

# Project Newsletter

## I-90 Reconstruction

September 2012

## La Crosse County

### Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is continuing to plan a range of improvements to Interstate 90 (I-90)—between Round Lake and Theater Road (just east of the WIS 157 interchange), and to US 53 and WIS 35 (see the map on the inside of this newsletter). Since the last public information meeting held in April 2012, WisDOT has continued to work on the engineering and environmental studies that are needed before construction begins in 2013.

Construction on I-90 includes major repairs and bringing the highway up to current design standards. Work on US 53 and WIS 35 also involves repairs as well as a new interchange configuration at Exit 3. WisDOT is working with local communities throughout design. This includes considering how bicycle and pedestrian accommodations might be included in the project, and how traffic will flow during construction.

### Contact information:

For more information about the I-90 Reconstruction Project contact:

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### Second Public Information Meeting September 20

The second public information meeting for the I-90 Reconstruction Project will be held on Thursday, September 20th, from 5-7:00 p.m. at Logan Middle School, located at 1450 Avon Street, La Crosse, WI 54603. A presentation will be given at 6:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to stop by anytime during the meeting. The team will consider input received at this meeting when designing I-90 improvements.

Please use the side door near the auditorium, located on Avon Street to enter the middle school.



Wisconsin Department of Transportation - Dedicated people creating transportation solutions through innovation and exceptional service.

