

# COORDINATION PLAN for AGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

## Coulee Region Transportation Study *“Innovative Solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”* Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL)

WisDOT Project I.D. 1630-08-00

12/18/2015





COORDINATION PLAN for AGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Coulee Region Transportation Study  
*“Innovative Solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”*  
Planning and Environment Linkages  
La Crosse County

Prepared for:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Southwest Region – La Crosse Office  
3550 Mormon Coulee Road  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Prepared by:  
Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc.  
6808 Odana Road, #200  
Madison, WI 53719



# Table of Contents

	Page
<b>1.0 Section 1: Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The Purpose of the Coordination Plan .....	1
1.2 Study Background .....	1
1.3 Agency Coordination Prior to the Development of the Coordination Plan .....	4
<b>2.0 Section 2: Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies.....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 Agency Definitions and Responsibilities.....	5
2.2 WisDOT-WDNR Cooperative Agreement .....	6
2.3 List of Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities.....	6
<b>3.0 Section 3: Coordination, Comment and Acceptance/Acknowledgement Point and Responsibilities .....</b>	<b>13</b>
3.1 Agency Expectations .....	13
3.2 Coordination Activities, Information Requirements, and Responsibilities .....	14
3.3 Issue Resolution Process .....	15
<b>4.0 Section 4: PEL Process Steps and Schedule.....</b>	<b>17</b>
4.1 Schedule and Time Frames .....	17
<b>5.0 Section 5: Public Involvement.....</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1 Public Involvement Process .....	22
5.2 Identification of Environmental Justice Communities and Outreach.....	22
5.3 Public Involvement in All Phases of the CRTS PEL.....	23
5.4 Additional Public Involvement Strategies .....	23
5.5 Coordination with Local Officials .....	23
5.6 Availability of Coordination Plan for Agency and Public Involvement .....	24
<b>6.0 Section 6: Tribal Involvement and Consultation.....</b>	<b>25</b>
6.1 Tribal Notifications of Proposed Study .....	25
6.2 Tribal Consultation on Study Area of Potential Effect (APE).....	25
6.3 Tribal Consultation on Cultural Resources Identified .....	26
6.4 Tribal Consultation of Effects .....	26
<b>7.0 Section 7: Summary of Meetings to Date .....</b>	<b>27</b>
7.1 Meetings with Agencies.....	27
7.2 Meetings with the Public.....	29

## List of Figures

Figure 1-1 – Study Location Map .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
---------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

## List of Tables

Table 1: Cooperating and/or Participating Agencies .....	7
Table 2: Agency Contact Information and Accepted Role .....	9
Table 3: PEL Process and Schedule.....	17
Table 4: Agency Meetings to Date .....	27
Table 5: Public Meetings to Date.....	29

## **1.0 Section 1: Introduction**

### **1.1 The Purpose of the Coordination Plan**

The planning and environmental review processes associated with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) require interagency coordination and public involvement prior to final decisions being made or actions taken by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) or the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the joint lead agencies. The purpose of this Coordination Plan for the Coulee Region Transpiration Study (CRTS) Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) is to communicate how and when the lead agencies, WisDOT and FHWA, will coordinate public and agency participation and comment in the planning and environmental review processes for the CRTS.

The Coordination Plan outlines how the lead agencies have specific responsibilities for compliance with various aspects of the planning and environmental review processes, such as the issuance of invitation letters, and how the lead agencies will provide opportunities for input from the public and other agencies. The Coordination Plan also identifies coordination and comment points, concurrence points, and study milestones. It also establishes a schedule of meetings and time frames for input and review by the cooperating and participating agencies, public stakeholders, Native American tribes of Wisconsin and other interested tribal communities.

This plan will be shared with the federal, state, and local agencies, local units of government, and Native American tribes who have expressed interest in the study. Copies of the draft Coordination Plan will be sent to the interested parties for review and comment. A copy of the completed Coordination Plan will be shared with the public by posting on the study website ([www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov](http://www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov)).

The Plan will be updated as necessary to reflect substantive changes to agency contact information (see Table 2) or coordination activities, actions or study schedule (see Table 3). Changes in law, regulation, or policy are also examples of when a change to the Coordination Plan may be needed. All changes will be documented, and agencies and the public will be notified by posting the revised version of the Coordination Plan on the study website. Paper copies will be available by request from the WisDOT Project Manager and at public involvement meetings. The Coordination Plan will be available in English or another language, upon request.

This Coordination Plan is prepared and implemented to establish planning and environmental review processes that conform to requirements of NEPA, Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA), and specifically to comply with Section 1310 Integration of Planning and Environmental Review of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) of 2012 (codified at 23 USC §168) as well as 23 USC §134 Metropolitan Transportation Planning, §135 Statewide Transportation Planning, and §139 Efficient Environmental Reviews for Project Decision making. The implementing regulations are 23 CFR §450 Planning Assistance and Standards and §771 Environmental Impacts and Related Procedures.

### **1.2 Study Background**

The “Coulee Connections Study” (ID # 1630-08-00) has been an ongoing, comprehensive effort to address La Crosse’s transportation system since 2006. The Coulee Connections area is a broad geographic area within La Crosse, WI that is bordered by I-90 on the north,

US 53 on the west, WIS 16 on the east (north of La Crosse Street), WIS 35/West Avenue on the east (south of La Crosse Street), and US 14/61 on the south (see Figure 1).

The Coulee Connections Study focused on resolving long-term transportation issues between I-90 and US 14/61. The focus of the study had been to address current and projected congestion and safety concerns to, from, and through the La Crosse area.

This area has been repeatedly and extensively studied over the past three decades. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was conducted for this area in the late 1990's and referred to the project as the "La Crosse North-South Transportation Corridor Study". The EIS evaluated a range of alternatives and selected a Preferred Alternative (Alternative 5B-1). The anticipated environmental impacts for the EIS were documented in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which was issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in 1998. The project was never constructed.

