

Public Involvement Meeting Handout

**US 51
Stoughton–Madison
County B/AB to Exchange Street
Dane County**

**Project IDs:
5845-16-04/75–County B/AB to Tower Road
5845-16-04/84–Tower Road to Exchange Street**



**Wednesday, September 21, 2022
5 to 6:30 P.M.**

**Village of McFarland Municipal Center,
5915 Milwaukee Street, McFarland, WI 53558**

Project Website:

<http://wisconsindot.gov/US51>



Purpose of the meeting

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) welcomes you to this public involvement meeting (PIM) for the proposed improvements to United States Highway (US) 51 from County B/AB to Exchange Street in the town of Dunn. Refer to Figure 1 for a project location map.

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, including intersection control alternatives at the Mahony Road intersection. WisDOT representatives will give a brief presentation starting at 5:30 P.M.

Please take time to review the information presented. WisDOT project representatives are available to answer questions. A public comment form is also available for you to provide written comments. Please submit all comments by October 21, 2022.

Project information

The US 51 corridor project in Dane County is 18.1 miles in length and extends from Interstate (I)-39/90 to Voges Road. The US 51 corridor project was split into 11 individual construction projects, with construction occurring between 2024 and 2029. The project along US 51 from County B/AB to Tower Road is programmed for construction in 2027. The project along US 51 from Tower Road to Exchange Street is programmed for construction in 2026.

The purpose of these projects are to provide a safe and efficient transportation system along the US 51 corridor to serve present and long-term travel demand while minimizing disturbance to the environment. This will be obtained by working to address existing safety conditions, accommodating travel demand, addressing existing pavement conditions, improving bicycle accommodations, and considering corridor preservation and long-term planning measures.

US 51 from County B/AB to Tower Road will include the following improvements:

- Reconstruct the existing 2-lane undivided rural roadway with intersection improvements.
- Proposed intersection control alternatives at the Mahoney Road intersection. **WisDOT is seeking your feedback regarding the intersection control alternatives.**

US 51 from Tower Road and Exchange Street will include the following improvements:

- Reconstruct the undivided rural roadway to a 4-lane rural divided roadway with a raised median.
- Reconstruct the Tower Road intersection and Exchange Street intersection to dual-lane roundabouts.
- Posted speed limit reduction from 55 miles per hour (mph) to 40 mph.