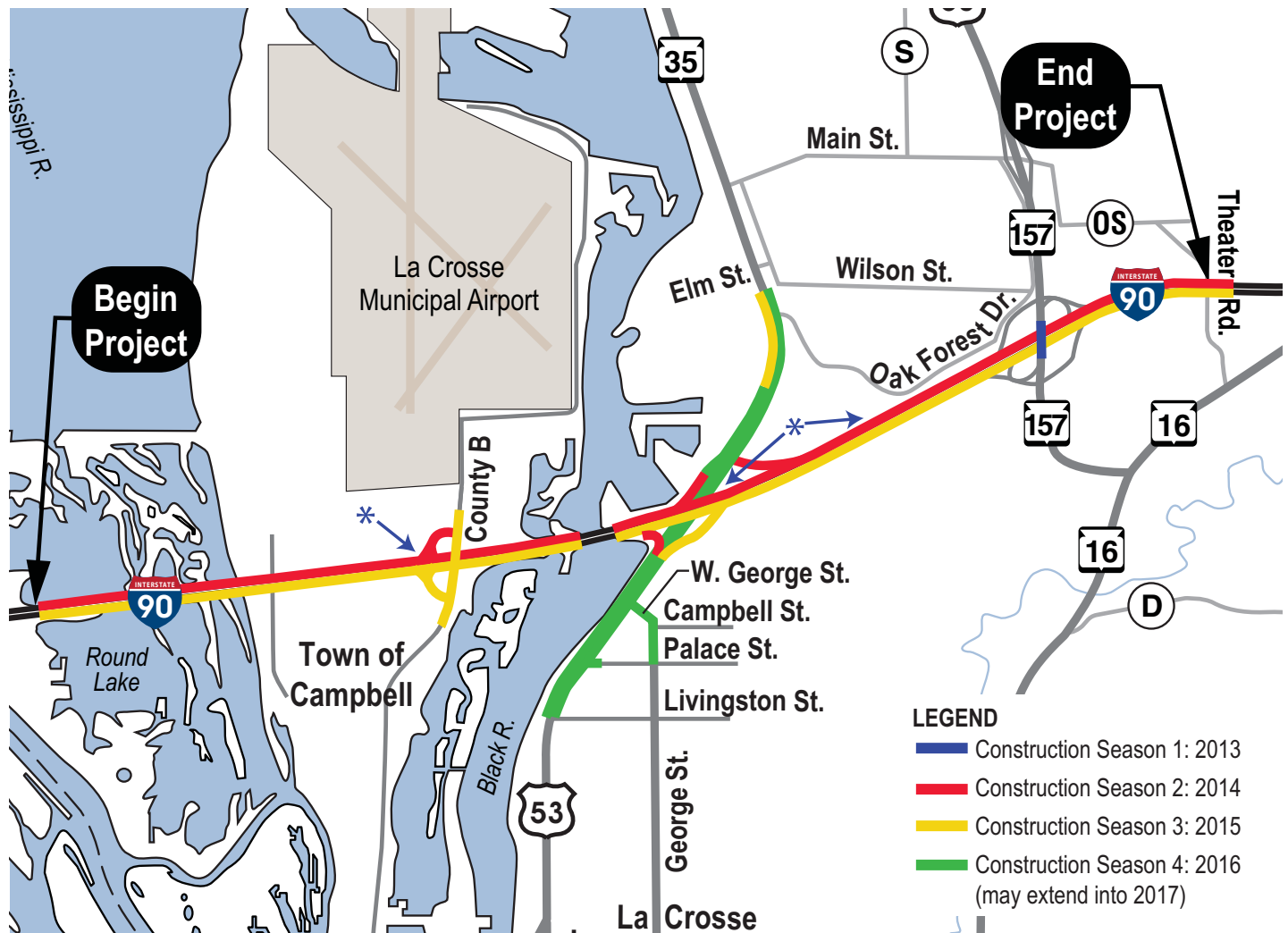


# I-90 Reconstruction Project

## Construction Staging

This project will be built over multiple construction seasons. Periodic lane or road closures will be needed during construction. The list below summarizes the anticipated lane and road closures that will need to occur during construction. The duration of these closures will be minimized. More information about these closures will be available at later public meetings.

- I-90—Open to Traffic
  - 1 lane in each direction west of US 53/WIS 35 westbound exit ramp
  - 2 lanes in each direction east of US 53/WIS 35 eastbound on ramp
- US 53/WIS 35—Open to traffic
  - 1 to 2 lanes open in each direction
  - Local street and ramp closures to be determined
- County Road B—Open to traffic
- County Road BW—Closed to traffic
- WIS 157—Open to traffic
- 12th Ave.—Closed to traffic during bridge construction



\* 2013 construction activities will include construction of temporary roadways and crossovers at various locations.

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections

The State's Complete Streets Law (also known as TRANS 75) requires WisDOT to ensure that bicycle and pedestrian elements are included in all new highway construction and reconstruction projects that receive any funding from certain state or federal funding sources, unless an exception is approved.

WisDOT is now working with local community representatives to determine what bicycle/pedestrian elements will be included as part of the I-90 Reconstruction Project, including those along US 53/WIS 35. Some specific issues along US 53/WIS 35 that need to be addressed are:

- What's the best way to provide safe on-street bike accommodations on US 53/WIS 35, especially through the I-90 ramps?
- Where should bicycle and pedestrian crossings along US 53/WIS 35 be located?

Also, consideration is being made to replace the existing I-90 bridge over the Great River State Trail with a new box culvert. The photos to the right are examples of this type of underpass on other bicycle trails. During project construction, the trail will be closed to bicyclists and pedestrians. Detours onto local streets will be provided.



*Examples of bicycle and pedestrian highway underpasses.*

## Exit 3 Study Conclusion

During early 2012, the City of La Crosse, the La Crosse Area Planning Commission, and La Crosse County studied the feasibility of moving the I-90/US 53/WIS 35 Exit 3 interchange and US 53/WIS 35 east. This idea was considered as a means to enhance Exit 3 as a gateway into the community and the State, to spur economic development, and to create public waterfront access.

In May 2012, the La Crosse City Council elected not to pursue further study to move the interchange, primarily due to the large dollar amount the City would need to invest, along with the high number of residents and business owners that would need to move to make room for the realigned interchange.

WisDOT did not participate in the Exit 3 Study, however, the agency needed to know the outcome because a decision to continue to study moving the Exit 3 interchange would have impacted the overall I-90 Reconstruction Project schedule.

## For general project information



Find us online at:  
[www.dot.wi.gov/projects/swregion/90/index.htm](http://www.dot.wi.gov/projects/swregion/90/index.htm)

or



Scan with your  
smart phone for  
website access



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## I-90 Reconstruction, La Crosse County

**September 20  
Public Meeting**

September 2012

# ? What's Next?

Upcoming project activities will include the following:

- Review input received from the second public information meeting on September 20th
- Continue working with the Project Advisory Committee
- Prepare preliminary designs for I-90 and US 53/WIS 35