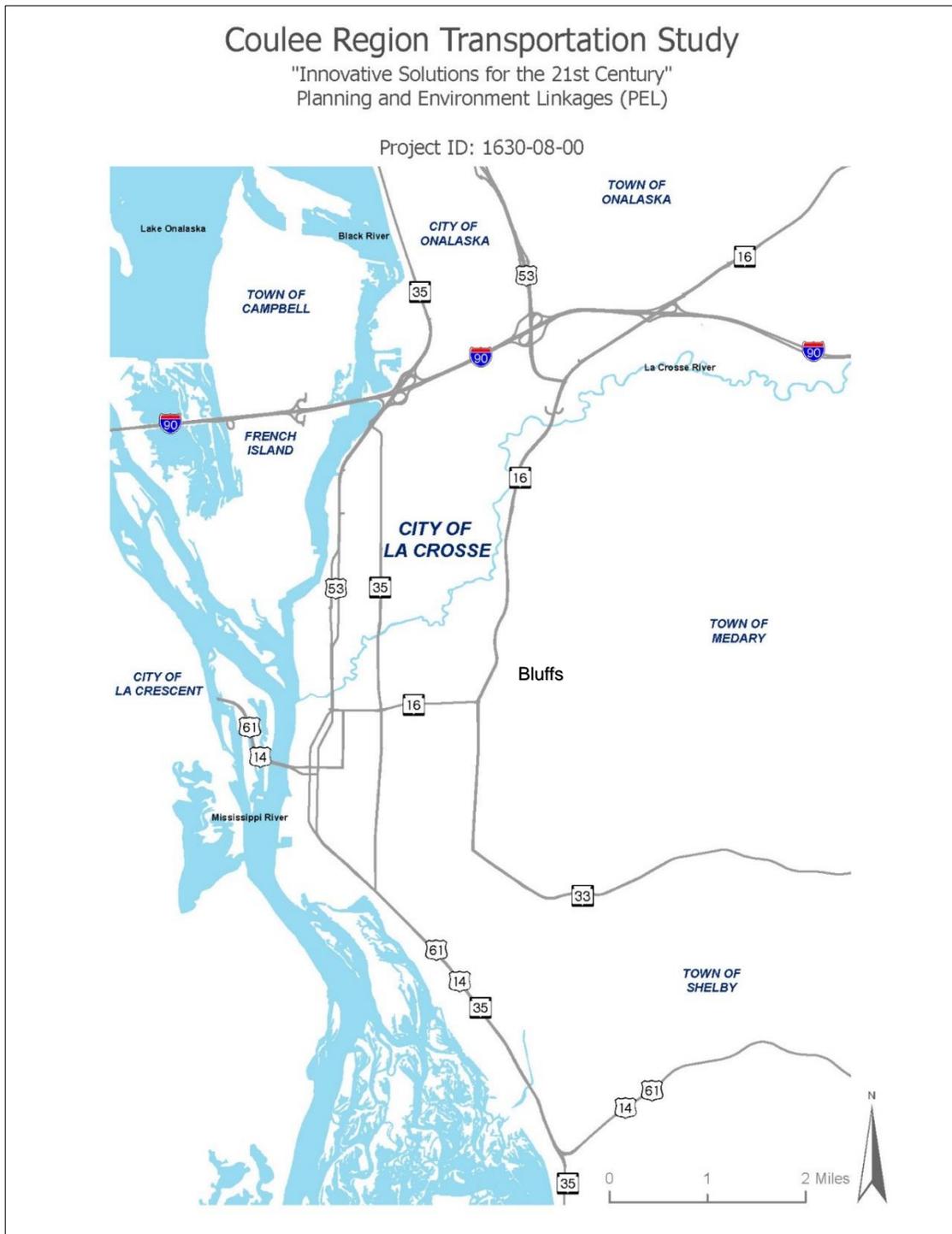
The 2030 La Crosse and La Crescent Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan was updated in 2005 and recommended the construction of a portion of the original Alternative 5B-1, which was the northern part of the adopted alignment (12th Avenue extended from I-90 to WIS 16 and WIS 157 extended from I-90 to Gillette Street) and to initiate a traffic corridor study to determine the most feasible improvements south of Gillette Street.

Rather than updating the original EIS, WisDOT has directed their efforts to conducting a Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study called the Coulee Region Transportation Study. A PEL Study is an FHWA-recommended planning initiative and is also part of the 2012 federal surface transportation bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). MAP-21 enhances FHWA's existing environmental process by clarifying previous practices and approaches as well as establishing new streamlining measures. They will be codified at 23 U.S.C 139. MAP-21 implementing regulations, policy, and guidance are in development, as necessary. New regulations, policy, and guidance may require changes to the Plan and other aspects of the environmental review process.

The PEL process is used as an effective and efficient way to integrate early planning into the highway development process and reduce delays in meeting transportation needs. This study would develop and evaluate strategies for the area that are supported by the local units of government and the general public, while addressing the goals and objectives established in the study.

The Coulee Region Transportation Study focuses on existing and long-term transportation challenges. The purpose of the study is to identify strategies that address safety, infrastructure deterioration, congestion, multi-modal deficiencies, environment, and support economic development and livability in the Coulee Region.

**Figure 1-1 – Study Location Map**



These issues lead to unreliable travel times and increased crash costs. They have negative economic and environmental consequences for area residents, commuters, businesses, and freight movements. Because of these problems, WisDOT is initiating the Coulee Region Transportation Study that will broadly evaluate regional transportation strategies and will feed into future NEPA environmental studies of the Coulee Region and/or other areas and corridors. PEL is a FHWA initiative that considers environmental, community, and economic

goals early in the planning stage and carries them through the environmental documentation and construction.

The Coulee Region Transportation Study will:

- Develop problem statement, goals, and objectives for the Coulee Region.
- Develop screening criteria that will be used to evaluate alternative strategies.
- Develop alternative strategies that may address the study problem statement, goals, and objectives.
- Evaluate alternative strategies.
- Identify alternative strategies which address the project goals and objectives that should move forward into the NEPA process.
- Document findings in a draft and final report.
- Agency coordination and public involvement will be continuous throughout the process.

### **1.3 Agency Coordination Prior to the Development of the Coordination Plan**

WisDOT initiated agency contacts with an invitation to participate in the Coulee Region Transportation Study. Letters to agencies were mailed as follows:

Federal agencies	2/19/2015
Native American tribes	2/19/2015
State agencies	2/19/2015
Local municipalities	2/19/2015

A draft copy of this Coordination Plan was sent to agencies, local municipalities, and Native American tribes on June 12, 2015.

## 2.0 Section 2: Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies

### 2.1 Agency Definitions and Responsibilities

The standard definitions and responsibilities for each lead, cooperating, and participating agency invited to participate in the planning and environmental review processes for this study are as follows:

**Lead Agency:** USDOT- FHWA) is the federal lead agency and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is the state lead agency for this study. In some instances, a local study sponsor may be identified as a “local lead agency.” No local lead agencies have been identified by FHWA and WisDOT for this study. As joint lead agencies, FHWA and WisDOT have responsibilities that include managing the PEL review and documentation process; preparing all study reports and other documents; and providing opportunities for cooperating and participating agency involvement and public involvement.

As the federal lead agency, FHWA will invite other affected or interested federal agencies and Native American tribes to participate in the PEL process. As the state lead agency, WisDOT will invite other affected or interested state and local agencies to participate in the process. WisDOT is also responsible for all aspects of the Coulee Region Transportation Study. FHWA must oversee the study process and concur that the process, as implemented by WisDOT, satisfies NEPA and WEPA as well as other applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

**Cooperating Agency:** The Council on Environmental Quality defines cooperating agencies as any federal agency other than a lead agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The selection and responsibilities of a cooperating agency are described in 40 CFR § 1501.6. A state or local agency of similar qualifications or, when the effects are on a reservation, a Native American tribe, may by agreement with the lead agency become a cooperating agency (40 CFR 1508.5).

