



CONNECTING WISCONSIN



US 41 Project

US 41 - Memorial Drive to County M

Public Hearing

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

March 2, 2011

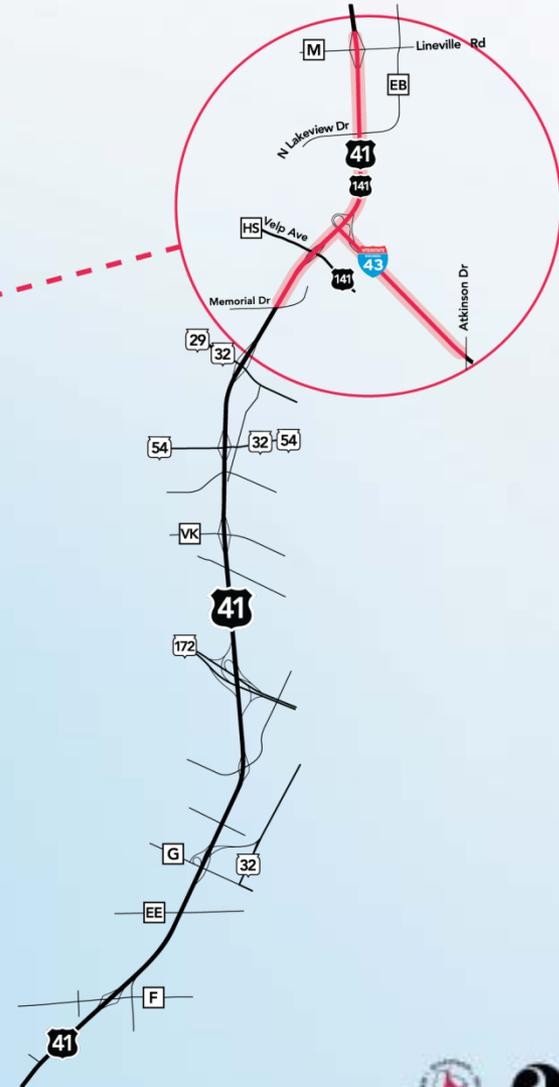
Presentation outline

- Tonight's agenda
- Study area location
- Overview of public hearing
- Instructions for providing testimony
- Project description, Purpose and need
- Proposed alternatives
- Environmental impacts
- Property acquisition/relocation
- Next steps, Project schedule
- Description of hearing exhibits
- WisDOT contact information

Tonight's agenda

- 5 p.m. Sign in, pick up handout, review exhibits, discuss project with WisDOT staff
Private and written testimony begins
- 5:30 p.m. WisDOT presentation
- 6 p.m. Public verbal testimony for interested individuals
Additional exhibit review and discussion in commons (not part of public testimony)
- 8 p.m. End of public hearing

Study area location map



Overview of public hearing

Purpose

- Public review
 - Proposed alternatives
 - Study findings and exhibits
 - Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
 - Clean Water Act Permit
- Public testimony
 - WisDOT and FHWA will review prior to selecting the proposed alternative

US 41 PROJECT

Purpose of Public Hearing

The main purpose of this public hearing is to obtain public opinion regarding the project aspects listed below so that this input can be considered along with all other judgments and opinions to be reviewed by WisDOT before further decisions are made on the proposed alternatives. Court reporters are available to take down all testimony which will be entered into the public hearing record along with other public hearing information and materials.

Today's public hearing will focus on the following project aspects of the US 41 Memorial Drive to County M project:

- The location and design features of the proposed improvements and alternatives being considered.
- The National and Wisconsin Environmental Policy Acts require public hearings on projects for which an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared. The EIS is the decision document for the proposed improvements. Copies of the EIS are available for review at today's hearing.
- Project activities that require authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the Clean Water Act for placing fill into waters of the U.S. including wetlands.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process

The EIS process includes development of a range of design alternatives, evaluation and screening of the alternatives, and selection of a preferred alternative. Numerous factors are considered throughout the EIS process including safety, mobility, engineering design standards, impacts to the environment, cost, and input from the public and state and federal review agencies.

The US 41 Memorial Drive to County M project is currently at the Draft EIS (DEIS) stage. The DEIS documents the purpose and need for proposed improvements, alternatives considered, environmental impacts, and public involvement and agency coordination during development and refinement of the alternatives. The Final EIS identifies the selected alternative, reasons for its selection, and reports the results of the public hearing and comments on the DEIS.

Information for the Public Hearing Record

In addition to the testimony provided at tonight's public hearing, all of the exhibits, handouts, audio/video presentations, and displays available for viewing at the hearing tonight will be included in the official public hearing record. Page 11 of this handout contains a complete listing of these materials. Other materials, along with written testimony received after the hearing, will be added to the official public hearing record provided they are received prior to the end of the environmental document availability period.

