



Wisconsin Department of Transportation

US 12/18 Freeway Conversion Study

I-39/90 to County N

Dane County



Public Information Meeting #1

July 31, 2012

Purpose of Meeting

Introduce the study team, provide a corridor overview, discuss the study process and schedule, and gather information from local residents.

Study Overview

The freeway conversion study begins 500 feet east of I-39/90 (the "Beltline Interchange") and continues east along US 12/18 for approximately 3.5 miles to 500 feet west of 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 speeds and capacity of the Beltline Interchange. These improvements may have an affect on the overall condition and traffic volumes along the US 12/18 corridor resulting in a lower safety rating.

The study will involve 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 product will be the completion of an environmental document and 30% design submittal. 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 interchanges. The study will evaluate additional interchanges, grade-separated overpasses, and frontage roads to connect local roadways without interruption to freeway traffic flow.

Data Gathering

Information gathered will include current and future traffic volumes, crash data, environmental constraints, and how the highway affects land use patterns and the general economics of the area.

Participants at this meeting will play an important role in helping the study team gather data and understand how the current roadway is functioning.

Develop Alternatives & Identify Impacts

Using the data collected and input gathered at public and local officials meetings, alternatives will be developed for potential improvements to the highway. The study team will then evaluate 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 prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) that compares the impacts of the alternatives; as well as the "no-build" alternative that assumes no improvements are made to the highway.

Environmental Documentation & 30% Plans

The study will conclude with the preparation of 30% plans for the preferred alternative and the preparation of an Environmental Assessment that documents the entire study process. This document will be made available for public review and comment. The study process is expected to last 18 months.

Public Involvement

Continuous exchange of information with the public and local officials is essential throughout the development of this study. Three public information meetings will be held during the study. Business and property owners will be interviewed to better understand their transportation and access needs. Additionally, there will be separate meetings held with local officials.

At this meeting today, we will present information to you, but we also need information from you! Enclosed is a "Comment Sheet" that we would like you to fill out. You can turn it in here or mail it to us. You are encouraged to provide us with your concerns with the existing roadway, safety, drainage, archeological or historical resources, or hazardous materials/contaminated soils.

Study Schedule

Local Officials Meeting #1	June 18, 2012
Public Information Meeting #1	July 31, 2012
Data Collection.....	Summer 2012
Develop Alternatives & Identify Impacts	Fall 2012
Local Officials & Public Information Mtg #2 (discuss alternatives)	Late 2012
Refine Alternatives & Impacts	Early 2013
Draft Roadway Alignment Report.....	Spring 2013
Local Officials & Public Information Mtg #3 (present preferred alternative).....	Spring 2013
Final Roadway Alignment Report.....	Summer 2013
30% Design & Environmental Report Submittal	Fall 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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WisDOT SW Region
2101 Wright Street, Madison, WI 53704
craig.pringle@dot.wi.gov

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

What are the issues with the highway? Where do they occur? What time of day? What day of the week?

ISSUE #1:

Where: _____

When: _____

ISSUE #2:

Where: _____

When: _____