Cooperating agencies will use their knowledge and expertise to assist the lead agencies in identifying issues of concern regarding the project’s potential impacts, and provide meaningful and timely input throughout the environmental review process. Cooperating agencies will also be invited to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The purpose of the MOU is to foster a proactive working relationship between the FHWA, WisDOT, and federal and state environmental agencies and tribes through the PEL process. This cooperation on environmental review and study delivery activities is anticipated to avoid delays and duplication later in the NEPA process, head off potential conflicts, and ensure that planning and study development decisions reflect environmental values. The signatories of the MOU are committed to providing appropriate information and performing meaningful and efficient environmental analyses that are pertinent to the decision-making process on the Coulee Region Transportation Study.

Agencies invited to be cooperating agencies are listed in Table 1.

**Participating Agency:** Participating agencies include federal, state, or local agencies that have an interest in the study. These agencies agree to identify issues of concern regarding the study’s potential impacts and provide meaningful and timely input on problem statement,

objectives, screening criteria, strategy and concept analysis screening, and range of strategies and concepts for the Coulee Region Transportation Study.

Agencies invited to be participating agencies are listed in Table 1.

## 2.2 WisDOT-WDNR Cooperative Agreement

Wisconsin Statutes establish an alternative process for WisDOT and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to interact on state transportation projects. State transportation projects are coordinated with and reviewed by WDNR through interdepartmental liaison procedures known as the “WisDOT-WDNR Cooperative Agreement.” The agreement, in Chapter 30 of the Wisconsin Statutes (Navigable Waters, Harbors and Navigation), Section 30.2022 (Activities of Department of Transportation)<sup>1</sup>, was first established in 1995 and updated in 2002 and is included in the WisDOT Facilities Development Manual.<sup>2</sup> The WisDOT-WDNR Cooperative Agreement process engages both agencies in progressive discussions and reviews throughout the transportation development process and culminates in a “concurrence letter” from WDNR at the conclusion of final design activities. Coordination with and concurrence from WDNR during this study’s planning and environmental review processes precedes and supplements WDNR’s review and concurrence role during the final design process.

Nothing in this Coordination Plan is designed or intended to replace or supplant the steps, activities or expectations expressed in the WisDOT-WDNR Cooperative Agreement, nor does participation in this environmental review process in any way affect WDNR’s need or ability to perform review and provide concurrence during final design activities.

## 2.3 List of Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities

The intent of coordination with federal, state, and local agencies as well as interested tribes is to cooperatively identify important environmental, social or cultural resources, and potential impacts. It is also the intent to resolve issues that could delay the environmental process or that could result in denial of approvals required to implement a proposed project. A more complete list of agency expectations is included in Section 3.1.

The agencies listed in Table 1 have been identified as lead, cooperating and/or participating agencies or potentially interested Native American tribes. All the agencies and tribes noted in the table have been invited by FHWA or WisDOT to be cooperating or participating agencies. Additional agencies can be invited and added to the list of participants at any time, as appropriate.

All the agencies and tribes noted in Table 1 have a shared responsibility to provide comment on all aspects of the Coulee Region Transportation Study, and this includes providing comments on the problem statement, goal and objectives, range of strategies and concepts, impact screening criteria, strategies and concepts recommended to move forward to the NEPA process, and potential mitigation measures. When the lead, cooperating and participating agencies have specific jurisdiction responsibilities related to the CRTS, these are also noted in the table.

Invitations were sent to the specific agency contacts listed in Table 1.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/30/III/2022>, accessed on February 25, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> <http://roadwaystandards.dot.wi.gov/standards/fdm/20-30-001att.pdf>, accessed on February 25, 2015.

**Table 1: Cooperating and/or Participating Agencies**

Agency Name	Role	Responsibilities
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Federal lead agency	Oversee PEL process; provide opportunity for public and agency involvement. Approve or concur with Final Report. Perform initial identification of potentially affected properties subject to Section 4(f) and inform agencies with Section 4(f) jurisdiction. (Section 4(f) determinations will not be made in this PEL Study phase.)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Cooperating agency	Clean Water Act Section 404 permit jurisdiction. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)	Cooperating agency	NEPA and Clean Water Act jurisdiction. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
U.S. Department of Agriculture  Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	Participating agency	Farmland Protection Policy Act and Food Security Act jurisdiction. Provide comments on farmland impact rating and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI)  Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	Participating agency	Provide comments on potential impacts to Native American populations and/or transportation needs. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI)  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Cooperating agency	Endangered Species Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act jurisdiction. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)  Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities	Participating agency	Housing and Economic Recovery Act jurisdiction. Provide comments on government owned low income housing. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)	Participating agency	Provide information regarding funding criteria and funding for transit. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Southwest Region Office – La Crosse	State lead agency	Manage PEL process, provide opportunity for public and cooperating/participating agency involvement, and prepare Final PEL Report.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)	Cooperating agency	Clean Water Act and DOT-WDNR Cooperative Agreement authority. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)  State Historic Preservation Officer	Cooperating agency	National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 jurisdiction. Review and comment on cultural resource investigation reports/materials. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)  Agricultural Impact Program	Participating agency	Authority under Section 32.035, Wisconsin Statutes to prepare an Agricultural Impact Statement if needed in a future NEPA study. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Department of Administration – Division of Intergovernmental Relations	Participating agency	Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
La Crosse Area Planning Committee (LAPC)		Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
La Crosse County	Participating agency	Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Cities of La Crosse, La Crescent, and Onalaska	Participating agency	Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Villages of Holmen and West Salem	Participating agency	
Towns of Onalaska, Medary, Campbell, and Shelby	Participating agency	Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.
Native American Tribes:  Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians; Forest County Potawatomi Community; Ho-Chunk Nation; Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa; Menominee Nation; Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation; Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	Participating agency	Provide comments and consultation on tribal cultural resources and National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 impacts. Provide comments on all aspects of the PEL Study.

