

# **Public Involvement Meeting**

## **WIS 21 Access Management**

**Juneau County line – Coloma  
Adams and Waushara counties**

**Project ID 6160-00-29/6170-00-29**



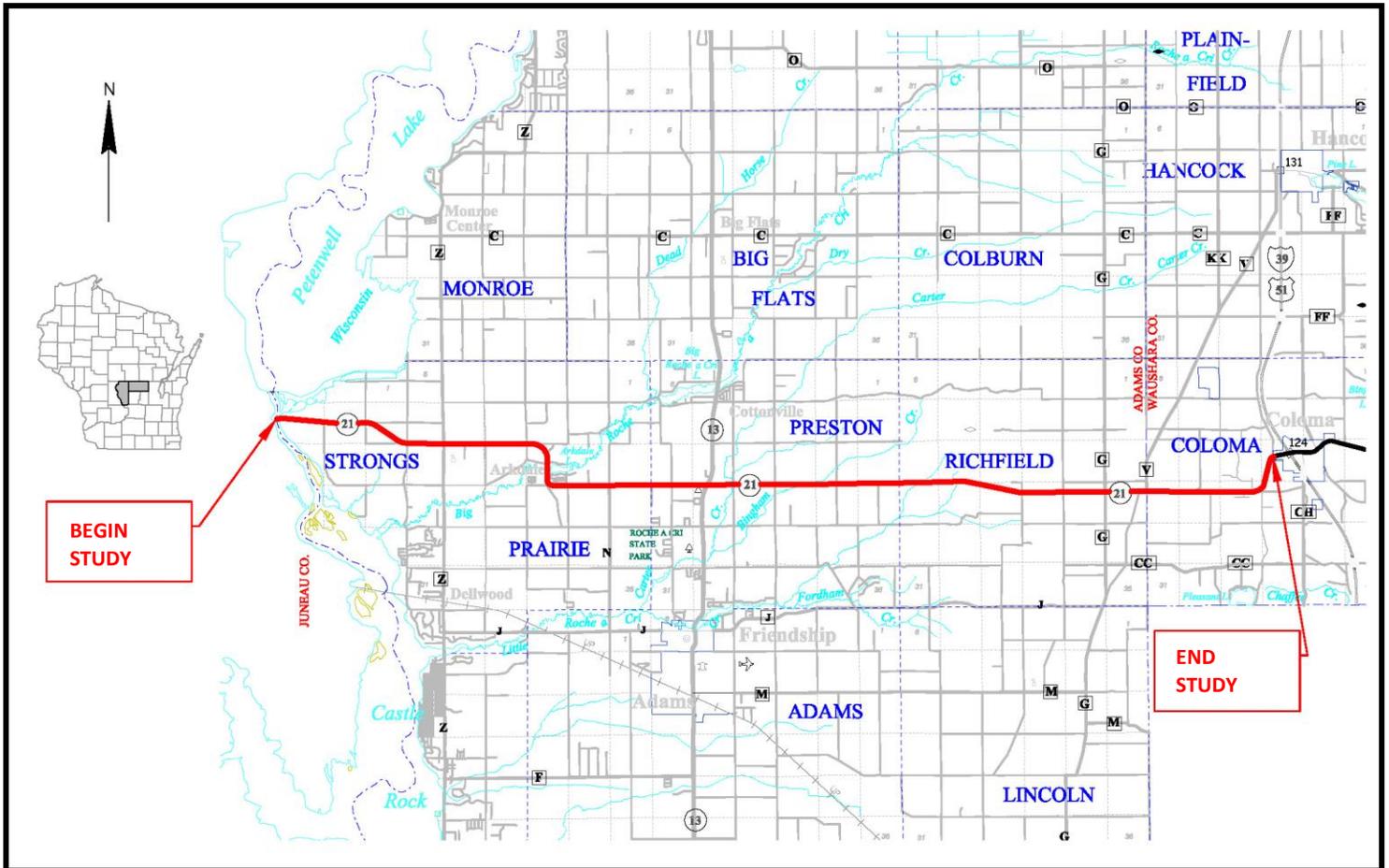
**May 23, 2016  
5 to 7 p.m.  
Town of Strongs Prairie  
Arkdale, WI**

**A brief presentation is scheduled to begin at 5:15 p.m.**

## Purpose of the meeting

The objective of today's meeting is to present information regarding the purpose and need for the WIS 21 access management study, answer questions, and obtain your input.

A brief presentation is scheduled to begin at 5:15 p.m. After the presentation, the meeting will follow an open house format.



Study Location Map

## Purpose and need for access management

We are initiating an access management planning study for WIS 21 between the Adams/Juneau County line and 4th Avenue (towns of Strongs Prairie, Preston, Richfield, and Coloma and the village of Coloma) in Adams and Waushara counties.

The purpose for implementing an access management plan along WIS 21 is to preserve the long-term safety and mobility along WIS 21, while still providing adequate access to adjacent properties. There are approximately 350 existing access points in the 19-mile area. Managing access will help to maintain a safe roadway while serving access needs for local development along the highway.

We are proposing to implement the access management plan in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute (Wis. Stat.) 84.25.

