# Madison Beltline Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study

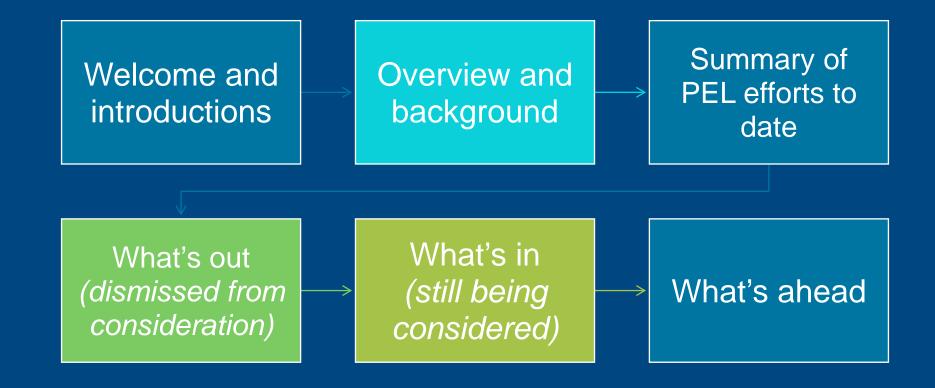
Jeff Berens, P.E. WisDOT Study Manager

Public Involvement Meetings April 12 and 13, 2022





#### Meeting agenda













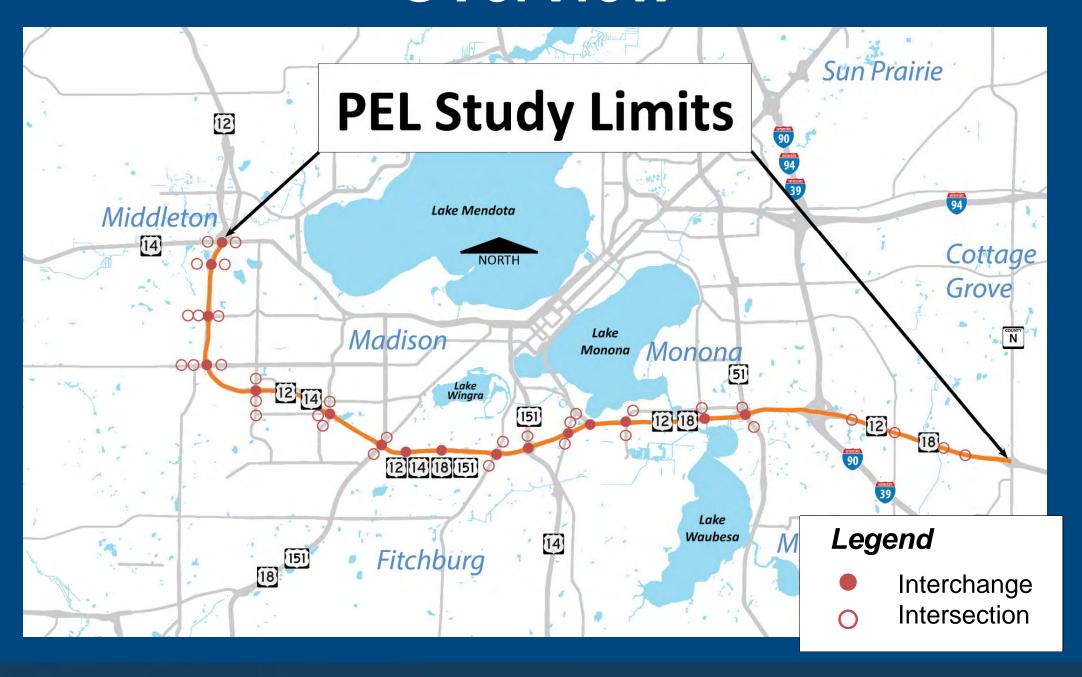








#### Overview



















#### What is being studied?

- Long term solutions to/for:
  - High crash rate
  - Motor vehicle congestion
  - Bicycle/pedestrian accommodation needs
  - Transit needs
  - Deteriorating physical conditions
  - Few alternate routes























#### What is a PEL study?

Named a Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) study, it will allow the study results to flow directly into National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) activities



Alternatives analysis is compatible with the **future NEPA Process** 























#### Summary of PEL efforts to date







#### Stakeholder involvement



2012-2016

160 meetings with stakeholders (government, groups, neighborhoods, committees, public meetings)



