



WIS 23 Project Report

Fond du Lac to Plymouth

February 2010

Contact information:

WisDOT NE Region

944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, WI 54304
Phone: (920) 492-5643
Fax: (920) 492-5640

greenbay.dtd@dot.state.wi.us

Rob Wagner

Project Manager
Phone: (920) 492-5983
robert.wagner@dot.wi.gov

Kim Rudat

Communications Manager
Phone: (920) 492-5743
kim.rudat@dot.wi.gov

Web site:

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d3/wis23/index.htm

Mission statement:

To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.

Included in this issue:

- Project Update
- Summary of SDEIS
- Public Hearing February 24
- Next Steps Schedule

Construction scheduled for 2013

The ongoing WIS 23 Expansion Project continues to move forward as scheduled, with construction beginning in 2013 and scheduled for completion in 2015. A number of properties along the corridor have already been acquired, with the remaining real estate acquisitions being complete by 2012. Final highway design, the last stage of the project prior to construction, will begin later in 2010.

New challenge

In the past year, a new challenge to the completion of this project has surfaced. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) asked WisDOT to map the WIS 23 to US 151 interchange as part of this expansion project, although no construction is scheduled for that interchange. This prompted WisDOT to complete a Supplemental Draft Environmental Statement (SDEIS) to supplement the information contained in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for this project, signed in November of 2004. An SDEIS is prepared for a project whenever there are changes, additions, or when new information is available.

Public hearing scheduled

WisDOT is holding a Public Hearing on February 24, 2010, at UW-Fond du Lac to provide the public an opportunity to comment on new or existing information. Copies of the entire SDEIS can be found at the following locations: the Fond du Lac and Plymouth public libraries, Fond du Lac and Plymouth city administrative offices, Fond du Lac and Sheboygan County highway departments, and town offices along the corridor. Citizens may also purchase copies. Please check the back page for details on how to obtain a copy of the SDEIS.

Once the review period for the SDEIS has been completed, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will be released addressing major comments received. Final design will then start with construction anticipated to begin in 2013.



WIS 23 near Greenbush Looking West

WIS 23 Project Report

Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement available

The Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for WIS 23 improvements in Fond du Lac and Sheboygan counties is available for public review. The document carefully describes the purpose and need for possible improvements, the variety of alternatives investigated to address the project need, and the impacts associated with those alternatives.

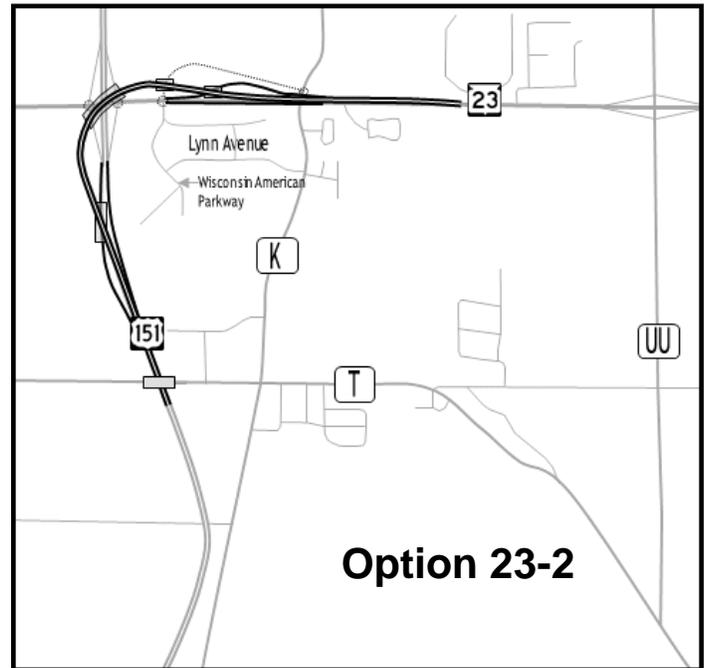
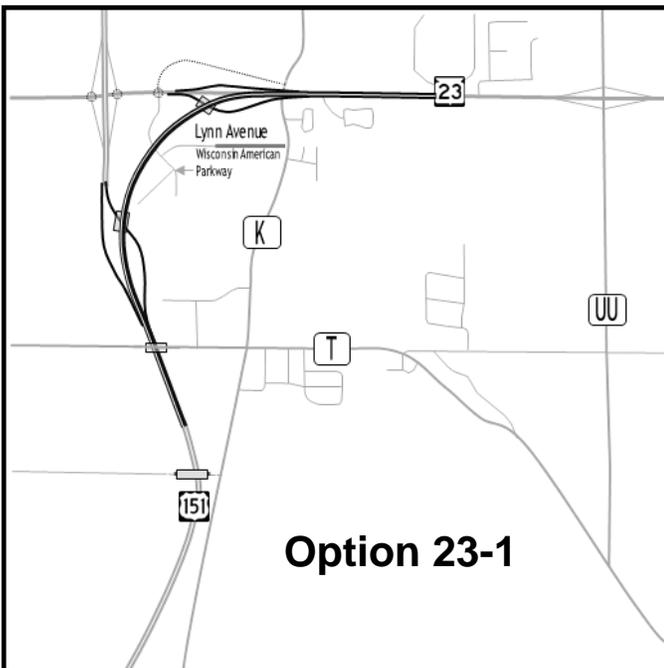
This SDEIS augments the information contained in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for this project..

