

# Public Involvement Handout

**Project ID: 8640-00-01  
Menomonie - Boyceville  
Coon Creek Bridge (B-17-0368)  
WIS 79  
Dunn County**

**Project ID: 8640-00-03  
Menomonie - Connorsville  
Clack Creek Bridge (B-17-0369)  
WIS 79  
Dunn County**



**Public Comment Period: July 22 to Aug. 12, 2020**

**To abide by local, state, and federal public health guidelines, public involvement for this project will consist of a project presentation video, handouts and a comment form.**

**This handout and other meeting materials are available on the design website at:  
<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nw/wis79dunn/default.aspx>**

**Thank you for your interest in this project, we look forward to your feedback.**

## Purpose of the meeting

The goal/objective of this meeting is to inform and gather input from the traveling public, community officials and property owners regarding the proposed reconstruction of the existing bridge structures over the Coon and Clack creeks on WIS 79 in Dunn County. Additionally, input is welcomed regarding the planned closure of WIS 79 and subsequent detour route needed during construction of the new bridge structures.

## Format of the meeting

Public involvement for this project will consist of a project presentation video, handouts and a comment form. All materials are available on the project website.

## Project information

WIS 79 is a rural minor arterial highway with moderate levels of traffic (1,800 vehicles per day). This segment of WIS 79 serves the communities of Connorsville and Boyceville with a north/south connection to US 12, northwest of the city of Menomonie.

This two-lane highway crosses over Coon and Clack creeks between the village of Boyceville and US 12 in the town of Sherman. The existing structures over these water bodies were constructed in 1936. The structures are comprised of steel girders and a concrete deck supported by timber-pile piers and abutments.

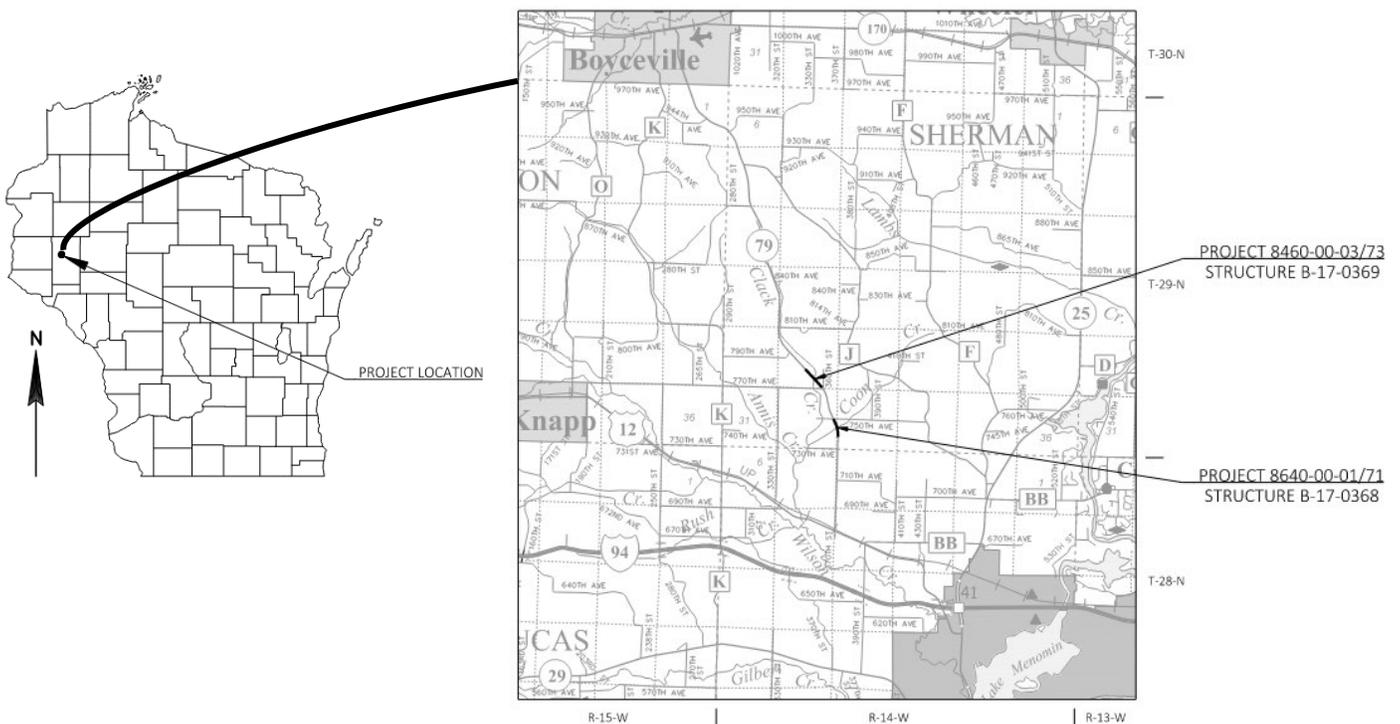


Figure 1: Project location map

## Purpose of this project

The purpose of the proposed action is to address the existing bridges' deteriorating structural elements.

