

Public Involvement Meeting Handout

Project ID: 7640-00-02
City of River Falls, Cemetery Road
South Main Street to WIS 65
WIS 29
Pierce County

Project ID: 7650-00-04
Prescott – River Falls
Culvert C-47-0719
WIS 29
Pierce County

Project ID: 7650-01-05
Prescott – River Falls
County QQ South Junction to Cemetery Road
WIS 29
Pierce County

Project ID: 7650-02-03
Prescott – River Falls
County FF & 770TH Avenue Intersection
WIS 29
Pierce County



Tuesday, March 17, 2020
5 – 7 P.M.
River Falls High School – Commons

MEETING PURPOSE

The goals and objectives for all public involvement activities for the WIS 29 (Cemetery Road) project are as follows:

- To initially identify, inform and gather input from the local officials and adjacent property owners about the purpose and need, improvement concepts and probable impacts of the proposed improvements.
- To provide an opportunity for the public and local community to discuss project concerns and issues.
- To ensure that the public and stakeholders are aware of the project impacts both during and after construction.

PROJECT-RELATED INFORMATION

7640-00-02 – City of River Falls, Cemetery Road:

Primary Needs:

1. *Pavement Deficiencies* – The existing asphalt pavement for this 1.2-mile section of Cemetery Road (South Main Street to WIS 65) is showing signs of deterioration and is in need of maintenance or rehabilitation activities to extend its serviceable life. The existing curb and gutter has isolated locations requiring repair.
2. *Guardrail Deficiencies* – The existing guardrail on the east end of the project area has substandard end treatments.
3. *Shoulder Deficiencies* – The portion of WIS 29 between Wasson Lane and WIS 65 has a 6-foot gravel shoulder. According to design requirements, at least 3 feet should be paved.

Proposed Improvements:

It is proposed to mill and overlay the existing pavement to prolong its useful life. Wider shoulders will be paved on the roadway section between Wasson Lane and WIS 65. In addition, removal of existing guardrail, replacing broken/deteriorated curb and gutter, updating substandard curb ramps, new signing and pavement marking will be included in the project.

7650-00-04 – Culvert C-47-0719:

Culvert C-47-0719 is the existing large metal culvert pipe immediately south of the intersection of WIS 29 and 805th Avenue.

Primary Needs:

1. *Culvert Deficiencies* – The existing corrugated metal culvert pipe has a small bulge in the pipe at the west end, perforations along the entire bottom of the pipe and distortion of the pipe at the ends.

Proposed Improvements:

It is proposed to remove and replace the existing culvert with a two-cell concrete box culvert with increased capacity for additional water flow. New guardrail, signing and pavement marking also is included.

7650-01-05 – County QQ South Junction to Cemetery Road:

Primary Needs:

1. Pavement Deficiencies – The existing concrete pavement for this 5.5-mile section of WIS 29 is in poor condition with severe cracking, divided slabs, spalling and faulting.
2. Bridge Deficiencies – Bridge B-47-21 is the existing bridge over Greenwood Valley Creek. The existing concrete deck on bridge B-47-21 is exhibiting bridge deck cracking, delamination around cracks, spalling with exposed rebar and water staining on the underside.
3. Safety – The project has the following safety needs:
 - There was a high crash rate on the WIS 29 curve just south of the 690th Street intersection between 2010 and 2015. The high crash rate warrants improvements, but the existing roadway geometry doesn't appear to be the root cause of the crashes. Edgeline and centerline rumble strips are proposed.
 - Crash Rates at County E – Eight total crashes occurred at the intersection of WIS 29 and County E between 2010 and 2015. Four of those crashes were rear-end type crashes and one angle crash. These were all related to left turning vehicles. The intersection crash rate is considered high and warrants improvements.
 - Substandard Bridge Railing – The existing steel railing at bridge B-47-21 does not meet current crash standards.

Proposed Improvements:

The proposed improvements include replacing the existing pavement to prolong its useful life. Grading of ditches will be completed as needed. To improve safety throughout the entire corridor, the following will be included: superelevation of curves will be adjusted; a dedicated left-turn lane at the WIS 29 and County E intersection will replace the existing bypass lane; edgeline and centerline rumble strips will be installed; and new guardrail will be installed at spot locations. Improvements to the intersection of WIS 29 and Cemetery Road, replacing and extending some cross culverts and pavement marking also are included in the project.

Rehabilitating bridge B-47-21 includes removing the top 1.5 inches of the existing bridge deck and overlaying with a new 1.5-inch concrete surface. This will improve the ride quality of the bridge by removing cracks and patched areas. All rebar that will be exposed will be properly cleaned and sealed to maintain its structural integrity. The railing will also be replaced with new bridge railing and new guardrail approaches to meet current crash safety standards. The deck will be widened 8 inches to accommodate the new railing but will not increase the clear width of the structure. The abutment will be retrofitted to accommodate the slightly wider structure with minimal approach work.

