

Public Involvement
US 8
Bradley - Rhinelander
Gatewood Heights Road to N Rifle Road
Oneida and Lincoln Counties
Project ID: 1590-14-04 (74)



November 12, 2024

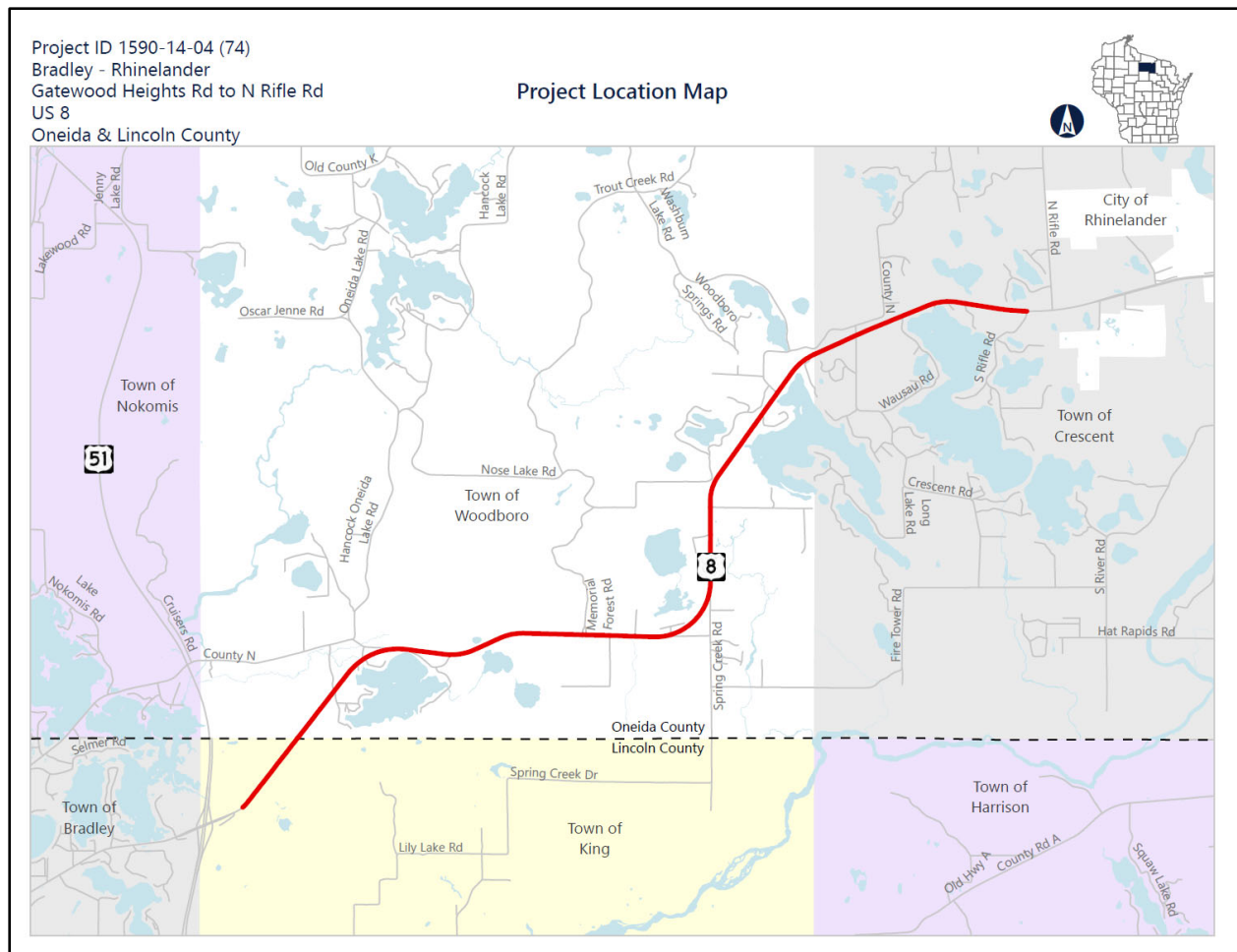
Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind, and speech-disabled persons should contact the Wisconsin Relay Service for assistance by dialing 711.

Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is in the process of developing plans for proposed improvements along US 8 in Oneida and Lincoln Counties. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed improvements, describe the potential impacts it would have on the community, and offer an opportunity for public comment.

Project Information

We are proposing to improve approximately 11 miles of US 8 in Oneida and Lincoln County. The US 8 project extends from Gatewood Heights Road in the town of King to North Rifle Road in the town of Crescent. The project is also located in the town of Woodboro.