Page 3

Overview of public hearing

EIS process

- EIS development
 - Considers and evaluates range of alternatives
 - Selects preferred alternative
- Considers various factors
 - Safety and mobility
 - Environmental impacts
 - Residential/business relocations
 - Public and agency input
 - Cost

US 41 PROJECT

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Overview of public hearing

Information for public record

- Description of hearing exhibits
 - Design displays
 - Informational board exhibits
 - Handouts
 - Documents for review
 - PowerPoint

DESCRIPTION OF HEARING EXHIBITS

Large Displays (on portable wall boards)

- **Proposed Design Alternatives** – Displays show the same set of displays is provided on each side of t

Display Boards (on easels)

- **US 41 Brown County Project Overview Map** – Shows the limits of the various US 41 project segments withi
- **Typical Finished Sections** – Shows cross sections c
- **Alternatives Comparison of Environmental Impact alternatives** that have been analyzed. Alternatives D
- **Ramp Types and Speeds** – Provides background inf US 41 with I-43
- **2005 – 2007 Crash Data** – Shows locations of crashe period
- **Daily Traffic Comparison of Alternatives C, D, and Alternatives C, D, and E.** Traffic numbers shown for A US 41 is eliminated.
- **Beaver Dam Creek Realignment** – Provides a detail where it crosses US 41 south of Velp Avenue, along v

Handouts (on tables)

- **Handout Packet**
- **Frequently Asked Questions** – Provides a list of con question
- **Registration Slips for Public Verbal Testimony** – F testimony in front of the audience. These are also att
- **Written Testimony Forms** – Forms that can be filled comment box or mailed in after the hearing. These ar
- **Wisconsin Relocation Rights – Business, Farm an**
- **Wisconsin Relocation Rights – Residential**
- **The Rights of Landowners Under Wisconsin Emln**

Documents Available for Viewing (limited copie

- **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** – Thi the Federal Highway Administration and made availab
- **Legal Notice** – Notice that was published in Green B advertising the Public Hearing and the availability of th
- **Impact Analysis Methodology** – Document that expl the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process
- **Coordination Plan** – Document that identifies how p agencies and the public will be solicited and considere

PowerPoint Presentation

WisDOT is providing a brief PowerPoint presentation tonight to update the public on the proposed project alternatives and to explain the public hearing process. The PowerPoint presentation contains the purpose of providing information required in the public hearing Project Statement.

US 41 PROJECT

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Page 3

Instructions for providing testimony

- Private verbal testimony
 - Individually with court reporter
 - Follow signs to east end of commons
 - Available from 5 to 8 p.m.

US 41 PROJECT

Options and Instructions for Providing Testimony

There are several options for providing testimony as described below. Your testimony will be reviewed and considered by WisDOT and FHWA as part of the process for choosing the preferred alternative. Testimony should be limited to tonight's public hearing aspects (see page 3), and statements or opinions about the project. Provide comments on the alternative(s) you support or oppose and your reasons. Questions related to the project can be directed to WisDOT staff during informal discussions and will not be recorded by the court reporter or included in the public hearing record.

Private verbal testimony

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Public verbal testimony

Following the WisDOT presentation (5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) in the auditorium, public verbal testimony will take place. Complete a "Registration Slip for Public Verbal Testimony" (included in this handout packet and on table in commons area). Give it to the WisDOT staff at the designated table anytime before, during, or immediately following the presentation. Your name will be called in the order registration slips are received. When you are called to the microphone to provide testimony, please state your name, address, and if applicable, the group, organization or business you are representing. Please limit your testimony to approximately 3 minutes to allow time for others to provide testimony.



Written testimony

You may provide written testimony in addition to, or in place of, verbal testimony. Complete the "Written Testimony Form" (included at the back of this handout packet and on table in commons area). You may also use your own stationery. Include your name, address, and if applicable the group, organization, or business you are representing. If you prepared written comments prior to the public hearing, you may also submit those. There are two options for submitting your written testimony as described below.

Submit tonight: Complete the written testimony form and place in comment box located on table in commons area.

OR

Mail in: You may prefer this option if you would like additional time to organize your thoughts/comments. The Written Testimony Form is pre-addressed and does not require postage. You may also send written comments via e-mail. See "WisDOT Contact Information" on page 12 of this handout. Mailed or e-mailed comments must be postmarked or received no later than March 28, 2011 to be included in the official public hearing record.



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Instructions for providing testimony

- Public verbal testimony
 - Complete registration slip
 - Provide comment in auditorium
 - State your name, address, who you represent (if applicable)
 - Limit comments to 3 minutes

Registration Slip for Public Hearing
US 41 Memorial Drive to Configuration
Bay View Middle School
March 2, 2011

Following the WisDOT presentation, a WisDOT representative will be present to receive registration slips and, if applicable, the court reporter will record your testimony.

If you do not wish to speak, you will not be considered at the public hearing.

Name: _____
Address: _____

If applicable - group, organization: _____

Wishing to speak
 Not wishing to speak

Alternative A: No Bay View Middle School

Support
 Do not support

Alternative D: US 41 configuration

Support
 Do not support

Alternative E: US 41 configuration

Support
 Do not support

US 41 PROJECT

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Instructions for providing testimony

- Written testimony
 - Complete written testimony form
 - Submit tonight or mail
 - Email
 - All comments due by March 28, 2011

US 41 PROJECT

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Memorial Drive to County M
Public Hearing
Bay View Middle School
March 2, 2011

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Memorial Drive to County M
Public Hearing
March 2, 2011

