

US 8 Improvement Project

Public Involvement Meeting
Forest County Potawatomi Museum and Cultural Center, Crandon, WI

January 31, 2023

Purpose of Public Involvement

- Our objective is to obtain your input on the following:
 - Identified needs
 - Proposed improvements
 - Traffic impacts
 - Real estate needs

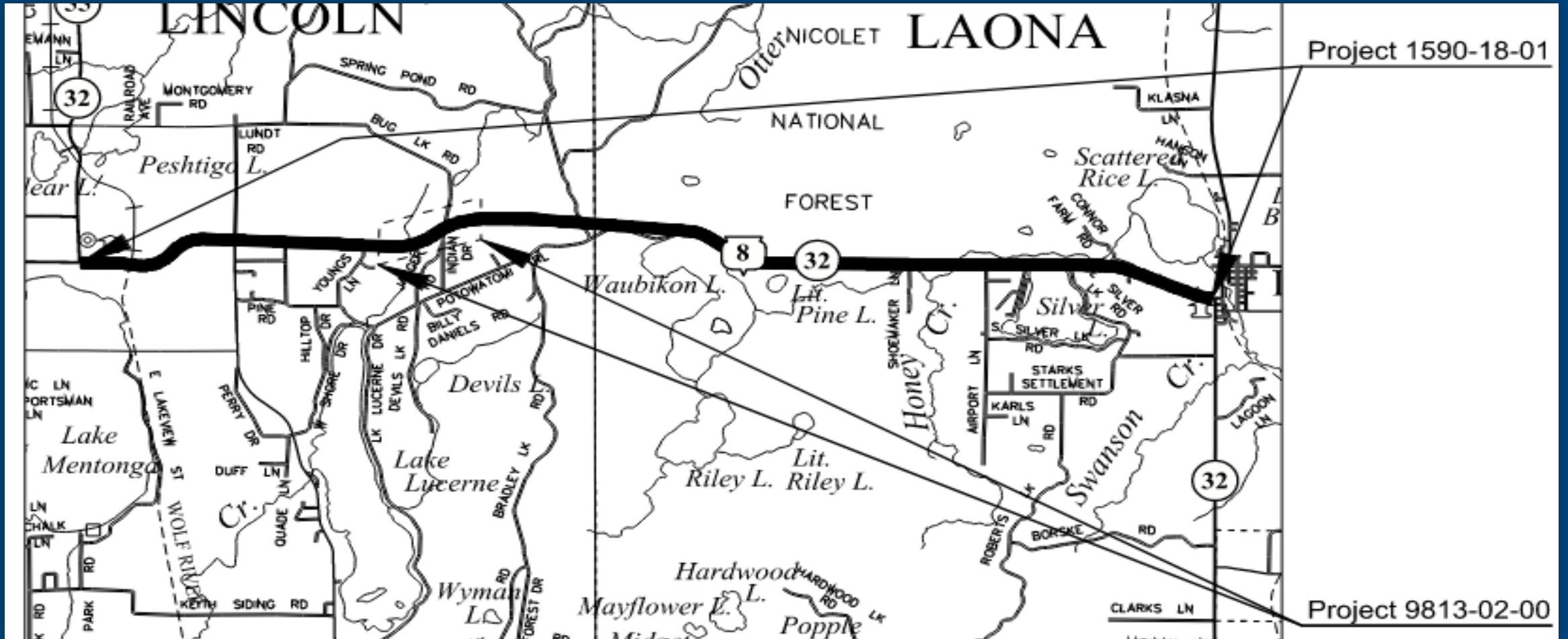


Agenda

- Project Purpose
- Project Need
- Proposed Improvements
- Proposed Traffic Impacts
- Real Estate
- Project Update/Next Steps
- Future Corridor Projects



Project Location



Project Purpose

- The primary purpose of this project is to extend the service life of the roadway as well as improve substandard cable guard and guardrail installations, improve stormwater drainage, address safety concerns and substandard sidewalk curb ramps in the City of Crandon, and provide non-motorized travel accommodations.



