

# West Waukesha Bypass Meeting

Information Sheet

April 6, 2016

## Project Update

In late 2014, Waukesha County and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) completed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) for the West Waukesha Bypass Study which identified the project's preferred alternative. On January 20, 2015, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the project's Record of Decision. The Record of Decision is FHWA's final approval of the project, and it represents the end of the study phase of the project.

The City of Waukesha, Waukesha County and WisDOT are now in the final design phase for their segments of the project. The City will design and construct the segment from Rolling Ridge Drive to Northview Road. The County will design and construct the segment from Northview Road to Fiddlers Creek Drive (south of Summit Avenue), and WisDOT will design and construct the segment from Fiddlers Creek Drive to WIS 59. A list of contacts for each construction project is found on page 2.

Although there will be design variations in each construction project, the overall concept will be to expand Meadowbrook Road and Merrill Hills Road from a 2-lane road to a 4-lane road with a raised median. The roadway will be on new alignment south of Madison Street to WIS 59. Side roads through the three segments will be reconstructed for the length necessary to tie the side roads into the reconstructed mainline road. Left and right turn lanes will be added at intersections to improve safety and efficiency. Traffic signals will be installed at Rolling Ridge Drive, Northview Road, Summit Avenue (USH 18), Madison Street, Sunset Drive, WIS 59 and Saylesville Road. The shared-use path on the east side of Meadowbrook Road that terminates at Summit Avenue will be extended along the east side of Merrill Hills Road to Sunset Drive. The sidewalk on the west side of Meadowbrook Road will be extended from Northview Road to Kame Terrace.

In addition to the roadway work described above, pipes and culverts that carry Pebble Creek and its tributaries under Meadowbrook Road, Merrill Hills Road, and Summit Avenue will be extended or reconstructed to accommodate the roadway widening. New bridges will be constructed over Pebble Creek on County X and west of the existing Pebble Creek Bridge on Merrill Hills Road. Measures to improve stormwater quality such as dry ponds and flat-bottomed ditches are also planned throughout the three projects. The City of Waukesha construction project will also include construction of a flood mitigation project between Lancaster Drive and Northview Road east of Meadowbrook Road in the area of the future city park. More detailed information about the design within each project segment is available at today's meeting.

## Today's Meeting Format and Layout

Today's meeting is open house. Representatives from the City of Waukesha, Waukesha County, WisDOT, and their consultants are here to answer your questions about each agency's construction project. The construction plans for each project are laid out on separate tables. The plans show information such as the location of the expanded Meadowbrook Road and Merrill Hills Road, where new sidewalks are proposed, the location of the extended shared-use path, stormwater drainage features, and where new right-of-way is required from properties adjacent to the road.

To avoid a spring-fed wetland south of Sunset Drive and reduce wetland impacts overall, Waukesha County and WisDOT have refined the design of the Pebble Creek West Alternative. This design refinement, known as Rotated Pebble Creek West alignment, and several other changes since 2014 are documented in a reevaluation of the 2014 Final EIS. See below for more information. There is a table with copies of the draft reevaluation of the Final EIS for your review. Exhibits with information about the natural resource impacts of the Rotated Pebble Creek West alignment are located adjacent to the table.

A presentation on the Rotated Pebble Creek West alignment and other issues raised in the reevaluation will begin at 5:30 p.m. After the presentation, questions on the reevaluation will be taken. Questions about information on the construction plans and other project questions about should be addressed to the representatives at the layout tables. You may use the comment form attached to this handout to provide comments on the draft reevaluation or the construction plans on display today. Comments are due by April 20, 2016. The final version of the reevaluation, which will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration for approval, will summarize public comments received at and after today's meeting on the reevaluation.

## Rotated Pebble Creek West Alignment

As part of the design phase, Waukesha County refined the 2014 Pebble Creek West Alternative north and south of Sunset Drive to avoid a spring-fed wetland (Wetland 8) south of Sunset Drive that has been a source of concern for USEPA and the Army Corps of Engineers. The refined design, called the Rotated Pebble Creek West alignment, reduces wetland impacts south of the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad by about 2 acres and has a similar impact on the interior forest habitat south of Sunset Drive as the 2014 Pebble Creek West Alternative. A copy of Rotated Pebble Creek West alignment is attached to this handout and is on display at today's meeting.

## Final EIS Reevaluation

Waukesha County and WisDOT are preparing a reevaluation of the 2014 Final EIS to address the Rotated Pebble Creek West design refinement and other new information since 2014. The purpose of the reevaluation is to determine whether the decisions and conclusions in the 2014 Final EIS remain valid. The finding or conclusion of a reevaluation is that the NEPA documentation (the 2014 Final EIS) is valid or that additional analysis is required. Copies of the draft reevaluation of the 2014 Final EIS are available for review at today's meeting, and project staff are available to answer your questions about the reevaluation.

## Schedule

Final design for the City and County projects will continue in 2016. Design of WisDOT's project will extend to spring 2017. Construction of the City of Waukesha and Waukesha County projects will begin in spring 2017 and be completed in fall 2017. WisDOT's project is scheduled to begin in fall 2017 and be completed in fall 2018. Real estate acquisition began in 2015 throughout the three construction projects and will continue through early 2017. Utility relocations will begin later this year and continue until early 2018.

## Website

For more information about the West Waukesha Bypass Project, please visit [waukeshabypass.org](http://waukeshabypass.org). Exhibits on display at this meeting, including the design plans, will be placed on the project website.

## Contact

For more information about the West Waukesha Bypass Project please visit [waukeshabypass.org](http://waukeshabypass.org). The following people may be contacted with questions about the construction projects:

*WIS 59 to Fiddlers Creek Drive*

### **Doug Cain**

WisDOT

(262) 548-5603

[douglas.cain@dot.wi.gov](mailto:douglas.cain@dot.wi.gov)

*Fiddlers Creek Drive to*

*Northview Road*

### **Gary Evans**

Waukesha County

(262) 548-7746

[gevans@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:gevans@waukeshacounty.gov)

*Northview Road to Rolling*

*Ridge Drive*

### **Margaret Liedtke**

City of Waukesha

(262) 524-3589

[mliedtke@ci.waukesha.wi.us](mailto:mliedtke@ci.waukesha.wi.us)