US 41 Project
Brown County

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Project description

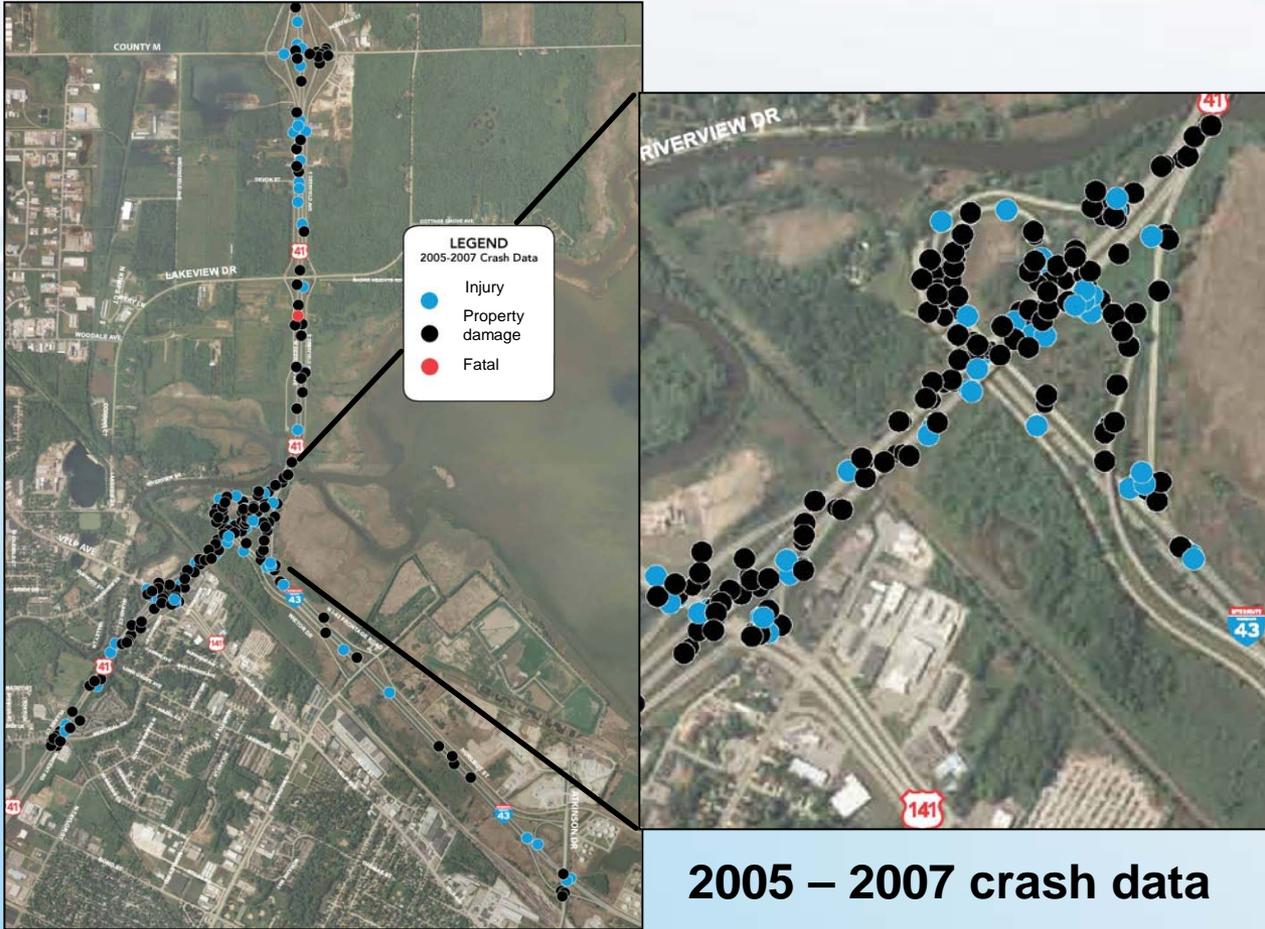
- US 41 (Memorial Drive to County M)
- I-43 (US 41 to Atkinson Drive)
- Includes three interchanges
 - Velp Avenue
 - I-43
 - County M



Purpose and need

- Maintain and improve mobility
- Improve safety
- Minimize disturbances to natural and built environments
- Provide compatibility with interstate standards
- Address existing highway deficiencies
- Provide balance between regional traffic and local access needs
- Support the region's economic competitiveness

Purpose and need



US 41 crash rates within the project segment are among the highest throughout the Brown County US 41 corridor

Alternatives

- March 2010 Agency scoping and public information meetings to gather input on range of Alternatives A,B,C,D,E
- May 2010 Alternative B eliminated from further study
- June 2010 Design refinements (and associated changes to environmental impacts) to Alternatives C and D due to FHWA comments on compatibility with potential future conversion of US 41 to an interstate
- August 2010 Public information meeting to present and gather input on refined Alternatives C, D, E
- October 2010 Alternative C eliminated from further study
- March 2011 Public hearing for DEIS - Alternatives D and E remaining for study

Design Alternatives D and E

Common design features

- Increase capacity on US 41 mainline
 - Memorial Drive to County M
 - Widen from 4-6 lanes
 - Provide auxiliary lanes at certain locations
- Improve I-43
 - US 41 to Atkinson Drive



Design Alternatives D and E

Common design features

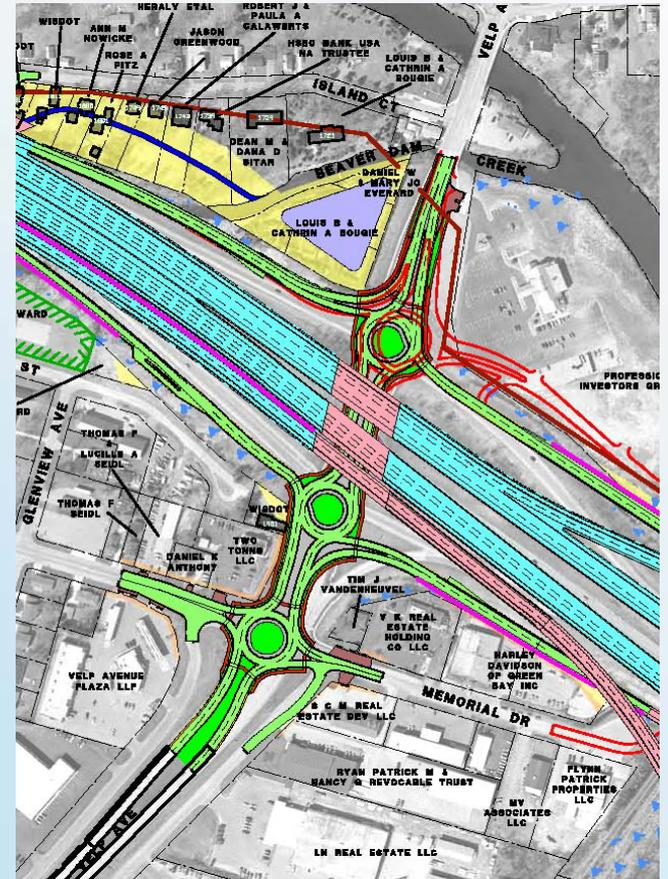
- Reconstruct US 41 Interchanges
 - Velp Avenue
 - County M
 - I-43 (Improvements vary for Alternatives D & E)
- Replace and/or build new bridges



