



Wisconsin Department of Transportation

US 12/18 Freeway Conversion Study

I-39/90 to County N

Dane County



Public Information Meeting #2

April 24, 2013

Purpose of Meeting

Present the US 12/18 freeway conversion alternatives that have been developed, discuss the study process and schedule, and gather information from local residents.

Study Overview

The freeway conversion study begins just east of I-39/90 (the "Beltline Interchange") and continues east along US 12/18 for approximately 3.5 miles to the County N interchange. This study is being completed in conjunction with the I-39/90 expansion project, but will have separate meetings and a different timeline. A study location map is attached.

The expansion of I-39/90 from 4 lanes to 6 lanes from the Illinois state line to US 12/18 will increase safety and mobility through the corridor. In addition to the mainline work, alternatives are being developed to improve the safety and capacity of the Beltline Interchange. These improvements may have an affect on the design options at the west end of the study corridor and traffic volumes along US 12/18, which is why the corridor is being studied at this time.

The study involves developing alternatives to complete a freeway conversion and assess the environmental, economic, and social impacts of converting US 12/18 from a four-lane expressway to a four-lane freeway. The final products of the study will be an environmental document and 30 percent preliminary plans. It should be noted that this is a study to evaluate the impacts of converting US 12/18 to a freeway. No construction activities are planned at this time.

Conversion to a freeway would require the elimination of at-grade intersections and limit access to and from US 12/18 to interchanges. The study involves evaluating additional interchanges, grade-separated overpasses, and frontage roads to connect local roadways without interruption to future freeway traffic flow.

A previous public information meeting was held in July 2012 to introduce the project and study team, and to gather input from local residents.

Data Gathering

The data gathering phase of the study has been completed. Information was gathered regarding current and future traffic volumes, crash data, environmental constraints, and how the highway affects land use patterns and the general economics of the area.

Develop Alternatives & Identify Impacts

Using the data collected and input gathered at public and local officials meetings, alternatives have now been developed for potential improvements to the highway. The study team will be further evaluating those alternatives to determine the level of safety improvement, cost, right-of-way needs, land use, and environmental and local impacts.

Next, the study team will begin preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) that compares the impacts of the alternatives; as well as evaluating the “no-build” alternative that assumes no improvements are made to the highway.

Environmental Documentation & 30 Percent Plans

The study will conclude with the preparation of 30 percent plans for the preferred alternative and the preparation of an EA that documents the entire study process. This document will be made available for public review and comment. The study is expected to be completed in late 2013.

Public Involvement

Continuous exchange of information with the public and local officials is essential throughout the development of this study to better understand area transportation and access needs. Additionally, there will be separate meetings held with local officials to further discuss these issues. This is the second of three public information meetings being held during the study.

At this meeting, WisDOT will be presenting information to you, but WisDOT also needs information from you! Attached is a “Comment Sheet” that can be filled out and returned to us here tonight or mailed/emailed at your earliest convenience. You are encouraged to tell us about any thoughts you may have about the freeway conversion alternatives presented.

Study Schedule

Public Information Meeting #1 (introduce study).....	July 31, 2012
Public Information Meeting #2 (discuss alternatives).....	April 24, 2013
Refine Alternatives & Impacts	Spring 2013
Draft Design Recommendation Report.....	Summer 2013
Agency/Local Officials Meeting (present preferred alternative).....	Summer 2013
Public Information Meeting #3 (present preferred alternative)	Summer 2013
Final Design Recommendation Report.....	Fall 2013
Environmental Assessment Submittal	Late 2013
30% Plan Submittal.....	Late 2013

Study Team Contact Information

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Comment Form

Please return this completed form today, or email/mail to:

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Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Comments

US 12/18 Meier Road Overpass Alternatives:

US 12/18 Mainline West Segment Alternatives:
