

I-94 East-West Freeway Corridor Study

Wisconsin Department of Transportation



Spring 2013

WISDOT REFINES RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR I-94 EAST-WEST CORRIDOR STUDY

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) invites the public to attend a public information meeting regarding the I-94 East West Freeway Corridor Study. The meeting will be held on May 21 and 22, from 4-7pm each night, at State Fair Park and Marquette High School. (see back page).

The meeting will be an informal open house style meeting that allows citizens to stop in anytime to meet individually with project staff. The meeting will present alternatives for the redesign of I-94 for public comment.

The goal of the meeting is to obtain feedback on alternatives developed for the corridor. WisDOT encourages adjacent property and business owners along the corridor, users of the freeway, interested citizens and other stakeholders to attend and let your opinions be heard.

As the study progresses, decisions get made about the direction of the design alternatives. Your feedback is critical to project development.

What you'll see at the May public information meeting

- Updated improvement alternatives (freeway lanes, interchange layouts, ramps and ramp connection concepts and intersecting side streets)
- Three-dimensional views of the alternatives that will make it easier to understand what's being considered
- Updated information on traffic projections and studies
- Initial estimate of impacts (including factors such as real estate needs and project costs)

WisDOT is seeking your opinion on options that should be retained for further study and options that should be dropped, modified, or considered further.

WHAT'S NEXT

May 21 and 22 - Public Meeting

- Narrowed range of alternatives
- Approximate real estate impacts
- Impacts comparison, including order-of-magnitude costs and environmental impacts

Summer 2013 - Public Meeting

- Refined alternatives
- Detailed traffic study
- Additional information on impacts

Fall 2013 - Public Hearing

- Recommended alternative, if identified
- More detailed cost and environmental impact information
- Conceptual noise analysis

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
www.seffreeways.org

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PROJECT PROGRESS

Since the December public meetings, the study team has studied the range of alternatives in more detail. Access (interchange ramp) improvements and modifications will continue to be considered.

Public information meetings scheduled for May 21 and May 22 will be your next opportunity to review the project, and see updated designs that are being considered.

No final decisions have been made regarding changes in the corridor, but additional information is now available. A recommended alternative has not yet been identified.

WisDOT involves the community in all phases of planning and design and will continue to communicate project information with you and seek your feedback and suggestions.

Stakeholder participation is critical to this project's success and have already led to refinements and improvements to options developed earlier in the study.



NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

A significant portion of the Veteran's Administration grounds in Milwaukee, including the cemetery, was recently designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Sites with this designation are considered nationally significant historic places and are designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States.



WHAT WE'RE HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC

WisDOT has conducted dozens of meetings with the general public, community groups, businesses and individuals over the past several months. The diversity of comments received continues to illustrate the challenge WisDOT is facing in addressing all the input and developing solutions that satisfy all stakeholders, while meeting the project's purpose and need.

One of the most important issues to people is preserving access to/from the freeway. Other issues include:

- Potential impacts resulting from improvements (noise, air quality, relocations of homes and/or businesses, visual intrusion, and others)
- Reduce congestion
- Improve safety
- Consider transit
- Double-deck concepts (pro/con)

Groups that the study team has recently met with include:

- **Neighborhoods:** Story Hill, Merrill Park, and Layton Boulevard West Neighborhoods
- **Government Officials:** City of Milwaukee, City of West Allis, City of Wauwatosa, Village of West Milwaukee, Milwaukee County
- **Businesses and business organizations:** Miller/Coors, Hunger Task Force, Badger Trucking, Central Bark, Milwaukee Brewers, American Transmission Company, We Energies, MATC, Potawatomi Casino, VA Medical Complex, Menomonee Valley Partners, Menomonee Valley Business Association, Wauwatosa Chamber of Commerce and Joy Global

PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the study is to address:

- the deteriorated condition of the study area freeway system,
- obsolete design of the roadway and bridges,
- current and future freeway operations, and
- the high crash rate.

The study will accomplish the following:

- Maintain a key link in the local, state, and national transportation network.
- Address the obsolete design of the study-area freeway system to improve safety. This includes examining the replacement of left-hand entrances and exits and providing longer weaving distances between closely spaced exit and entrance ramps.
- Replace deteriorating pavement and bridges.
- Accommodate future traffic volumes at an acceptable level of service.

EVALUATING ALTERNATIVES

Early in the process, concepts and ideas are primarily evaluated on a pass/fail basis:

- Do they meet the purpose and need of the study?
- Will traffic operate at an acceptable level?

The alternatives you'll see at the May public meeting will have additional information regarding impacts, costs, and function of the freeway.

WisDOT is looking for further feedback to take the project to the next step in the process and develop a recommended alternative.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Conduct environmental and engineering study									
Conduct final design; address real estate and utility issues			☆						
Reconstruct the corridor								☆ →	

☆ Based on funding availability and legislative approvals



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YOU'RE INVITED

Open house meetings

Same information on both nights - come when it is most convenient for you!

May 21, 2013, 4pm - 7pm

State Fair Park
Tommy Thompson Youth Center, Gate #5
640 S. 84th St., Milwaukee
MCTS Route 67

May 22, 2013, 4pm - 7pm

Marquette University High School*
3401 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee
* use Henke Center entrance in parking lot on
Michigan Street
MCTS Routes 10, 35, 30