**Table 2: Agency Contact Information and Accepted Role**

Agency Name	Contact Person	Date Invitation Issued	Date of Response	Agency's Accepted Role
<b>Federal Agencies</b>				
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Wisconsin Division	Bethaney Bacher-Gresock, Environmental Project Manager (Major projects) 525 Junction Road, Suite 8000 Madison, WI 53717 (608) 662-2119 Bethaney.Bacher-Gresock@dot.gov	N/A	NA	Federal Lead Agency
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Rebecca Graser 20711 Watertown Rd, Suite F Waukesha, WI 53186 (262) 717-9531 ext. 3 Rebecca.m.Graser@usace.army.mil  Tamera Cameron, Chief Regulatory Branch 190 5th St., East, Suite 401 St. Paul, MN 55101-1638 Tamera.e.cameron@usace.army.mil  Kerrie Hauser, Regulatory Project Manager 1114 S Oak Street La Crescent, MN 55947-1338 (651) 290-5903 kerrie.j.hauser@usace.army.mil	2/19/2015	7/20/2015	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 5	Ken Westlake NEPA Implementation Section (Mail Code E-19) 77 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 886-2910 Westlake.Kenneth@epa.gov	2/19/2015	7/02/2015	
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture  Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	Wisconsin State Conservationist Madison Service Center 8030 Excelsior Drive Madison, WI 53717 (608) 662-4422, ext. 202	2/19/2015		
U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI)  Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	Timothy J. Guyah, M.A., Archaeologist Midwest Regional Office - Bureau of Indian Affairs 5600 W. American Blvd. Suite 500 Bloomington, MN 55437 Telephone: 612-725-4512 Fax: 612-713-4401	2/19/2015		
U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI)  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Peter Fasbender, Area Supervisor 2661 Scott Tower Drive Green Bay, WI 54229 (920) 866-1717 Peter_Fasbender@fws.gov  Kendra Niemec, Acting District Manager N5727 County Rd Z	2/19/2015		

	Onalaska, WI 54650			
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  Office of Sustainable Houses and Communities	Stephen Cerny Government Technical Rep (GTR), Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities Department of Housing and Urban Development 451 7th Street, S.W. Washington, District of Columbia 20410 Stephen.A.Cerny@hud.gov	2/19/2015		
Federal Transit Authority (FTA)	Christopher Bertch, Community Planner 200 West Adams Street Suite 320 Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 353-3853 Christopher.Bertch@dot.gov	2/19/2015		
<b>State Agencies</b>				
Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)  Southwest Region Office	Andrew Winga, WisDOT Project Manager 3550 Mormon Coulee Rd La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 785-9061 andrew.winga@dot.wi.gov	N/A	N/A	State Lead Agency
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	Russ Anderson, Environmental Analysis & Review Program Supervisor, Western Region 3911 Fish Hatchery Road Fitchburg, WI 53711 (608) 275-3467 Russell.Anderson@wisconsin.gov  Karen Kalveleage, Transportation Liaison Southwest Region 3550 Mormon Coulee Road La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 785-9115 karen.kalvelage@wisconsin.gov	2/19/2015		
Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS)  State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	Kimberly Cook, Historic Preservation Division 816 State Street, Public History-Rm 311 Madison, WI 53706-1482 (608) 264-6493 Kimberly.cook@wisconsinhistory.org	2/19/2015		
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)  Agricultural Impact Program	Alice Halpin Agricultural Impact Statements Program 2811 Agriculture Drive P.O. Box 8911 Madison, WI 53708-8911 (608) 224-4646 alice.halpin@wisconsin.gov  Lindsay Tekler P.O. Box 8911 Madison, WI 53708-8911	2/19/2015		

	(608) 224-4650 Lindsay.tekler@wisconsin.gov			
Department of Administration  Division of Intergovernmental Relations	Ed Eberle Division Administrator 101 E. Wilson Street, 9th Floor Madison, WI 53703 (608) 267-1824 ed.eberle@wisconsin.gov	2/19/2015		
Local Officials/Other Stakeholders				
La Crosse Area Planning Committee (LAPC)	Tom Faella, Director 400 Fourth Street North - Room 2300 La Crosse, WI 54601 608-785-5977 TFaella@LaCrosseCounty.org  Jackie Eastwood 400 Fourth Street North - Room 2300 La Crosse, WI 54601 608.785.6141 eastwood.jackie@co.la-crosse.wi.us			
La Crosse County	Tara Johnson Chair, Executive Committee N980 Bloomer Mill Rd La Crosse, WI 54601 608-788-7970	2/19/2015		
City of La Crescent	Mike Poellinger, Mayor 315 Main Street, P.O. Box 142 La Crescent, MN 55947	2/19/2015		
City of La Crosse	Tim Kabat, Mayor 400 La Crosse St. La Crosse, WI 54601	2/19/2015		
City of Onalaska	Joe Chilsen, Mayor 415 Main Street Onalaska, WI 54650 608.781.9530	2/19/2015		
Village of Holmen	Nancy Proctor, President 421 Main St S Holmen, WI 54636 proctor@holmenwi.com	2/19/2015		
Village of West Salem	Dennis Manthei, President 175 Leonard St West Salem, WI 54669	2/19/2015		
Town of Campbell	Scott Johnson, Chairperson 2219 Bainbridge St La Crosse, WI 54603 608-781-6840	2/19/2015		
Town of Medary	Linda Seidel, Chairperson N3393 Smith Valley Rd La Crosse, WI 54601	2/19/2015		
Town of Onalaska	Rolly Bogert, Chairperson N6169 Summerglow Trail Onalaska, WI 54650 608-783-4958 ext. 203	2/19/2015		

Town of Shelby	Timothy Candahl, Chairperson W4709 Cherrywood Dr La Crosse, WI 54601 608-788-5754	2/19/2015		
Native American Tribes				
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of WI	Mike Wiggins Jr., Chair P.O. Box 39 Odanah, WI 54861 (715) 682-7111	2/19/2015		
Forest County Potawatomi Community of WI	Harold "Gus" Frank, Chair P.O. Box 340 Crandon, WI 54520 (715) 478-7200	2/19/2015		
Ho-Chunk Nation	Jon Greendeer, President W9814 Airport Road P.O. Box 667 Black River Falls, WI 54615 (715) 284-9343	2/19/2015		
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Michael "Mic" Isham, Chair 13394 West Trepenia Road Hayward, WI 54843 (715) 634-8934	2/19/2015		
Menominee Nation	Gary Besaw, Chairperson W2908 Tribal Office Loop P.O. Box 910 Keshena, WI 54135-0910 (715) 799-5114	2/19/2015		
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of WI	Rose Soulier, Chairwoman 88385 Pike Road, Highway 13 Bayfield, WI 54814 (715) 779-3700	2/19/2015		

## **3.0 Section 3: Coordination, Comment and Acceptance/Acknowledgement Point and Responsibilities**

### **3.1 Agency Expectations**

Expectations for joint lead agencies:

- Manage and coordinate the study process. Ensure that environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and before actions are taken.
- Ensure WisDOT's PEL Study process is followed completely such that the decisions made and information, analysis, and products developed as a result of this PEL process can be incorporated into the NEPA process expected to proceed upon successful completion of this CRTS PEL.
- Identify and invite cooperating and participating agencies and encourage their participation.
- Develop the Coordination Plan.
- Develop the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Provide, as early as practicable and no later than the appropriate study milestone, accurate and complete study information on the problem statement and objectives, environmental resources, strategies and concepts and proposed screening criteria. Take such actions as are necessary and proper to facilitate and expedite the study process.
- Provide opportunity for public and agency involvement in defining the problem statement and objectives and determining the range of strategies and concepts; collaborate with cooperating and participating agencies in determining screening criteria and the level of detail for the analysis of strategies and concepts.
- Consult with and involve Native American tribes and communities in compliance with NEPA, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), and other planning and environmental laws and regulations.
- Manage and facilitate the process of issue resolution.