Project Need

- The existing US 8 roadway surface is showing signs of distress including alligator cracking, rutting, and transverse cracking.
- The existing cable guard and guardrail installations throughout the project corridor are outdated and do not meet current design standards.



Project Need Cont.

- Several culverts along the corridor are deteriorating.
- The existing intersections of Youngs Lane and Kwe Da Kik Lane with US 8 have intersection site distance concerns.
- Curb ramps in the city of Crandon do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards.
- Off-road biking and walking facilities are non-existent.



Project Need Cont.

- The segment of US 8 between Wildwood Avenue and Grandview Avenue has experienced significant number of crashes.
 - Between 2014 and 2018, there were 26 crashes within this segment, including 1 fatal crash.
 - These crashes were due to:
 - Inattentive driving
 - Failure to have control/driving too fast
 - Improper turns
 - Failure to yield



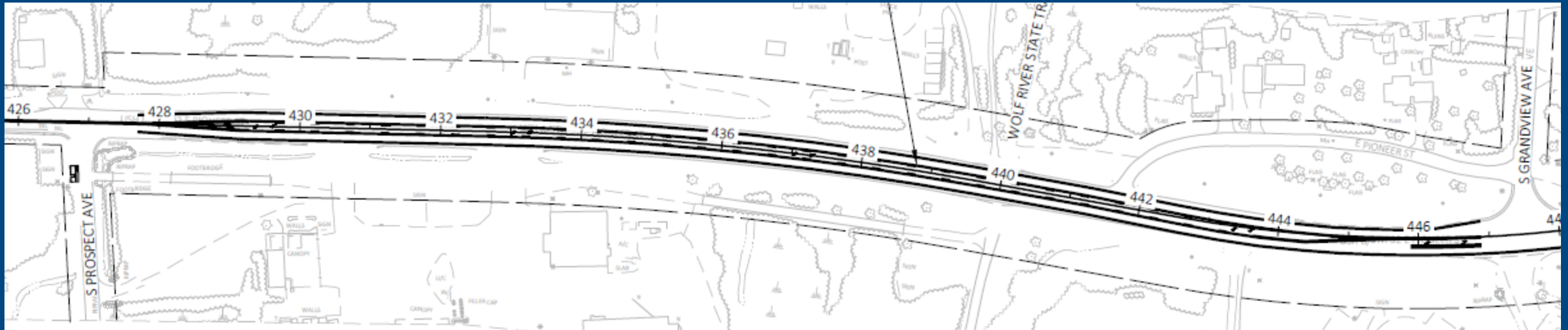
Proposed Improvements

- Resurfacing US 8 in all areas outside of spot improvement areas near Kwe Da Kik Lane and Youngs Lane.
- Removing and replacing several existing culverts throughout the corridor.
- Removing cable guard throughout the corridor and grade standard slopes in these areas.

