

# Public Involvement

**WIS 22**  
**WIS 21 to Portage/Waupaca County Line**  
**Waushara and Portage County**  
Project ID: 6300-00-05



**May 2025**

Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind, and speech-disabled persons should contact the Wisconsin Relay Service for assistance by dialing 711.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is in the process of developing plans for proposed improvements on approximately 14.4 miles of WIS 22 in Waushara and Portage counties. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed improvements, describe the potential impacts, and offer an opportunity for public comment.

The meeting will begin at 5:00 pm. There will be a short presentation at 5:30 pm. The remainder of the meeting will follow an open house format for you to talk with project staff. You are encouraged to meet with project staff, view exhibits, and discuss proposed improvements.

## Project location

The project is located on WIS 22 from WIS 21 to the Portage and Waupaca County line. WIS 22 is in the city of Wautoma, village of Wild Rose, the towns of Wautoma, Rose, and Springwater in Waushara County, and the town of Belmont in Portage County, WI. Most of WIS 22 within the village of Wild Rose is excluded from this project.

R-9-E | R-10-E | PORTAGE CO. | WAUPACA CO. | R-11-E

WAUSHARA CO. | PORTAGE CO.

T-21-N  
WAUPACA CO.  
WAUSHARA CO.

T-20-N

**PROJECT 6300-00-05**  
CITY OF WAUTOMA, VILLAGE OF WILD ROSE, TOWNS OF WAUTOMA, ROSE, SPRINGWATER, WAUSHARA COUNTY, WI AND TOWN OF BELMONT, PORTAGE COUNTY, WI

T-19-N

STRUCTURE B-69-037

## **Project Information**

WIS 22 project length is approximately 14.4 miles and serves as a minor arterial. This portion of WIS 22 is a two-lane highway with urban and rural segments. The urban segment in the city of Wautoma has one 12-foot wide lane in each direction. Paved shoulders vary from 3 feet to 12 feet wide on left- and right-hand sides. The rural segment has one 12-foot wide lane in each direction. Total shoulder width varies from 3 feet to 9 feet, of which 3 feet is paved. There is an existing bridge structure B-69-0037 that will include guardrail replacement but no work on the structure. There is also a section of existing guardrail between County AA and Hudziak Road that will remain in place. Most of WIS 22 within the village of Wild Rose is excluded from this project.

The purpose of the proposed action is to preserve the roadway assets and minimize the overall life cycle cost of the corridor. This can be accomplished by addressing the following needs:

- Roadway deficiencies
- Drainage system deficiencies
- Safety

### **Need:**

#### **Roadway deficiency**

The existing WIS 22 pavement is showing signs of distress with significant horizontal cracking, alligator cracking, rutting, and transverse cracking. These cracks allow water and deicing chemicals to enter the pavement and accelerate the deterioration of the roadway corridor.

#### **Drainage system deficiencies**

Sections of curb and gutter and drainage flumes at the Royal Oak Drive intersection and County O intersection are deteriorated. Several culverts within the project scope are deteriorating and nearing the end of service life including 10 cross pipes, culvert C-69-9002, and 4 active or former cattle passes or culverts.

#### **Safety**

The existing guardrail at the bridge over the Wautoma Pond at B-69-0037 does not meet current standards, creating a potentially dangerous situation for motorists.

The following improvements are proposed to address the project needs. The proposed project is to mill the existing distressed pavement and overlay new asphaltic pavement on WIS 22. From the beginning of the project to the southern limits of the village of Wild Rose, the project proposes milling 4 inches of existing asphalt pavement and overlaying 4 inches of new Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) surface. From the northern limits of the village of Wild Rose to the end of the project, the project proposes milling 4 inches of existing asphalt pavement and overlaying 4.5 inches of new HMA surface. The proposed road profile would have a grade raise of 0.5 inches north of Wild Rose to the end of project. The mill and overlay would exclude the village of Wild Rose. Additional project work would include:

- Widening the shoulders from 3 feet to 5 feet from the beginning of project to Royal Oak Drive and from the northern village of Wild Rose limits to County A
- Replacing the guardrail at B-69-0037 over Wautoma Pond
- Replacing culvert pipes
- Replacing culvert pipe C-69-9002 with a concrete box culvert
- Replacing small sections of curb and gutter at some intersections
- Installing centerline rumble strips

- Installing shoulder rumble strips
- Connecting sidewalk to the WIS 22 shoulder at one location

A meeting was previously held with local officials and their feedback is under consideration by the project team.

## Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is currently scheduled for 2031 but could occur as early as 2028. The work is anticipated to take most of the construction season.

During construction, WIS 22 will be closed to through traffic for construction of the box culvert near the fish hatchery. Once the box culvert is completed, WIS 22 will be open to traffic with single lane closures with flagging operations and lane shifts. Motorists can expect some delays to occur.

Short-term temporary driveway closures will be necessary during parts of the construction process. Homeowners and businesses will be contacted in advance before closing a driveway.

## Real estate

Additional right of way will be required for this project. The box culvert replacement of structure C-69-9002 near the fish hatchery will require permanent fee and temporary easements on both sides of WIS 22. WDNR owns both sides of the road at this location so coordination will be completed with WisDOT and WDNR. WisDOT expects to begin real estate acquisition later in 2025.

## Project update/next steps

Local officials meeting	December 2, 2024
Public involvement	May 2025
Preliminary plans	Oct. 30, 2024
Environmental document	Winter 2025-2026
Final right of way plat	Winter 2026
Real estate negotiations	2026 to 2027
Final plans	May 1, 2027
Construction currently scheduled:	2031
But could be as early as:	2028

Historical and archaeological studies are ongoing along with a hazardous material study.

## Public input/comments

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.

There are several ways to submit your input by **June 3, 2025**:

1. Fill out the comment form attached to this handout and mail it to WisDOT
2. Complete the fillable online survey on the project website  
<https://wisconsin.dot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/default.aspx>
3. Email comments or questions to the contact(s) listed below

Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind, and speech-disabled persons should contact the Wisconsin Relay Service by dialing 711.

For more information, please contact:

Korey Boehm, P.E.  
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Open for  
Business



# In This Together Program

*A quick guide to help your business  
prepare for road construction*

## 1 ORGANIZE EARLY



- Learn more about the project and its timeline
- Develop questions for WisDOT staff
- Check in with neighboring businesses and/or local business organization



- *Can you partner on promotions, events or materials?*
- *Establish a point of contact for the business community?*

## 2 STAY ENGAGED WITH THE PROJECT



- Attend public involvement meeting(s)
- Make note of contact information for the project team, and voice the unique needs of your business
- Learn more about project resources



- *Is there a construction website?*
- *Is there a mailing list?*
- *Is there an email distribution?*

## 3 HELP CUSTOMERS FIND YOU



- Consult with project staff to determine when and where there may be closures or detours
- Ask about temporary signage options
- Consider how best to inform customers



- *Maybe a joint communication with neighboring businesses for employees and customers about traffic and parking?*
- *Maybe a feature article in a customer-facing newsletter?*
- *Maybe a social media post shared by businesses and local community pages?*

## 4 DEVELOP AND ACTIVATE YOUR GAME PLAN



- Check out case studies at [wisconsindot.gov/together](http://wisconsindot.gov/together)
- Connect with project contacts to discuss any potential obstacles specific to your business such as deliveries, operational hours, employee parking, etc.
- Check in with employees



- *Is there a consistent message for customers?*
- *Are there temporary changes to shift times, parking, or deliveries?*

## 5 END OF CONSTRUCTION



- Stay positive, be flexible and know that WisDOT staff are available to help
- Collect any temporary signage
- Let customers know!



- *Consider working with other businesses on a special event?*
- *Share social media about the project's benefits?*
- *Ask customers to help spread the word?*



Remember, we are In This Together! For more planning ideas, tips and resources:  
[wisconsindot.gov/together](http://wisconsindot.gov/together)

Project ID 6300-00-05  
Wautoma – Waupaca  
WIS 21 to Portage Waupaca Co Line  
WIS 22  
Waushara & Portage Counties

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Attn: Korey Boehm, P.E.  
WisDOT North Central Region – Wisconsin Rapids  
1681 Second Avenue South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

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