2020- Present

Local municipalities and organizations, Environmental Justice (EJ), public

PEL paused

2016-2020



















#### Beltline PEL process

Engage agencies and stakeholders

Develop goals and objectives

Develop screening criteria

We are here

Develop and evaluate (screen) strategies

Identify strategies to bring forward into NEPA













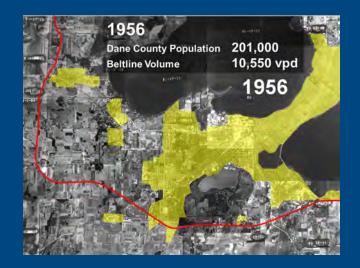






#### Beltline PEL goal

- Improve safety and multimodal travel along and across the Madison Beltline corridor in a way that:
  - Supports economic development
  - Acknowledges community plans
  - Contributes positively to the area's quality of life
  - Limits adverse environmental and social effects to the extent practicable























#### 12 Beltline PEL objectives

Improve safety for all travel modes

Address infrastructure conditions and deficiencies

Address system mobility (congestion) for all travel modes

Limit adverse social. cultural and environmental effects to the extent practicable

Increase system travel time reliability

Improve connections across/adjacent to the Beltline

Enhance efficient regional multimodal access

**Decrease Beltline** traffic diversion impacts

**Enhance transit** ridership and routing Improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations

Complement other major transportation initiatives/studies

Support infrastructure and other measures encouraging alternatives to SOV travel





















#### Desired outcomes

All modes of travel evaluated

All potential solutions considered/evaluated

Broad spectrum of stakeholder involvement

Reduced controversy through data-driven, easy to understand process

Neighborhood, resource impacts understood; mitigation potential considered

Improvement recommendations compatible with other area plans/studies

Constructability challenges understood

Limits and sequence of construction projects understood













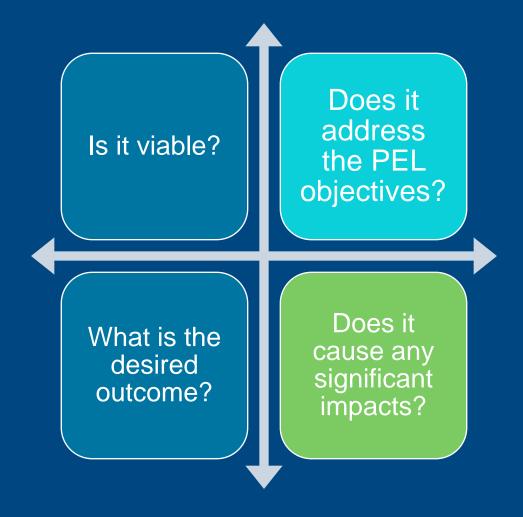








#### Stand-alone strategy screening





















#### What's out

(Dismissed from consideration)