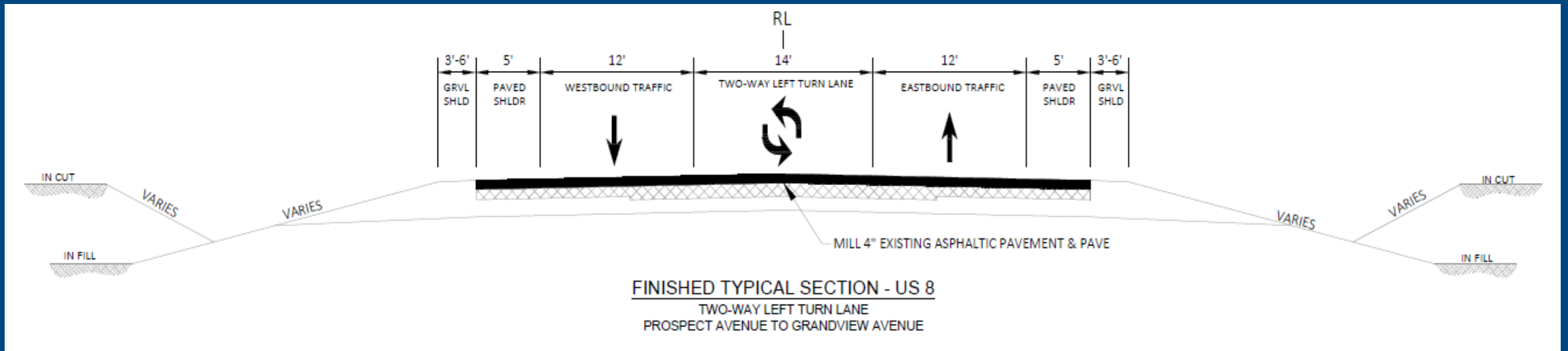


Proposed Improvements

- Reconfigure US 8 lanes between Wildwood Avenue and Grandview Avenue to a two-lane roadway with a two-way left turn lane to reduce crashes.



Proposed Improvements



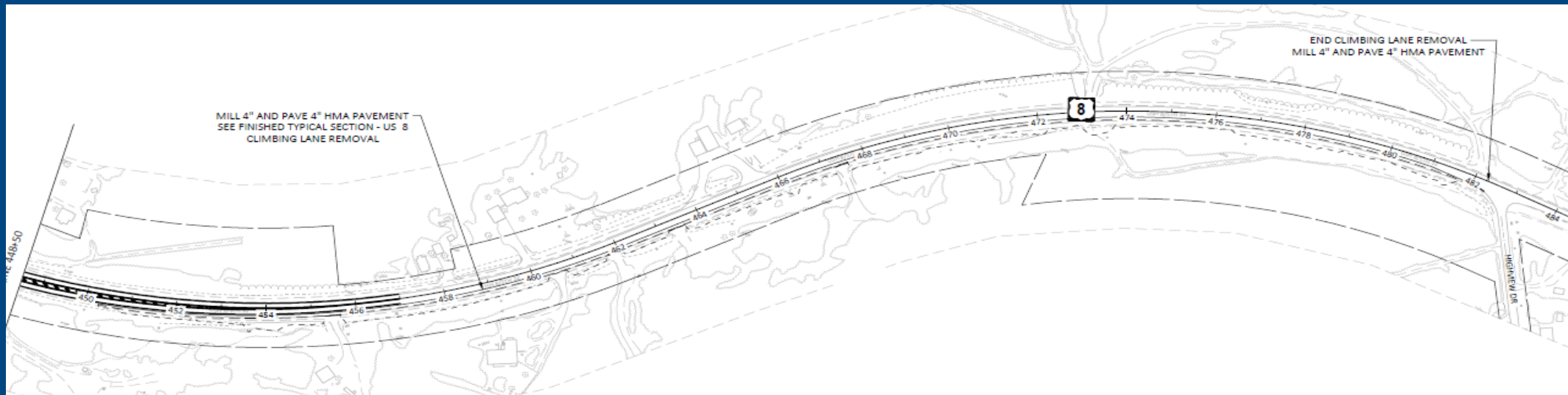
Proposed Improvements

- Benefits of two-way left turn lane:
 - More consistent, reduced speeds due to elimination of weaving and accelerating around left turning vehicles
 - Provides a designated left-turn lane to driveway and intersections
 - Eliminates weaving or slowing/stopping behind a left-turning vehicle
 - Eliminates potential for “shadow vehicle” collisions with a vehicle in the opposing outside lane
 - Documented decrease in crash rates on past projects where 4 lanes were reconfigured to 3 lanes