Expectations for cooperating agencies:

- Assist the lead agencies in identifying environmental, social or cultural resources of concern. Identify as early as practicable any issue of concern regarding environmental or socioeconomic impacts of any possible solution that is developed.
- Identify as early as practicable any issues that could substantially delay or prevent the future granting of a permit or other approval needed for a future NEPA document and ultimately a future improvement project.
- Share all other information that may be useful to the FHWA, WisDOT, cooperating agencies, and participating agencies.
- Participate in up to six meetings and/or field reviews.
- Assume, at the request of FHWA, responsibility for preparing analysis for which that cooperating agency has special expertise, depending on the cooperating agency's resource availability.
- Make support staff available at the request of the joint lead agencies.
- Provide input on this plan and schedule.
- Provide comments to WisDOT and FHWA at each of five points in the process, as indicated in Table 3 of this Coordination Plan, within the time frame indicated therein.
- Participate as needed in issue resolution activities.
- Sign the MOU.

Expectations for participating agencies:

- Assist the lead agencies in identifying environmental, social or cultural resources of concern.
- Identify as early as practicable any issue of concern regarding the study environmental or socioeconomic impacts related to potential solutions that are developed.
- Share all other information that may be useful to the FHWA, WisDOT, and cooperating and participating agencies.
- Participate in meetings and field reviews as appropriate and invited.
- Provide input on this plan and schedule.
- Provide comments to WisDOT at each of five points in the process, as indicated in Table 3 of this Coordination Plan, within the time frame indicated therein.
- Participate as needed in issue resolution activities.
- Sign the MOU, if a signatory agency.

### 3.2 Coordination Activities, Information Requirements, and Responsibilities

To facilitate public and agency involvement in the planning and environmental review processes for the COULEE REGION TRANSPORTATION STUDY, a number of coordination and comment points have been established. Coordination points (“check-in” points for one or more activities) occur when study review activities or milestones will result in important decisions affecting the environmental review process and its outcomes. Comment points are occasions in the study process when the lead agencies will request written feedback from cooperating and participating agencies, related to draft documents. The lead agencies will respond to comments, finalize documents, and move forward with the PEL process.

Coordination and comment points will involve exchanges of information and opinions between the lead agencies and cooperating and participating agencies and the public. This information exchange will often be accomplished by mail or email, but it may also occur during face-to-face or public involvement meetings.

Comment points are anticipated for the following PEL study activities:

<b>Comment Point 1</b> Initial PEL documents	Provide written comments on draft documents: PEL Work Plan, Coordination Plan, problem statement, goal, objectives, and MOU
<b>Comment Point 2</b> Screening criteria	Provide written comments on development of criteria for screening (that also address social, cultural and environmental resources) of potential study area solutions.
<b>Comment Point 3</b> Stand-alone strategy and screening	Provide written comments on identification and dismissal of Stand-alone strategies, which look at a single mode improvement to address key PEL objectives.
<b>Comment Point 4</b> Strategy package screening	Provide written comments on screening of strategy packages, which include multiple mode improvements to address PEL objectives.
<b>Comment Point 5</b> Draft PEL Report	Provide written comments on Draft PEL Study Report (including Strategies recommended for further evaluation in future NEPA documents, and identification of potential mitigation opportunities).

The Acceptance/Acknowledgement Point is a written determination by an agency that the information provided to it is adequate to agree that the CRTS PEL can be advanced to a NEPA study. Agencies agree not to revisit the previous process steps and findings unless conditions change. Acceptance/Acknowledgement by an agency does not imply that it supports the study or findings, that it has approved the study or findings, or that the agency has released its obligation to determine whether the fully developed project meets statutory review criteria. As stated above, this point means an agency agrees the findings can be used in a future NEPA study. There is a single Acceptance/Acknowledgement Point in the PEL Study process:

<p><b>Acceptance/ Acknowledgement Point</b> PEL Products can move forward into NEPA documents</p>	<p>Provide written comments on Draft PEL Study Report (including Strategies recommended for further evaluation in future NEPA documents, and identification of potential mitigation opportunities).</p>
---	---

**3.3 Issue Resolution Process**

The lead, cooperating, and participating agencies will work collaboratively to identify and resolve issues that could delay completion of the CRTS PEL process or that could result in denial of any approvals required for the project under applicable laws.

Based on information received from the lead agencies, cooperating and participating agencies shall identify, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project’s potential environmental, cultural or socioeconomic impacts. Issues of concern include any issues that could substantially delay or prevent future NEPA concurrence, the granting of a permit or other approvals that are needed for a NEPA document or ultimately an improvement project.

Issue resolution will be implemented when there is failure to reach concurrence at a concurrence point or when there is substantial disagreement at a critical decision point. The issue resolution process will be consistent with 23 USC 139(h). It will first consist of an informal attempt to reach concurrence/agreement among cooperating and participating agencies. Participants in issue resolution activities would include a representative of each of the federal agencies and appropriate state agencies. Each agency shall make its best effort to resolve disputes. Since this study is pre-NEPA, the lead agencies may determine that it is appropriate to document the issue and efforts taken to try to resolve them and revisit the issue in the NEPA phase. The lead agencies may also determine that it is appropriate to continue the dispute resolution process, in which case, within 30 days of an agency(ies) identifying non-concurrence with the Final PEL Study Report, a dispute resolution meeting of designated agency representatives would be convened.

Dispute resolution meetings will be convened at an agreed upon location and time. At this meeting, an attempt will be made to resolve the concerns of the agency(ies) through consensus. This may include providing information or detail not previously provided. If the concerns are resolved at this meeting, the process is ended and the concurrence is formalized in the agreed-to manner.

The planning, environmental review, and documentation processes may continue whether or not attempts to reach concurrence are successful. However, if the dispute remains unresolved, the agency(ies) in non-concurrence retains the option to elevate its (their)

concerns through existing, formalized dispute elevation procedures at the appropriate point in the environmental review or permitting process.

## 4.0 Section 4: PEL Process Steps and Schedule

### 4.1 Schedule and Time Frames

The major milestones and points of coordination, comment or acceptance are shown as PEL process steps and listed in Table 3, along with the type of information provided, actions needed and contacts responsible. All the PEL process steps are initiated by FHWA and WisDOT. The time frames in which the actions are anticipated to occur and the estimated and actual completion dates are also shown in the table.

