The original purpose and need of this project called for the design of a new 6th street ramp to replace the old 8th street ramp that was removed to make room for the new ballpark in downtown St. Louis. The original plan called for the design of a two-lane ramp to compensate both the 8th Street removal and a proposed removal in the future.

Upon further evaluation, it was decided to remove the second lane because of uncertainties with the future ramp removal. In addition, the new ramp connects into a 1.5 mile long structure that has, at most, two-foot shoulders. Since all the adjacent ramps also have two-foot shoulders, District 6 engineers decided to use them on the new one.

The new plan calls for a one-lane structure, 18' wide, with two-foot shoulders.