

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE
LOCATION ASPECTS AND
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF
INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 41
BETWEEN WIS 96 AND COUNTY F
OUTAGAMIE AND BROWN COUNTIES**

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are advised that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) will hold a public hearing as provided by law to consider the general location and design features of the proposed improvements and the preferred alternative being considered for the Interstate 41 (I-41) project, including those aspects that will require authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the placement of fill materials into waters of the United States.

The proposed improvement would include:

- Reconstructing 23 miles of I-41 with an additional travel lane in each direction
- Reconstruction of nine existing interchanges
- Construction of one new interchange
- Updating the outdated Wrightstown Safety and Weight Enforcement Facility (SWEF) to allow it to operate effectively with proposed improvements to I-41
- Move the Northeast District State Patrol Headquarters to the Wrightstown SWEF including a new communication tower
- Resurfacing three existing park and ride lots and construction of an expanded salt shed at the Outagamie County Highway Department

It is anticipated that approximately 95 acres of new right of way, two residential relocations, and two business relocations will be needed for this project. The acquisition of necessary right of way is tentatively planned to begin in 2023 or 2024.

Land acquisition and schedules for construction will be discussed at the public hearing. Relocation assistance will also be discussed. It is anticipated that the relocation of persons and businesses will occur as a result of the proposed improvement. Any person who feels that he or she may be thus affected by the proposed improvement may obtain relocation assistance information at the Department's Northeast Region Real Estate Office, (920) 360-3791.

Further information including exhibits, a statement about the project and other hearing materials are available on the project website for review: wisconsin.gov/I41project. Information is also available for viewing, by appointment only, at the Department's Northeast Region Office in Green Bay, Wisconsin at the address given below. Please call Scott Ebel, I-41 Design Project Manager, to schedule an appointment.

Scott Ebel
I-41 Design Project Manager
(920) 360-2225
Scott.Ebel@dot.wi.gov

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Northeast Region Office
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, WI 54304

There will be three opportunities to attend the public hearing for this project—one component held virtually online and two components held in-person. In consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is encouraged that the public participate in the process through the virtual public hearing component to the extent possible. Both opportunities will allow for recording of public and private testimony. The virtual public hearing component will be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, via YouTube Live from

6 to 8 p.m. (Link: <https://youtu.be/Ho40Mw5cosQ>). Interested persons may attend to learn about the project and provide testimony. If interested parties do not have internet access, they may call (608) 571-2209, followed by access code 408 638 443# to listen to the virtual public hearing component.

A recording of the virtual public hearing component will be available on the project website shortly after the hearing.

The virtual public hearing component will begin at 6 p.m. and will end when all interested persons have provided testimony or 8 p.m., whichever is earlier. The virtual public hearing will begin with an informational project presentation prior to accepting verbal public testimony. Instructions on how to give verbal testimony publicly through YouTube Live or privately by phone to a court reporter will be provided at the virtual public hearing. Instructions will also be available on the project website after July 2, 2021.

The in-person public hearing components will be held on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at Hemlock Creek Elementary School, located at 1900 Williams Grant Dr, De Pere, WI and on Thursday, July 29, 2021 at Fox Valley Technical College, D.J. Bordini Center, 5 N Systems Dr, Appleton, WI. The in-person public hearings will be conducted from 5 to 8 p.m.

Attendance at the in-person hearing will be by appointment only. Prior to the public hearing, please call the I-41 Project Communications Manager, Melissa (Missy) Kok at (920) 492-5743 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, to make an appointment and receive further instructions regarding the in-person option. Interested persons that have made an appointment may attend the in-person component public hearing to review displays and other hearing materials, ask questions, and provide testimony. Information provided when making an appointment (including names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail 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. If anyone arrives without an appointment, they may be asked to wait until space is available to accommodate their attendance to ensure occupancy restrictions are maintained.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, enhanced safety measures will be applied to the in-person public hearings. Guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Protection and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services will be followed. Vaccinated individuals may continue to wear face coverings but are not required to do so. All unvaccinated attendees are asked to wear a face mask and physical distance while in attendance at the in-person public hearing.

At the in-person public hearing component, project staff will be available for informal discussion to explain the project and answer questions. Exhibits will be on display and a statement about the project will be available for review. A continuous looping presentation about the project will also be available for viewing.

If you require special accommodations to participate in the public hearing, please contact the communications manager (listed above) no later than three working days prior to the public hearing. The meeting facilities are wheelchair accessible. Deaf or hard of hearing persons needing assistance should contact the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System (dial 711).

All interested persons are invited to attend one or more public hearing components to present relevant verbal and/or written testimony concerning the proposed improvements to I-41, including those aspects that may require authorization from the US Army Corps of Engineers for the placement of fill materials into waters of the United States.

Persons with an interest in or knowledge about historical and archaeological resources in the project area are invited to present such information at the public hearing.

Provisions have been made for the submission of written statements or other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, the testimony presented at the virtual and in-person public hearing components. This additional testimony will be included in the hearing record if received or postmarked no later than Friday, August 6, 2021. Testimony should be sent via email, or mail to the project manager at:

Scott Ebel
I-41 Design Project Manager
(920) 360-2225
Scott.Ebel@dot.wi.gov

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Northeast Region Office
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, WI 54304

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are further notified of the availability of an Environmental Assessment of the proposal's impacts and effects which has been prepared and filed according to the Wisconsin and National Environmental Policy Acts (NEPA).

An electronic copy of the Environmental Assessment is available and can be viewed online at:
wisconsin.gov/I41project

Additionally, a paper copy of the Environmental Assessment is available for inspection and potential copying at the following locations (please note, a fee may be required for copying service):

Northeast Region Office (*please schedule an appointment*)
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, WI 54304
(920) 360-2225
Scott.Ebel@dot.wi.gov

Appleton Public library
225 N Oneida Street
Appleton, WI 54911

Little Chute Public Library
625 Grand Ave
Little Chute, WI 54140

Kaukauna Public Library
207 Thilmany Rd #200
Kaukauna, WI 54130

Brown County Library -
Wrightstown Branch
615 Main St
Wrightstown, WI 54180

Brown County Library -
Kress Family Branch
333 N Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115

Comments regarding the environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvements will be addressed in the final environmental document if postmarked/received no later than Friday, August 6, 2021. Written comments on the Environmental Assessment should be sent via mail or e-mail to the WisDOT contact person listed below.

Scott Ebel
I-41 Design Project Manager
(920) 360-2225
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Green Bay, WI 54304

The Department of Transportation will review all comments and testimony presented as part of this public hearing process and reserves the right to make a final determination on the proposed improvements as described in this notice.

WisDOT Project ID 1130-63-00

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Division of Transportation System Development