

# Public Involvement

**WIS 49**  
**South Street to South Washington Street**  
**Green Lake County**  
Project ID: 6210-00-04



**June 19, 2025**

This handout and other items are available on this project's design website at  
<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/wis49berlin/default.aspx>

Thank you for your interest in this project. We look forward to your feedback.

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 on approximately 1.2 miles of WIS 49 in the city of Berlin. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed improvements, describe the potential impacts, and offer an opportunity for public comment.

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 and are welcomed and appreciated throughout the design process.

Included at the end of this handout, as well as on the project website, is a comment form that may be used for written comments regarding the proposed improvements. You are encouraged to fill out this form and return using the pre-paid mailer attached. Comments may also be submitted via email or phone to the contact listed below.

## Project Information

The project is located on WIS 49 in the city of Berlin between South Washington Street and South Street.



## **Connecting Highway Limits**

Within the project limits, WIS 49 is designated as a WisDOT Connecting Highway.

<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/data-plan/plan-res/connecting.aspx>

- Connecting highways carry state highway traffic on local streets
- Connecting highway aids from WisDOT help the city of Berlin maintain WIS 49 to state highway standards
- The city of Berlin
  - Maintains the roadway and drainage systems
  - Controls access
  - Owns the right of way

## **Project Purpose and Need**

The existing WIS 49 pavement is deteriorating with cracking and rutting throughout. The pavement has met the end of its useful service life.

Additional needs include:

- Deteriorating curb and gutter
- Existing curb ramps do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.
- The South Washington and Spring Street intersection limit truck turning movements.
- Outdated traffic signal equipment
- City municipal facilities (sewer and water) are deteriorating and outdated.

## **Proposed Improvements**

The following improvements are proposed to address the project needs.

### **Roadway improvements**

- Full depth pavement replacement with new concrete pavement and new curb and gutter
- Update pavement markings and parking stall locations
- Evaluate narrowing roadway from Washington Street to Fox River bridge to 16-foot travel lanes and 8-foot parking lanes

### **Pedestrian improvements**

- Upgrade curb ramps to meet ADA standards, where feasible
- Replace and add crosswalks at most intersections
- Evaluate bump-outs at intersections

### **Washington Street Intersection improvements**

- Upgrade the geometry to better accommodate truck turning movements
- Evaluate flashing/LED stop signs for improved safety
- Install high visibility crosswalks for improved pedestrian safety

### **Pearl Street Intersection improvements**

- Remove existing traffic signals. Stop condition on Pearl Street
- Evaluate bump-outs for improved pedestrian safety

### **Wisconsin Street Intersection improvements**

- Evaluate traffic signals and pedestrian push buttons

### **Spring Street Intersection improvements**

- Upgrade the geometry to better accommodate truck turning movements
- Replace traffic signals and pedestrian push buttons

- Evaluate impacts to Firefighter's Park (Section 6f property)

### **Municipal improvements**

- Replace deteriorating and outdated sewer and water

### **Tree Impacts**

- Due to 3-ft pavement excavation and utility impacts, there will be tree/ tree root impacts
- Additional excavation will be required for drainage and utilities which may impact trees
- Tree impacts and saving any trees will be determined during the design process

## **Proposed traffic impacts**

Construction is currently scheduled for 2030.

- WIS 49 will be closed and detoured throughout construction.
  - The detour route is anticipated to use WIS 21-WIS 73-WIS 23 for regional traffic.
  - Traffic will be delayed due to the detour route of WIS 49.
- WIS 49 will remain open to local and emergency traffic.
  - Local staging requirements will be determined during the design process
  - Coordination for postmaster, garbage, bus routes, etc.

More details will be shared on sequencing and staging at future meetings. Frequent coordination will occur with property owners and businesses during construction.

### **Your feedback is needed**

Property and business owners are encouraged to provide information on traffic and access needs on your comment form. Important information to share would include items such as:

- Handicap or other special access needs
- Bus route or other special transportation needs
- For businesses:
  - number of visitors or patrons to your location
  - hours of operation and shift changes
  - number of employees (by shift)
  - daily or weekly truck traffic (deliveries, etc.)
  - time of day for deliveries
  - type/size of delivery vehicles

## **Real estate**

Addition right of way will be required for the project.

- Fee acquisition may be required for curb ramp reconstruction.
- Temporary easements will be required for blending slopes, driveway match points, staging, and utility connections.

Preliminary right of way impacts is shown on the exhibits along with a landowner rights pamphlet is available on the website.

The city of Berlin will acquire real estate. Any impacted property owners will be contacted directly during the design process. The city of Berlin expects to begin real estate acquisitions in Spring 2027.

## Project update/next steps

Local Officials Meeting #1	May 20, 2025
Public Involvement Meeting #1	June 19, 2025
Conceptual plan submittal	September 2025
Environmental document completion	June 2026
Local Officials Meeting #2	Fall 2026
Public Involvement Meeting #2	Fall 2026
Preliminary plans and reports	Fall 2026
Final right of way plat	December 2026
Real estate negotiations	February 2027 - May 2029
Final plan submittal	May 2029
Construction currently scheduled	2030

\*\*Additional public meetings will be held, as required, during the design and construction process.

## 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 **July 11, 2025**:

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/wis49berlin/default.aspx>
3. 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:

Michael Jelinek  
Project Leader

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
1681 Second Avenue South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495  
(715) 421-8098  
[Michael.Jelinek@dot.wi.gov](mailto:Michael.Jelinek@dot.wi.gov)

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Open for  
Business

# 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)

## Public Involvement Meeting Comment Form

Project ID: 6210-00-04

Highway: WIS 49

Title: City of Berlin, Broadway Street and Ripon Road

Limits: South Street to South Washington Street

County: Green Lake

June 19, 2025

Please return comments by **July 11, 2025** to the address on the back of this sheet or emailed to Michael.Jelinek@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:

Daytime Phone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted? ☐ 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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[*Stamp*]

Attn.: Michael Jelinek  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
1681 Second Avenue South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

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