# Evaluation of broad modal strategies: highway corridors







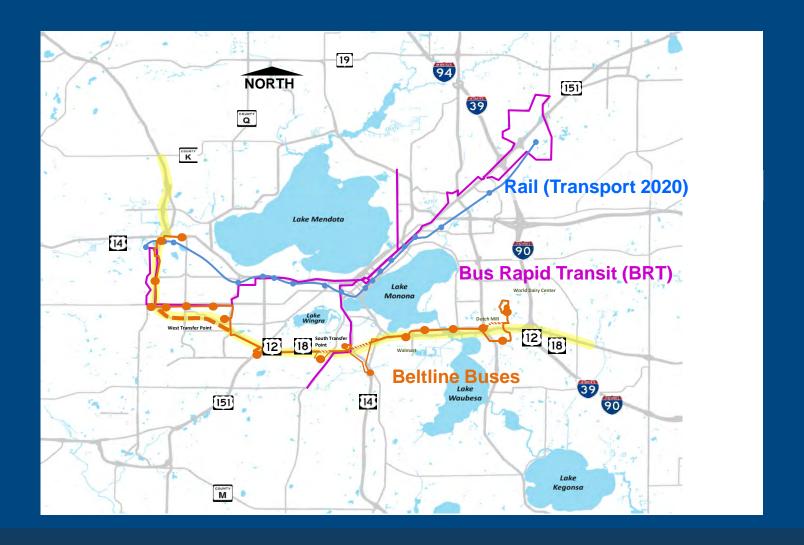








#### Evaluation of broad modal strategies: transit













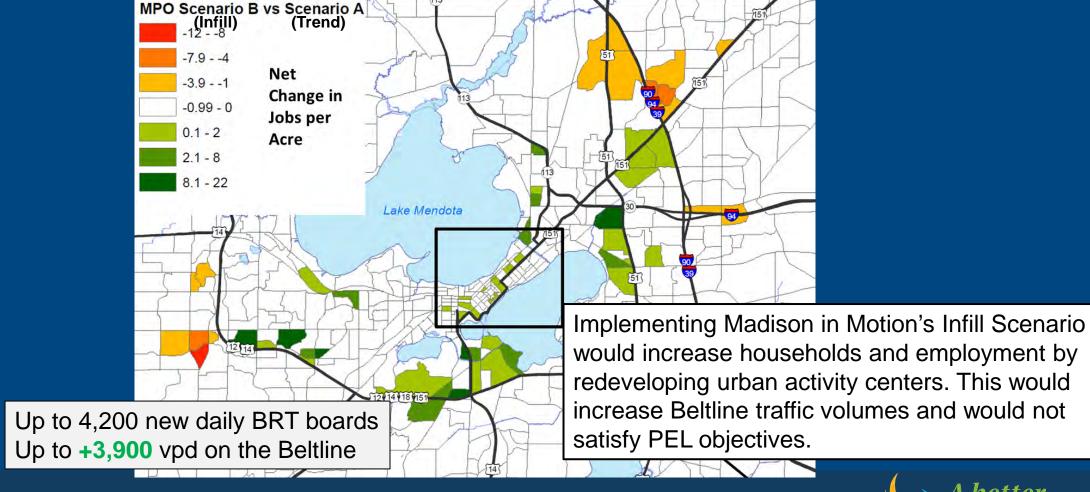






#### Scenario planning (compact land use)

Reverse Historic Development Patterns: 85% Infill, 15% Greenfield













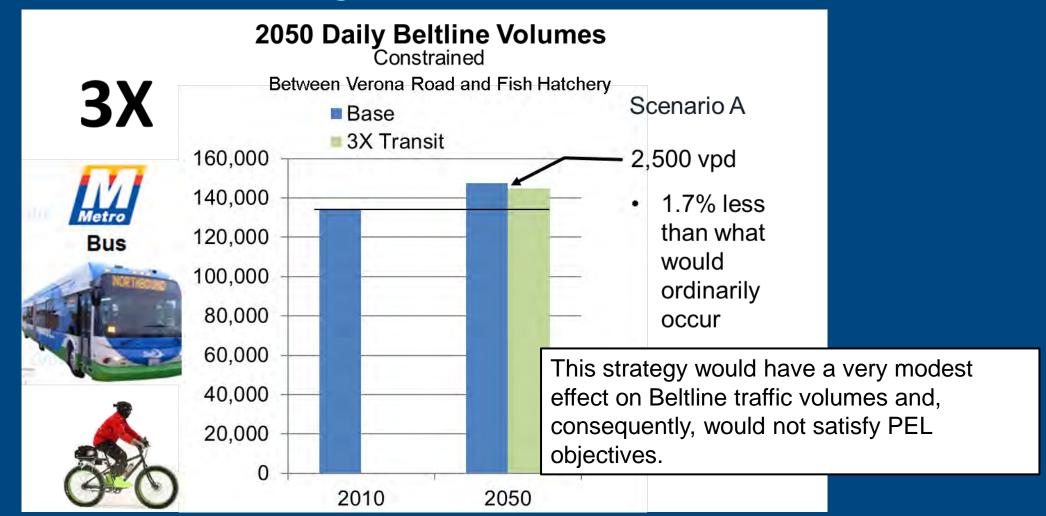








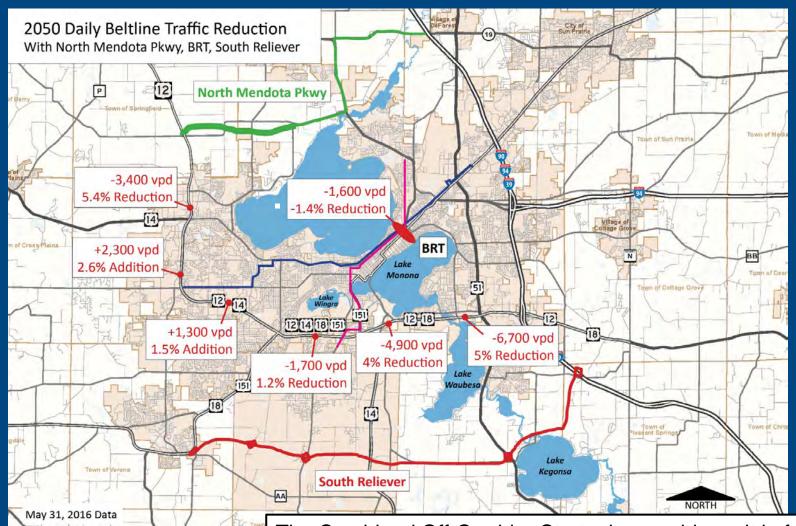