Design Alternatives D and E

Common design features

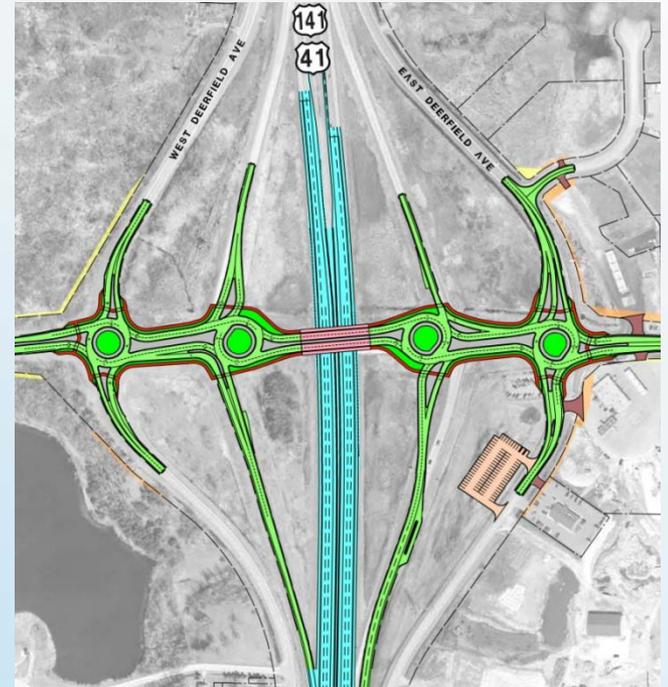
- Velp Avenue interchange reconstruction
 - Improve geometrics, safety, and operations
 - Add roundabouts at ramp terminals and at Memorial Drive intersection
 - Replace US 41 bridges
 - Evaluate 5-legged roundabout with new frontage/access road



