

# **Public Involvement Meeting Handout**

**Village of Turtle Lake, US 8  
County K/Norway Street Intersection  
US 63/Maple Street Intersection  
Barron County**

**Project ID: (1570-02-01, 1570-02-05)**



**Tuesday, June 14, 2016  
5:00 p.m.  
Turtle Lake School  
205 Oak Street  
Turtle Lake, WI**

## **Purpose of the meeting**

WisDOT is proposing to improve US 8 at both the County K/Norway Street intersection and the US 63/Maple Street intersection. These intersections have shown a history of crashes, and were included in the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's 2011 "5% Safety Needs" list. Reconstruction of these intersections will address the safety problems and improve traffic flow.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to familiarize you with the details of the project, including the timing and sequencing of construction, and identifying local road and highway access impacts during construction. The meeting will be conducted in an open house format. We encourage you to talk to our project staff, view the exhibits, and discuss the proposed improvements.

## **Project information**

US 8 and US 63 are major commuter and recreational routes for travelers between the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area and the lake country of northern Wisconsin. The highways experience an influx of traffic during the summer months, most evident on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons. In addition, County K/Norway Street experiences heavy traffic patronizing surrounding businesses, especially during the weekends.

### **County K/Norway Street Intersection**

The intersection of US 8 and CTH K/Norway Street is currently a two-way stop condition with traffic on CTH K and Norway Street stopping at the intersection. The safety and operations of the intersection are in need of improvement.

A study was performed to analyze alternatives for improving safety and operations for this intersection. As a result of the study, it was determined that a four-way stop was not a feasible alternative. A three-lane mainline alternative was also studied however does not improve operations or address the crash issues. A traffic signal was reviewed however does not meet warrants based on future traffic volumes. The traffic signal alternative also has larger real estate impacts with two businesses needing to be acquired as well as higher construction costs. The roundabout is expected to improve safety and better serve the varying traffic demands.

### **US 63/Maple Street Intersection**

The intersection of US 8 and US 63/Maple Street is currently a two-way stop condition with traffic on US 63 and Maple Street stopping at the intersection. The safety and operations of the intersection are in need of improvement.

A study was performed to analyze alternatives for improving safety and operations for this intersection. As a result of the study, it was determined that a four-way stop was not a feasible alternative and the traffic at the intersection does not meet warrants to install a traffic signal. A roundabout was selected because it is expected to improve safety and better serve the varying traffic demands.

## Street Location Map



## Proposed temporary traffic impacts during construction

Construction is currently scheduled to begin in the spring of 2017, extending throughout the summer, and completing in the fall of 2017.

During construction, US 8 and US 63 will remain open. Lane restrictions include reducing traffic to one lane in each direction. Motorists can expect to encounter slower speeds, temporary traffic signals, and flagging operations. Access will remain open at all times to local businesses.

Temporary local road access changes include:

- ) Maple Street at the intersection with US 8 will be closed during the summer. Access will be provided to all adjacent properties during the construction process. Maple Street south of the intersection will remain open. Access at the intersection will be provided during the Turtle Lake Inter-County Fair in July 2017.
- ) All traffic looking to patronize downtown businesses will be directed to Pine Street through the duration of construction and specifically when County K (Martin Avenue) and Maple Street are closed at US 8.
- ) At times throughout the summer other local roads may be closed to accommodate different stages of construction. Access to all residents and businesses will be accommodated at all times throughout construction.

- ) There will be an overnight detour of US 8/US 63 for an anticipated duration of two consecutive nights. The roadway will be reopened each morning for normal traffic operations throughout the day.

### **County K/Norway Street Intersection**

- ) Stage 1: US 8 traffic remains unchanged. Norway Street and Cherry Street are open but may experience traffic flagging. Construction activities include rebuilding Soldner Avenue and Front Street. Approximate duration: one month.
- ) Stage 2: US 8 traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction. Construction crews will be building a temporary bypass for US 8 traffic for future stages. Norway Street and County K will be closed. A temporary traffic signal will be placed at US 8 & Cherry Street for the duration of construction. Soldner Ave will be reopened to vehicles and Front Street will be permanently closed but will incorporate a new private entrance for Richard Danca's business. Approximate duration: one month.
- ) Stage 3: US 8 traffic is using the temporary bypass built in Stage 2. Norway Street and the County K intersection remain closed. The US 8 & Cherry Street intersection will continue using temporary traffic signals. Construction activities include constructing the majority of the roundabout. Approximate duration: three months.
- ) Stage 4: US 8 traffic will begin using the roundabout only with access on US 8. Norway Street and County K will remain closed. Construction activities include removing the US 8 bypass used in Stage 3 and constructing the south leg of the roundabout (County K). The US 8 & Cherry Street temporary traffic signals at the intersection will remain. Approximate duration: one month.
- ) Stage 5: US 8 traffic will begin using the roundabout with full access to all approach legs. The temporary traffic signals will be removed from the Cherry Street intersection. Construction activities include surface milling and repaving of Cherry Street. Access to Cherry Street will be open however traffic flagging may be used during this stage. Approximate duration: one month.

### **US 63/Maple Street Intersection**

- ) Stage 1: US 8 will be reduced to a single lane in each direction. A temporary roadway will be constructed for US 63 for use in future stages. Temporary traffic signals will be installed for use in Stage 2. US 63 will be stop-controlled while US 8 will remain free-flow. Maple Street access will be closed. Approximate duration: one month.
- ) Stage 2: US 8 traffic will be shifted to the south side of the roadway. US 63 traffic will be shifted to the temporary roadway. The north half of the intersection will be constructed. Temporary traffic signals will control the intersection. Maple Street access will be closed. Approximate duration: two months.
- ) Stage 3: US 8 traffic will be shifted to the north side of the roadway. US 63 traffic will be shifted onto the new roadway constructed in Stage 2. The south half of the intersection will be constructed. The US 63 temporary roadway constructed in Stage 1 will be removed. Temporary signals will control the intersection. Maple Street access will be closed. Approximate duration: two months.
- ) Stage 4: All traffic will be shifted onto the new roadway. The intersection will operate as a single-lane roundabout under yield control. Maple Street access will be open. Final intersection construction will take place, including work in the medians, central island, and northeast corner of the intersection. Approximate duration: one month.

## **“In This Together” Business Program**

With any reconstruction project, WisDOT recognizes that businesses located in or near construction zones will have business operations impacted. It's critical that customers have access and continue to visit businesses, regardless of any roadwork inconvenience. The *In This Together* program targets businesses facing road construction in their community. The program's goal is to help businesses maintain daily operations while construction is underway. WisDOT is currently working with local businesses to minimize construction impacts. More information on the program can be found at [www.wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/in-together](http://www.wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/in-together).

## **Real estate**

All right of way has been acquired for the intersection improvements.

## **Project update/next steps**

The project plans will be completed in November 2016. The project will be awarded to the low-bid contractor in March 2017 with construction scheduled to start in May 2017. Utility work at the intersection will occur prior to construction and may start as early as July 2016.

## **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 projects. Please mail any written comments about the project before July 1st or leave them in the comment box tonight. You can also e-mail your comments to the contacts listed below.

Your comments assist us in developing a project 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 design process. For more information, please visit the project website at [www.wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nw/turtlelake](http://www.wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nw/turtlelake) or contact:

## **Contacts**

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