



WIS 29 Right of Way Preservation Plan

Public Information Meeting Guide

WisDOT I.D. 1058-14-00

Shawano County | July 2008

Purpose of today's meeting

WisDOT needs your input on WisDOT's preliminary recommendations for future access along WIS 29 in Shawano County. Many of the plan development exhibits can be reviewed today, including:

- **Overview maps** – Aerial maps that show the general locations of future interchanges, overpasses and local roads.
- **Preliminary plans** – Aerial maps detailing engineering plans of future interchanges, overpasses and local roads.
- **Right of way map** – Draft of the official map that shows future right of way to be preserved to construct improvements when needed.
- **Benefit/cost analysis**
 - Study team utilized input from meetings with individual townships to develop a detailed analysis of local road options and recommendations.

Today's meeting will allow you to discuss the project with study team members, and provide comments on the plans and maps. A formal presentation on the plan process and recommendations will be held at 5:30 p.m.

Overview

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is preparing the WIS 29 Right of Way Preservation Plan to identify and map the right of way required for the eventual conversion of WIS 29 to a freeway.

Future access to WIS 29 will be provided at interchanges only; all other public and private access points to WIS 29 will be removed or relocated. The right of way mapping process is being conducted in accordance with Wisconsin Statute 84.295, which is a long-term mapping and planning tool that helps protect and preserve right of way for future transportation needs.

WisDOT is determining future transportation improvements and mapping right of way now to eliminate future uncertainty for landowners and municipalities. This proactive process also saves taxpayers money because it avoids the relocation and replacement of homes and businesses that might be constructed on lands needed for future improvements. **No construction is scheduled at this time.** Individual projects along the corridor would be implemented as needs arise and when funding is available.

The plans you review today comprise concepts developed and refined with input from the WIS 29 stakeholder committee, and interested groups and individuals. During plan development, the study team held more than 50 meetings and workshops in local towns and villages, with Shawano County officials, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe representatives, and farmers, businesses and interest groups.

Project goal and objectives

Goal: Preserve the public investment in WIS 29 by planning for long-term mobility and safety.

Objectives:

1. Map right of way for future construction improvements including:
 - Future interchange locations
 - Future overpasses/underpasses
 - Local road system modifications
2. Avoid/minimize local impacts to:
 - Existing homes and businesses
 - Farm operations
3. Avoid/minimize impacts to:
 - Wetlands
 - Endangered/threatened resources
 - Archeological and historic sites
4. Work in a collaborative manner with local officials, business owners and residents.

Next steps

After today’s meeting, the study team will consider input and finalize recommendations for future access in a final corridor plan.

Then, the team will finalize the right of way map, update preliminary plans and prepare an environmental assessment (EA). WisDOT will host a public hearing on the EA and final right of way map later this year.

The EA will address issues including:

- Purpose and need for plan
- Alternatives considered
- Traffic
- Community/residential impacts
- Business impacts
- Farm operation impacts
- Uplands impacts
- Air quality
- Noise impacts
- Wetland impacts
- Stream impacts
- Historic resources impacts
- Archeological resources impacts
- Hazardous materials
- Stormwater management
- Erosion control



Community input, access recommendations

In workshops with communities, agencies, residents and businesses, the study team prepared access recommendations for interchanges, overpasses and local roads. Right of way mapping is proposed for possible future improvements at the following locations:

INTERCHANGES

- County J
- County G
- Leopolis Road
- County U
- County MMM
- County F

OVERPASSES

- Old WIS 29
- Rock Road
- Range Line Road
- Broadway Road
- Main Laney Drive
- St. Augustine Street

LOCAL ROADS

Recommended local road configurations are illustrated on the concept maps. The study team’s goal was to develop local road concepts that balance the need for local access with the need to minimize environmental impacts and costs. Local roads proposed for formal mapping are the result of extensive coordination with local governments and benefit/cost analyses.

You will notice that while some local road concepts will be formally mapped, others are not. Several roads are not being mapped at this time in places where the risk of future development that would impact later construction is minimal. The concept maps show future local roads that local towns or Shawano County might choose to construct in the future.

Frequently asked questions

What happens after today's meeting?

As noted under "Next steps" section on the preceding page, WisDOT will complete its studies and host a public hearing later this year. The public hearing will provide another opportunity to review preliminary engineering plans, final right of way mapping and comment on the environmental assessment.

What happens after WisDOT formally maps right of way on my property?