7650-02-03 – County FF & 770th Avenue Intersection:

Primary Needs:

1. Eleven total crashes occurred at the intersection of WIS 29 and County FF between the years of 2011 and 2015. Six of those crashes were rear-end type crashes related to vehicles attempting to turn left, which identifies a pattern of crashes at this intersection. Nine of the eleven crashes resulted in injuries to the drivers. In addition, this location has experienced several near-miss crash events in conjunction with vehicles attempting to turn left at the intersection.

Proposed Improvements:

The proposed improvement includes widening the WIS 29 and County FF intersection to include left-turn lanes for westbound and eastbound WIS 29 traffic. A right-turn lane for westbound WIS 29 traffic and reconfiguring the channelizing island for right turns from southbound County FF also are proposed. By separating the turning vehicles from through traffic, it is anticipated to reduce crashes at this intersection by 24% and reduce injury crashes by 28%.

PROPOSED TRAFFIC IMPACTS

Construction is currently scheduled for 2021.

During construction, WIS 29 will be closed to through traffic between US 10 in the city of Prescott and Cemetery Road in the city of River Falls. Traffic is planned to be detoured along US 10 and WIS 65 (see Figure 1). Access will be maintained for properties located along the length of each project. At least one 12-foot wide gravel surface will be provided at all times for local traffic.

During construction, WIS 29 within the municipal limits of the city of River Falls from South Main Street to WIS 65 will remain open to traffic but will be subject to flagging and/or lane closures depending upon the stage of construction. Access will be maintained for properties located along the length of each project.

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

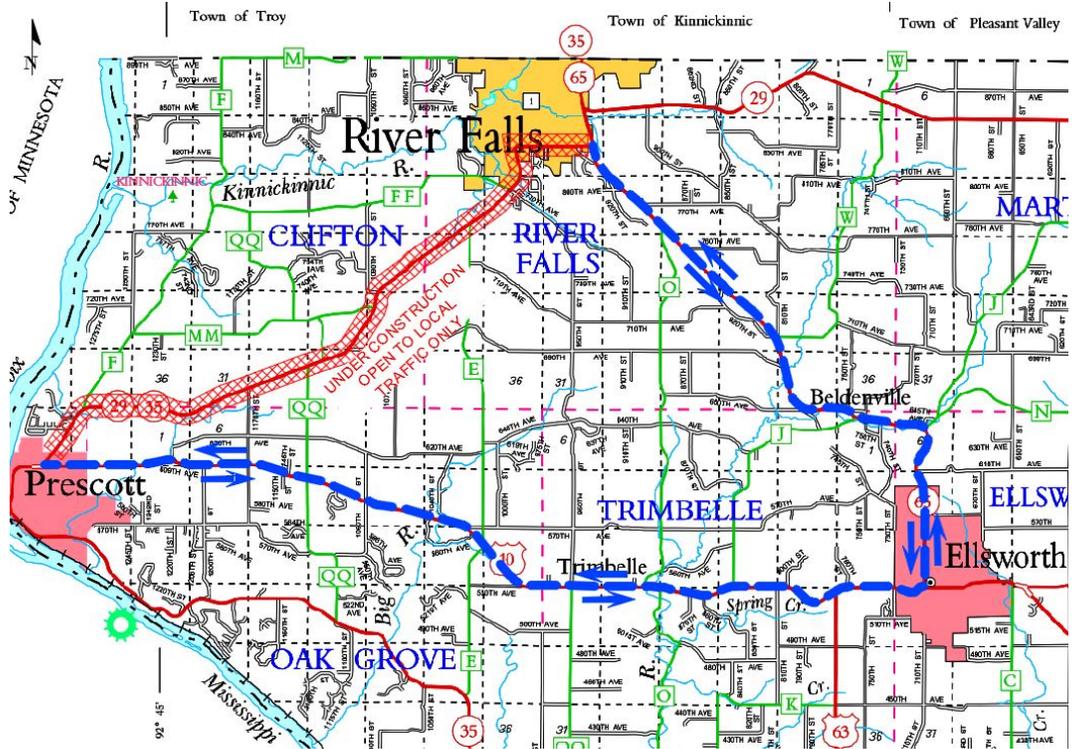


Figure 1: WIS 29 Location/Detour Map

REAL ESTATE

Additional permanent right of way and temporary easements for grading will be required for this project. These real estate impacts will be required on the west side of WIS 29 south of 805th Avenue and in the southeast quadrant of the intersection of WIS 29 and Cemetery Road. Preliminary right-of-way impacts are shown on the exhibits. WisDOT expects to begin real estate acquisition in March 2020.

PROJECT UPDATE/NEXT STEPS

- Previous Public Involvement Meeting – Dec. 12, 2018
- Environmental Document Approved – Oct. 21, 2019, Oct. 23, 2019
- Local Officials Meeting – March 17, 2020
- Complete Final Plans – Aug. 1, 2020
- Construction - 2021

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS

We encourage you to talk to the project representatives and ask them questions. Attached to this handout is a sheet for your written comments and input regarding the proposed project. Please mail any written comments about the project before Tuesday, March 24, 2020, or leave them in the comment box tonight before you leave. You can also email your comments to the contacts listed below.

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.

For more information, please contact:

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