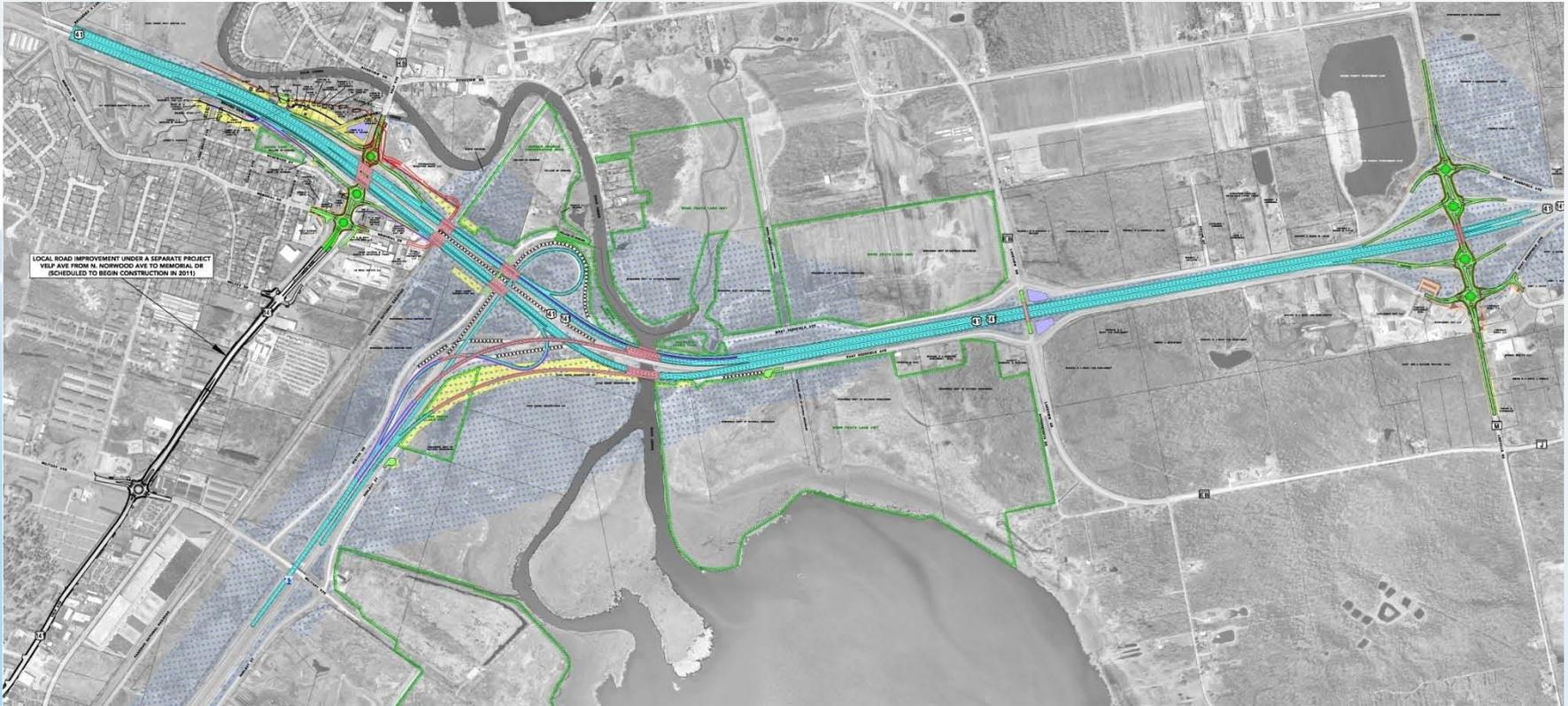
Design Alternatives D and E

Common design features

- County M interchange reconstruction
 - Improve geometrics, safety, and operations
 - Add roundabouts at ramp terminals and at East and West Deerfield Avenues
 - Replace County M bridge over US 41



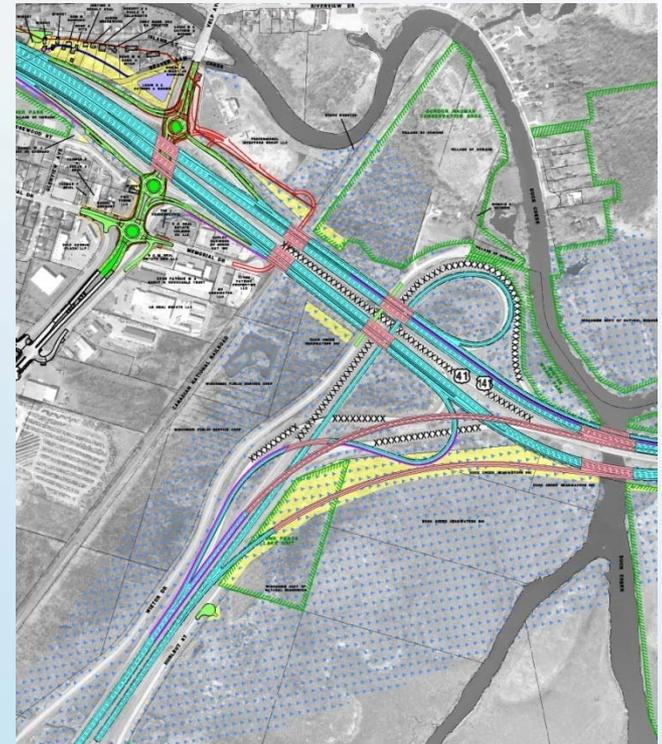
Alternative D



Alternative D

Unique design features

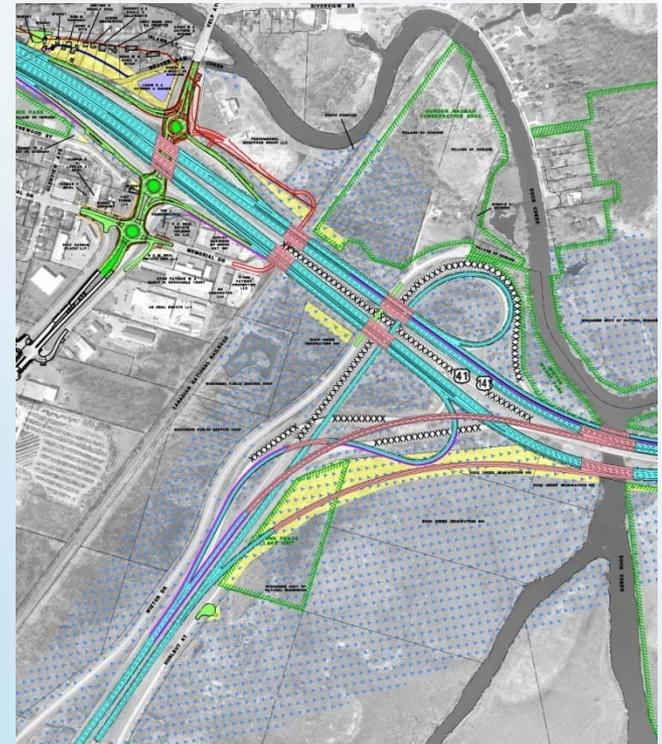
- US 41 expansion with C/D roadways between Velp Avenue and I-43 with freeway split configuration
 - Adds C/D roadways to US 41 between Velp Avenue and I-43 Interchanges to minimize weaving