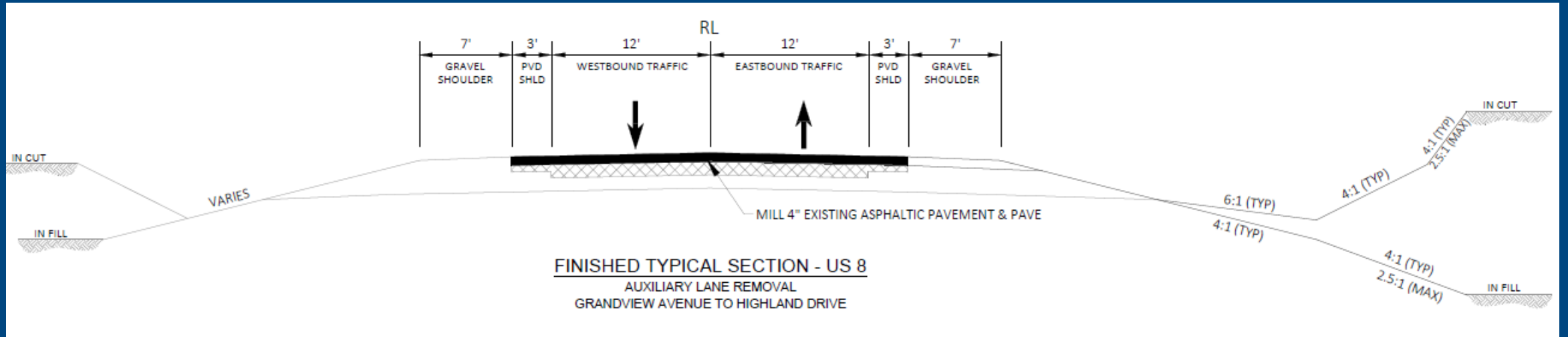


Proposed Improvements

- Reconfiguring lanes between Wildwood Avenue and Grandview Avenue leads to removing the US 8 auxiliary lane from Grandview Avenue to High View Drive.



Proposed Improvements



Proposed Improvements

- Lowering the profiles of US 8 and Youngs Lane where they intersect to meet current design standards.
- Shifting the horizontal alignment of US 8 at its intersection with Kwe Da Kik Lane to the north to provide sight distances that meet current design standards and extend the existing box culvert in this area.



Proposed Improvements

- Constructing a new multi-modal underpass that will accommodate bicycles, pedestrians, and ATVs/UTVs.
- A multi-use path that is being designed by Forest County Potawatomi Community from Fire Keepers Road to Love Knot Lane.
- Improving intersection sight distance at Grandview Avenue by removing vegetation/trees and excavation east of intersection.

