

Public Involvement Meeting #2

**I-39/Business 51 Interchange
Rothschild
Marathon County**

Project I.D. 1166-12-74



**April 9, 2013
5 to 7 p.m.
Presentation to begin at 5 p.m.**

**Rothschild Village Hall
211 Grand Avenue
Rothschild, WI 54474**

Purpose of the meeting

Welcome to the second public involvement meeting for the proposed improvements to the I-39/Business 51 interchange. See Figure 1 on the next page for location map.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is currently in the design phase of this project, which includes the ramps connecting Business 51 to I-39, and Business 51 between Village Way and Eagle's Nest Boulevard.

The objective of this meeting is to provide you with updated information regarding the proposed improvements to the interchange. We are seeking your input on updates to the project design, proposed construction staging, and the anticipated traffic impacts during construction. After a brief presentation, the meeting will follow an open house format.

Please take time to review the information presented. WisDOT project representatives are available to answer questions. A public input form is also available for you to give written comments.

Project Need

The interchange ramps and lane configurations on Business 51 do not meet current design standards, which leads to congestion and traffic backups. There is limited sight distance for motorists on I-39 approaching the ramps, which leads to safety issues associated with the backups. Also the pavement on Business 51 is reaching the end of its useful life. This interchange in its current configuration was constructed in the late 1960s.

Traffic demands are also impacting the Business 51/Imperial Avenue (County XX) intersection, which requires additional lanes to operate safely and efficiently.

The Cedar Creek bridge needs to be raised to reduce flooding impacts.

