# **Public Involvement**

WIS 32
Forest County Line to US 45
Oneida County

Project ID: 9261-06-00



October 29, 2025 5 p.m. Three Lakes Municipal Building 6965 West School Street Three Lakes, WI 54562

#### **Purpose**

The intent of this meeting is to provide information regarding a proposed Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) highway improvement project on WIS 32 between the Forest County line and the intersection of WIS 32 and US 45 in Oneida County. Following a brief presentation, the meeting will be an open house format. Our objective is to obtain your input on the identified needs, proposed improvements, special events and, if necessary, real estate needs along WIS 32.

# **Project Information**

WisDOT is proposing to improve 8.8-miles of WIS 32 from the Forest County line to the intersection with US 45.

The primary purpose of this project is to preserve the existing roadway and minimize the overall life cycle cost of the project.

The need for the project can be defined by the condition of the roadway, structures and safety.

#### Roadway:

- Pavement deterioration
- Deterioration of culvert pipes

#### Structural:

- Microbial induced corrosion (MIC) impacting the steel culvert pipe at the existing Whitefish Lake structure C-43-16
- Existing B-43-31 bridge structure exhibits abrasions, deterioration, cracking, and spalling/delamination on the deck, concrete railings, abutments and wings

#### Safety:

- Pedestrian and Bicycle accommodations
- Horizonal curve at Military Road
- Guardrail systems

#### Proposed improvements include:

- Mill existing pavement and replace the top two inches with Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) pavement.
- Replacing structure C-43-16 steel culvert with a new structure at the Whitefish Lake Outlet waterway passage
- Concrete deck overlay and surface repairs at structure B-43-31 at Big Stone Lake and Deer Lake.
- Culvert replacements throughout the corridor.
- Replace guardrail systems.
- Replace curb and gutter at US 45 intersection.
- Widen existing shoulders to 5-foot paved width shoulders along sharp horizontal curves and between the Golf Course Loop and Airport Road.

The environmental document for this proposed improvement is anticipated to be completed in Fall 2025.

# **Proposed traffic impacts**

During construction, a signed detour route will be posted for the C-43-16 structure replacement at the Whitefish Lake outlet passage. The proposed detour route would utilize US 8 and US 45.

WIS 32 will remain open to local traffic with flagging operations. A single lane crossing with temporary traffic signals will be used at structure B-43-31 for concrete deck overlay and surface repairs.

Access to all businesses and properties will be maintained at all times.

#### Real estate

Additional right of way will be required for this project. Temporary easements and minor fee acquisitions are anticipated to accommodate proposed improvements. Preliminary right of way impacts are shown on the exhibits. WisDOT expects to begin real estate acquisitions in Spring 2026.

#### Project update/next steps

Local officials' meeting	Oct. 9, 2025
Public involvement meeting	Oct. 29, 2025
Final Right of Way Plat	March 2026
Real Estate Negotiations	August 2026 – September 2027
Final plans	Nov. 1, 2027
Construction currently scheduled	2030 but could occur as early as 2028

# **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 Nov. 12, 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 <a href="https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/wis32oneidaforest/default.aspx">https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/wis32oneidaforest/default.aspx</a>
- 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, PE WisDOT Project Manager (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

#### **Public Involvement Comment Form**

Project ID 9261-06-00 Forest Couty Line to US 45 WIS 32 Oneida County

Please mail by **Nov. 12, 2025** to the address on the back of this sheet. Comments can also be emailed to <a href="Marijean.Hoppe@dot.wi.gov">Marijean.Hoppe@dot.wi.gov</a>. 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:	<del></del>
Address:	
Phone Number (optional):	
Email Address (optional):	
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 N. Hanson Lake Road Rhinelander, WI 54501

To mail, fold here and tape.