

Public Involvement Meeting Handout

US 18

Project Limits

Marquette – Prairie Du Chien

Crawford County



Thursday, January 25, 2023

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Public Involvement Meeting

Located at: Prairie Du Chien City Hall
214 E. Blackhawk Avenue, Prairie Du Chien, WI 53821

Project Website:

<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/us18-mainstreet/default.aspx>.

Purpose of the meeting

Welcome to the public involvement meeting for the proposed improvements to US 18 (Main Street) in the City of Prairie du Chien in Crawford County, WI. See Figure 1 on the next page for the project location map.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is currently in the design phase of this project, which will include the reconstruction of the US 18 intersections at Wisconsin Street and Iowa Street.

The objective of this meeting is to provide you with updated information regarding the proposed improvements to the roadway. We are seeking your input on updates to the project design, proposed construction staging, and the anticipated traffic impacts during construction. After a brief presentation, the meeting will follow an open house format.

Please take time to review the information presented. WisDOT project representatives are available to answer questions. A public input form is also available for you to provide written comments.

Project Needs

The proposed project is located on US 18 (Main Street) in the City of Prairie du Chien in Crawford County, WI. The project limits are just north of Wisconsin Street and just south of Iowa Street on US 18 (Main Street). US 18 is a two-lane undivided roadway north of the Iowa Street intersection, and a two-lane divided roadway south of the Iowa Street intersection.

US 18 is an east-west arterial roadway used by local commuter, regional truck and tourism traffic connecting communities between Wisconsin and Iowa at this location.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to address the crashes and improve the safety at the Wisconsin Street and Iowa Street intersections on US 18 (Main Street). These intersections are currently stop-controlled on north and south approaches while the east and west approaches are free-flowing.

Need

The intersections at Wisconsin Street and Iowa Street have seen an increased number of crashes since the roadway was reconstructed in 2011.

- i. The crash history between 2014 and 2018 (WisDOT's original Study)
 1. 14 crashes on Iowa Street with 4 injury crashes
 2. 25 Crashes on Wisconsin Street with 9 injury crashes
- ii. The crash history between 2018 and 2022 (Covid 2020 & 2021)
 1. 27 crashes on Iowa Street with 6 injury crashes
 2. 24 Crashes on Wisconsin Street with 10 injury crashes

The severity of some of the observed crashes at these intersections warrants consideration of improvements to address the safety concerns.

Figure 1 – Project Location Map (Chang out for pdf)



Project Overview/Information

The proposed alternative would reconstruct the intersections and build single-lane roundabouts at Wisconsin Street and Iowa Street. This safety improvement will help reduce the frequency and severity of the crashes observed at both intersections.

Additional proposed improvements include:

- Storm sewer Improvements
- City utility improvements
- Lighting upgrades
- Curb ramp improvements to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards
- Maintain freight accommodations for oversized and overweight (OSOW) vehicles on US 18, Wisconsin Street and Iowa Street

Current anticipated construction impacts

The project will be constructed in 3 stages:

- Stage 1 will remove curb and place temporary pavement at the US 18 and Iowa Street Intersection in preparation for the next stage.
- Stage 2 will construct the US 18 and Wisconsin Street roundabout under a full closure from Blackhawk Avenue to halfway between Iowa Street and Wisconsin Street.
 - Wisconsin Street will be detoured to WIS 35 south, to US 18 west, and to Iowa Street.
- Stage 3 will construct Iowa Street half at a time to maintain thru traffic on Iowa Street. US 18 will be closed just north of Iowa Street to the project limits just south of Iowa Street.
 - Wisconsin street will be open during this stage and US 18 will be detoured on Wisconsin and Iowa Street to and from WIS 35.

The contractor will be required to maintain access to residents and businesses during construction.

Real estate

New permanent right of way and temporary easements will be required on the project due to the widening of the intersection to construct the roundabouts. The design team will continue to work through the design and the construction limits and proposed right of way and easements still need to be determined.

Project Timeline and next steps

The next steps for this project include the preliminary and final design of the corridor. Public outreach will continue throughout the design process.

Project milestones include the following:

- Local Officials Meeting December 5, 2023
- Public Information Meeting January 25, 2024
 - Open house with a formal presentation
- Environmental Documents March 2024
- Preliminary roadway design March 2024
- Final right of way plat April 2024
- Real estate negotiations begin Fall/Winter 2024
- Final plans August 2025
- Construction currently scheduled Spring/Summer/Fall 2026

Project design website

Access the following materials on the project design website:

<https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/sw/us18-mainstreet/default.aspx>.

- This handout and comment form
- Project exhibits and displays
- PDF of power point display

Public input/comments

We encourage you to talk to the project representatives and ask them questions. Attached to this handout is a sheet for your written comments and input regarding the proposed project. Please mail any written comments about the project before (February 10th, 2024) or leave them in the comment box tonight. You can also e-mail your comments to the contacts listed below.

Your 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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