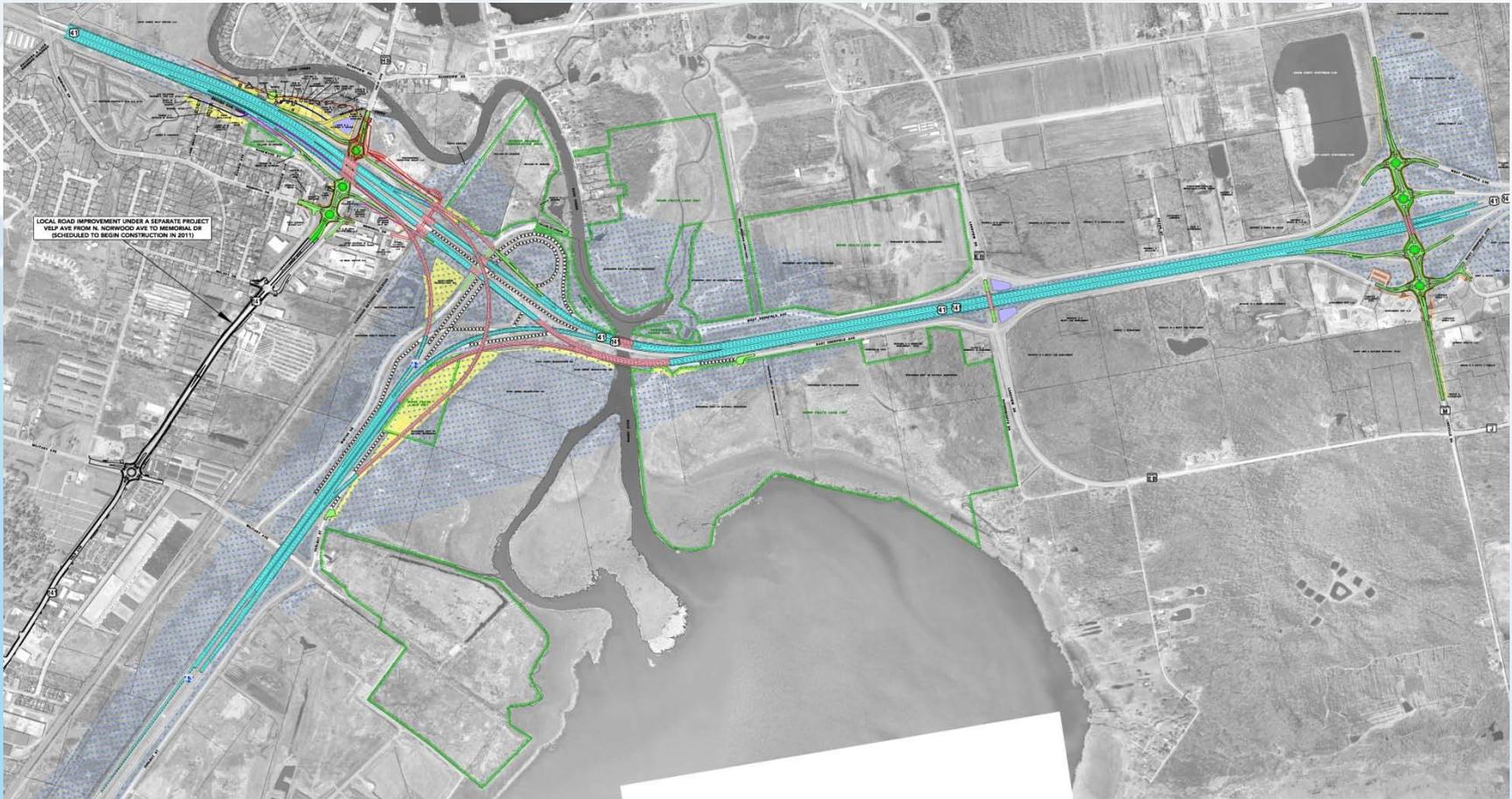
Alternative D

Unique design features

- Continued
 - Makes geometric improvements and safety enhancements to the two inside loop ramps at the I-43 interchange
 - Uses a median split to accommodate a "freeway split configuration" for the US 41 to SB I-43 movement
 - Maintains access between Velp Avenue and I-43 via US 41



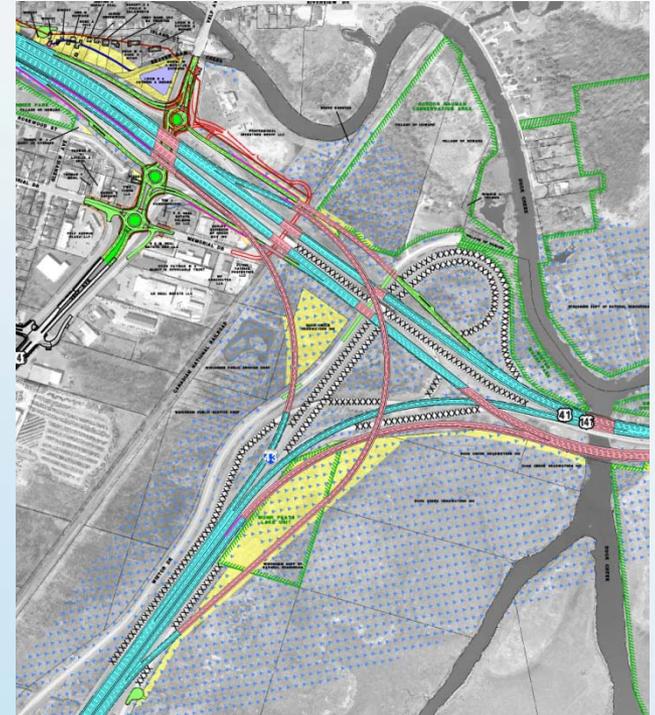
Alternative E



Alternative E

Unique design features

- US 41 expansion with full reconfiguration of I-43/US 41 Interchange
 - Provides direct ramps in all directions
 - Eliminates loop ramps
 - Access between Velp Avenue and I-43 via US 41 eliminated to accommodate direct ramps



Environmental impacts

	Alt D	Alt E
Construction cost	\$220 M	\$230 M
New right of way	29 ac	37 ac
Residential displacements	15	15
Business displacements	1	1
Stream crossings	2	2
Wetland impacts	55 ac	54 ac

US 41 PROJECT

Alternatives Comparison of Environmental Impacts (Alternatives D and E)
 The main environmental impacts for Alternatives D and E include wetland impacts, stream crossings/realignment, residential displacements, and impacts to public use lands. A comparison of key environmental effects for Alternatives D and E is provided in the table below. See Draft EIS for more information.