During the past few years, WisDOT has examined a freeway-to-freeway connection, also known as a systems interchange, between US 151 (Fond du Lac bypass) and WIS 23. Although construction of this interchange is not scheduled and will not be scheduled for many years, it is important to consider it now and protect a corridor for it. After reviewing many alternatives and considering extensive public input, WisDOT has narrowed all the alternatives to the best two (plus a no-build alternative). These alternatives are evaluated in the SDEIS and shown below. The Public Hearing and open comment period provides the public with an opportunity to share their thoughts on this and the entire WIS 23 Expansion Project. WisDOT encourages citizens to take advantage of this opportunity.

Once the comment period for the SDEIS has ended on **March 12, 2010**, WisDOT will recommend one of the system interchange alternatives and will then complete a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that will summarize comments received and address any major issues.

A Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS):

- *Is a document prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act*
- *Shows changes to the proposed action that would result in significant impacts not evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)*
- *Includes changes or new information that was not included in the DEIS.*



WIS 23 Project Report

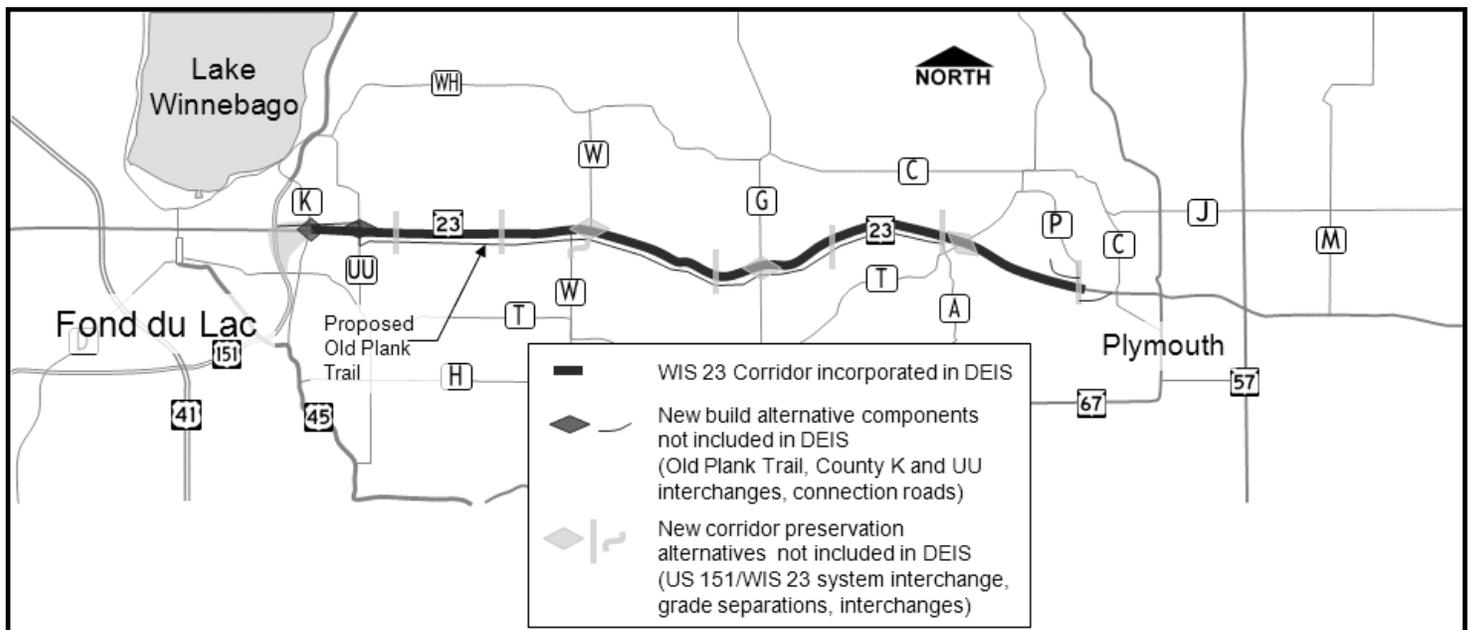
What is WisDOT recommending as part of the SDEIS?

