

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AN
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND DESIGN ASPECTS
FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF
INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 39/90
AT THE US 12/18 (BELTLINE) INTERCHANGE
DANE COUNTY**

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are advised that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) will hold a public hearing as provided by law to consider the environmental and design aspects of the proposed improvement of Interstate Highway 39/90 at the US 12/18 (Beltline) Interchange near Madison in Dane County, including those aspects that may require application to the US Army Corps of Engineers for the placement of fill materials into waters of the United States.

The purpose of the Interstate Highway (I) 39/90 and United States (US) 12/18 (Beltline) interchange project is to accommodate I-39/90 traffic levels with a focus on safety issues that affect interstate travel through the US 12/18 interchange and ensure compatibility with the I-39/90 reconstruction project south of the US 12/18 to the Illinois state line.

The purpose statement is focused on traffic and safety issues on I-39/90 through the Beltline Interchange and compatibility with the I-39/90 reconstruction project south of the interchange to the Illinois state line. The needs that will be addressed, either fully or substantially, are those that impact the safety and operations of the I-39/90 mainline and fall within the Beltline interchange traffic operations area of influence. Alternatives development will be focused on satisfying the purpose of the Beltline Interchange project.

Proposed improvements include constructing a new two-lane northbound roadway and the addition of a third lane southbound along I-39/90 through the core of the Beltline Interchange. In addition, the northbound I-39/90 to westbound US 12/18 exit ramp will be reconstructed as a right-side exit and a dedicated exit-only lane will be added to the southbound I-39/90 exit ramp to westbound US 12/18. It is anticipated that 4 acres of land will need to be acquired. Approximately 5 acres of wetlands and 2 acres of floodplain will be impacted.

Further information concerning the proposed improvement is available for inspection and copying at the Department's Southwest Region Project Office in Edgerton, Wisconsin at the address given below. Information can also be viewed online at <https://projects.511wi.gov/i-39-90/us1218-beltline/>.

The public hearing will be held on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at Ho-Chunk Nation Teejop Hocira (Community Recreation Center) located at 4724 Tradewinds Parkway in Madison, Wisconsin. The public hearing will be conducted from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. during which time interested persons may review displays and other hearing materials, ask questions, and provide testimony.

The traditional-style portion of the public hearing will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will end when all interested persons have provided testimony or 6:30 pm, whichever occurs first. The traditional-style portion of the public hearing will begin with an informational project presentation prior to accepting traditional-style testimony from the public.

To allow for arranging assistance for special accommodations needed to participate, please contact the project manager no later than three working days prior to the public hearing. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. Hearing impaired persons needing assistance should contact the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System (dial 711).

WisDOT project staff will be available for informal discussion to explain the proposed improvements and answer questions. Exhibits of the proposal will be on display and a statement about the proposed improvement will be available for review.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and to present relevant verbal and/or written testimony concerning the design aspects of the proposed improvement; the social, economic, and environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvement (including those impacts and effects for which permit application to the US Army Corps of Engineers may be required pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act); and whether the improvement is or is not in the public interest and consistent with the goals and objectives of area planning.

Land acquisition and schedules for construction will be discussed at the public hearing. There will be no relocation of persons or businesses as a result of the proposed improvement.

Provisions have been made for the submission of written statements or other exhibits in place of or in addition to the testimony presented at the public hearing. This additional testimony will be included in the hearing record if postmarked no later than January 11, 2019. Mail this additional testimony to the project manager contact listed below.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are further notified of the availability of an Environmental Assessment of the proposal's impacts and effects which has been prepared and filed according to the State and National Environmental Policy Acts. This document indicates that no significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur as a result of this improvement. The Environmental Assessment is available for inspection and copying at the following locations:

Southwest Region Office
Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation
2101 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704

Bureau of Technical Services
Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
5th Floor South
Madison, WI 53705

Southwest Region Project Office
Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation
111 Interstate Boulevard
Edgerton, WI 53534-9399

E.D. Locke Public Library
Village of McFarland
5920 Milwaukee Street
McFarland, WI 53558-8962

Printed copies of the document may be obtained at these locations. There may be a charge for this service. An online copy can be viewed at the project website:

<https://projects.511wi.gov/i-39-90/us1218-beltline/>

Comments regarding the environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvements will be addressed in the final environmental document if postmarked/received no later than January 11, 2019. Written comments on the Environmental Assessment should be sent via US mail or e-mail to the WisDOT contact person listed below.

Mark Vesperman, P.E.
Mark.Vesperman@dot.wi.gov
Southwest Region Project Office
Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation
111 Interstate Boulevard
Edgerton, WI 53534-9399

The Department of Transportation will review all comments and testimony presented as part of this public hearing process and reserves the right to make a final determination on the proposed improvements as described in this notice.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Division of Transportation System Development