The estimated time frames listed in the table must be discussed and negotiated with cooperating and participating agencies and should not appear in this table as “final” until affected agencies agree the time frames are appropriate and achievable. By agreeing to the time frames listed below, agencies accept their responsibility to provide appropriate outputs and feedback within the allotted time.

**Table 3: PEL Process and Schedule**

Step No.	Milestone, Coordination, comment or Acceptance Point	Information Provided or Action Taken	Who Contacted for Response	Activity/ Response	Number of Days to Complete Activity	Estimated Date Complete	Actual Date Complete
1	Cooperating and Participating Agencies Identified  Notification of Proposed PEL Study and Scope	Letters of invitation to potential federal and state agencies and tribes sent with information on WisDOT PEL Study Process	Potential federal, state and tribal cooperating and participating agencies	Affirmation of process validity through written acceptance or reason for non-acceptance	> 30 calendar days	February, 2015	2/19/2015
2	Municipal briefings	Meetings to provide overview of PEL Study and Scope	Representatives from various cities and villages in study area	Meetings held	NA	Ongoing	
3	<b>Agency Meeting</b>	Present PEL process, overview of study area, draft MOU, draft problem statement, draft goal and objectives draft Coordination Plan	Potential federal, state and tribal cooperating and participating agencies	Provide comments on drafts of PEL Work Plan, Coordination Plan, MOU, problem statement and objectives	NA	March 3, 2015	March 3, 2015
4	<b>Public Involvement Meeting # 1</b>	Information on PEL Study Work Plan, preliminary existing conditions, draft problem statement, goal and objectives	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, local officials and other stakeholders	Comments on information provided	14 calendar days after PIM (typical)	March 11 & 12, 2015	March 11 & 12, 2015

Step No.	Milestone, Coordination, comment or Acceptance Point	Information Provided or Action Taken	Who Contacted for Response	Activity/ Response	Number of Days to Complete Activity	Estimated Date Complete	Actual Date Complete
5	<b>Agency Comment Point 1</b>	If appropriate, provide revised versions of draft PEL Work Plan, draft MOU, draft problem statement, draft goal and objectives and draft Coordination Plan, based on Agency Meeting comments	Potential cooperating and participating agencies	Sign MOU (for signatory agencies)  Provide written comments for items in Step 3, above	>30 calendar days after Agency Meeting	June 2015	June 2015
6	Finalized PEL Study Work Plan and Coordination Plan Circulated	Final Work Plan including Coordination Plan	FHWA, cooperating and participating agencies and public via website	NA	NA	April 2015	July 2015
7	Study area existing conditions summarized, traffic projections developed	Past WisDOT studies and related information	Cooperating and participating agencies and committees	Provide input and assistance relative to agency area of responsibility	1 Month	April 2015	June 2015
8	Study Area Conditions Report circulated	Study Area Conditions Report	Cooperating and participating agencies and committees	Review report	NA	May 2015	July 2015
9	Study Area issues, needs and goals developed	Meetings and outreach with agencies, public, committees, posting on website, mailings, etc.	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, committees and interest groups	Provide input on study area issues, needs and goals	1 month	May 2015	April 2015
10	Broad study area strategies screening criteria developed	Meetings and outreach with agencies, public, committees, posting on website, mailings, etc.	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, committees and interest groups	Provide input on strategies and screening criteria	1 month	May 2015	July 2015

Step No.	Milestone, Coordination, comment or Acceptance Point	Information Provided or Action Taken	Who Contacted for Response	Activity/ Response	Number of Days to Complete Activity	Estimated Date Complete	Actual Date Complete
11	<b>Agency meeting on needs, issues, goals and screening criteria</b>  <b>Agency Comment Point 2</b>	Draft summary of needs, issues, goals and screening criteria provided prior to meeting	Cooperating and participating agencies	Provide written comments on screening criteria	30 calendar days from date of meeting	May 2015	June 2015
12	Develop stand-alone strategies	Meetings and outreach with agencies and stakeholders, study website, mailings, etc.	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, local officials, interest groups and general public	Provide input	1 month	May 2015	July 2015
13	<b>Public Involvement Meeting # 2</b>	Information on the evaluation of stand-alone strategies	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, local officials and other stakeholders	Comments on information provided	14 calendar days after PIM (typical)	June 2015	June 9 & 10, 2015
14	<b>Agency Meeting</b>	Review Problem Statement, Goal and Objectives. Discuss Coordination Plan and Work Plan	Potential federal, state and tribal cooperating and participating agencies	Provide comments on drafts of PEL Work Plan, Coordination Plan, MOU, problem statement and objectives	NA	June, 2015	June 30, 2015
15	<b>Agency meeting on stand-alone strategies</b>  <b>Agency Comment Point 3</b>	Draft analysis of stand-alone strategies	Cooperating and participating agencies	Provide written comments on broad strategies and screening recommendations	30 calendar days from date of meeting	June 2015	June 30, 2015
16	Make decisions to retain or reject stand-alone strategies	List of stand-alone strategies considered, why kept or discarded, study website	Cooperating and participating agencies, general public and stakeholders	NA	NA	June/July 2015	July 2015

Step No.	Milestone, Coordination, comment or Acceptance Point	Information Provided or Action Taken	Who Contacted for Response	Activity/ Response	Number of Days to Complete Activity	Estimated Date Complete	Actual Date Complete
17	<b>Public Involvement Meeting # 3</b>	Information on the evaluation of stand-alone strategies	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, local officials and other stakeholders	Comments on information provided	14 calendar days after PIM (typical)	Sept. 2015	September 23 & 24, 2015
18	Develop and test individual improvement components	Develop and evaluate individual improvement components which by themselves cannot satisfy all the PEL objectives, but individually have the ability to satisfy some of the PEL objectives.	Provide input	Provide data as requested, input and feedback as analysis moves forward	4 months	June-October 2015	September 2015
19	<b>Public Involvement Meeting #4</b>	Information on strategy packages	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, local officials and other stakeholders	Comments on information provided	14 calendar days after PIM (typical)	October 2015	November 10 & 12, 2015
20	<b>Agency Meeting</b>	Information and discussion on Final Strategy Packages	Potential federal, state and tribal cooperating and participating agencies	Provide feedback on Final Strategy Packages	NA	November 2015	November 12, 2015
21	Assemble improvement components into strategy packages  <b>Agency Comment Point 4</b>	Which specific PEL objectives are met by strategy packages	Cooperating and participating agencies	Provide written comments on strategy packages	30 calendar days from date of meeting	October 2015	September 2015
22	Evaluate and screen strategy packages	Strategy packages	Public, committees and cooperating and participating agencies	Provide data as requested, input and feedback as analysis moves forward	1 month	November 2015	October 2015