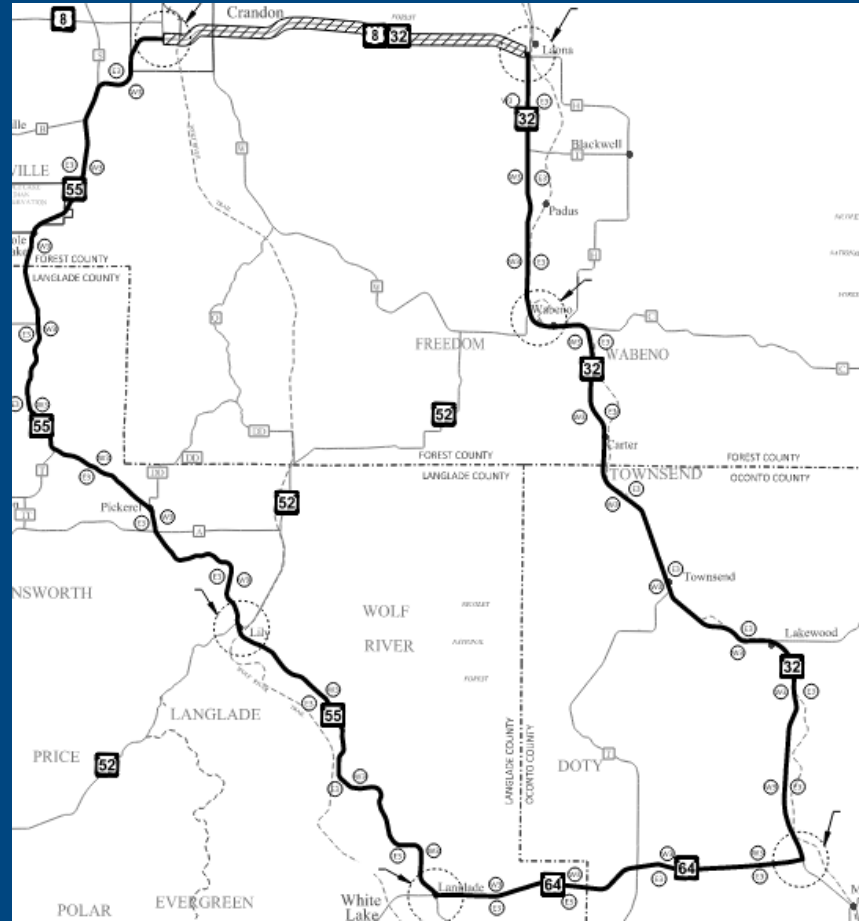


Proposed Traffic Impacts

- During construction, US 8 is anticipated to be detoured for the spot improvements in the vicinity of Youngs Lane and Kwe Da Kik Lane. The proposed detour will follow WIS 32 to WIS 64 to WIS 55 and will be in place for approximately 5 months.
- Access to local residents and emergency responders will be maintained at all times.
- Single-lane closures with flagging operations will facilitate the rest of construction operations.



Proposed Traffic Impacts Cont.



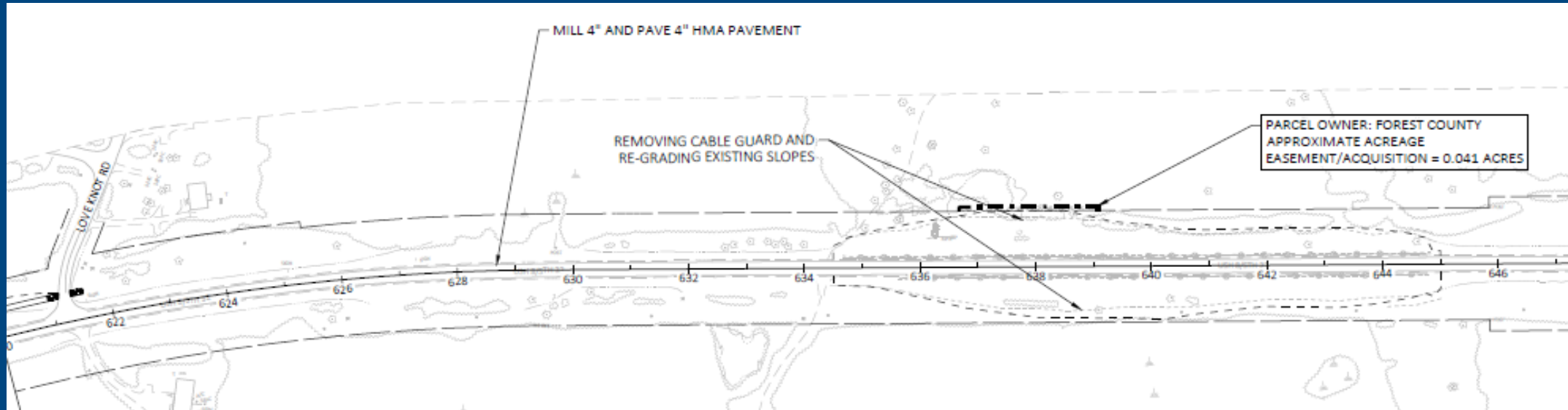
Real Estate Needs

- Additional right of way will be required for this project. The areas where additional right of way will be needed are:
 - Sidewalk curb ramps in Crandon to construct curb ramps to standards
 - On US 8 between Fire Keepers and Bug Lake roads to improve US 8 geometrics in the area
 - In areas of cable and beam guard removal to extend the slopes in the area to current standards



