Public Involvement

WIS 29
Highline Road to Brown County Line
Shawano County
Project ID: 1058-24-31



April 15, 2025, to May 15, 2025

Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is in the process of developing plans for proposed improvements to WIS 29 between South Highline Road to the Brown County line in Shawano County. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed project, describe the potential impacts it will have on the community and offer an opportunity for public comment. We appreciate your input and encourage you to review the project information and provide comments.

Project Information

We are proposing to improve 13.1 miles of WIS 29 in both directions.

The purpose of the project is to address the deteriorated pavement condition to extend the service life of the roadway. The existing concrete pavement is exhibiting signs of distress in the form of low-level large patching, faulting, spalled corners, joint deterioration and linear cracking. The existing asphalt shoulders are cracking and settling next to the concrete pavement. Several pipes have separated and need repair and cleaning. Guardrail along WIS 29 and WIS 55 are showing signs of deterioration and need to be updated to current standards.

Proposed improvements include:

- Repair or replace the concrete pavement joints and cracks on WIS 29 and along the WIS 29 and WIS 55 interchange ramps
 - Repair versus replacing the joint/cracks will depend on the severity of joint deterioration.
- Resurface the asphalt shoulders on WIS 29 within the concrete joint repair sections
- Replace asphalt shoulders to full depth on the WIS 29 and WIS 55 interchange ramps
- Replace the concrete pavement to full depth along WIS 29 westbound from River Road to just east of Broadway Road and along WIS 29 eastbound from County F to Spruce Road
- Repair and clean five culvert pipes under WIS 29 along with cleaning and clearing brush from the ditches
- Replace guardrail systems along WIS 29 and WIS 55
- Resurface WIS 55 from County S to just east of the WIS 29 westbound entrance ramp
- Resurface the park and ride parking lot on Lot Lane west of WIS 29 and just south of County S

The proposed improvements meet the project purpose and needs by improving the overall safety, maintenance needs and longevity of the roadway along this corridor. Other alternatives that were reviewed included:

- Alternative 1: No build
- Alternative 2: Pavement replacement

Doing nothing, or the no-build option, would result in increased maintenance costs caused by the continued deterioration of the existing facilities and does not meet the project purpose and need. The pavement replacement alternative would involve replacing the pavement along the entire project corridor. Although this alternative meets the project purpose and would result in a longer usable life of the project corridor, it would impose a much higher cost than the selected preservation/restoration alternative, which also meets the project purpose and need.

An environmental document is currently being prepared for this project. DNR initial concurrence has been received with environmental conditions being incorporated and accommodated for within the contract documents. The project has been screened for historical and archaeological impact and no potential to cause adverse effects has been determined.

Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is currently scheduled for 2028 but could happen as early as 2027.

Traffic impacts during construction:

- WIS 29 will remain open to traffic using single-lane and shoulder closures, crossovers and bidirectional traffic.
- The WIS 29 and WIS 55 interchange ramps will be closed to traffic with a signed detour.
 The detour will be in place for the shortest duration possible.
- WIS 55 will remain open to traffic utilizing lane closures and flaggers.
- The park and ride will be closed to traffic for a short term.

Temporary driveway closures will be necessary during parts of the construction process. WisDOT or the construction contractor will contact homeowners and businesses in advance before closing a driveway.

Real estate

No real estate acquisition is anticipated.

Project update/next steps

Local officials meeting	March 2025
Public involvement	April 2025
Preliminary plans	August 2025
Environmental document	August 2025
Final plans	As early as February 2027
Construction currently scheduled	2028

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 May 15, 2025:

- 1. Fill out the comment form attached to this handout and mail it to WisDOT.
- 2. Print the comment form listed on the project website and mail it to WisDOT.
- Email comments or questions to the contact(s) 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:

Tim Hanley, P.E.
Project Manager
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
1681 2nd Ave. S.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
(715) 459-4274
Timothy.Hanley@dot.wi.gov

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In This Together Program

A quick guide to help your business prepare for road construction



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?



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?*



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?



DEVELOP AND ACTIVATE YOUR GAME PLAN



- Check out case studies at wisconsindot.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?



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: wisconsindot.gov/together

Public Involvement Comment Form

Project ID 1058-24-31 Shawano - Green Bay Highline Road to Brown County Line WIS 29 Shawano County

Please mail by **May 15, 2025,** to the address on the back of this sheet. Comments can also be emailed to Timothy.Hanley@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)

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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Attn: Tim Hanley, P.E. WisDOT North Central Region 1681 2nd Ave. S. Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

To mail, fold here and tape.