



US 12 Corridor Study

County N to WIS 26 (Dane and Jefferson Counties)
WisDOT Southwest Region
Project ID: 3080-00-09

Winter 2011

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this study leading into a major construction project?

The study is intended as a source of information to aid in making future transportation decisions. There are no immediate projects programmed or funds allocated for construction.

What is the study about?

The study is a planning level initiative and includes three main components:

1. A record of significant environmental, socio-economic, and transportation-related information pertaining to the US 12 corridor, including operational and safety analyses that clearly identify corridor deficiencies.
2. Recommendations to improve operations and safety conditions and extend the functional life of the existing two-lane facility for as long as possible.
3. Access management plan identifying long-term access strategies.

Why is the study being done?

US 12 is part of the National Highway System and a major regional highway serving south central Wisconsin and is a direct link between Madison, Fort Atkinson, and Lake Geneva. WisDOT has identified US 12 as a Connections 2030 Connector Route, a designation which places a high priority on protecting highway investments on corridors that connect major economic and population centers and carry regional, long-distance, statewide, and inter-state traffic.

As traffic volumes increase and more land is developed along these highways, experience around the state has demonstrated that unmanaged and unprotected highways can suffer deterioration of operational efficiency and safety. In this part of US 12, the greatest functional concerns for WisDOT are the existing at-grade intersections. As traffic volumes increase over time, it may become increasingly difficult to turn onto and off of the highway and cross it in a safe manner.

How long will the study take?

It is expected that the study will take 24 months to complete.

What are the strategies and recommendations of the study?

The transportation safety management portion of the study will recommend long-term strategies to prolong the useful life of the existing US 12 corridor for as long as possible. The entire corridor will be evaluated as one system.

Recommendations could include opportunities to consolidate, relocate, or remove access as land use patterns change, and potential improvements that improve local street networks and address intersection safety and operations. By using a system approach, recommendations could be implemented in stages as needs arise. Once all of the recommendations are implemented, they will function well together because they will have been developed collaboratively.

Study limits

County N to WIS 26
Dane and Jefferson Counties

Study schedule

Spring 2011: Newsletter and Public Information Meeting to kick-off the study

Summer and Fall 2011: Data collection and development of recommendations

Spring 2012: Public Information Meeting to present recommendations



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Will the study recommend four lanes or a community bypass?

This study is not a capacity expansion project (adding lanes). The goal of the study is to identify opportunities to extend the functional life of the existing two-lane facility for as long as possible. Furthermore, this study does not include bypass alternatives.

Why is this study being done now? Weren't major improvements completed in 2004?

The recommendations of the study will be compatible with the improvements and should allow them to stay in place during their useful lifespan. Any recommendations will be developed with an eye toward correcting deficiencies, improving safety, and preserving investments that have recently been made.

I live along US 12. How might the study affect my property?

Because there are no construction activities planned as part of the study, and only short-term improvements to address immediate safety issues could occur, we expect very minimal effects to adjacent properties. Furthermore, potential short-term improvements (if any) would likely be minor in scale.

How do I stay informed about the project?

If you received this FAQ sheet in the mail, you are already included in the study mailing list and will automatically receive future mailings. Other opportunities to be added to the mailing list include the sign-in sheets at the public information meetings or by contacting the project managers.

Who do I contact with questions?

For additional information or to be included on the study mailing list please contact:

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