



News Release

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

WisDOT Southwest Region, 3550 Mormon Coulee Road, La Crosse, WI 54601

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For more information, contact:

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Public involvement meetings set for Coulee Region Transportation Study

Visit www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Southwest Region office in La Crosse will begin a series of public involvement meetings to discuss the Coulee Region Transportation Study. The study is identifying and evaluating a range of potential strategies to address local and regional safety and mobility issues.

Meetings are scheduled for the following:

Wednesday, March 11

La Crosse Central High School
1801 Losey Boulevard South
5-7 p.m.; presentation at 5:30

Thursday, March 12

Eagle Bluff Elementary, Onalaska
200 Eagle Court.
5-7 p.m.; presentation at 5:30

The study process, called Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL), considers environmental, community, and economic goals early in transportation planning. During the PEL phase, strategies will be evaluated to determine how they address key needs. Recommended strategies will be carried forward and examined in a National Environmental Policy Act study (NEPA), such as an environmental impact statement. The PEL report is expected in early 2016.

“The PEL process is a collaborative approach to transportation planning,” said WisDOT Project Manager Andy Winga. “It engages a broad range of stakeholders early in the planning process, and we encourage the public to attend a meeting, visit our website, or contact us directly to provide feedback,” Winga said.

There are no plans or construction projects scheduled in relation to the study. Construction of any improvements recommended cannot be considered until the PEL and NEPA studies are completed.

The WisDOT study will examine transportation strategies throughout the metropolitan area. The City of La Crosse is currently conducting a transportation visioning process that will be incorporated into the state's PEL document.

“We urge folks to become engaged in these important efforts and help direct the future of transportation planning for decades to come,” Winga said.

The DOT's March meetings are open the public to review displays and other study materials, ask questions, and provide comments. WisDOT project staff will be available to explain the PEL study process and answer questions.

Additional public meetings will be conducted throughout the PEL study.

For feedback, questions or comments, or to speak with a member of the study team, please visit the study website at www.couleeregionstudy.dot.wi.gov.

The meetings are wheelchair accessible. Citizens who are hearing-impaired or require a language interpreter should contact Andy Winga (608) 785-9061, andrew.winga@dot.wi.gov, no later than three working days prior to the meeting.

-WisDOT-

Coulee Region Transportation Study

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