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## Indianapolis Celebrates Rebirth of South Side Gateway

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By [Ruthanne Gordon](#)  
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They're calling it a rebirth, a new start for businesses and residents who live along South Madison Avenue. People hope money spent now will create jobs and growth in the future.

"What we have here is a commitment to make a great part of Indianapolis even greater, a commitment to do what it takes to revitalize this corridor to return it to the glory of what it once enjoyed," Mayor Bart Peterson said.



The \$8 million project added new roads, sewers, sidewalks and traffic lights to the area. This project is one of a series of projects aimed at beautifying this gateway into downtown Indianapolis.

"I think we're going to see the new rebirth of residential and refurbishing of homes, good things that are happening. It's not like we're saying that this area is dead. I think we're going to see a rebirth of it is time for us to provide some energy and put the shoulder to the wheel to help lift it up more and that's what we're working on," Mark Bowell with the Friends of Garfield Park Organization said.

Linda Goodridge has lived in the area most of her life. "It's been down for years. I mean because of the businesses closing up. But I think its a lot better than it was, it's going to get better."

Linda and others hope this is the beginning of a bright future and smooth sailing for those on the southside, as smooth as the new pavement on south Madison avenue

Federal aid covered 80 percent of the \$8 million, the rest came from the city's Department of Public Works.



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