



## **Rock County Stakeholder Advisory Committee Minutes Blackhawk Technical College Wednesday, September 18, 2013**

### **Meeting Summary**

Welcome / Opening Remarks / Agenda Review  
Vincent Fisher – Committee Facilitator

### **Attendees**

Barbara Hickman, Resident  
Walter Knight, Rock County Opportunities Industrialization Center  
Lynn Jones, E&T Community Action, Inc.  
Sheila DeForest, City Councilor, City of Beloit  
Heath Bierman, Wisconsin Job Service, Rock County Job Center  
Matt Grove, WTBA – Director of Construction  
Ericka Rebout, Rock Roads  
Dan Cunningham, Forward Janesville Inc.  
Stan Milam, Senator Tim Cullen's Office  
John Steiner, WisDOT Supervisor, I-39/90  
E. Aggo Akyea, WisDOT Director  
Michele Carter, WisDOT, DBE Program Chief  
Vincent Fisher, WisDOT, DBE Program Office  
Alicia Griffin, Serendipity Communications, I-39/90 DBE Outreach Liaison

### **I-39/90 Project Updates John Steiner – WisDOT I-39/90 Project Supervisor**

Jon provided an update on I-39/90 upcoming projects using a PowerPoint presentation. Projects include:

- Highway 11, Racine St., Interchange
- Temporary widening of I39/90 southbound shoulders from the Illinois state line to the Woodman Rd. Overpass
- Traffic Cameras and Message boards

### **Questions asked by attendees:**

Question: What was done on the topsoil? Was there a good faith effort?

Response: As materials are used and taken off the project, if there is waste, it becomes the property of the contractor.



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Question: Do you foresee top soil being available?

Response: It's possible. Past practices have given some things to the County.

Question: How are construction barrels managed.

Response: Traffic control subcontractors set up a plan detailing where the barrels need to be set up. There are approximately 4 or 5 contractors whose specialty are traffic controls..

Question: Is there some way that the Department could inquire or work with the contractors to see if there is some way to make some local use of topsoil, or would there be a way for local officials to contact the contractors to work it out.

Response: We can definitely look into that to see what can be done and get back to the group.

Question: Wis 11 (Racine St.) interchange and the confusion on roundabouts: Is this going to remain the plan when it's widened to two roundabouts.

Response: These are the only roundabouts. This is all above the interstate at the ramp terminals. There was a proposal early on that went with signals and not roundabouts.

### Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association (WTBA) Matt Grove – Director of Construction

Matt Grove gave a presentation on the WTBA, an advocacy group for Wisconsin's transportation construction industry through a PowerPoint presentation (attached). The emphasis areas of the presentation included:

- State and federal budget/policy & finance
- Construction & engineering issues
- Market development
- Political involvement
- Education and outreach

Lists of projects currently under construction include:

- I94 North South Corridor
- US 41 Corridor
- Zoo Interchange – just underway
  - Complete reconstruction of zoo
  - Watertown Plank Road – STH 100 is being overhauled – to help relieve some traffect
- I-39/90
- Hoan Bridge



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Other Major projects enumerated in 2010 include:

- US 10/441 Tri-County Expansion
- WIS 15, Outagamie (delayed)
- Wis 38 (pulled because of funding)
- I-794
- USH 18/151 Verona Road

On the horizon projects include:

- I-94 East West Freeway Study
- I-43 N-S Freeway Corridor Study – Silver Spring Dr. to STH 60, 14.1 miles
- USH 12 Madison Beltline Study – 20 mile corridor from USH 14, Middleton to CTH N, Town of Cottage Grove

### Questions asked by attendees:

Question: The WTBA supports tolling. What other possible revenue enhancers are supported or opposed by the WTBA?

Response: Tolling has a hurdle. It's an option now since it can't be done on existing runways.

Comment/Response from Michele: At a future next meeting, we will discuss formats for doing road business including: Public Private Partnership, Design Build, Design – Bid – Build (current Wisconsin method).

Business Presentation from Business Networking/Support Organization

Forward Janesville: Dan Cunningham – Vice President

Janesville Chamber of Commerce started out in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and merged with the Janesville Economic Development Corporation in the early 1990's. They are one of the five (5) partners of Rock County 5.0 – The 5-year economic strategy started as a response to the closure of the GM plant in Janesville. There are approximately 475 individual members and is governed by an 18-member board of directors. About 3 years ago, I-39/90 Now Coalition was formed.

WisDOT DBE Program Follow-Up

Michele Carter – WisDOT Program Chief

At the next meeting, we will come back to the priorities that were set and re-evaluate that. In addition, the Committee will re-look at the Monopoly Board. For the committee to work for the members, the Committee must give input. We will do a couple of big picture overviews and go back to how this applies to us as a committee.

Members should be prepared at the next meeting because the talking will be from the committee members.



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### Questions from attendees:

Question: What's the eligibility for TraNS?

Response: There is a \$5 incentive throughout the apprenticeship.

Question: What percentage of road building in Wisconsin is done by out of state firms? What requirements in labor are placed on outside firms?

Response: The requirements are the same. WisDOT can't put a local preference on a contractor because that would be discriminatory.

Response: by WTBA: We're very close to 100% of State firms. Large projects, however, would attract out of state firms (e.g., Walsh Construction, a WTBA member). They, however, use local subcontractors.

Michele shared that during next month's meeting, Stakeholders should be ready to roll up their sleeves and scribble.

Meeting Closed at 5:01 p.m.

Next Meeting Date

October 16, 2013, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Beloit Utilities and Engineering Facilities, 2400 Springbrook Court