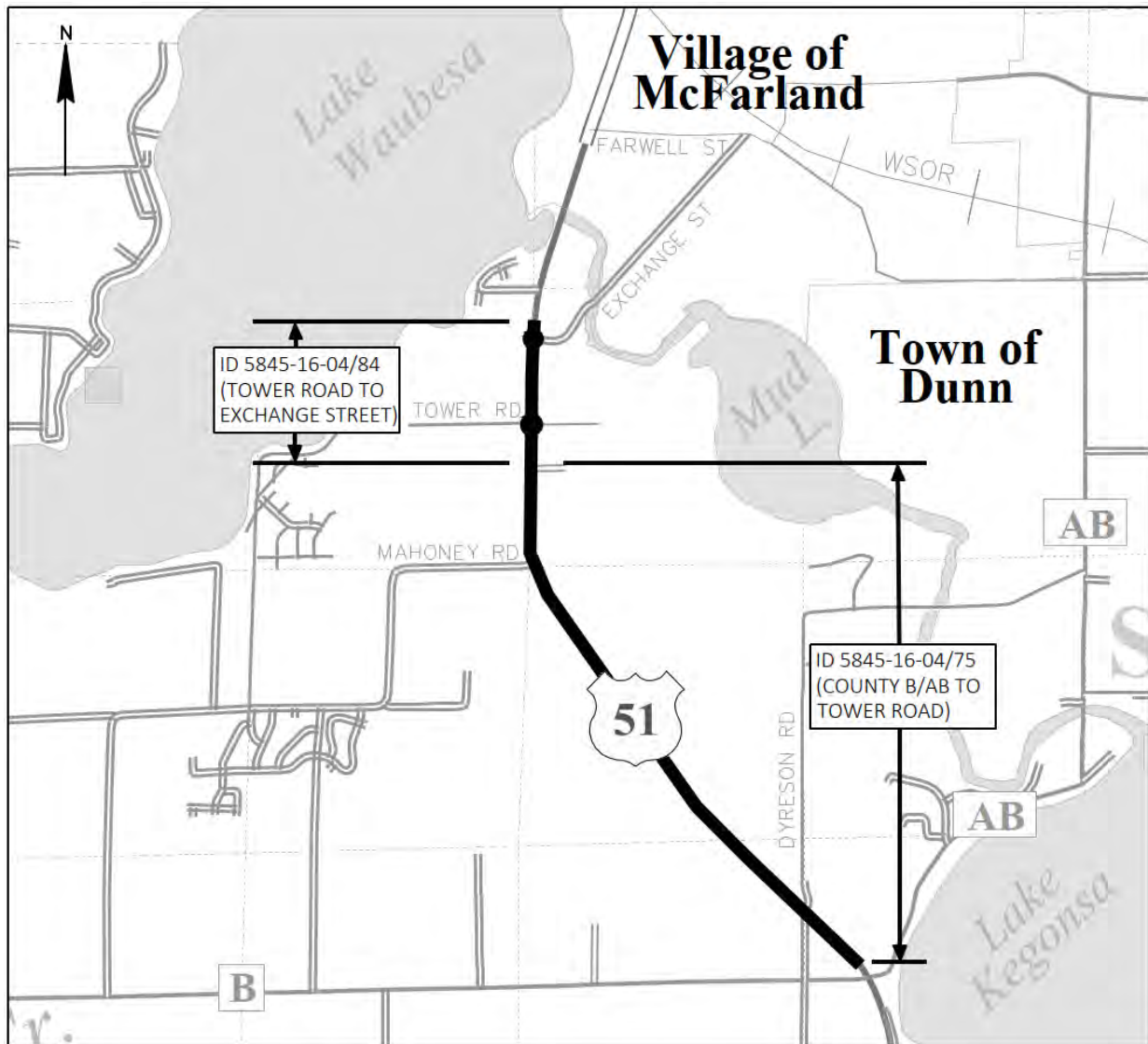


Figure 1: Project Location Map

Proposed traffic impacts

US 51 from County B/AB to Tower Road:

- Construction for this project is currently scheduled to begin in 2027.
- This project will be constructed under detoured conditions. US 51 will be closed to through traffic (local access only).

US 51 from Tower Road to Exchange Street:

- Construction for this project is currently scheduled to begin in 2026.
- This project will be constructed under staged traffic conditions with one lane of traffic being maintained in each direction.

For both projects, the contractor will be required to maintain access to local residents and businesses during construction. If closures are required for driveway work, this will be communicated with residents or businesses in advance.

Business coordination is available through the WisDOT In This Together program. This program includes tips, tools, and resources to help businesses plan for highway construction impacts, including temporary business signage recommendations and resources such as planning worksheets. Early coordination is recommended. More information on the program can be found at the following URL: <https://wisconsindot.gov/together>

Real estate

Both projects will require the purchase of right of way and temporary easements for the proposed improvements; however, no relocations are anticipated. The real estate process for the project along US 51 from County B/AB to Tower Road is planned to begin in summer 2024. The real estate process for the project along US 51 from Tower Road to Exchange Street is planned to begin in fall 2023.

Project schedule/next steps

The next steps for these projects include the preliminary and final design. Public meeting and outreach will continue for these projects and others along the corridor. You can follow along and stay involved by checking for updates on the corridor project website using the QR code in Figure 2 and/or join the project email sign up using the QR code in Figure 3. You can also follow the Southwest Office of WisDOT on Twitter (@WisDOTsouthwest) to be informed about information from around the region.



Figure 2: Project Website



Figure 3: Project email sign up

Public input/comments

We encourage you to talk to the project representatives and ask them questions. There is a comment form available for your written comments and concerns about both projects.

Your project comments will assist us in developing a project that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. In addition, comments specific to the intersection control alternatives presented at the Mahoney Road intersection will assist in selecting a preferred intersection control alternative.

Please place your completed comment form in the provided comment box or mail by Friday, October 21, 2022, using the provided envelope. Comments can also be submitted to David Schmidt, P.E., WisDOT Project Manager, by email at David2.Schmidt@dot.wi.gov or by phone at (608) 246-3867.

For more information, please contact:

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