We have identified several needs, including:

- Deteriorating asphalt pavement
- Deteriorated and outdated guardrail that does not meet current safety standards
- Deteriorated drainage culverts
- Deteriorated retaining wall located 500-feet east of Wausau Road

Proposed improvements include:

- Resurfacing the asphalt pavement (11 miles)
- Replace select culverts (30) and complete cleaning and repairs
- Replace guardrail (2 locations)
- Repair retaining wall
- Replace centerline and shoulder rumble strips to maintain safety
- Install new pavement marking

Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is currently scheduled to begin in spring of 2027.

During construction, motorists can expect to encounter daily flagging operations and single lane closures. During the culvert replacements, traffic will utilize temporary widening at spot locations while also being reduced to a single lane with flagging operations.

Access to adjacent properties will be maintained during construction. Brief interruptions in access may occur temporarily at driveways. The contractor will be required to notify homeowners and businesses prior to construction.

Construction is currently scheduled for completion in fall of 2027.

Real estate

Additional right of way will be required for this project. This will include small areas of temporary (temporary limited easement) land acquisition to accommodate the improvements. Preliminary right of way impacts are shown on the exhibits posted on the project website. WisDOT expects to begin real estate acquisition in spring of 2025. Direct mailings and coordination will occur with impacted property owners.

Project update/next steps

Local officials meeting	Oct. 24, 2024
Public involvement comment period	November/December 2024
Environmental document	December/January 2024
Preliminary plans	February 2024
Final right of way plat	March/April 2024
Real estate negotiations	Spring 2025 through Spring 2026
Final plans	May 1, 2026
Construction currently scheduled	Spring/Summer/Fall 2027

Public input/comments

Your comments assist us in developing a project that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. Your input is welcome and appreciated throughout the design process.

There are several ways to submit your input by **Dec. 10, 2024**:

1. Fill out the comment form attached to this handout and mail it to WisDOT
2. Complete the fillable online survey on the project website:
<https://wisconsin.dot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/us8lincolnoneida/default.aspx>
3. Email comments or questions to the contacts listed below

Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind, and speech-disabled persons should contact the Wisconsin Relay Service by dialing 711.

For more information, please contact:

Felix Ogles, P.E.
WisDOT Project Manager
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
1681 2nd Avenue South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
(715) 421-8329
Felix.Ogles@dot.wi.gov

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In This Together Program

A quick guide to help your business prepare for road construction

1 ORGANIZE EARLY



- Learn more about the project and its timeline
- Develop questions for WisDOT staff
- Check in with neighboring businesses and/or local business organization



- *Can you partner on promotions, events or materials?*
- *Establish a point of contact for the business community?*

2 STAY ENGAGED WITH THE PROJECT



- Attend public involvement meeting(s)
- Make note of contact information for the project team, and voice the unique needs of your business
- Learn more about project resources



- *Is there a construction website?*
- *Is there a mailing list?*
- *Is there an email distribution?*

3 HELP CUSTOMERS FIND YOU



- Consult with project staff to determine when and where there may be closures or detours
- Ask about temporary signage options
- Consider how best to inform customers



- *Maybe a joint communication with neighboring businesses for employees and customers about traffic and parking?*
- *Maybe a feature article in a customer-facing newsletter?*
- *Maybe a social media post shared by businesses and local community pages?*

4 DEVELOP AND ACTIVATE YOUR GAME PLAN



- Check out case studies at wisconsin.gov/together
- Connect with project contacts to discuss any potential obstacles specific to your business such as deliveries, operational hours, employee parking, etc.
- Check in with employees



- *Is there a consistent message for customers?*
- *Are there temporary changes to shift times, parking, or deliveries?*

5 END OF CONSTRUCTION



- Stay positive, be flexible and know that WisDOT staff are available to help
- Collect any temporary signage
- Let customers know!



- *Consider working with other businesses on a special event?*
- *Share social media about the project's benefits?*
- *Ask customers to help spread the word?*



Remember, we are In This Together! For more planning ideas, tips and resources: wisconsin.gov/together

Public Involvement Comment Form

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US 8
Oneida and Lincoln Counties

Please mail by **December 10, 2024**, to the address on the back of this sheet. Comments can also be emailed to Felix.Ogles@dot.wi.gov. Your comments assist us in developing a project that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. Your input is welcome and appreciated throughout the design process.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number (optional): _____

Email Address (optional): _____

Would you like someone to contact you about this project: Yes ___ No ___

Please Print Comments (attach additional sheets if necessary)

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The information in this document including names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, and signatures is not confidential, and may be subject to disclosure upon request, pursuant to the requirements of the Wisconsin open records law, sections 19.31 - 19.39 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

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Place
Stamp
Here

Attn: Felix Ogles, P.E.
WisDOT North Central Region – Wisconsin Rapids
1681 2nd Avenue South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

To mail, fold here and tape.