



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

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Contact: Sen. Devin LeMahieu (608) 266-2056
Rep. Terry Katsma (608) 266-0656
Rep. Tyler Vorpapel (608) 266-8530

HWY 23 Expansion Clears Key Legal Hurdle

Madison – Sheboygan-area state legislators Senator Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg), Representative Terry Katsma (R-Oostburg) and Representative Tyler Vorpapel (R-Plymouth) announced that the Highway 23 four-lane expansion cleared a major legal hurdle yesterday. Monday, March 25th was the deadline for filing a claim under the statute of limitations to challenge federal approval of the project. Yesterday afternoon the Wisconsin Department of Transportation was notified that Madison-based *1000 Friends of Wisconsin* decided against filing a claim. This news clears the way for construction to begin this summer.

“This is outstanding news for the citizens of Sheboygan County. The four-lane expansion of Highway 23 is vital to the safety of motorists along the corridor,” stated LeMahieu.

Last October, DOT officials noted in a [press release](#) that they planned to start construction on the project this summer. Recently, the department included the Highway 23 four-lane expansion in its [annual construction advisory](#).

“With today’s announcement, there is no reason to delay this project one day further. I am excited for work to begin in Sheboygan County this summer,” continued Katsma.

Area citizens overwhelmingly support a four-lane expansion. In a letter submitted to DOT last year, LeMahieu, Vorpapel, and Katsma noted that more than 600 comments were submitted during a public comment period in favor of the four-lane expansion. Just 24 favored adding passing lanes instead.

“I have consistently heard from constituents on this issue since first taking office in 2015, and it has remained one of my top priorities. Today, thanks to the persistence of area legislators and commitment by staff at the Department of Transportation over the last few years, this project finally got its official green light,” noted Vorpapel.

According to last week’s construction announcement by DOT, project work is scheduled to begin in late May and continue until mid-November. The full project is expected to last approximately three years and conclude in 2022.

The Highway 23 expansion was previously delayed by a 2015 court injunction in response to a lawsuit by 1000 Friends of Wisconsin. The project was first authorized in state statute in 1999.

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