The access management plan will document and map existing, modified, and proposed access points. Access conditions will be reviewed with local officials and property owners to ensure the access management plan adequately meets current and future needs. Legal documentation of access to adjacent properties to/from the highway will be prepared. Some accesses may be modified at properties with multiple existing access points or at properties that have the potential for access on an adjacent local road. Managing access will help to maintain a safe roadway while serving access needs for local development along the highway.

**There are no construction projects currently scheduled in the department's six-year program for WIS 21.** Any proposed access changes would be implemented as part of a future highway construction project.

## Access management facts

### Access management

Highway access management is planning the number, and location, of driveways and intersections along a roadway to help maintain safe, efficient movement of traffic, and to ensure safe access to and from adjacent properties.

### Benefits of access management

Too many access points that are located too close together, compromise the safety of the traveling public by interrupting the flow of traffic along the highway. Access management can be used to help reduce or better manage congestion problems, delaying or preventing the need for any major highway changes.

The goals of access management are to:

- Protect the public investment in highway facilities and protect the function of state highways
- Preserve operational safety, capacity and efficiency
- Promote well-planned development of adjacent properties
- Minimize impacts of future highway improvements - more access increases the potential for more direct impacts when future projects are completed
- Delay or eliminate the need to expand or relocate the highway

### **Wis. Stat. 84.25**

When no construction project is planned in the near future, but potential development or zoning changes, or other changes along the highway indicate that access pressures may begin to occur; WisDOT may implement Wis. Stat. 84.25 to manage the access along highways.

Under Wis. Stat. 84.25, access management can be used as proactive tool by WisDOT to designate rural sections of the state highway system as controlled-access highways, where the existing or projected average daily traffic exceeds 2,000 vehicles within the next 20 years. WIS 21 is rural in nature. The traffic data collected in 2015 ranges from 3,050 and 6,200 vehicles per day. In the year 2037, the traffic along WIS 21 is anticipated to grow to approximately 3,700 to 7,400 vehicles per day.

When the mapping process is complete, access is documented and mapped for today's land use and conditions. WisDOT will coordinate with property owners and local officials to map access at locations that will accommodate shared driveways to best accommodate possible future land divisions. If traffic conditions change in the future, WisDOT will work cooperatively with local agencies and property owners to consider adjustments to the access management plan.

### **Real estate needs and construction**

No property acquisition or highway construction is required for the access management study.

Part of the mapping process may include a proposal to modify existing access at some properties with multiple access points, or at properties that have the potential for access on an adjacent local road. Driveway removals, if required, would likely occur as part of a future construction project. No construction projects are planned along WIS 21 at this time.

## **Study update/next steps**

The study development process will include the following:

- Field review of existing access
- Environmental documentation
- Local agency and public involvement meetings
- Public hearings
- Development of an access management map and documents authorizing access

The current schedule for developing this long-range plan:

- Local agency coordination meeting – April 2016
- Public involvement meeting – May 2016
- Phase I complete – September 2016
- Phase II coordination
  - Public hearing conducted in each county – winter/spring 2017
  - Development of Wis. Stat. 84.25 documents – spring 2017 to fall 2017
  - Study completion - September 2017

For study information please visit the WIS 21 study website:

<http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/wis21access/default.aspx>

## Public input/comments

We encourage you to talk to the project representatives and ask them questions. Attached to this handout is a sheet for your written comments and input regarding the proposed access management study. Please mail any written comments about the project before **June 6, 2016** or leave them in the comment box. You may also email your comments to the contacts listed below.

Your comments will assist us in developing an access control map that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. Your input is welcome and appreciated throughout the study development process.

For more information, please contact:

Richard Handrick  
WisDOT North Central Region  
510 North Hanson Lake Road  
Rhineland, WI 54501  
715.365.5716  
Richard.Handrick@dot.wi.gov

Stephanie G. Christensen  
EMCS, Inc.  
500 North 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401  
715.845.1081  
schristensen@emcsinc.com

# Public Involvement Meeting Comment Form

Project ID 6160-00-29/6170-00-29  
Juneau County line – Coloma  
Statewide Access Management Planning  
WIS 21  
Adams and Waushara County

May 23, 2016

Please place this form in the comment box or mail by **June 6, 2016** to the address on the back of this sheet. Comments can also be emailed to [Richard.Handrick@dot.wi.gov](mailto:Richard.Handrick@dot.wi.gov). Your comments assist us in developing an access management plan that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. Your input is welcome and appreciated throughout the study development process.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Place a numbered sticker on the map near the location for which you would like to comment. Write the sticker number in the box below and comment in the adjacent spaces. A numbered sticker is not needed for general comments.**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**General Comments (attach additional sheets if necessary)**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*The information in this document including names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, and signatures is not confidential, and may be subject to disclosure upon request, pursuant to the requirements of the Wisconsin open records law, sections 19.31 - 19.39 of the Wisconsin Statutes.*

Fold here

---

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
North Central Region – Rhinelander  
510 North Hanson Lake Road  
Rhinelander, WI 54501  
Attn: Richard Handrick

---

To mail, fold here and staple.