



US 151 COLUMBUS TO WAUPUN CORRIDOR STUDY

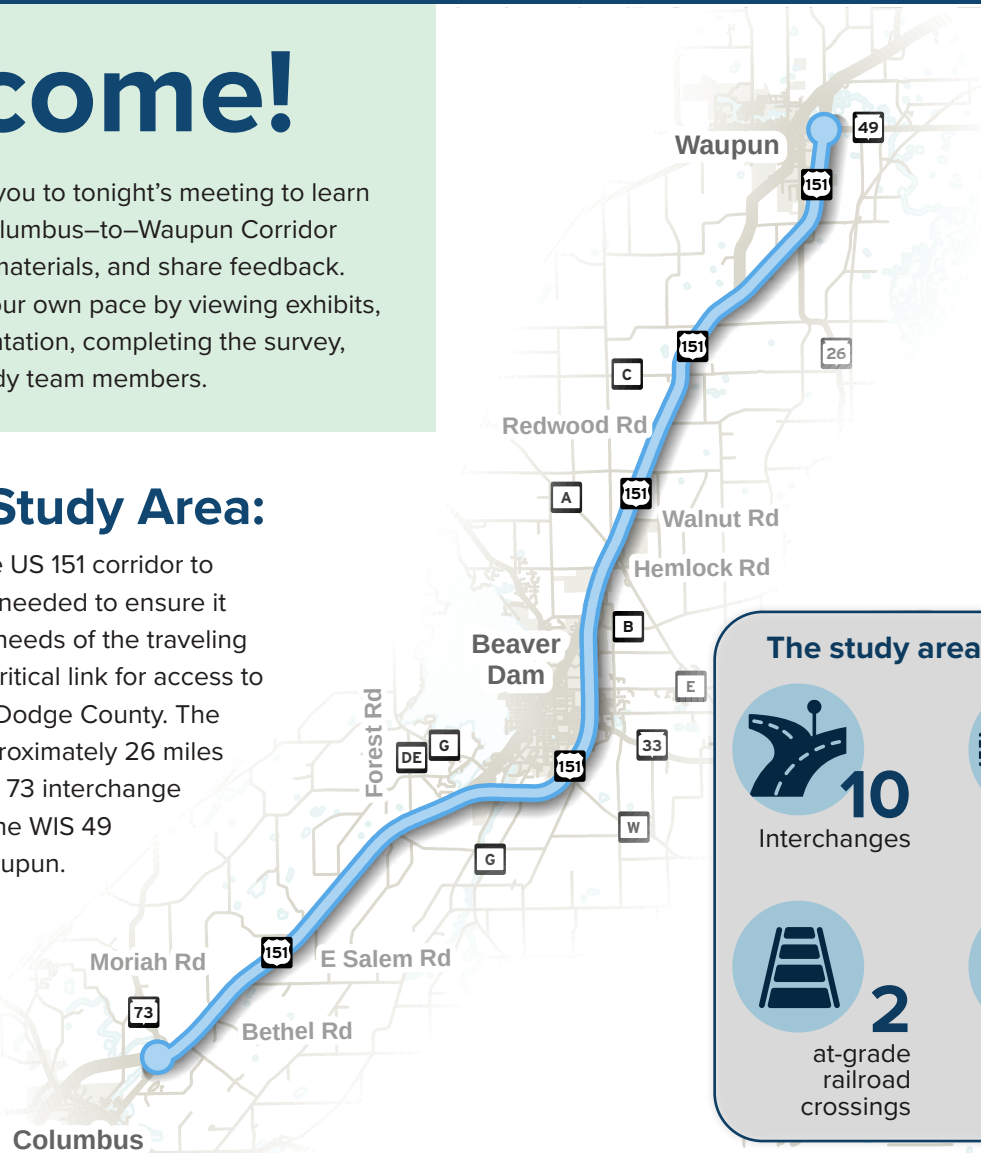
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING #1

Welcome!

WisDOT welcomes you to tonight's meeting to learn about the US 151 Columbus-to-Waupun Corridor Study, review draft materials, and share feedback. Please explore at your own pace by viewing exhibits, watching the presentation, completing the survey, and talking with study team members.

About the Study Area:

WisDOT is studying the US 151 corridor to identify improvements needed to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the traveling public and serve as a critical link for access to goods and services in Dodge County. The study will evaluate approximately 26 miles of US 151, from the WIS 73 interchange north of Columbus to the WIS 49 interchange east of Waupun.



The study area includes:



What is a corridor study?

This study must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, requiring WisDOT to evaluate environmental impacts of federally funded projects, ensure public involvement, and maintain transparent decision-making.



Define the Purpose
and Need



Consider
Alternatives



Evaluate
Environmental
Impacts



Involve the Public



Make Informed
Decisions



Existing Conditions

These topics have been initially evaluated to understand current corridor conditions with the purpose of identifying existing issues, and to understand what issues may exist in the future.



Safety

Safety: Nearly half of the corridor has crash rates above the state average. From 2020–2024, 571 crashes occurred, including eight fatalities.



Pavement Condition

Pavement Condition: Pavement conditions in need of repair or replacement in several locations.



