

Public Involvement Meeting Handout

**WIS 73
Middleton Street to Commerce Court
Dodge County**



**December 5, 2024
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
125 North Dickason Boulevard
Columbus, WI 53925**

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input and answer any questions about the proposed project on WIS 73.

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, substandard guardrail, structure deterioration, cross culvert pipe deterioration, and insufficient pedestrian access.

Project information

WisDOT is proposing to improve 13.7 miles of WIS 73. Proposed improvements include:

- Milling and overlaying 3.5" of asphaltic material between Middleton Street and Recreation Road
- Removing all existing pavement and paving 5" of asphaltic material from Recreation Road to US 151 and from the US 151 southbound ramp terminals to Commerce Court
- Repairing concrete pavement from US 151 to the southbound ramp terminals at US 151
- Extending the sidewalk on the eastside of WIS 73 to Rotary Park in Columbus
- Replacing guardrail along the project
- Replacing the existing old or damaged cross culverts
- Repairing bridge over US 151 and bridge over UP Railroad
- Replacing the box culvert near County Hwy CC

Environmental studies and their status.

- Archaeological survey – completed
- Historical survey – completed
- Wetland delineation – in progress
- Endangered species survey – completed
- Hazardous/contaminated materials investigation for soil – in progress
- Hazardous/contaminated materials investigation for structures – completed

The WIS 73 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/wis73-dodgecounty/default.aspx>

Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is scheduled to begin in Spring/Summer 2031 or as early as Spring/Summer 2028 if funding allows.

The project is expected to be constructed in two segments. The first segment is from Middleton Street to the US 151 interchange and the second segment is from the US 151 interchange to Commerce Court. The construction of the two segments is anticipated to be consecutively constructed.

During construction of the segment from Middleton Street to the US 151 interchange, WIS 73 is planned to be closed to thru traffic and a detour put in place. The detour will utilize WIS 16 and US 151.

During construction of the segment from the US 151 interchange to Commerce Court, WIS 73 is planned to be closed to thru traffic and a detour put in place. The detour will utilize US 151, WIS 16, WIS 146, and WIS 33.

Motorists can expect to encounter closures to thru traffic and flagging operations for locals on WIS 73. While WIS 73 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 Fall 2031 or as early as Fall 2028 if funding allows.

Real estate

Additional right of way is only anticipated to be required for this project at the culverts and guardrail locations. The anticipated right of way is expected to be 0.45 acres or less per affected parcel and on average about 0.10 acres per affected parcel. WisDOT expects to begin real estate acquisition in October 2025.

Project update/next steps

A Local Officials Meeting was held on December 5, 2024.

Anticipated Schedule

- Environmental report signed – February 2025
- Real estate process begins – September 2025
- Real estate process completed – November 2027
- Final plans – November 2027
- Construction begins – Spring/Summer 2031
 - Or as early as 2028 if funding allows

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 December 12, 2024, 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:

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