## Scenario planning (triple alternate modes)







#### Combined strategies (NMP, BRT, SR)









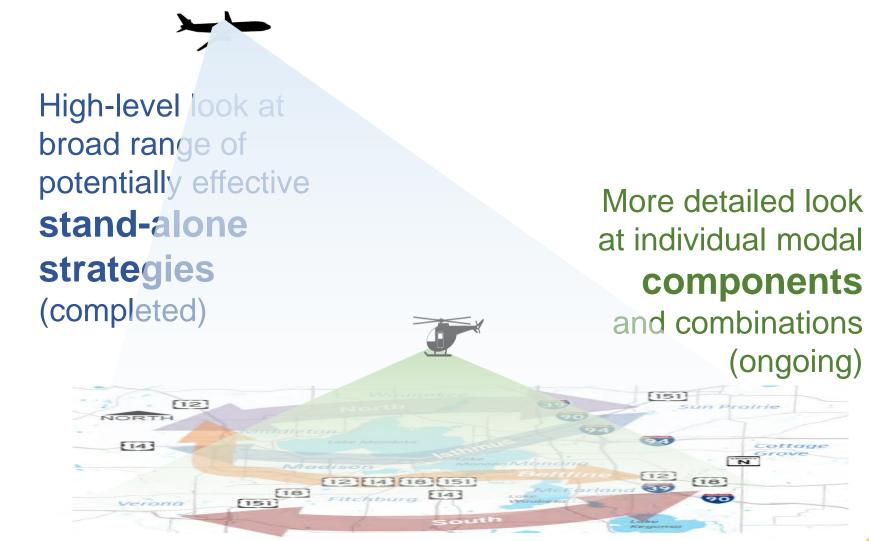






The Combined Off-Corridor Strategies would result in future Beltline traffic volumes that would be similar to existing volumes. These combined strategies would also incur considerable land and monetary impacts.

#### Screening strategies



















#### What's in

(Still under consideration)