## Need for this project

The need for the proposed improvements is established through routine inspection and documentation of the structural elements of each bridge. For a proposed project to be considered successful, it must address structural deficiencies noted during this process. For this project, these deficiencies include:

1. **Bridge Deck Deterioration:** Bridge decks are showing signs of wear and deterioration with visible cracks on the driving surface and spalling of the concrete soffit (see photos). A successful project will address this deterioration through reconstruction, resurfacing or rehabilitation of this bridge deck surface.
2. **Structural Deterioration:** The timber pile substructure is rotting, with one pile on Coon Creek Bridge having a 40% section loss, and the south abutment on the Clack Creek Bridge appears to have a slight twist in the timber structure. A successful project will repair these structural deficiencies.
3. **Bridge Rail Condition:** Bridge rail does not meet current crash standards and is deteriorating from plow scrapes. A successful project will address the bridge rail condition via repair or replacement.



*Figure 2: Coon Creek Bridge, B-17-0368, deteriorated steel girder and timber pile substructure view.*



*Figure 3: Clack Creek Bridge, B-17-0369, typical spalling at concrete soffit.*



*Figure 4: Typical condition of timber-pile supports found at both structures*



*Figure 5: Typical railing design found at both structures*

## Proposed improvements

1. Bridge: Remove the existing bridges and construct new concrete girder bridges.
  - a. Bridge railing will be solid concrete wall.
  - b. Clear roadway width at both bridges will be widened from 34 feet to 38 feet wide.
2. Roadway: Reconstruct the roadway approaches to each bridge. Replace the existing guardrail and construct with energy absorbing terminals for both bridges. Replace existing signs and pavement markings.
  - a. Roadway alignment will match existing alignment.
  - b. Change in roadway vertical profile is anticipated:
    - i. Proposed changes will increase vertical profile approximately 1.5 feet in elevation at Coon Creek crossing.
    - ii. Proposed changes will increase vertical profile approximately 2.0 feet in elevation at Clack Creek crossing.
    - iii. Changes to the profile are required to install standard concrete railing and allow for adequate surface water drainage across the bridge.
  - c. Grading is required for change in roadway profile and guardrail construction.

## Proposed traffic impacts

WIS 79 will be closed to through traffic during construction. Through traffic will be detoured to WIS 25 starting at US 12 and WIS 79. Traffic will return to WIS 79 via WIS 170 in Boyceville. Local traffic will be maintained from the north side or south side of the bridge locations.

Access to adjacent properties and first responders will be maintained during construction. Brief interruptions in access may occur temporarily at driveways. The contractor will be required to notify homeowners and businesses prior to construction. No permanent changes to existing access points are anticipated at this time.

Construction currently is scheduled for completion in 2025. Plans and specifications will be developed and ready for construction as early as 2023, pending funding availability.

