

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 151
FOND DU LAC COUNTY, WISCONSIN
PROJECT ID 4050-12-00
UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 151
COUNTY D TO COUNTY WH

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 impacts of possible USH 151 improvements between County Highway D and County Highway WH that are described in the Environmental Assessment for this project, currently available for review including those aspects that may require application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the placement of fill materials into waters of the United States. This may include consideration of the implementation of Wisconsin Statute 84.295.

The proposed action has four components:

1. Freeway Designation—The Proposed Action will designate a segment of US 151 from County D to WIS 23 as a freeway under Wisconsin Statute 84.295(5). This designation is a planning action to identify the requisite improvements and associated right of way needs to convert this facility to a freeway. US 151 would be designated as a freeway with access located only at interchanges.
2. Corridor Preservation—This freeway designation is also a preservation action where official mapping, under Wisconsin Statute 84.295(10), is used to preserve those right of way needs for the eventual conversion. This Wisconsin Statute 84.295 Designation allows WisDOT to officially map a portion of US 151 from County D to WIS 23. This mapping will preserve lands around Fond du Lac, so that improvements can be constructed when safety and mobility needs dictate.
3. Immediate Implementation—The proposed action would immediately implement improvements on US 151 at areas with critical needs. These improvements will include an interchange at County V and an overpass at County T.
4. Implementation as Needed to Address Safety and Operational—The proposed action would implement improvements on US 151 when needed to address safety and operational concerns. Improvements within this category include intersection improvements at Ducharme Parkway, County K, Golf Course Road, and County WH.

A public hearing will be conducted on March 11, 2013, from 6 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. at Fond du Lac County UW-Extension LGI Room, 400 University Drive, Fond du Lac. Additional written testimony after the hearing will be accepted until March 27, 2013

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and to present relevant oral and/or written testimony concerning the environmental and design aspects of the proposed improvement and the social, economic, and environmental impacts and effects of the proposed action including those impacts and effects for which permit application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may be required pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act including, the establishment of approximate locations and widths of right of way necessary for the proposed improvements in accordance with the provisions of Section 84.295 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the social economic, and environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvement; and whether the improvement is or is not in the public interest and consistent with the goals and objectives of area planning. Portions of the proposed improvements may be located in wetlands. Portions of the proposed improvements may contain an encroachment on a floodplain.

The hearing will be a hybrid public hearing. Opportunities for individual private testimony will be available from 6 P.M. to 7 P.M., followed by a formal presentation at 7 P.M. Public testimony will be available immediately after the presentation. Opportunities for individual private testimony will resume after the public testimony has concluded. Exhibits depicting proposed improvements, and a

statement about the proposed improvement, will be on display and available for review and discussion with members of the study team. Written comments for the record will also be accepted throughout the hearing.

Information about land acquisitions, relocation assistance, and schedules for construction will also be available at the public hearing. It is anticipated the relocation of persons and businesses will occur as a result of this improvement. Any person who believes that he or she may be thus affected by the proposed improvement may obtain relocation assistance information at the WisDOT's Northeast Region Real Estate Office, (920) 492-5643.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are further notified of the availability of the Environmental Assessment and the proposal's impacts and effects that has been prepared and filed according to the State and National Environmental Policy Acts. The Environmental Assessment is available for inspection and copying at the following locations:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Northeast Region
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, WI 54304-0080

Fond du Lac Public Library
32 Sheboygan St
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
City of Fond du Lac

Engineering and Traffic Division
160 South Macy Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
Fond du Lac County

Highway and Public Works
City County Government Center
160 South Macy Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

An electronic copy of a portion of the Environmental Assessment is available on the web at the following address:

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/us151fdlstudy/index.htm>

A CD containing the environmental assessment can also be obtained for a small fee from WisDOT at the address listed below. Comments regarding the environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvement are invited to be submitted to the Department of Transportation by March 27, 2013, or 30 days after the publishing of this notice, whichever is later. Comments should be sent to:

Robert Wagner, WisDOT Project Manager
WisDOT Northeast Region
944 Vanderperren Way
Green Bay, WI 54304-0080

Persons with an interest in or knowledge about historical and archaeological resources in the project area are invited to present such information at the public hearing.

WisDOT will review all comments and testimony presented and reserves the right to make a final determination upon the proposal as described in this notice.

Further information can be obtained from the following individual: Robert Wagner, WisDOT Project Manager, 920-492-5983, Robert.Wagner@dot.wi.gov

Note: The hearing site is wheelchair accessible. If you are hearing impaired and require an interpreter, one will be provided if you contact the WisDOT Project Manager, Robert Wagner, no later than three working days prior to the hearing at 920-492-5983, by email at Robert.Wagner@dot.wi.gov, or via The Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System (dial 711).