



NEW I-29 EXIT 130 INTERCHANGE GOAL = \$669,607

Although Brookings is a sustainable, growing community with tremendous economic opportunity, its ability to grow is functionally inhibited by the location of, and limited access across, I-29. The interstate bisects the community in a north-south direction, separating key employment centers from all of Brookings' existing and future residential growth areas.

Brookings needs to find more than 6,000 new employees in the next ten years to replace retiring workers and support projected business growth. Brookings and the surrounding rural communities recognize the importance of the bedroom community relationship. The need to move employees efficiently and safely from their homes to places of employment, education centers and shopping areas is a critical component of success for all the communities in the region.

Through Vision Brookings, the private sector has made several key investments in planning and leveraging of funds to ensure the new interchange concept continued to move forward. In 2018 Vision Brookings commissioned an Interchange Justification Report costing \$78,000. In 2019, the City of Brookings applied for a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant. One of the key factors in ultimately securing the \$18,677,630 BUILD grant was a creative effective local partnership between Brookings County (\$2,000,000), The City of Brookings (\$2,000,000) and the private sector (\$669,607). Demonstrating broad based support and a public/private partnership committing to 20 percent of the total project cost effectively separated our "GAME-CHANGING" project from the competitive pool of worthy projects across the nation. Vision Brookings 2027 will look to fulfill the \$669,607 private sector match.

The new interchange on 20th street will enhance new housing opportunities and increase commercial business investment in the south-east portion of Brookings. The access the new interchange provides will also help expand our regional labor shed and help catalyze private and public investment into the growth and development in the greater Brookings region.