Step No.	Milestone, Coordination, comment or Acceptance Point	Information Provided or Action Taken	Who Contacted for Response	Activity/ Response	Number of Days to Complete Activity	Estimated Date Complete	Actual Date Complete
23	<b>Draft Study Report Completed</b>  <b>Agency Comment Point 5</b>	Report findings on all strategies and concepts considered, reasons for dismissed concepts, details on retained concepts, including impacts, mitigation opportunities and high level costs	Public, committees and cooperating and participating agencies	Provide comments on report findings	60 calendar days from date of PIMs	November 2015	December 2015
24	<b>Public Involvement Meeting #5</b>	Draft report results of dismissal of concepts that do not meet objectives, identify concepts to be carried to NEPA and identify environmental and social considerations	Cooperating and participating agencies, public, local officials and other stakeholders	Comments on Information Provided	30 Calendar Days after PIM	December 2015	January 27 & 28, 2016
25	<b>Agency Meeting</b>	Discuss Final Strategy Packages and Final Report	Potential federal, state and tribal cooperating and participating agencies	Discuss final topics of study	NA	January 2016	

Step No.	Milestone, Coordination, comment or Acceptance Point	Information Provided or Action Taken	Who Contacted for Response	Activity/ Response	Number of Days to Complete Activity	Estimated Date Complete	Actual Date Complete
26	Responses to comments completed	Individual agency response letters, summary table of public comment responses	Public, cooperating and participating agencies, all other commenting stakeholders	NA	60 calendar days after PIM	February 2016	
27	Final PEL Study Report completed <b>Agency Acceptance/ Acknowledgement Point</b>	Final PEL Study Report published and provided to agencies, public and committees	Cooperating and participating agencies and others as appropriate.	Written acceptance or acknowledgement of Final PEL Study Report for NEPA environmental documents	30 calendar days after receipt of Final PEL Study Report	March 2016	

## 5.0 Section 5: Public Involvement

### 5.1 Public Involvement Process

Public involvement includes engaging key stakeholders, community members and the general public in the planning, design and development of proposed improvements. The general public involvement approach is based on the following objectives:

- Actively seek public input on the study area's needs, issues, goals and possible solutions and recommended course of action.
- Solicit, consider, answer and document public inquiries, suggestions and ideas in the decision-making process.
- Provide opportunities for the public to affect major decisions before they are made.
- Publicize study activities through a variety of communication venues such as newsletters, news releases, website, and involvement meetings.
- Provide the public with efficient access to study information.

The study team developed a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) that summarizes the proposed public involvement efforts for the CRTS PEL.

### 5.2 Identification of Environmental Justice Communities and Outreach

Identification of all potential stakeholders will be an early step in the CRTS PEL process. Efforts to identify existing environmental justice (EJ) communities with the potential to be

impacted by and/or interested in participating in the study will be guided by the 2010 census results and other information available from local governments in the study area.

The CRTS PEL PIP has a section that describes an overall strategy for identification and outreach to EJ communities and references that a separate EJ outreach plan was developed for the PEL study. The separate EJ plan details the communication methods and interaction opportunities to be provided with a goal of maximizing EJ community involvement throughout the study process. Involvement by EJ community leaders and their elected representatives in study committees and other public activities will be stressed as a way to improve communications about the study within EJ communities and further improve the community's input in study activities and outcomes.

### **5.3 Public Involvement in All Phases of the CRTS PEL**

Involvement by a wide cross section of interested public stakeholders will be a key to the success of the CRTS PEL. Table 3 of this Coordination Plan highlights the most significant outreach opportunities and activities. Other interactive opportunities will be offered such as meetings with neighborhood associations and advocacy groups. A list of potential interested stakeholders is provided in the PIP. The timing of interactive opportunities is further defined in the CRTS PEL Work Plan. Local governments will be asked to assist in efforts to involve their residents and relied upon to provide community insights that may not be obtained any other way.

### **5.4 Additional Public Involvement Strategies**

A Community Advisory Group (CAG) consisting of local individuals from potentially affected communities will be established and meet on a regular basis. CAG meetings will be scheduled on an approximately monthly basis beginning in February 2015 and continuing through Step 21 of the PEL process detailed in Table 3. The CAG will be closely involved with development of the problem statement, goal and objectives and identification and development of broad strategies.

### **5.5 Coordination with Local Officials**

Local officials' involvement will be sought throughout the study process. Membership on a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will be emphasized as a key way to provide input and receive feedback. In general, the group members will represent specific constituencies and provide technical expertise.

Like the CAG, TAG meetings will be scheduled on an approximately monthly basis through Step 21 of the PEL process as detailed in Table 3. Also like the CAG, the TAG will be very involved with development of the problem statement, goal and objectives, and identification and development of strategies. After this point, it is anticipated regular meetings will continue

with a frequency to be determined. A table showing the organizations that will have a representative on the TAG is provided in the PIP.

## **5.6 Availability of Coordination Plan for Agency and Public Involvement**

The CRTS PEL Coordination Plan will be posted on the WisDOT website: [www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov](http://www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov). It will be updated periodically as information on past meetings is added or if substantive changes to other parts of the plan are made.

## 6.0 Section 6: Tribal Involvement and Consultation

The National Environmental Policy Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the planning and environmental requirements in 23 USC 134, §135, and §139 and 23 CFR 450 and §771 convey responsibilities to the project sponsor and lead agencies for notification and consultation efforts related to environmental, cultural and historic impacts to resources. As a matter of both regulation and policy, it is mandatory to consider tribal interests and concerns related to the proposed undertaking.

Effective tribal consultation on resources and issues of interest to the tribes is a necessary and important element of successful projects. The FHWA website provided additional resources and links to tribal involvement and consultation guidance documents: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/processes/tribal>, accessed on February 25, 2015.

There are two documents that govern working with the tribes on all transportation issues related to WisDOT. One is the WisDOT non-metropolitan local consultation plan that explains the consultation process with FHWA and the tribes. It covers planning and project development. This is called the “Documentation of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation’s Process for Consultation with Local Officials in Non-Metropolitan Areas.”<sup>3</sup> The second document is an agreement to cooperate between FHWA, WisDOT and the eleven tribes. This document is the October 26, 2010 “PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT between Wisconsin’s Eleven Federally Recognized Tribes.”<sup>4</sup> In addition, WisDOT’s Facilities Development Manual, Chapter 26, provides information on coordination with tribes as part of the Section 106 process.<sup>5</sup>

### 6.1 Tribal Notifications of Proposed Study

As part of the CRTS PEL activities, Native American tribes will be notified about the study problem statement and objectives, strategies, concepts being considered, and planned cultural resource investigations. They will also be asked to provide input on cultural resource (historic properties) aspects to aid in determining the initial Area of Potential Effect (APE). The tribes will also be provided an opportunity to become participating agencies in the study and will be notified about public involvement meetings.

### 6.2 Tribal Consultation on Study Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Tribal consultation regarding the study APE will be done as part of item 6.1.

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/planresources/consultation.htm>, accessed on February 25, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/docs/partnership.pdf>, accessed on February 25, 2015.

