Public Involvement

WIS 29
Highline Road to Brown County Line
Shawano County
Project ID: 1058-24-31



December 2, 2025 to January 2, 2026

Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is in the process of developing plans for proposed improvements to WIS 29 between South Highline Road to the Brown County Line in Shawano County. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed project, describe the potential impacts it will have on the community, and offer an opportunity for public comment. We appreciate your input and encourage you to review the project information and provide comments.

Project Information

We are proposing to improve 13.1 miles of WIS 29 eastbound (EB) and westbound (WB) lanes.

The purpose of the project is to address the deteriorated pavement condition in order to extend the service life of the roadway. The existing concrete pavement is exhibiting signs of distress in the form of low-level large patching, faulting, spalled corners, joint deterioration, and linear cracking. The existing asphalt shoulders are cracking and are settling next to the concrete pavement. Several pipes have separated and are in need of repair and cleaning. Guardrail along WIS 29 and WIS 55 are showing signs of deterioration and need to be updated to current standards. Safety concerns have been identified at the WIS 29 and E Slab City Rd / County BE intersection and will be addressed with this project.

Proposed improvements include:

- Repair or replace the concrete pavement joints and cracks (repairing versus replacing the joint/cracks will depend on the severity of joint deterioration) along WIS 29 EB and WIS 29 WB, and along the WIS 29 and WIS 55 interchange ramps.
- Resurface the asphalt shoulders on WIS 29 within the concrete joint repair sections.
- Replace the asphalt shoulders to full depth on the WIS 29 and WIS 55 interchange ramps.
- Replace the concrete pavement to full depth along WIS 29 WB from 2000' west of County BE to just east of Broadway Road and along WIS 29 EB from County F to Spruce Road.
- Replace the concrete pavement to full depth and add additional base course at three culvert pipe locations under WIS 29 where the pavement has settled resulting in dips.
- Reconfigure the WIS 29 and E Slab City Rd / County BE / River Rd intersection to a right-in / right out only for both EB and WB movements. The paved center crossover area of the intersection will be removed and replaced with a rural ditch. The WIS 29 and County BE / River Rd intersection will be shifted slightly east to create a 90-degree intersection which will provide better sight distances.
- Repair and clean five culvert pipes under WIS 29 along with cleaning and clearing of brush from the ditches.
- Replace the guardrail systems along WIS 29 and WIS 55.
- Resurface WIS 55 from County S to just east of the WIS 29 WB entrance ramp.
- Resurface the Park-n-Ride parking lot located on Lot Lane west of WIS 29 and just south of County S.

The proposed improvements meet the project purpose and needs by improving the overall safety, maintenance needs, and longevity of the roadway along this corridor. Other alternatives that were reviewed included:

- Alternative 1: No Build
- Alternative 2: Pavement Replacement

Alternative 3: Preservation / Restoration (Preferred)

Doing nothing (No Build) would result in increased maintenance costs caused by the continued deterioration of the existing facilities and does not meet the project purpose and need. The Pavement Replacement alternative would involve replacing the pavement along the entire project corridor. Although this alternative meets the project purpose and would result in a longer usable life of the project corridor, it would impose a much higher cost than the Preservation / Restoration alternative, which also meets the project purpose and need.

An environmental document is currently being prepared for this project. DNR Initial Concurrence has been received with environmental conditions being incorporated and accommodated for within the contract documents. The project has been screened for historical and archaeological impact and no potential to cause adverse effects has been determined.

Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is scheduled for 2027.

Traffic Impacts During Construction:

- WIS 29 will remain open to traffic at all times using single lane and shoulder closures, crossovers, and bidirectional traffic.
- The WIS 29 and WIS 55 interchange ramps will be closed to traffic with a signed detour. The detour will be in place for the shortest duration possible.
- WIS 55 will remain open to traffic utilizing lane closures and flaggers.
- The Park-n-Ride will be closed to traffic for a short term.

Temporary driveway closures will be necessary during parts of the construction process. WisDOT or the construction contractor will contact homeowners and businesses in advance before closing a driveway.

Real estate

No real estate acquisition is anticipated.

Project update/next steps

Local officials meeting #1	March 2025
Public involvement #1	April 2025
Local officials meeting #2	November 2025
Public involvement #2	December 2025
Environmental document	January 2026
Preliminary plans	January 2026
Final plans	November 2026
Construction currently scheduled	2027

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 January 2, 2026:

- 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://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/wis29shawanoco/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:

Marijean Hoppe, P.E.
Project Manager
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
510 Hanson Lake Road
Rhinelander, WI 54501
(715) 365-5880
Marijean.Hoppe@dot.wi.gov





In This Together Program

A quick guide to help your business prepare for road construction



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?



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?*



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?



DEVELOP AND ACTIVATE YOUR GAME PLAN



- Check out case studies at 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?



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

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Public Involvement Comment Form

Project ID 1058-24-31 Shawano - Green Bay Highline Road to Brown County Line WIS 29 Shawano County

Please mail by **January 2**, **2026** to the address on the back of this sheet. Comments can also be emailed to Marijean. Hoppe@dot.wi.gov. 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.

Name:	
Address:	
Phone Number (optional):	
Email Address (optional):	
Would you like someone to contact you about this project: Yes No	
Please Print Comments (attach additional sheets if necessary)	
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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.

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Attn: Marijean Hoppe, P.E. WisDOT North Central Region – Rhinelander 510 Hanson Lake Road Rhinelander, WI 54501

To mail, fold here and tape.