Environmental Factors	Alternative D ¹ US 41 expansion with CD roadways between Velp Avenue and I-43 and freeway split configuration	Alternative E ¹ US 41 expansion with full reconfiguration of I-43/US 41 interchange
Construction Cost Estimate (2010 \$)	\$220 M	\$230 M
New right-of-way (acres)	29	37
Residential Displacements	15	15
Business Displacements	1	1
Stream Crossings	2 Beaver Dam Creek (realignment required) Duck Creek	2 Beaver Dam Creek (realignment required) Duck Creek
Wetland Impacts² (acres)	55	54
Threatened or Endangered Species³	Possible	Possible
Archaeological Sites	0	0
Historic Structures	0	0
Public Use Land (acres)	8.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wietor Wharf Park (0.8) embankment fill, boardwalk • Deerfield Docks (0.55) embankment fill, boardwalk • Gordon Nauman Cons. Area (0.55) embankment fill • DNR Peat's Lake units (6.5); parcel along I-43 (severance) parcel east of US 41 (frontage road cul-de-sac) 	12.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wietor Wharf Park (0.4) embankment fill • Deerfield Docks (0.1) embankment fill • Gordon Nauman Cons. Area (1.1) embankment fill • DNR Peat's Lake units (10.6); parcel along I-43 (severance) parcel east of US 41 (frontage road cul-de-sac)
Contaminated Sites (petroleum)	3	3
Environmental Justice Concerns	No	No

Notes:

- Alternatives D and E were retained for detailed evaluation in the Draft EIS. Both alternatives include the common improvements listed under the Alternatives section in this handout.
- Wetland impacts include areas under proposed bridges that will not be directly filled by the proposed improvements. Total acreage shown includes 1.1 acres of additional impacts for the 5-legged roundabout option in the northwest quadrant of the Velp Avenue interchange.
- Previous information from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service indicates there are no known federally-listed threatened or endangered species in the project's area of potential effect. Previous information from the DNR indicates the project area could provide habitat for the following species:
 - Blanding's turtle and Wood turtle (endangered)
 - Common tern (endangered)
 - Black crowned night heron, Cattle egret

Environmental impacts

	Alt D	Alt E
Threatened / Endangered species	Possible	Possible
Archaeological sites	0	0
Historic structures	0	0
Public use land	8.4 ac	12.2 ac
Contaminated sites	3	3
Environmental Justice concerns	No	No

US 41 PROJECT

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New right-of-way (acres)	29	37
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Stream Crossings	2 Beaver Dam Creek (realignment required) Duck Creek	2 Beaver Dam Creek (realignment required) Duck Creek
Wetland Impacts ² (acres)	55	54
Threatened or Endangered Species ³	Possible	Possible
Archaeological Sites	0	0
Historic Structures	0	0
Public Use Land (acres)	8.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wielor Wharf Park (0.8) embankment fill, boardwalk Deerfield Docks (0.55) embankment fill, boardwalk Gordon Nauman Cons. Area (0.55) embankment fill DNR Peat's Lake units (6.5); parcel along I-43 (severance) parcel east of US 41 (frontage road cul-de-sac) 	12.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wielor Wharf Park (0.4) embankment fill Deerfield Docks (0.1) embankment fill Gordon Nauman Cons. Area (1.1) embankment fill DNR Peat's Lake units (10.6); parcel along I-43 (severance) parcel east of US 41 (frontage road cul-de-sac)
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 - Blanding's turtle and Wood turtle (endangered)
 - Common tern (endangered)
 - Black crowned night heron, Cattle egret

Property acquisition / relocation

- Business and residential displacements
 - Locations identified on displays and DEIS available in commons area
 - Wisconsin's relocation program
 - Re-establishment of displaced persons and businesses
 - Prompt and reasonable relocation payments
 - Fair market value

US 41 PROJECT

Property Acquisition/Relocation Assistance and Benefits

Before any property acquisition activities are initiated, members of the Region Real Estate staff will contact the property owners to explain the details of the acquisition process and Wisconsin's Eminent Domain Law. All properties to be acquired will be inspected and appraised by one or more professional appraisers. The property owner will be asked to accompany the appraiser during inspection of the property to be acquired, to assure that its value is recognized in the appraisal. Based upon the appraisal or appraisals made, the fair market value of the property to be acquired will be determined, and that amount will be offered to the owner.

Relocation assistance will be made available to anyone displaced by this project. A survey of available housing and business locations was completed in August 2010. This survey indicates that there will be sufficient housing and business locations available in the project vicinity at the time of the proposed relocations, within the means of the relocations and meeting the requirements for replacement housing and businesses. The "Relocation Assistance" brochure made available to you tonight answers many of the frequently asked questions concerning relocation assistance. In addition to the cost of replacement housing and/or business locations, additional monies are available to cover moving expenses, increased rental and mortgage payments and interest rates, and any closing costs incurred.

No person will be displaced unless a comparable and/or adequate replacement dwelling or business location has been provided or made available. In the event a relocated person is dissatisfied with the decision as to eligibility for payments or amounts offered under the relocation assistance program, he or she will be promptly advised of the procedure to follow in making an appeal.

Some properties have been/will be acquired through the early buyout process which began in February 2009 and will be completed by December 2011. Remaining property acquisition is scheduled to begin in February 2012. The anticipated completion of relocations is August 2012. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2013. The locations of displaced homes and businesses are shown on the public hearing displays and detailed information is provided in the DEIS, Appendix A - Conceptual Stage Relocation Plan (available for viewing on table in the commons area).

