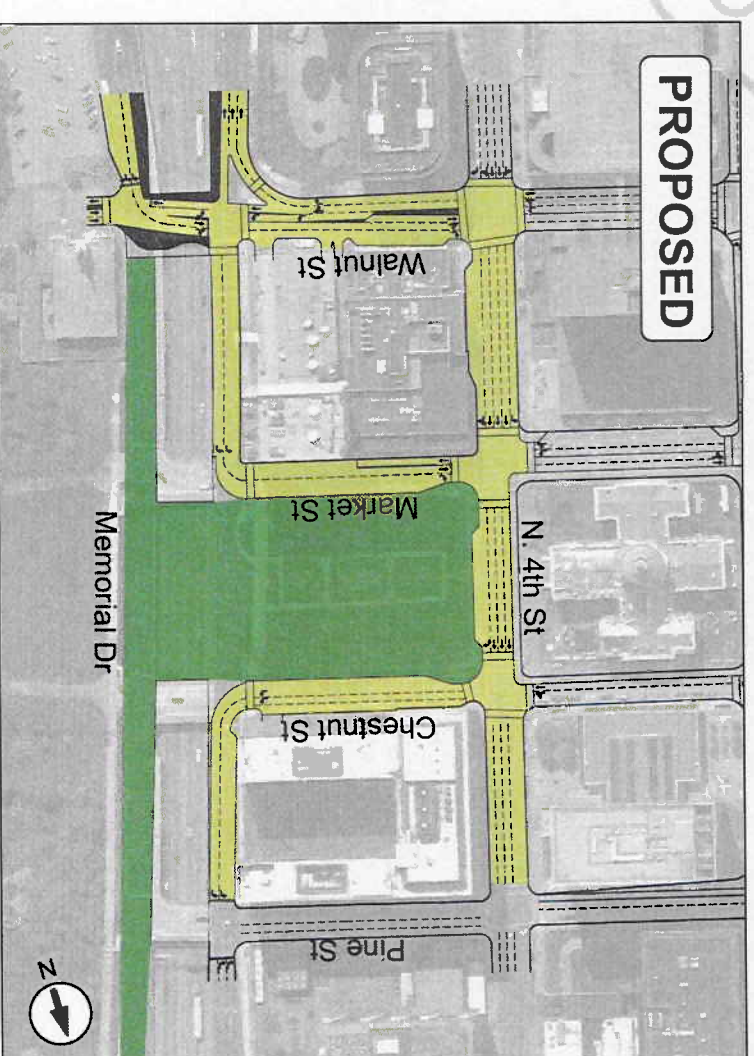


Figure 2.5: Proposed Memorial Drive Layout with Land Bridge and Downtown Access via Walnut Street Bridge