

Maplewood Transportation: Residents on the Go

Early Settlers



- Early settlers traveled by horse and wagon westward on land that would later become Maplewood.
- It would take most of the day to journey to downtown St. Louis.

Mid 19th Century



- The Missouri Pacific Railroad opened its first train west of the Mississippi River in 1853. The city's closest station was the River des Peres, just beyond the Sutton's Place.
- Merchants and farmers traveled between Maplewood and downtown St. Louis by horse, wagon and now, train.

Turn of the Century



- Electric streetcars began operation in Maplewood in 1896.
- The St. Louis Meramec Railroad Company opened the Manchester Line, which connected Maplewood's Sutton Loop to downtown St. Louis.

Between the Wars



- In the mid-1930s, all city government-use and public transportation division vehicles were completely transitioned into motorized vehicles.
- During this time, more families were buying and driving cars, busses began operation; ultimately leading to the phase out of the electric streetcar in 1949.

The Original Route 66



- In 1926 U.S Route 66 was opened, stretching from Chicago to Los Angeles, with the original route running down Manchester Rd. in Maplewood.
- Businesses, as well as the city, benefitted greatly from the traffic that Route 66 brought through.

21st Century



- Approximately 33,000 cars pass through the intersection of Big Bend Rd. & Manchester Rd. daily.
- In order to accommodate the masses of business and residential traffic, Bi-State opened the Maplewood Metro Link station in August of 2006, as a part of the cross county extension.