#### Possible improvement components





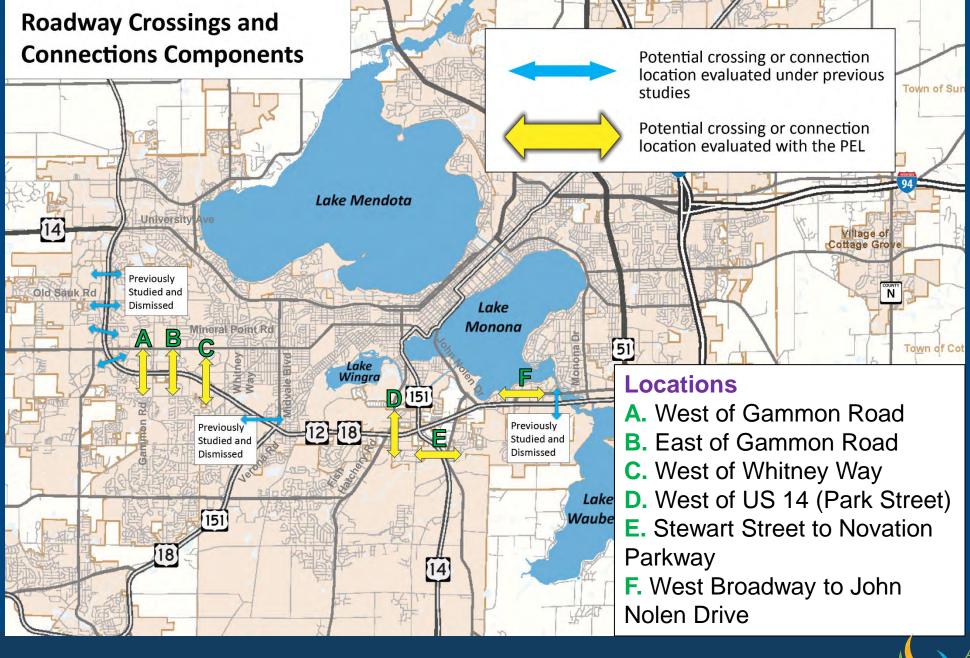






















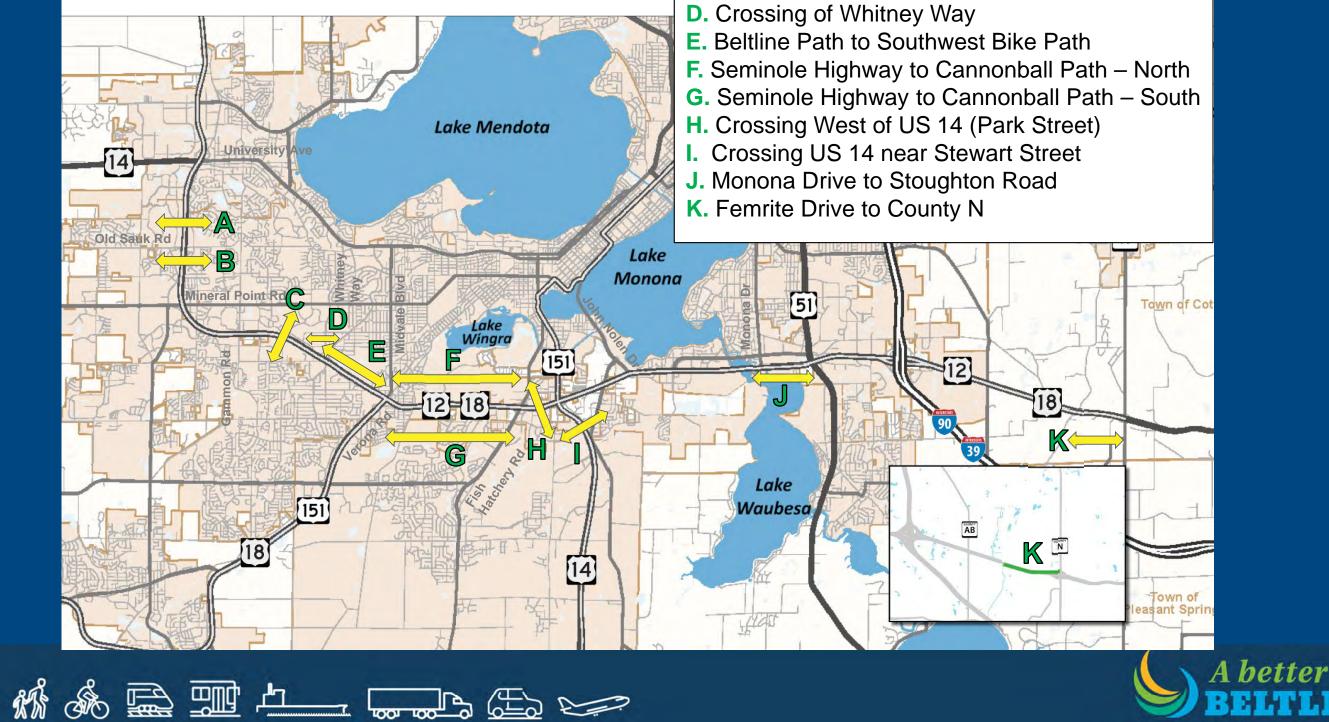








#### **Pedestrian and Bicycle Components**



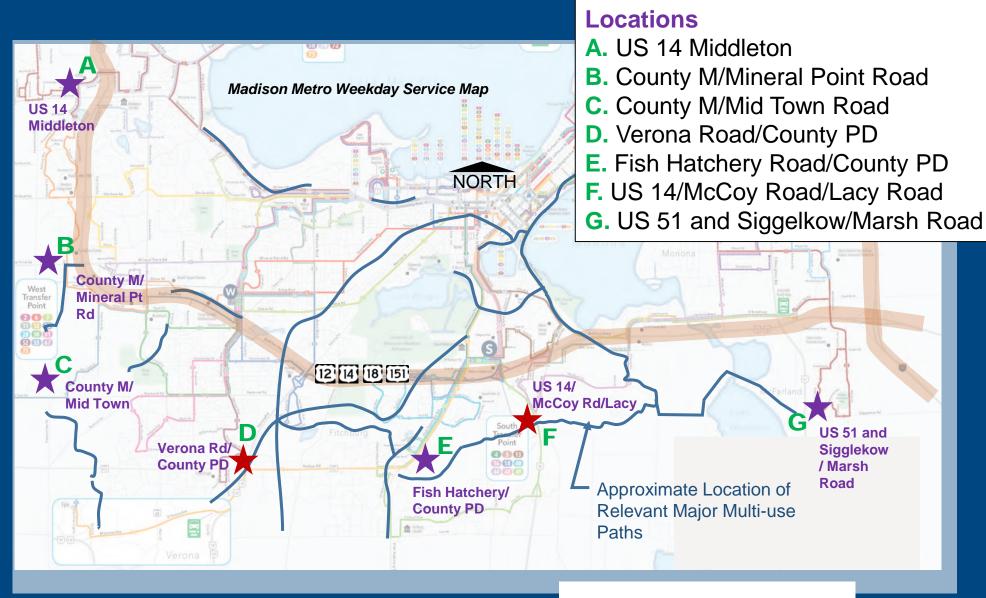
**Locations** 

A. Crossing North of Old Sauk

B. Crossing South of Old Sauk

C. Crossing West of Whitney Way