Existing Roadway Design

Roadway Design: Several features do not meet current standards, including bridges, curves, turn lanes, and pavement.



Traffic

Traffic: US 151 generally operates well, but three intersections experience problems during peak hours. Traffic forecasts for 2055 are currently being developed to help inform study decisions.



Environmental & Drainage

Drainage: No flooding issues have been identified.

A Purpose and Need identifies why the project is needed and what problem(s) it solves

PURPOSE The purpose of the US 151 Columbus to Waupun Corridor Study is to address safety and deteriorating pavement and infrastructure while maintaining local and regional connectivity on this important link in Dodge County.

NEEDS



Safety

Several areas along the corridor have crash rates higher than the statewide average for similar roadways.



Pavement Condition

Existing pavement will reach the end of its service life by the study design year (2055).



Outdated Road Design

The roadway no longer meets WisDOT safety and design standards.

Concept Development

To address issues and needs along the corridor, a range of potential improvements were identified to enhance safety and corridor operations. Elements of the “toolbox” were utilized to develop unique conceptual alternatives.

US 151 Roadway Improvements Toolbox

1

Upgrade key intersections, including turn lanes and new intersection layouts.



2

Limit driveway access to improve traffic flow and reduce conflicts



3

Add designated U-turn locations to help drivers safely complete turning movements



4

Grade-separated railroad crossings to improve safety and reduce travel delays



5

Remove all at-grade intersections, driveway access, and U-Turns



6

Add interchanges to access US 151 at controlled points



7

Construct new local roads to provide property access



8

Provide new overpasses over US 151 for local access



Conceptual Alternatives

Using the design toolbox, two example conceptual alternatives have been developed for this phase of the study. These concepts illustrate potential approaches to addressing the draft purpose and need. We welcome your feedback on these conceptual alternatives.

Super 4 Concept

Maintains a Four-lane Divided Highway with Spot Improvements Limiting Left Turns

Upgrade key intersections	Limit driveway access
Add designated U-turn locations	Grade-separated railroad crossings

Freeway Conversion Alternative

Converts Existing Expressway into a Four-lane Freeway

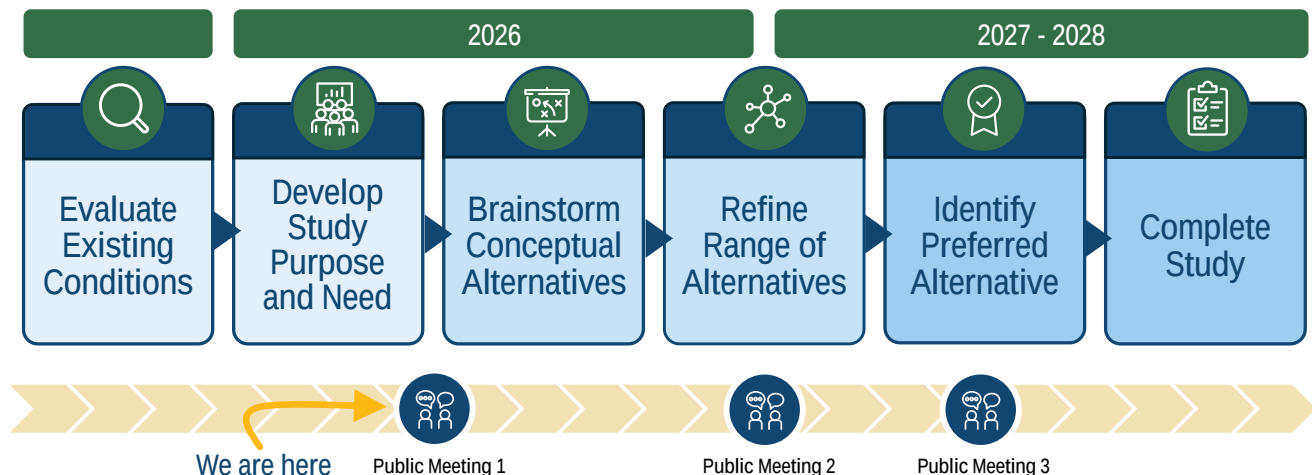
Remove all at-grade intersections, driveway access, and U-turns	Add interchanges to access US 151 at controlled points	Construct new local roads to provide property access
Provide new overpasses over US 151 for local access	Grade-separate railroad crossings	Prohibit agricultural machinery from traveling along US 151

Alternatives Development Process

Addressing the study's purpose and need begins with identifying potential improvements, which are then developed into conceptual alternatives. Public input on these concepts is essential. Your feedback—tonight and at future meetings—along with considerations such as cost, constructability, and environmental and property impacts, will help WisDOT refine the options and recommend a preferred alternative to advance.



Schedule



Next Steps:

With your feedback tonight, the conceptual alternatives will be refined and their potential impacts on the built and natural environment will be identified. Please watch for an upcoming public meeting in late 2026 or early 2027 to review the refined alternatives and help inform the preferred alternative selection process.

Take our Survey!



Scan me!

Fill out the survey online using the URL or on the study website.

Comment Period

June 23, 2026 – July 24, 2026

Leave Your Comments:

- By mail**
Mail in comment card
- By Email**
matthew.messina@dot.wi.gov
- Online**
tinyurl.com/US-151-Study