

# Public Involvement

**WIS 32**  
**County S to Old 21**  
**Road**  
**Forest County**  
Project ID: 9260-00-72

**WIS 32**  
**Old 32 Road to**  
**Oneida County**  
**Line**  
**Forest County**  
Project ID: 9260-00-73

**WIS 32**  
**Railroad Avenue to**  
**County S**  
**Forest County**  
Project ID: 9260-00-74



**March 2, 2026 to March 30, 2026**

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

## Purpose

WisDOT is seeking your input on the identified needs, proposed improvements, and any information that can help us minimize impacts to the public during construction.

WisDOT public involvement plans and activities are designed to effectively involve the public early and often in the process so that the project decisions made are in the best overall interest. Good public involvement is integral to good transportation planning. Without meaningful public participation, there is a risk of making decisions that have unintended negative consequences. With it, it is possible to make a lasting contribution to the quality of life. It is more than an agency requirement and fulfilling statutory obligations. It is central to good decision-making.

## Project Information

We are proposing to improve 13.3 miles of WIS 32 from Railroad Avenue to the Onieda County Line.

The purpose of the proposed actions is to address the WIS 32 deteriorating pavement, to improve the overall safety of the roadway and to extend the life of the asphalt pavement.

The need for the proposed action is to address the following:

- Deterioration of the asphalt pavement of WIS 32
- Transverse, longitudinal and alligator cracking of the asphalt pavement on WIS 32
- Deteriorated culvert pipes
- Deteriorated curb and gutter:
  - Intersection of WIS 32 and County S in southwest and northwest quadrants
  - Intersection of WIS 32 and Pine Lake in southwest and northwest quadrants
  - Lovers Lane Road and Fire Tower Road
- Material buildup in ditch (right side/north side) approximately 800 feet east of County S intersection.

Public Input:

- A meeting with local officials will be held to discuss the identified project needs, proposed improvements, schedule, traffic management, and to solicit for input.
- A letter will be sent to the projects' adjacent property owners informing them of the proposed project scope and timeline.
- Seek public input on the proposed highway improvement.
- A project website will be created to include pertinent information and details.

Proposed improvements include:

- Mill existing pavement and replace the top 1 3/4 inches with asphalt pavement.
- Replace five culverts within the corridor.
- Replace curb and gutter at County S, Pine Lake Road, Lovers Lane Road, and Fire Tower Road intersections.
- Redefine ditch near County S.
- Add protective thermoplastic coating at the snowmobile crossing approximately 850' west of Kempster Lane.
- Maintain county maintenance turnaround at Oneida/Forest County line.
- Replace pavement markings along the project.

Deterioration of the existing asphalt on WIS 32 is the primary reason for the proposed project. The goal is to maintain a state of good pavement repair using a cost-effective treatment. The proposed improvements are more economical over time than long-term maintenance costs if no

work is done on WIS 32. Removing and replacing the full depth of asphalt has the most environmental impacts, is the most expensive and has the longest construction duration.

## Proposed Traffic Impacts

Construction is currently scheduled to occur during the 2029 construction season.

During construction, WIS 32 – between Railroad Avenue and the Onieda County Line – will be reduced to one lane of traffic in each direction during milling and paving operations and snowmobile crossing installations. Motorists can expect to encounter flagging operations during daylight hours while these operations are being performed.

Access to all businesses and properties will be maintained. Work may delay access for a short amount of time as work passes in front of driveways. WisDOT or the contractor will contact homeowners and businesses in advance if closing a driveway is necessary.

## Real estate

Additional right of way will be required for this project. Temporary easements and fee acquisitions are anticipated to accommodate proposed ditch improvements approximately 800 feet east of County S on the north side of WIS 32. These acquisitions are needed to provide adequate space for construction and future maintenance operations. WisDOT expects to begin real estate acquisitions in Fall 2026.

## Project update/next steps

Local officials meeting	Feb.24, 2025
Public involvement	March 2026
Preliminary plans	October 2026
Environmental document	April 2026
Final right of way plat	June 2026
Real estate negotiations	October 2026 to April 2028
Final plans	May 1, 2028
Construction currently scheduled	2029

## 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 **March 31, 2026**

1. Fill out the comment form attached to this handout and mail it to WisDOT
2. 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:

Michelle Guoin, P.E.  
Project Manager  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
510 N Hanson Lake Road  
Rhineland, WI 54501  
715-365-5792  
[michellem.guoin@dot.wi.gov](mailto:michellem.guoin@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 [wisconsindot.gov/together](http://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?*

## 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: [wisconsindot.gov/together](http://wisconsindot.gov/together)



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Attn: Michelle Guoin  
WisDOT North Central Region - Rhinelander  
510 North Hanson Lake Road  
Rhinelander, WI 54501

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