Studying Highways 12, 14, 18, 151







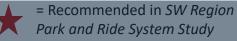




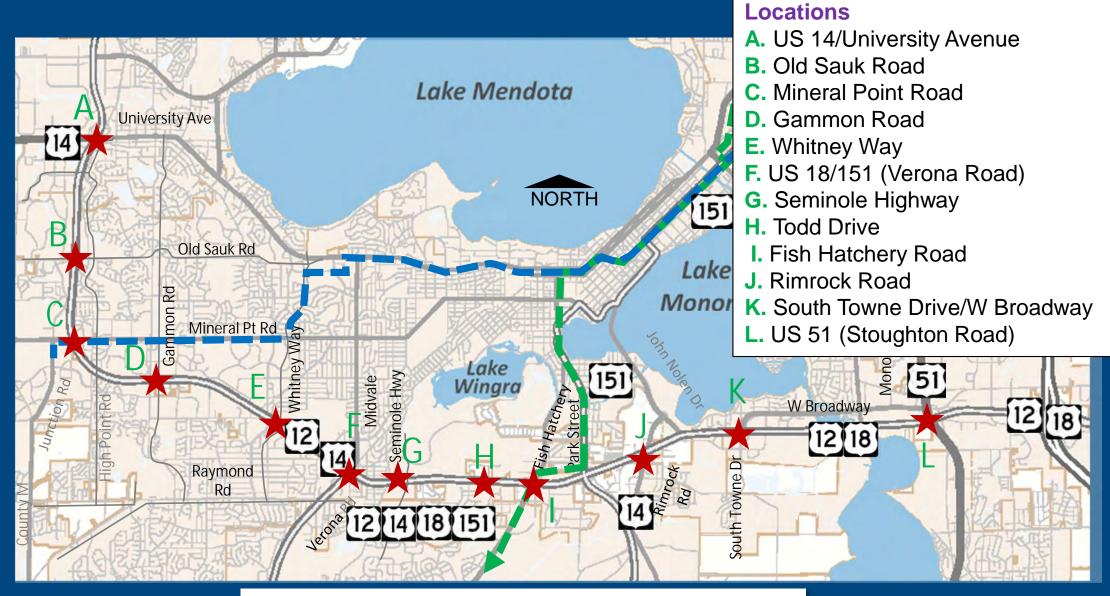












Dashed lines show proposed Bus Rapid Transit routes















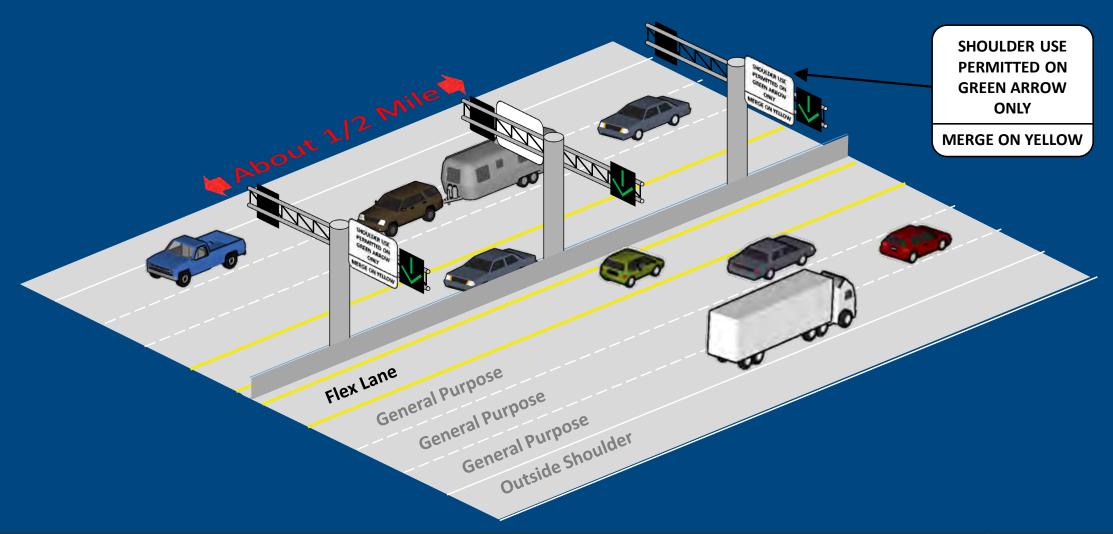








#### Flex Lane on Madison Beltline





















#### Possible mainline components

- No build or preserve and maintain
- Extend Flex Lane
  - Continue Flex Lane west from current limits near Whitney Way
  - Improve weaving areas where needed to eliminate severe bottlenecks
- Add one lane
  - Maintain Flex Lane from Whitney Way to I-39/90
  - Add one lane to the corridor (general use, high occupancy, etc.)
  - Improve weaving areas if needed to eliminate severe bottlenecks

