Next Steps

At the end of the public comment period, WisDOT will review and consider all public hearing testimony and comments received on the DEIS. This input will assist WisDOT in selecting the preferred alternative. Upcoming milestones in completing the engineering and environmental study for the US 41 Memorial Drive to County M project include the following:

- March 28, 2011 - End of comment period for public hearing input and public and agency comments on the DEIS.
- Spring/Summer, 2011 - Review of public and agency comments and selection of a preferred alternative.
- Late fall, 2011 - Prepare and distribute the Final EIS that identifies the selected alternative. The Final EIS will also be made available for public and agency review.
- Late 2011/Early 2012 - Final Record of Decision on selected alternative approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

Project Schedule

Project phase	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EIS and preliminary engineering									
Real estate acquisitions*									
Final design*									
Construction*									

*Dependent upon a build alternative being selected.

Next steps

March 28, 2011	End of public hearing comment period
Spring/ summer 2011	FHWA and WisDOT review public hearing comments Select preferred alternative
Late fall 2011	Prepare and distribute Final EIS (FEIS) for review
Late 2011/ early 2012	FHWA approve the Record of Decision (ROD) on selected alternative

Project schedule

Memorial Drive to County M									
Project phase	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EIS and preliminary engineering	█								
Real estate acquisitions*				█					
Final design*				█					
Construction*					█				

*Dependent upon a build alternative being selected at the conclusion of the EIS process.

Description of hearing exhibits

US 41 PROJECT

DESCRIPTION OF HEARING EXHIBITS

Large Displays (on portable wall boards)

- **Proposed Design Alternatives** – Displays show the proposed improvements associated with Alternatives D and E. The same set of displays is provided on each side of the wall boards.

Display Boards (on easels)

- **US 41 Brown County Project Overview Map** – Shows the overall US 41 Brown County project limits and identifies the limits of the various US 41 project segments within Brown County
- **Typical Finished Sections** – Shows cross sections of the proposed US 41 roadway
- **Alternatives Comparison of Environmental Impacts** – Summarizes the environmental impacts of each of the 5 alternatives that have been analyzed. Alternatives D and E are the only alternatives still under consideration.
- **Ramp Types and Speeds** – Provides background information on the different types of ramps proposed to connect US 41 with I-43
- **2005 – 2007 Crash Data** – Shows locations of crashes that have occurred within the project limits during that time period
- **Daily Traffic Comparison of Alternatives C, D, and E** – Provides comparison of future traffic volumes between Alternatives C, D, and E. Traffic numbers shown for Alternative E assume access between Velp Avenue and I-43 via US 41 is eliminated.
- **Beaver Dam Creek Realignment** – Provides a detailed view of the proposed realignment of Beaver Dam Creek where it crosses US 41 south of Velp Avenue, along with associated residential relocations.

Handouts (on tables)

- **Handout Packet**
- **Frequently Asked Questions** – Provides a list of common questions regarding the project and answers to each question
- **Registration Slips for Public Verbal Testimony** – Forms to fill out for individuals wishing to present verbal testimony in front of the audience. These are also attached to Handout Packet.
- **Written Testimony Forms** – Forms that can be filled out to provide written testimony which can be placed in the comment box or mailed in after the hearing. These are also attached to Handout Packet.
- **Wisconsin Relocation Rights – Business, Farm and Nonprofit Organizations**
- **Wisconsin Relocation Rights – Residential**
- **The Rights of Landowners Under Wisconsin Eminent Domain Law**

Documents Available for Viewing (limited copies provided; please do not remove from tables)

- **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** – This is the current version of the report that has been approved by the Federal Highway Administration and made available for public review
- **Legal Notice** – Notice that was published in Green Bay Press-Gazette and Ashwaubenon-Howard Suamico Press advertising the Public Hearing and the availability of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review
- **Impact Analysis Methodology** – Document that explains how the project's potential impacts will be evaluated during the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process
- **Coordination Plan** – Document that identifies how project information will be communicated and how input from agencies and the public will be solicited and considered during the (EIS) process

PowerPoint Presentation

WisDOT is providing a brief PowerPoint presentation tonight to update the public on the proposed project alternatives and to explain the public hearing process. The PowerPoint presentation also serves the purpose of providing information required in the public hearing Project Statement.

WisDOT contacts

US 41 PROJECT

WisDOT Contact Information

Submission of written testimony or general project questions

Additional written public hearing testimony and/or comments on the Draft EIS after today's public hearing should be sent to the WisDOT project manager at the address given below. Additional testimony and comments should be received no later than March 28, 2011 to be included in the public hearing record and considered in the Final EIS.

Mindy Gardner, PE
Deputy Project Engineer
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
US 41 Brown County Project Office
1940 West Mason Street
Green Bay, WI 54303
(920) 492-2247
Mindy.Gardner@dot.wi.gov

Property acquisition/relocation questions

Questions specific to property acquisition and/or relocation of homes and businesses can be most efficiently answered by WisDOT's real estate staff.

Dawn Van Oudenhoven
WisDOT Northeast Region Relocation Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
NE Region Office
944 Vandeperron Way
Green Bay, WI 54304
(920) 492-3509

Project website (project information, schedule and updates)

Additional information about the US 41 Memorial Drive to County M project, including the Draft EIS is available on WisDOT's website: <http://www.us41.wisconsin.gov/overview/special-project-features/envdocsmemorialdrfocountym>

US 41 Project