

# WIS 21 Local Officials Stakeholder Committee responses

## December 2004 meeting summary and Exercise 1 responses

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### Problems

WIS 21 Local Officials Stakeholder Committee (LOSC) members cited traffic congestion and unsafe driving conditions as the main problems on WIS 21. Members perceive WIS 21 serving dual purposes. WIS 21 serves as a local collector for the area as well as an arterial for long distance, through trips. The conflicts between local and through traffic make access to and from existing businesses challenging. Local traffic uses WIS 21 because alternate parallel local streets do not exist. Also, the WIS 21 corridor does not accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians, requiring people to travel by automobile. Members anticipate problems will get worse as more development occurs.

Traffic flow is most problematic in the more developed area in the Town of Algoma and City of Oshkosh. High traffic volume and congestion make it challenging for drivers crossing, entering and exiting WIS 21. Hospital shift changes and school dismissal occur at the same time, adding to congestion. Many think too many intersections exist, hindering WIS 21 traffic flow. Some believe the traffic signals are poorly timed and intersections lack long enough turn lanes and deceleration lanes.

Committee members also identified problems regarding the rural section of WIS 21. Some indicated challenges crossing WIS 21 and turning left due to high traffic volume. Drivers experience difficulties finding sufficient gaps in traffic allowing time to safely enter WIS 21. WIS 21 intersections do not have turn lanes or deceleration lanes. Many think WIS 21 intersections are difficult to see at night. Several members mentioned that too many driveways exist and several are poorly spaced. It was also noted that the small bridge between Rivermoor Road and Reighmoor Road is icy at times.

Members think WIS 21 lacks capacity and has poor geometrics. Bad roadway alignment creates dangerous intersections. Members identified specific problem areas including:

- **The transition from four lanes to two lanes** - Many think this section of WIS 21 is too busy and dangerous. Signing for the transition area is inadequate. Traffic from both Leonards Point Road and Old Omro Road enters and exits WIS 21 on the north side of the roadway at the same location. This intersection is confusing and congested. Westbound WIS 21 traffic is also “jockeying” for position at this location.
- **WIS 21 and Rivermoor Road intersection** -This intersection is located on a curve. Sight distance is a problem for drivers traveling south on Rivermoor Road and entering or crossing WIS 21.
- **WIS 21 and County FF intersection** – Members recall a history of accidents at this location. Drivers experience difficulties finding sufficient gaps in traffic allowing time to safely enter WIS 21. This is especially challenging for drivers turning left to enter WIS 21. Some feel that the lack of turn lanes or deceleration lanes contributes to the unsafe characteristics of the intersection. Members also observed drainage problems near the intersection of WIS 21 and County FF.

- **WIS 21 and Sand Pit Road intersection** - Members also identified this intersection as an accident area. Drivers experience difficulties finding sufficient gaps in traffic allowing time to safely enter WIS 21. This is especially challenging for drivers turning left to enter WIS 21. Some feel that the lack of turn lanes or deceleration lanes contributes to the unsafe characteristics of the intersection.
- **WIS 21 and Olde Apple Lane intersection** – This intersection is located too close to Leonards Point Road and the WIS 21 transition area. There is minimal spacing between vehicles because traffic is bunching while transitioning from four lanes to two lanes.
- **WIS 21 and Leonards Point Road intersection** – This intersection is located in the WIS 21 transition area and is very busy and dangerous.
- **WIS 21 and Honey Creek and Oakwood Road intersections** – Westbound traffic is accelerating in anticipation of the 55 mph speed limit. Traffic in the left-turn lanes is backing up into the travel lanes.
- **WIS 21, Westhaven Drive and Emmers Lane intersection** - The lack of lane markings at this intersection makes it confusing for drivers.
- **WIS 21 and Westowne Avenue and Old Omro Road intersection** - The stacking area is very short on Westowne and Old Omro Road. This intersection is very problematic during rush hour. Entering WIS 21 is challenging without “cheating” at the lights.
- **WIS 21/US 41** - Eastbound, left-turning traffic backs up because the left turn lane is not long enough. Members also think directional signage on WIS 21 for US 41 northbound is lacking. The short off-ramp length from US 41 southbound to WIS 21 westbound also causes back ups.