#### No Build/Preserve and Maintain

















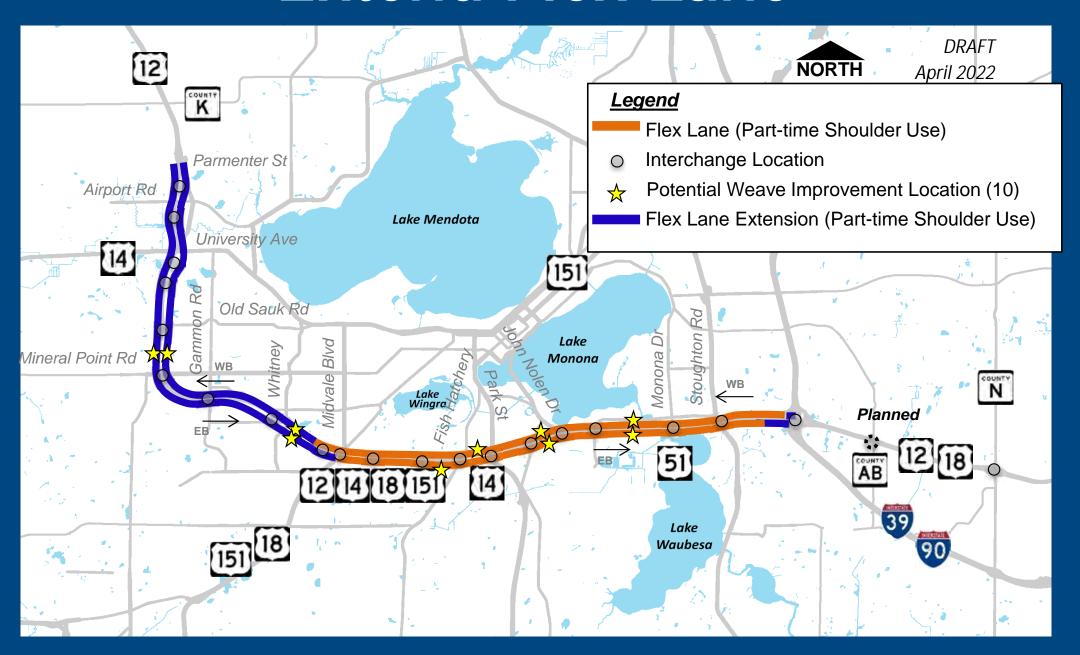








## **Extend Flex Lane**













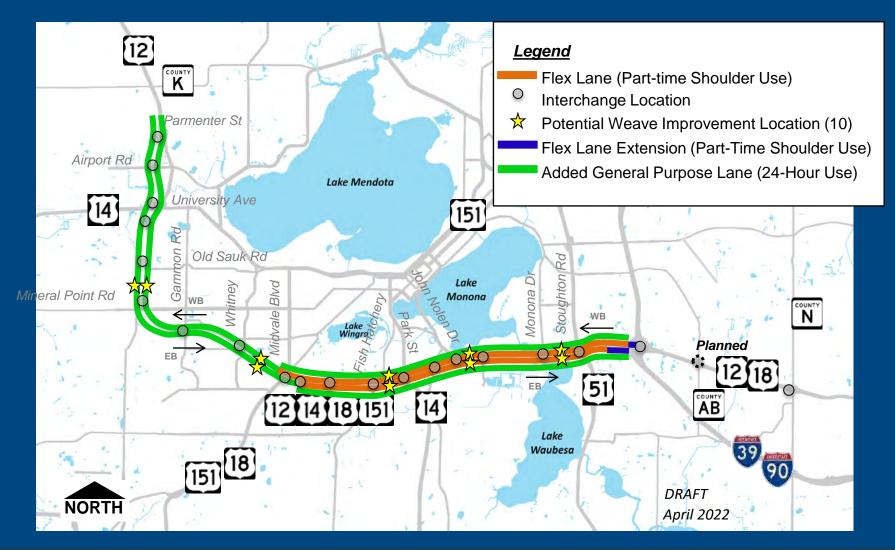








#### Add one lane













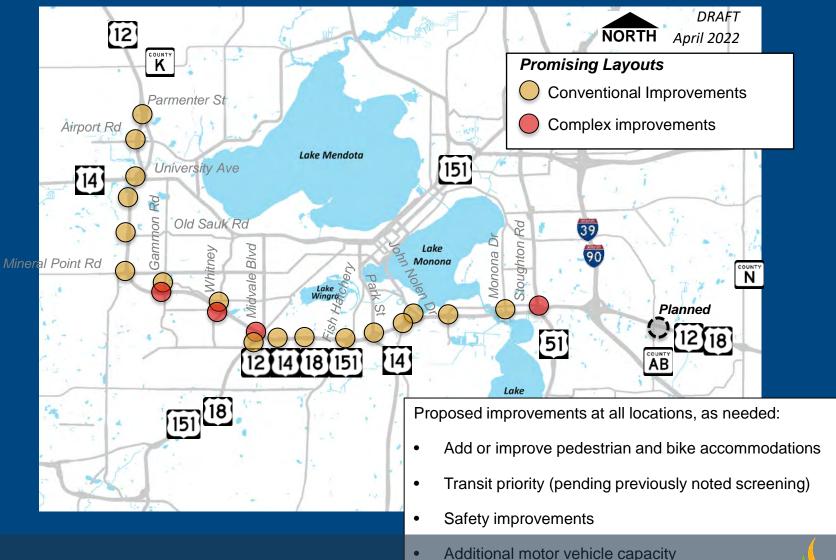








#### Interchange Components























#### What's next







#### Major milestones ahead

- Select highest priority Components
  - Spring/summer 2022
- Develop Strategy Packages
  - Summer 2022
- Select Preferred Strategy Package(s)
  - Fall/winter 2022
- PEL Summary Report and completion
  - Spring 2023
- NEPA (Detailed Study), Design, Construction
  - **2**024+





















#### Opportunities to provide input

- Comment form
  - Online form on study website
- Component Online Survey
  - Scan QR code
  - Online survey on study website
- Contact WisDOT Project Manager Jeff Berens
  - Information in handout and on website
- Please provide feedback by May 13, 2022

**Component Survey** 





















#### **Questions?**

#### **WisDOT contact information:**

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**Project Website:** 

https://bit.ly/MadisonBeltlinePEL

**Component Survey** 





