The official map of future right of way needs will be recorded at the Shawano County Register of Deeds office. Affected property owners of record will be notified by registered mail when the map has been recorded in early 2009 and provided a copy of the map page(s) showing their affected property. Landowners who intend to make improvements in the area shown on the official map must notify WisDOT 60 days before beginning work. Upon receipt of such notice of planned improvements, WisDOT will work cooperatively with landowners to plan improvements, begin the acquisition process or allow the improvements to proceed.

WisDOT will not award damages for any new improvements constructed in areas shown on a map of a future freeway corridor that is officially filed with the county register of deeds if the landowner does not notify WisDOT 60 days before beginning work.

What happens to my property if my access needs to be removed in the future and I won't have another local road connection?

WisDOT will purchase access rights from all properties along WIS 29. WisDOT will work with affected property owners to review alternatives at the time that access rights are purchased. In some cases, a property owner might still have access via an adjoining parcel, or a driveway could be constructed from a mapped local road. If a parcel is landlocked as a result of access right purchase, WisDOT will offer to purchase the entire parcel. The property owner may agree to sell the property or possibly work out an agreement for access with a neighboring property owner. Representatives from the plan development team are available today to discuss access and real estate concerns.

When will construction happen?

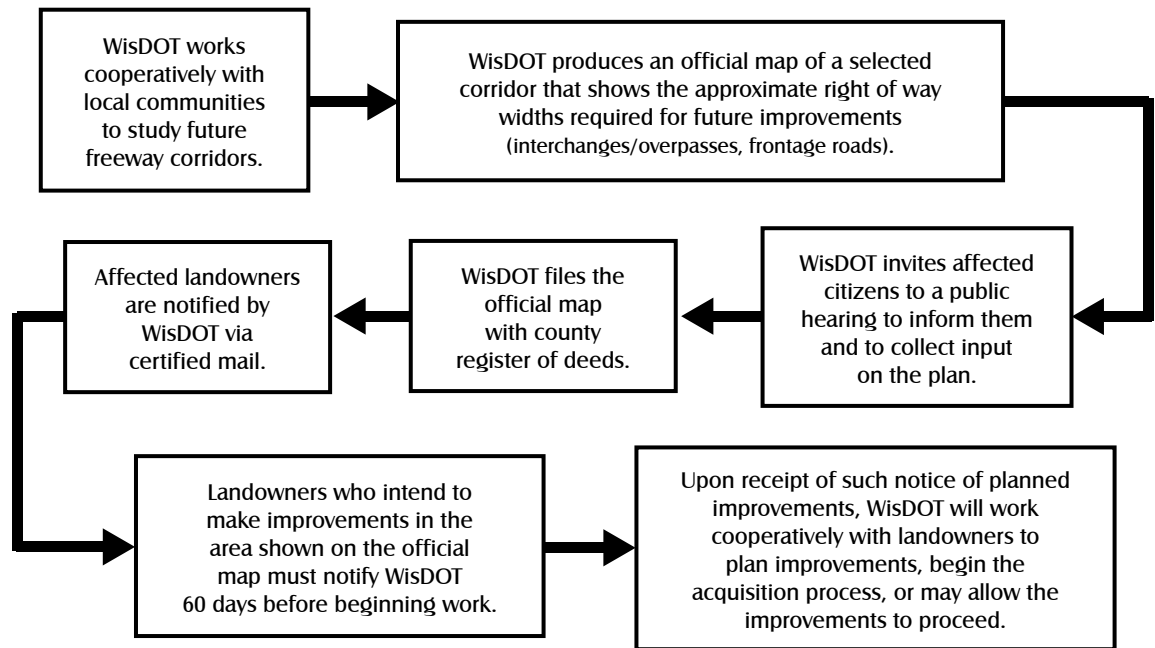
No construction is planned at this time. Individual projects would be constructed as needs arise or when funding becomes available.

What if I want to sell my property before construction?

WisDOT will work individually with affected property owners. On a case by cases basis, WisDOT will consider hardship acquisitions in unusual or extreme circumstances.

Establishing Right of Way Widths for Future Freeways and Expressways under Wisconsin State Statute 84.295

PROCESS



BENEFITS

- If improvements to roadways are determined now, uncertainty is eliminated for landowners, local governments and WisDOT.
- Local governments can create effective land use and economic development plans if they know where future interchanges, overpasses, frontage roads and access points will be located.
- Landowners can make improvements to their properties and minimize future disruptions to their land.
- State taxpayer money can be saved by not having to move or replace improvements that are constructed on lands known to be needed for future freeway improvements.
- Maintaining safe and efficient highways benefits local communities and the state.

OUTCOME

The State will not award damages for any new improvements constructed in areas shown on a map of a future freeway corridor that is officially filed with the county register of deeds if the landowner does not notify WisDOT prior to beginning work.