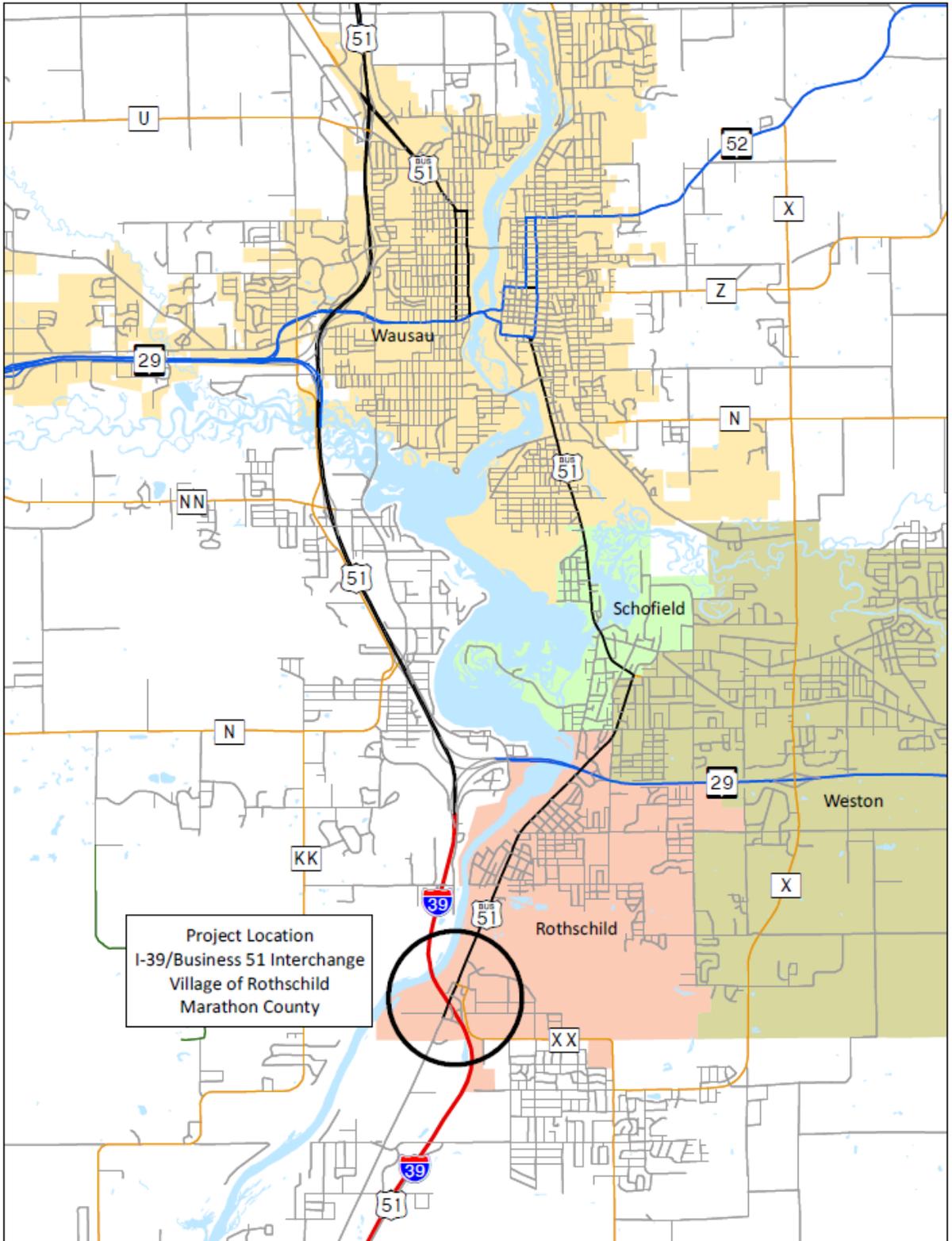


Figure 1. I-39/Business 51 Interchange Location Map

Project description and proposed improvements

The proposed improvements include:

- Reconstruction of the existing Business 51 roadway between Village Way and Eagle's Nest Boulevard to a four-lane divided roadway with dedicated turn lanes.
- Addition of on-road bike lanes on northbound and southbound Business 51.
- An off-road multi-use path will be provided along the northbound side of Business 51 extending from the south terminus of the project to just south of the Cedar Creek bridge.
- Addition of dedicated right turn lanes on southbound Business 51 at both rail crossings.
- Addition of a third northbound through lane between the northbound and southbound ramp terminals.
- Realignment of Morrison Avenue to line up with the southbound I-39 ramps. The existing rail crossing will be removed and a new rail crossing will be provided with the realignment of Morrison Avenue.
- Installation of traffic signals at both ramp intersections and at the Imperial Avenue intersection.
- Reconstruction of all I-39/Business 51 interchange ramps. The southbound ramp terminal intersection will be shifted south.
- Reconstruction of the Cedar Creek Bridge raising it out of the floodplain. The bridge will also be widened to accommodate the bicycle lanes and the southbound left turn lane to Imperial Avenue.
- Aesthetic enhancements are also being proposed, see Figure 2 below. Surface treatments for retaining walls are also being proposed that are similar to the new construction of the I-39 bridges over Business 51 to bring a cohesive look to the Business 51 corridor.

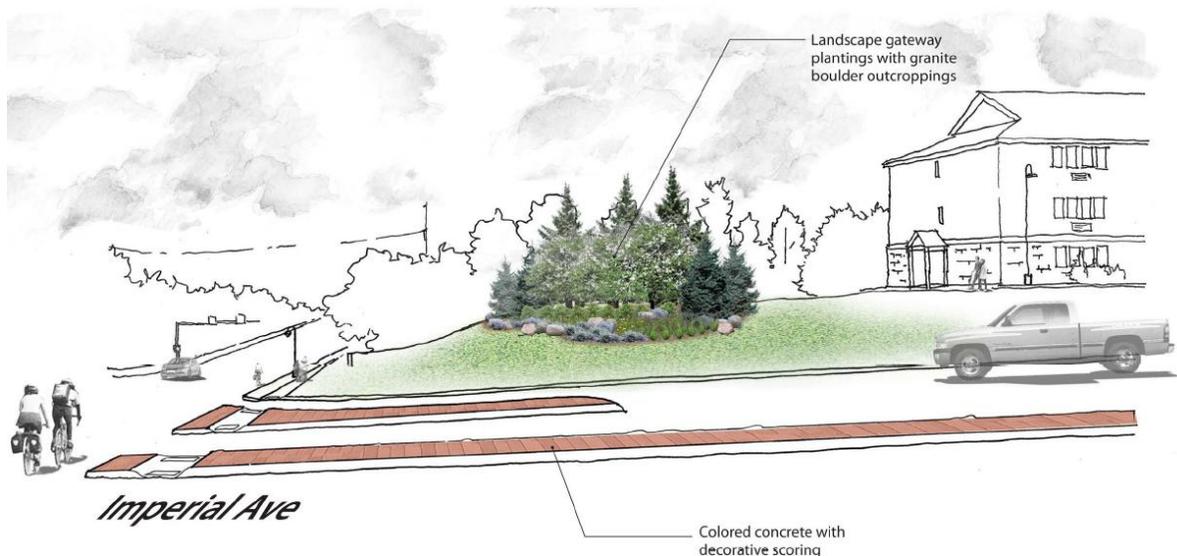


Figure 2. Landscape perspective - aesthetic treatments at Imperial Avenue

Anticipated Traffic Impacts

Business 51 will be constructed in stages. The intent is to construct Business 51 while maintaining at least one lane of traffic in each direction to the extent possible. However, during construction of Business 51, short term closures may be required. In this case, alternate routes will be used. In addition, Business 51 will be closed after Labor Day 2014 to construct the Cedar Creek bridge.

