US 12/18
Freeway Conversion Study

I-39/90 - County N
Dane County

Public Information Meeting #1
July 31, 2012
Study Team

- **WisDOT Project Manager**
  - Craig Pringle – Project Manager I-39/90 North Segment

- **Dane Partners**
  - Darin Blang – US 12/18 Freeway Conversion Study Leader
  - Matt Barr – Design Segment Leader
  - Beth Klemann – Environmental Leader
  - Lisa Dreifuerst – I-39/90 Deputy Project Manager
Purpose of Meeting

- Introduce the US 12/18 Freeway Conversion Study
- Explain the study process
  - Objectives of the study?
  - Freeway vs. Expressway?
  - Possible improvements?
  - How will the study by conducted?
  - What is the study schedule?
- Gather information and public input
Corridor Overview

- Dane County
- Municipalities
  - City of Madison
  - Village of Cottage Grove, McFarland
- Townships
  - Blooming Grove, Cottage Grove, Dunn, Pleasant
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Businesses & Residents
- Commuters/Motorists
Study Objectives

- Develop a vision of the corridor for the future
  - Identify layout of ultimate freeway conversion
  - Identify short and long-term improvements (year 2040)
- Preserve the corridor
- Support local land use plans
- Improve overall corridor safety
- Be sensitive to environmental and social factors
Possible Improvements

- Convert from a four-lane expressway to a four-lane freeway
  - Eliminate all access points along US 12/18 except at interchanges
  - May include a new interchange
  - Grade separated crossings over/under US 12/18
  - Frontage roads or other local road connections
- Freeway conversion could be phased (I-39 to County AB)
- Could include short-term improvements at select locations based on safety analysis and local development
- *No construction activities planned at this time*
Expressway vs. Freeway

- **Expressway (45 mph to 55 mph)**
  - A high speed divided highway - 4 lanes with median
  - Access is partially controlled
  - At-grade intersections, median crossovers, driveways allowed

- **Freeway (55 mph or greater)**
  - An expressway with fully controlled access
  - Access controlled with interchanges, overpasses, frontage roads, cul-de-sacs
Study Phases

- Data gathering
- Develop conceptual design alternatives and identify impacts
- Prepare environmental document
- Develop 30% plans for the preferred alternative
Data Gathering

- Traffic counts and travel demand forecasting
- Crash analysis and safety evaluation
- Access control evaluation
- Land use and natural/cultural resources
- Identify current deficiencies
- Input from local officials and the public
Develop Alternatives & Identify Impacts

- Develop conceptual design alternatives
  - Potential interchange location & configuration
  - Grade separated crossings
  - Frontage roads and local road improvements

- Identify impacts of each alternative
  - Determine right of way impacts
  - Identify environmental impacts
  - Develop preliminary cost estimates
Environmental Assessment & 30% Plans

- Document purpose and need for freeway conversion
- Describe the alternatives considered
- Evaluate the environmental impact of each alternative
- Identify a preferred alternative that addresses the needs of the corridor
- Develop 30% plans
- Recommend short-term improvements
Project Schedule

Local Officials Meeting #1

Public Information Meeting #1

• Present Study & Gather Information

Data Gathering

June 18, 2012

July 31, 2012

Summer 2012

Fall 2012

Local Officials & Public Information Meeting #2

• Discuss alternatives

Refine alternatives and impacts

Late 2012

Early 2013

Local Officials & Public Information Meeting #3

• Identify Preferred Alternative

Submit Environmental Document and 30% Plans

Spring 2013

Fall 2013
Public Involvement

- Collaborative Effort
- Public Information Meeting during each phase of the study
- Meetings with local officials and special interest groups
- Future meetings with business and property owners
Public Input ‘Dot’ Exercise

STEP 1 - Place number on the map

STEP 2 - Place corresponding number on form and write comment

What are the issues with the highway? Where do they occur? What time of day? What day of the week?

ISSUE #1:

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Where: ____________________________________________
When: _______________
Team Contacts

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Questions

Your input is important
Corridor Discussion