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) of 2004 evaluated transportation alternatives for the WIS 23 corridor from the city of Fond du Lac to the village of Plymouth in Fond du Lac and Sheboygan counties. Alternatives considered include the four-lane expansion of the existing two-lane WIS 23 roadway with the modification and improvement of access. The Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) provides more information concerning the scope of the project that was not found in the 2004 DEIS.

UPDATED DATA IN SDEIS

This SDEIS highlights highway expansion options, highway corridor locations, intersection treatments, and corridor preservation alternatives with their associated impacts. WisDOT has selected a Preferred Alternative that includes the following components:

- Alternative 1, which expands WIS 23 to a four-lane divided highway on the existing alignment. Alternative 1 uses the existing roadway from US 151 to County W and from Division Road to County P as its eastbound lanes. From County W to Division Road, Alternative 1 uses the existing roadway as its westbound lanes.
- Associated interchanges and local roads, including the County K “jug-handle” interchange, the County UU interchange, the extension of Lynn Avenue, an alternate access to Ledgewood Drive, the extension of Coary Lane, the rerouting of Twinkle Lane, and alternative access to Inez Court.
- Extension of the Old Plank Trail, which is a multiuse trail located parallel to and south of the WIS 23 roadway.
- Corridor preservation measures that preserve future right-of-way where roadway improvements are likely to be needed in the future. Corridor preservation focuses on the WIS 23 corridor and what land may be needed for future interchanges at County W, G, and A, plus future overpasses at Tower Road, Seven Hills Road, Hillview Road, Scenic View Drive, and Sugarbush Road.
- Also to be preserved is the future right-of-way for a system interchange at the US 151/WIS 23 connection, as seen on the previous page. The adjacent US 151 Fond du Lac bypass corridor preservation study investigated the interchange alternatives for this connection; yet the connection more fully falls within the logical limits of this WIS 23 project and is now included in the WIS 23 SDEIS.



Project Alternatives in the WIS 23 SDEIS

WIS 23 Project Report

Public Hearing Set for UW-Fond du Lac on February 24, 2010

A public hearing will be held beginning at 5:30 p.m., February 24, 2010, at the UW-Fond du Lac, Main Entrance, 400 University Drive, Fond du Lac, WI 54935-2950

- 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. — Attendees can review exhibits and the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS).
- 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. — A court reporter will be available to record private oral testimony from individuals wishing to express their views. Written comments are also welcome.
- 6 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. — Short presentation will be made on the WIS 23 project and the hearing process.
- 6:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. — Attendees can publicly voice their comments.

In addition to these opportunities, interested individuals may also send comments to be included in the hearing record to the WisDOT Northeast Region office. The address is listed in the block to the right. Written comments on the SDEIS will be accepted through March 12, 2010. This hearing is a formal opportunity for individuals to express their opinions regarding the WIS 23 improvement options. Responses obtained at this hearing will help determine and refine the Preferred Alternative.

Copies of SDEIS available

Printed Copy \$60

Electronic Copy (on CD) - \$5

Contact: Rob Wagner

WisDOT NE Region

944 Vanderperren Way

Green Bay, WI 54304

Phone: (920) 492-5643

Fax: (920) 492-5640

robert.wagner@dot.wi.gov

Via Internet Free

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d3/wis23/index.htm



WisDOT NE Region

944 Vanderperren Way

Green Bay, WI 54304-5344