

8664 Highlights Declining Traffic Volumes

Need for Spaghetti Junction Expansion Questioned

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The day before the Bridges Authority votes to toll the region's interstate bridges to pay for the \$4.1 Billion Ohio River Bridges Project, 8664 highlights declining interstate traffic trends. Traffic counts for Kentucky's interstates are reported by The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, so 8664 compiled a snapshot of interstate traffic volumes since the Record of Decision was signed in 2003. Declining traffic volumes on all three interstates (I-65/I-64/I-71) in close proximity to the Kennedy Bridge and Spaghetti Junction begs many questions. For example:

- Why would we toll our bridges to expand Spaghetti Junction's capacity when demand is not increasing?
- Why would we build a project based on gas prices of \$1.50/gallon, when it's actually doubled in just seven years?
- Why won't the Bridges Authority embrace public opinion and work to "divide and phase" the project?

KYTC TRAFFIC COUNTS (Updated 12/1/2010)

	<u>PREVIOUS</u>	<u>MOST RECENT</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
Kennedy Interchange (I-64/I-71)	149,000 (2004)	144,000 (2008)	-3%
I-65 - Kennedy Bridge	132,000 (2004)	121,000 (2008)	-9%
I-65 @ Eastern Pkwy	137,000 (2003)	123,000 (2009)	-11%
I-64 @ 9th St.	83,400 (2003)	70,100 (2009)	-19%
I-64 @ Great Lawn	112,000 (2003)	101,000 (2008)	-11%
I-71 @ Zorn Ave.	72,400 (2003)	58,1000 (2009)	-25%

All counts are "actual counts" as opposed to "computer estimates".

"The pro-bridges folks will try to say the decline is due to the bad economy, but it has more to do with the price of gas." said JC Stites, 8664 Co-Founder. "This data also supports the fact that Spaghetti Junction is not too small, it just has a couple design flaws that could be addressed quickly and cost effectively after an East End Bridge is built."

About [8664.org](http://www.8664.org)

8664 is a grassroots organization with over 11,500 supporters advocating for the revitalization of Louisville through the adoption of a transportation plan that will provide long-term benefits to the region's citizens, neighborhoods, environment and economy. Specifically, the organization supports altering the Ohio River Bridges Project by only building the East End Bridge and then rejoining the city to the Ohio River by replacing the elevated waterfront expressway with an at grade parkway. A three-minute overview presentation is available at www.8664.org.