<sup>5</sup> <http://roadwaystandards.dot.wi.gov/standards/fdm/index.htm>, accessed on February 25, 2015.

### **6.3 Tribal Consultation on Cultural Resources Identified**

Interested tribes will be notified of the results regarding the cultural resources investigations.

### **6.4 Tribal Consultation of Effects**

Tribal consultation regarding effects to historic properties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will depend on whether any significant cultural resources (historic properties) identified in the APE may be impacted by proposed project actions.

## 7.0 Section 7: Summary of Meetings to Date

### 7.1 Meetings with Agencies

Table 4 lists the meetings held with agencies to introduce the CRTS PEL for the Coulee Region, obtain input and suggestions on all aspects of the study, and address questions.

**Table 4: Agency Meetings to Date**

Date	Meeting	Remarks
03/03/15	Agency Coordination Meeting #1	Introduction of the PEL study area , PEL process, Draft Problem Statement, MOU, Goals and Objectives, and Work Plan
03/09/15	Local Officials Meeting #1	Introduction of the PEL study area , PEL process, Draft Problem Statement, MOU, Goals and Objectives, and Work Plan
03/18/15	LAPC Policy Board	Presentation #3
03/31/15	City of La Crosse – Mayor and Staff	Discussed the Coulee Region Transportation Study and the City Vision
04/23/15	City of La Crosse – Mayor and Staff	Discussed the Coulee Region Transportation Study and the City Vision
05/19/15	City of La Crosse – Mayor and Staff	Discussed the Coulee Region Transportation Study and the City Vision
05/20/15	LAPC Technology/Policy Board	Presentation #4
06/09/15	Local Officials Meeting #2	General Progress Meeting, review PIM #2 presentation
06/30/15	Agency Coordination Meeting #2	Discussed Strategy Packages and Public Involvement/Comments
07/15/15	LAPC Policy Board	General Progress Meeting
09/09/15	LAPC Technology/Policy Board	PIM #3 Presentation

09/16/15	LAPC Policy Board	PIM #3 Presentation
09/23/15	Local Officials Meeting #3	PIM #3 Presentation
09/28/15	City of La Crosse - Staff	Discuss PEL Progress and Strategy Packages
11/10/15	LOM #4	Final Strategy Packages, PIM #4 Presentation
11/11/15	LAPC Technology/Policy Board	Final Strategy Packages
11/12/15	Agency Meeting #3	Final Strategy Packages, PIM #4 Presentation
11/16/15	Shelby Town Board	Current Strategies and Possible Future Resolutions
11/18/15	LAPC Policy Board	Final Strategy Packages
01/27/16	Local Officials Meeting #5	Final Report
01/28/16	Agency Meeting #4	Final Report
02/09/16	City of La Crosse – Mayor and Staff	Final Report

## 7.2 Meetings with the Public

Table 5 lists the meetings held with the public to introduce the CRTS PEL for the Coulee Region, obtain input and suggestions on all aspects of the study, and address questions.

**Table 5: Public Meetings to Date**

Date	Meeting	Remarks
02/05/15	CAG and TAG Meeting #1 (combined)	Introduction of the PEL study area, PEL process, CAG/TAG group information, Draft Problem Statement, Goals and Objectives, and Work Plan
03/05/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #2	Presented information on existing conditions, small group breakout to discuss Draft Problem Statement, Goals and Objectives
03/11/15	PIM #1.1 (Central High School)	Introduction of the PEL study area, PEL process, Draft Problem Statement, Goals and Objectives, and Work Plan
03/12/15	PIM #1.2 (Eagle Bluff Elementary)	Introduction of the PEL study area, PEL process, Draft Problem Statement, Goals and Objectives, and Work Plan
03/24/15	Grandview Emerson Neighborhood Association (GENA)	PEL Process Slides from PIM Presentation
04/02/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #3	Final revisions of PSGO, Reviewed PIM #1.1 and #1.2 public comments, small group discussion of future conditions questionnaire
04/10/15	Mayo Healthcare	General Transportation Issues
04/11/15	Mayors Conference	Information booth set up at event with CRTS information
04/20/15	Outdoor Recreation Alliance	Condensed PEL Process Slides
04/27/15	Gunderson Healthcare	General Transportation Issues
05/06/15	UW-L Student Senate	General Transportation Issues

05/07/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #4	PPT featuring some new traffic data, small group discussion of strategies/objectives matrix
05/19/15	La Crosse Area Builders Association	General Transportation Issues
06/04/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #5	PPT featuring some new traffic data, small group discussion of strategies/objectives matrix, dots on maps
06/09/15	PIM #2.1	PPT, General Overview, New Traffic Data, Dot Exercise
06/10/15	PIM #2.2	PPT, General Overview, New Traffic Data, Dot Exercise
06/30/15	Transit, Bike/Ped Focus Groups	Short Presentation, Dot Exercise
07/02/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #6	PPT featuring public involvement summary and strategy packages
07/10/15	Healthy Living Collaboration Meeting	PIM #2 Presentation
07/13/15	Jerome Gundersen	French Island Strategy
07/14/15	Kratt Lumber	Discussion on General Transportation Issues
08/06/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #7	General Progress Meeting
08/26/15	Transit, Bike/Ped Focus Groups	Presentation and Discussion
09/03/15	La Crosse County Economic Development	PIM #3 Presentation

09/03/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #8	General Progress Meetings
09/18/15	LADCO	General Progress Meeting
09/21/15	Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting	Focus Group/Project Update
09/21/15	Holy Trinity Longfellow Neighborhood Association Meeting	Gave presentation
09/23/15	PIM #3.1	Proposed Strategies
09/24/15	PIM #3.2	Proposed Strategies
10/08/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #9	Proposed Strategy Packages
11/03/15	La Crosse County Economic Development	PIM #4 Presentation
11/05/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #10	Reviewed Strategies
11/10/15	PIM #4.1	Final Strategies
11/12/15	PIM #4.2	Final Strategies
11/24/15	Sierra Club	General Meeting
12/03/15	CAG and TAG Meetings #11	Final CAG/TAG Meetings

01/11/16	Weigent-Hogan Neighborhood	Final Strategies
01/12/16	Onalaska Area Business Association	Final Strategies
01/19/16	Grandview Emerson Neighborhood Association	Final Strategies
01/20/16	Powell Poage Hamilton Neighborhood Association	Final Strategies
01/26/16	Washburn Neighborhood Association	Final Strategies
TBA	Gundersen Health System	
01/27/16	PIM #5.1	Final Public Involvement Meetings
01/28/16	PIM #5.2	Final Public Involvement Meetings
02/09/16	League of Women Voters	Final Strategies
02/15/16	Outdoor Recreation Alliance	Final Strategies
03/11/16	Healthy Living Collaboration	Final Strategies