The intent for this project is that access to businesses be maintained at all times. Traffic will be maintained on the I-39 ramps to the extent possible. Ramp construction near I-39 may require temporary lane closures or lane shifts on I-39.

The following is a summary of how traffic will be maintained during each stage of construction.

2014 August through November - Construct Cedar Creek Bridge

I-39: no change in traffic patterns.

I-39 ramps: no change in traffic patterns.

Business 51: Reduce traffic to one lane in each direction between Imperial Avenue and Eagle's Nest Boulevard until Labor Day. Close Business 51 between Imperial Avenue to Eagle's Nest Boulevard from Labor Day to Thanksgiving. Detour Business 51 traffic via Imperial Avenue, Stoney Rivers Drive, and Eagle's Nest Boulevard.

Imperial Avenue and local roads: no change in traffic patterns except for the detour noted above.

2015 April through June - Construct northbound Business 51 and interchange ramps

I-39: two lanes of traffic maintained in each direction using crossovers and temporary pavement.

I-39 ramps: traffic will be maintained on all ramps during construction, lane shifts and temporary pavement will be needed. Temporary night time closures may be required.

Business 51: Creek crossing is open, one lane of traffic is open in each direction on the southbound side of Business 51.

Imperial Avenue and local roads (Option 1: Staged Construction): Imperial Avenue will be reduced to one lane in each direction and traffic will be shifted to the westbound side while the eastbound side of Imperial Avenue is under construction. Short term closures may be needed.

Imperial Avenue and local roads (Option 2: Close Imperial Avenue): Imperial Avenue intersection will be closed. Detour traffic via Business 51, Eagle's Nest Boulevard, and Stoney Rivers Drive.

2015 July through August - Finish northbound Business 51 and continue with ramps

I-39: two lanes of traffic maintained in each direction using crossovers and temporary pavement.

I-39 ramps: traffic will be maintained on all ramps during construction, lane shifts and temporary pavement will be needed. Temporary night time closures may be required.

Business 51: Creek crossing is open, one lane of traffic is open in each direction on the southbound side of Business 51.

Imperial Avenue and local roads (Option 1: Staged Construction): Imperial Avenue will be reduced to one lane in each direction and traffic will be shifted to the eastbound side while the westbound side of Imperial Avenue is under construction. Short term closures may be needed.

Imperial Avenue and local roads (Option 2: Close Imperial Avenue): Imperial Avenue is open, no change in traffic patterns.

2015 September through November - Construct southbound Business 51

I-39: two lanes of traffic in each direction using crossovers and temporary pavement.

I-39 ramps: traffic will be maintained on all ramps during construction, lane shifts and temporary pavement will be needed. Temporary night time closures may be required.

Business 51: Creek crossing is open, one lane of traffic is open in each direction on the northbound side of Business 51.

Imperial Avenue and local roads: no change in traffic patterns.

Real estate

This project will require right of way acquisition and temporary grading easements.

WisDOT currently expects to begin real estate acquisition in May 2013. WisDOT Real Estate staff is here tonight to address any questions regarding the real estate acquisition process.

Anticipated Schedule

Begin right of way acquisition	May 2013
“In This Together” business meeting	August 2013
Final Plans	February 2014
Construction Information meeting	mid-August 2014
Proposed Construction Start	late August 2014
Proposed Construction Finish	November 2015

Public comments

We encourage you to talk to the project representatives and ask them questions. Attached to this handout is a sheet for your written comments and concerns about the project.

Please mail any written comments and concerns about the project before April 30, 2013 or leave them in the comment box tonight.

A project website (<http://www.dot.wi.gov/projects/ncregion/3951int/index.htm>) has been developed to be used as a convenient tool to keep people informed of the project progress and important details.

For more information, please contact:

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