

WIS 23 Freeway Designation and Corridor Preservation Study

Sheboygan County

Public Information Meeting

May 5, 2009

General Comment Summary

The following summary includes comments recorded by Rob Wagner, Joshua Mount along with written comments received during or after the meeting. Copies of the written comments are provided in Attachment D.

A variety of issues were brought up during the meeting. Several of the main concerns received were focused at the County TT access to WIS 23. In addition, varying comments were received around the CTH P/Inez Court area. In general, comments regarding intersections located between WIS 67 and WIS 57 were supportive of the proposed at-grade intersection closures and/or interim improvements.

Where numbers with parentheses are provided, the comment has been repeated on multiple comment forms.

Written Comment Summary

- Development pressures are causing problems at the intersection of Happy Lane and WIS 32. Another access to WIS 23 would relieve the pressure. Extend Happy Lane to Bluebird and Bluebird to WIS 23.
- When closing intersections investigate the locations of the cul-de-sac's to provide access for farmers.
- Access to the Airport is best from County TT. (3)
- The fire department needs access to the airport via County TT. (4)
- Semi Access is need from TT to WIS 23.
- Lower the speed limit to 55 mph for the entire length of WIS 23.
- In favor of Alternative #1 – North Connector between WIS 57 and WIS 67 along Woodland Road. This would be on common property and would not divide parcels.
- Add representatives from the Town of Sheboygan Falls and City of Sheboygan Falls to Stakeholder Group.
- In favor of access between County P and County C. Consideration should be given to the residents located along Judy Dr., Barbara Way, Branch Rd. and County P and the quickest and shortest route to County C.
- Suggest connecting Highland Road south to Sunset Road.
- Branch Road to County C connector is through wetlands.
- Put an interchange at Highland Rd. so traffic can get to the airport and Camp Y-Koda or put the interchange at Bridgewood. Camp Y-Koda needs access to stay in business. (2)
- Converting WIS 23 to a freeway is a great idea.



- There needs to be an interchange at County TT.(4)
- Addition of a third lane on WIS 23 for accelerating and decelerating cars should be considered as an interim improvement.
- Upgrades of roads like County O and C between WIS 57 and 32 should be an integral part of the plan.
- Accommodate agricultural access across WIS 23.
- The City of Sheboygan Falls has Vision Business Park at the corner of County C and TT. Cutting off access to County TT would have impacts to the business park. (3)
- Morgan Aeronautics is planning a development at the airport and needs access.
- Closure of Willow Road will affect access to farm fields that need access to both sides of WIS 23.
- What will happen to businesses when you cut off access to get to them?
- Bemis would need to send trucks through the city.
- Why not work on four lanes to Fond du Lac first?
- Are these roads coming into Anton Sub-division from Marshall's, OJ and 23?
- Could roundabouts slow traffic down on WIS 23 when crossing County C, E, O and OJ?
- Close intersections at O/OJ/Fairview Drive and Pleasant View
- Use County E as an interchange.
- Do not make Keilly Way go all the way to WIS 67.
- There are many accidents and injuries/deaths at the Plymouth crossings.
- Remove Plan C-2 which cuts through our land with an extension of Happy Lane.
- 60% of Bemis truck traffic uses County TT.
- Agree with the plan for the frontage road to run south of WIS 23 between WIS 57 and WIS 67. However, would be agreeable to the northern most connector option.

Verbal Comment Summary

- A resident had a concern with roundabouts. Roundabout concerns were focused on the Majors project from Fond du Lac to Plymouth.
- Drainage concerns with new roadway construction creating additional runoff and flooding
- What are the current WIS 23 crash rates with respect to the statewide average?
- Rob Wagner discussed intersection safety at the CTH OJ intersection. The residents had ideas like roundabouts and yellow guidance pavement marking in the intersection. After discussing how traffic flow at the intersections the residents realized they tend to drive the intersections incorrectly and asked if WisDOT could provide education on the intersections. Rob indicated he would follow-up with the WisDOT Traffic Section.
- A farmer indicated that an overpass at Willow Road would be very important for his business since they farm both sides of WIS 23.
- Rob Wagner discussed the Inez Ct./Branch Road extension area with numerous residents. The current design developed under the WIS 23 Majors project may require changes.
- A resident at the end of Hillside and CTH O indicated the display shows the road going over the top of his residence, where it actually veers to the west of his house.



- Property owners that own a farm on Meadowlark Road, south of WIS 23 indicated they do not mind if access to WIS 23 is cutoff. However, they would not support a frontage road connecting WIS 32 to a new interchange. They also indicated that some land north of the river and between Meadowlark and TT would be landlocked if access to WIS 23 is removed.
- A property owner south of WIS 23 between OJ and the Mullett River asked if the state could just buy her land, she plans on subdividing the land further.
- A property owner north of WIS 23 and east of County E asked what the process for acquisition of real estate is.
- Two representatives of the Johnsonville Fire Department asked general questions about access to WIS 23 under the various alternatives. They indicated they needed access across WIS 23.
- A resident asked what the width of the connector roadway (extension of Kiley Way) would be. Josh Mount answered that it would be subject to further study.
- A resident Southeast of the County TT intersection said an interchange at the County TT intersection was necessary and an extension of Happy Lane would have significant impacts to their property. They indicated they opposed any extension of Happy Lane.

Questions/Comments from Q&A Session

- 1.) Are you going to construct frontage roads everywhere along WIS 23?
- 2.) There is run-off on the fields from WIS 23. What will you do with the water at Pioneer Road?
- 3.) At County C you are showing a connector road through wetlands. During previous studies WisDOT said they could not construct the connector through the wetlands.
- 4.) There are many parties affected by the closure or lack of access at County TT.
- 5.) The alternative displays were provided at the Highway Commissioner Meeting held at the Airport. Will displays be provided to the general public at this meeting?
- 6.) The displays show Dairy farms will be landlocked. How will access be maintained?
- 7.) There are Water issues at Inez Ct.
- 8.) Closure of intersections will funnel all traffic to side roads. Will turn lanes or other improvements be added to the side roads?
- 9.) What is the purpose of changing the roadway from an expressway to a freeway?



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- 10.) How does the funding work? What areas will be targeted first?
- 11.) Intersection Safety – Does the crash data consider new development (Aurora)?
- 12.) Town of Sheboygan Falls – The fire Department is located on the south side of County TT. The Fire Dept. needs access to WIS 23 at County TT or else it will be cut off from WIS 23.