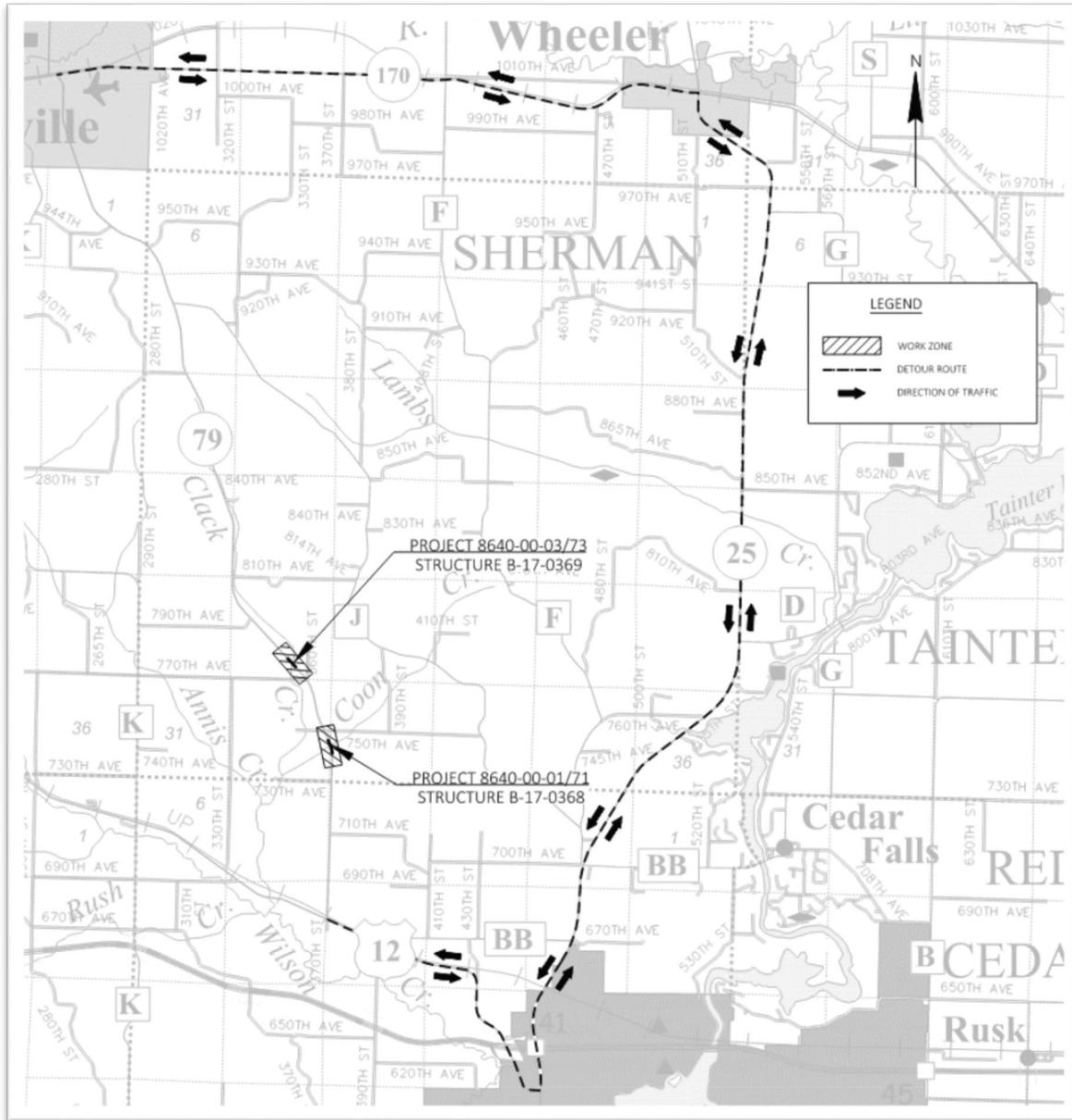


Figure 6: Detour route map

## Real estate

Additional highway right of way will be required for this project. This will include areas of permanent (fee) and temporary (temporary limited easement) land acquisitions at the following locations. See Anticipated Real Estate Areas exhibit on the project website.

### Coon Creek Bridge (B-17-0368)

- Potential permanent right-of-way needs along the west side of WIS 79 for grading and embankment construction.
- Potential for temporary easements along construction limits for grading and tying in slopes.

### Clack Creek Bridge (B-17-0369)

- Potential permanent right-of-way needs along the west and east side of WIS 79.
- Potential for temporary easements along construction limits for grading and tying in slopes.

A landowner rights pamphlet is available on the project website. Real estate acquisition is expected to begin in the late 2020/early 2021. Direct mailings and coordination will occur with impacted property owners.

## Project update/next steps

Below is the project schedule including milestones already completed.

- |   |                          |            |
|---|--------------------------|------------|
| • Surveys and initial agency coordination | Late 2018 through 2019   | - Complete |
| • Preliminary plans                       | March 2020               | - Complete |
| • Local official meetings                 | May 2020                 | - Complete |
| • Public involvement meeting              | July 2020                |            |
| • Final environmental document            | September/October 2020   |            |
| • Final right-of-way plat                 | November 2020            |            |
| • Right of way acquisition                | Winter 2020 through 2021 |            |
| • Final plans                             | May 2022                 |            |
| • Construction                            | Spring/summer 2025       |            |

## **Public input/comments**

WisDOT encourages you to reach out to project representatives with your comments, questions or concerns. This can be done in the form of an email to the contact listed on the project website or by mailing a comment card that can be found on the project website as well. Likewise, if you are a local resident or community official that received a project notification letter, the comment card attached in your mailing can be used for correspondence with the project team.

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:

Tyler Rongstad, P.E.  
Northwest Region Project Manager  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
718 W. Clairemont Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
(715) 461-0372  
[Tyler.Rongstad@dot.wi.gov](mailto:Tyler.Rongstad@dot.wi.gov)



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Wisconsin Department of Transportation

718 W. Clairemont Ave.

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Attn: Tyler Rongstad

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