

Public Involvement Meeting Handout

**WIS 44
WIS 22 to County P
Columbia County**



**March 6th, 2025
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
114 Lake Street
Pardeeville, WI 53954**

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input and answer any questions about the proposed project on WIS 44.

The purpose of this project is to improve the safety and service life of this section of roadway. The project needs which support the project purpose include the following components: pavement deterioration and insufficient pedestrian access.

Project information

WisDOT is proposing to improve 0.72 miles of WIS 44. Proposed improvements include:

- Removing existing pavement structure and placing 5.5 inches of asphaltic material between WIS 22 and County P
- Updating curb ramps to meet Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) standards

Environmental studies and their status.

- Archaeological survey – In Progress
- Historical survey – In Progress
- Wetland delineation – In Progress
- Endangered species survey – Completed
- Hazardous/contaminated materials investigation for soil – In Progress

The WIS 44 project location map is attached at the end.

For more information, please visit the project website at:

<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/wis44-pardeeville/default.aspx>

Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is scheduled to begin in Spring/Summer 2029.

During construction WIS 44 is planned to be closed to thru traffic and a detour put in place. The detour will utilize WIS 22, WIS 33 and the WIS 44 segment north of County P.

Motorists can expect to encounter closures to thru traffic and flagging operations for locals on WIS 44. While WIS 44 is closed to thru traffic, access to local residences and businesses is planned to be maintained. Temporary driveway closures will be necessary during parts of the construction process. WisDOT will contact homeowners and businesses in advance before temporarily closing a driveway.

Construction is currently scheduled for completion in late Summer 2029.

Local Businesses

WisDOT recognizes businesses located in work zones have special needs. It's critical that customers have access to businesses and that they continue to visit them, regardless of any road work inconvenience and detour routes. Below are resources to help business owners prepare for the construction.

- In This Together: <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/in-together/default.aspx>
- Permit to install temporary business sign(s):
<https://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/projects/by-region/sw/wis146/tempsignpermit.pdf>
 - These permits are typically applied for within six months of construction starting

Real estate

Additional right of way is only anticipated to be required for this project at some of the curb ramp locations. The anticipated right of way is expected to be 250 square feet or less per affected parcel and on average about 155 square feet per affected parcel.

Project update/next steps

A Local Officials Meeting was held on March 6, 2025.

Anticipated Schedule

- Environmental report signed – August 2025
- Real estate process begins – July 2026
- Real estate process completed – July 2028
- Final plans – November 2028
- Construction begins – Spring/Summer 2029

Public input/comments

We encourage you to talk to the project representatives and ask them questions. Attached to this handout is a sheet for your written comments and input regarding the proposed project. Please mail any written comments about the project before April 11th, 2025, or leave them in the comment box tonight. You can also e-mail your comments to the contacts listed below.

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.

For more information, please contact:

Ryan Oberdorf
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
WisDOT Design Engineer
2101 Wright St
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 246-5407
Ryan.Oberdorf@dot.wi.gov

Mahesh Shrestha, PE
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Project Manager
2101 Wright St
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 245-2674
Mahesh.Shrestha@dot.wi.gov

Marc Schweiger, PE
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Project Supervisor
2101 Wright St
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 245-2633
Marc.Schweiger@dot.wi.gov