

The Future of the Beltline

Public meetings scheduled for Madison Beltline Study. Your input is needed!

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is conducting a Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) study for the Madison Beltline from US 14 in Middleton to County N in Cottage Grove. The study will identify and evaluate a range of potential strategies (alternatives) that address long-term transportation needs.

Eight public involvement meetings in November and December will present the preliminary findings of how various transportation strategies may address Beltline needs. Each meeting will cover the same content. The following is a list of meeting dates and locations:

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Two meetings:

- 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M., presentation at 12:15 P.M.
- 5:30 to 8 P.M., presentation at 6 P.M.

Madison Central Public Library Room 302
201 W. Mifflin Street, Madison

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

5:30 to 8 P.M.
presentation at 6 P.M.

McFarland High School Cafeteria
5103 Farwell Street, McFarland

Monday, November 17, 2014

5:30 to 8 P.M.
presentation at 6 P.M.

Middleton High School Performing Arts Center
2100 Bristol Street, Middleton

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Two meetings:

- 2:30 to 4:30 P.M., presentation at 3 P.M.
- 5:30 to 8 P.M., presentation at 6 P.M.

Boys & Girls Club Gym
4619 Jenewein Road, Fitchburg

Monday, December 1, 2014

5:30 to 8 P.M.,
presentation at 6 P.M.

Glacial Drumlin Middle School Cafeteria
801 Damascus Trail, Cottage Grove

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

5:30 to 8 P.M.
presentation at 6 P.M.

Centro Hispano of Dane County
810 W. Badger Road, Madison

Contact information:

For more information about the Beltline study, contact:

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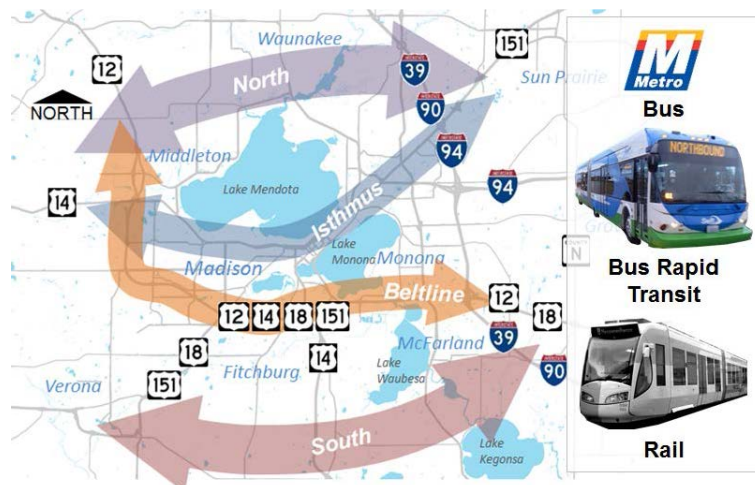
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The meetings are wheelchair accessible. Citizens who are hearing-impaired and require an interpreter may request one by contacting the DOT Southwest Region at (608)-246-7928 at least three working days prior to the meeting via the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System (dial 711).

Broad strategies investigated

A number of strategies (alternatives) are being evaluated to see how well they meet the Beltline study transportation objectives. Strategies need to meet the area's transportation needs for the next 40 years. Strategies being investigated include the following:

- Expand Beltline Bus Service
- Implement Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
- Implement Rail Service (Transport 2020)
- Add a North Mendota Corridor
- Add a South Reliever Corridor (near County M)
- Add traffic lanes to the Beltline



A problem statement, goal, and objectives guide the direction of the Beltline study. They were developed collaboratively after numerous meetings with local, state, and federal officials, community groups, and the public.

Problem statement for the Beltline study

The Madison Beltline links southwest Wisconsin to the nation and provides an important connection among neighborhoods, businesses, communities, and regions. Initially constructed in the late 1950s, it became the main east-west highway in the Madison area. Motorists use the Beltline to travel to work, school, shopping, and recreational destinations. Sections of the Beltline carry a yearly average of 123,000 vehicles per day. Without the Beltline, a far more robust system of local streets and arterials would be needed to carry this burden.

A 2008 Madison Beltline Needs Assessment Report documented a number of deficiencies associated with this freeway corridor. They have grown to a level that, in November of 2011, Wisconsin's Transportation Projects Commission authorized the study of long-term solutions for the Madison Beltline from US 14 in Middleton to County N in Cottage Grove. Solutions are needed to address the following Beltline issues:

- Increasing travel demand and congestion.
- Roadway safety concerns.
- Limited or insufficient accommodations for alternate travel modes.

These issues lead to high crash rates, unreliable travel times, higher travel costs, and negative economic and environmental consequences for area residents, commuters, businesses, and freight movements.

Goal and objectives

Goal

Improve multimodal travel and safety along and across the Madison Beltline corridor in a way that supports economic development, acknowledges community plans, contributes positively to the area's quality of life, and limits adverse environmental and social effects to the extent practicable.

Objectives

The study will investigate the ability of multiple strategies and corridors to satisfy the Beltline Problem Statement, Goal, and Objectives. Specific, measurable objectives for the Beltline include the following:

1. Improve safety for all travel modes.
2. Address Beltline infrastructure condition and deficiencies.
3. Address system mobility (congestion) for all travel modes.
 - i. Pedestrian
 - ii. Bicycle
 - iii. Transit
 - iv. Local and regional passenger vehicles
 - v. Freight
4. Limit adverse social, cultural, and environmental effects to the extent practicable.
5. Increase system travel time reliability for regional and local trips.
6. Improve connections across and adjacent to the Beltline for all travel modes.
7. Enhance efficient regional multimodal access to Madison metropolitan area economic centers.
8. Decrease Beltline traffic diversion impacts to neighborhood streets.
9. Enhance transit ridership and routing opportunities.
10. Improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations.
11. Complement other major transportation initiatives and studies in the Madison area.
12. Support infrastructure and other measures that encourage alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel.

Did you know?

- *Dane County is projected to add another 130,000 residents between now and 2040.*
- *Only one-half of the Beltline rush-hour traffic is work related.*
- *Almost 10% of area residents living inside the Beltline use transit.*