

Public Involvement Handout

WIS 85
Durand–Eau Claire
County O to 1010th Street
Dunn County
Project ID: 7120-00-04/74

WIS 85
Durand–Eau Claire
BR Chippewa River Bridge B-17-131
Dunn County
Project ID: 7120-00-04/74



Feb. 26, 2024

Public input

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) invites you to provide input on the proposed improvement project on WIS 85 between the cities of Durand and Eau Claire.

Please take this opportunity to review the proposed project and its potential impacts. You are encouraged to reach out to project staff and comment on the proposed improvements. WisDOT appreciates your participation and comments regarding this project.

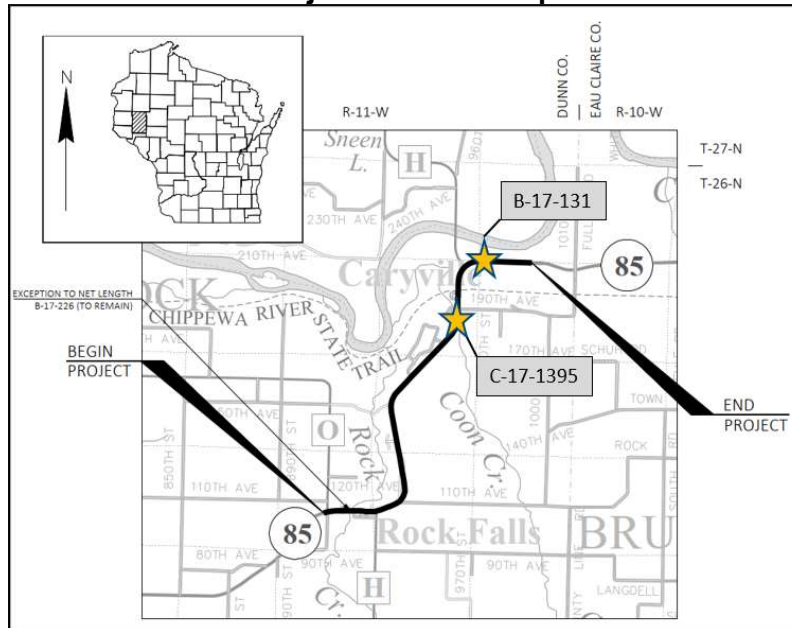
Project information

WisDOT is proposing to improve 4.21 miles of WIS 85 from just west of the north junction of County O to approximately 2,100 feet west of 1010th Street in the Dunn County town of Rock Creek to preserve the function, operation and safety of the route in the overall transportation system by resurfacing the deteriorated pavement. Proposed improvements include:

- Milling 3.25 inches of the existing asphalt pavement and overlaying the entire roadway width with 3.25 inches of new asphalt pavement from just west of the north junction of County O to the south junction of County H.
- Milling and recycling 4 inches of existing asphalt pavement and overlaying the roadway with 2.75 inches of new asphalt pavement from the south junction of County H to approximately 2,100 feet west of 1010th Street.
- Widening the paved shoulders from 3 to 5 feet while maintaining the 6-foot total shoulder width to install centerline and shoulder rumble strips along WIS 85 from the south junction of County H to approximately 2,100 feet west of 1010th Street.
- Upgrading the Chippewa River State Trail crossing to meet Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.
- Removing an unused cattle pass just west of County O and replacing it with culvert pipes.
- Extending a box culvert south of County H.
- Replacing the existing drainage structure east of the north junction of County H with a dual box culvert.
- Removing existing guardrail along WIS 85.
- Replacing existing pavement markings.

The asphalt pavement on this section of WIS 85 is experiencing deterioration in the form of cracking and rutting, and the roadway has a poor ride. The existing pavement exhibits deficiencies beyond what typical annual maintenance can be addressed in a no-build alternative. The proposed resurfacing project meets the purpose and need within the available project funding and is the preferred alternative. A pavement replacement alternative would remove and replace the existing roadway pavement and was dismissed because it is not cost effective at this time. To address WIS 85 crash history of head-on and run-off-the-road crashes, centerline and shoulder rumble strips would be installed.

Project Location Map



Proposed traffic impacts

During construction, WIS 85 will be closed to through traffic; however, access to property owners and businesses will be maintained. The planned detour route will use US 10 to WIS 37.

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

Real estate

Temporary limited easements (TLE) would be required for the removal and replacement of cattle pass C-17-1395 with culvert pipes and for temporary trail crossings during construction of improvements at the Chippewa River State Trail crossing. The proposed work near the Chippewa River State Trail crossing will require approximately 0.04 acre of TLE from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) for grading, detectable warning field installation and asphalt replacement. Permanent right of way will be required for grading purposes at the cattle pass removal and culvert pipe replacement location north of 150th Avenue, the C-17-126 (Coon Creek) box culvert extension and the replacement site of structure B-17-131.

Project update and next steps

- February and March 2024: Seek public input on the project.
- June 2024: Complete the environmental review process.
- July 2024: Complete preliminary design plans.
- November 2024: Begin real estate acquisition.

- November 2025: Finalize roadway design plans.
- 2026: Complete construction.

Public input

We encourage you to reach out to project representatives and ask them questions. A link to a comment form is provided on the project website. Please mail any written comments regarding the project before March 29, 2024. You can also email your comments to either of the contacts listed below.

Persons with a concern for or knowledge about historic buildings and structures and archaeological sites are encouraged to provide comments. All 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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