

Public Involvement

**WIS 161
US 10 to Waupaca County Line
Portage County
Project ID: 6260-02-04**



March 13, 2024 to April 13, 2024

Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind, and speech-disabled persons should contact the Wisconsin Relay Service for assistance by dialing 711.

Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is in the process of developing plans for proposed improvements along WIS 161 in Portage County. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed improvements, address impacts to traffic during construction, and offer an opportunity for public comment. We appreciate your input and encourage you to review the project information and provide comments.

Project Information

We are proposing to improve 7.6 miles of WIS 161 between US 10 and the Waupaca County line, in the towns of Stockton, Amherst and New Hope, and the village of Nelsonville.

Improvements are needed to address the existing pavement condition on WIS 161 which is showing signs of distress, primarily in the form of alligator, longitudinal and transverse cracking with rutting. Also, there are seven culvert pipes and six inlets that are deteriorated and in need of repair and the existing guardrail at the bridge over the Tomorrow River does not meet current standards. The purpose of this project is to address the existing roadway deficiencies and ensure the preservation of the roadway.

Proposed improvements include:

- Resurfacing 7.6 miles of WIS 161 by milling and overlaying the asphalt pavement, raising the road surface about 1 inch.
- Repairing deteriorated culvert pipes and inlets.
- Adding 3-foot paved shoulders from County Q to the east end of the project limits.
- Replacing the guardrail at the bridge over Tomorrow River.
- Spot curb and gutter repairs.
- Curb and gutter will be added within the radii at the WIS 161/County A North intersection. Pavement will be widened within the radii at the WIS 161/County T/County A South intersection.

An environmental document is being prepared to address potential impacts to environmental resources along the project corridor.

Proposed traffic impacts

Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2027.

During construction, WIS 161 will remain open to traffic using lane closures, managed by flagging operations. Motorists can expect some delays to occur, but delays will be managed through limiting contractor operations at critical times.

Access to residences and businesses will be maintained except for short periods while construction operations are directly adjacent to the entrances.

Real estate

No real estate is anticipated as part of this project.

Project update/next steps

Local officials meeting	February 14, 2024
Public involvement	March 2024 – April 2024
Preliminary plans	November 2023
Environmental document	December 2024

Final plans	May 2026
Construction currently scheduled	2027

Public input/comments

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.

There are several ways to submit your input by **April 13, 2024**:

1. Fill out the comment form attached to this handout and mail it to WisDOT
Complete the fillable online survey on the project website:
<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nc/wis161portage/default.aspx>
2. Email comments or questions to the contact listed below

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For more information, please contact:

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Attn: Wendy Arneson, P.E.
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To mail, fold here and tape.