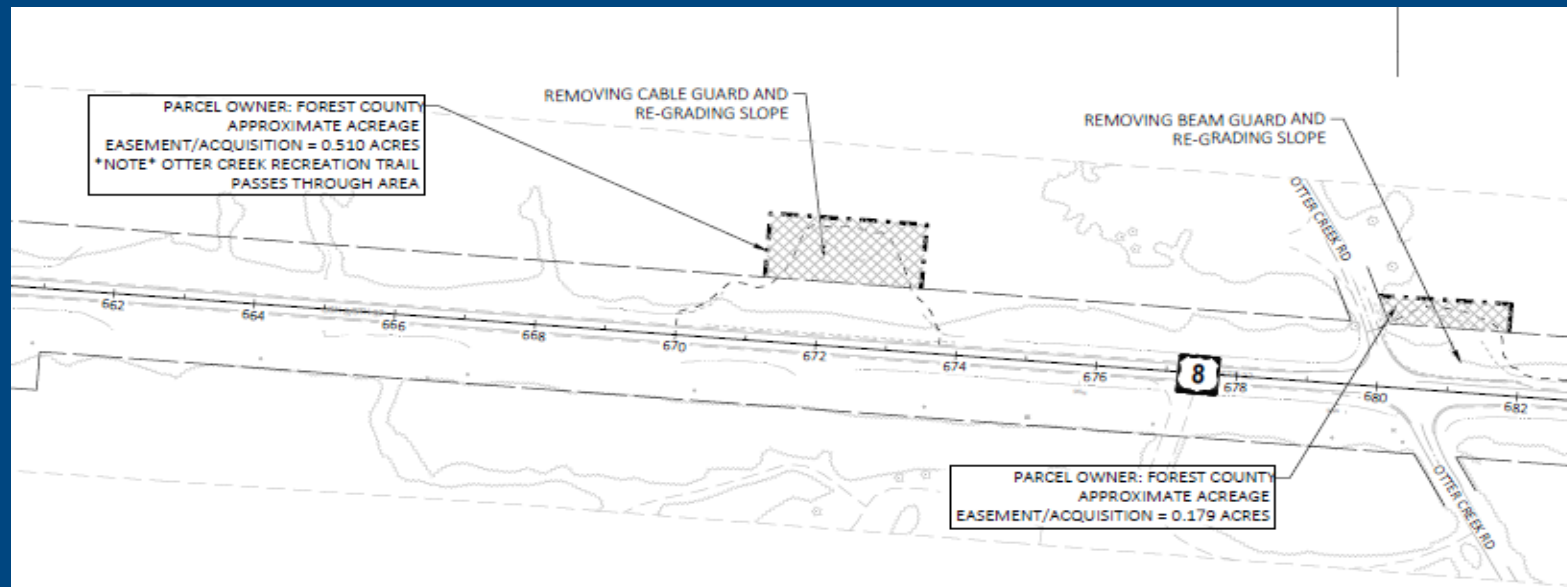
Forest County Land Impacts

- Impacts to recreational lands and single-track bike trail owned by Forest County. The impact area is part of the Otter Creek Recreational Area.



Forest County Land Impacts Cont.

- Impacts to recreational lands and single-track bike trail owned by Forest County. The impact area is part of the Otter Creek Recreational Area.



Project Update/Next Steps

- Preliminary design and plans: March 2023
- Environmental Document: April 2023
- Final right-of-way plat: May 2023
- Real estate negotiations: May 2023 to September 2024
- Final plans: Fall 2024
- WisDOT Construction: 2025
- Note: Schedule has potential to change



Future Corridor Projects

- Wisconsin Department of Transportation
 - The existing US 8 structure over the Rat River is planned to be replaced.
- Forest County Potawatomi
 - Plan to expand the multi-use path from the City of Crandon to Otter Creek Road.
 - Note: Removal of the US 8 auxiliary lane from Grandview Avenue to High View Drive is not necessary for construction of a multi-use path.



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