

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE
LOCATION, DESIGN and ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF
COUNTY HIGHWAY KR
BETWEEN COUNTY H AND OLD GREEN BAY ROAD
RACINE AND KENOSHA COUNTIES**

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are advised that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing as provided by law to consider the location, design and environmental aspects of the proposed improvement of County Highway KR, 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.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) proposes to reconstruct County KR between County H and Old Green Bay Road in Racine and Kenosha counties. The project begins 400 feet east of the County KR/County H intersection and extends east for 2.8 miles to end 1,600 feet east of the County KR/Old Green Bay Road intersection.

The project would replace the existing 2-lane rural County KR with a four-lane urban roadway that has two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction divided by a median. The project would include improvements (signals and turn lanes) to maintain traffic operations at the County KR intersections with WIS 31 and Old Green Bay Road and it would realign 90th Street on the north with County EA (72nd Avenue) on the south. The existing at-grade crossings with the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPRR) and the Union Pacific Railway (UPRR) would be grade separated with County KR built over the railroad corridors. Two new concrete slab span bridges over the Pike River would replace the existing box culvert that conveys the Pike River under County KR. Existing drainage ditches would be replaced with curb and gutter, and stormwater would be conveyed to detention ponds. A 10-foot shared-use path would be built on both sides of the road between County H and 90th Street. The path would be constructed on the north side of County KR between 90th Street and Vicksburg Drive, just east of Old Green Bay Road. The project would acquire nearly 40 acres of new right of way and approximately 15 acres of temporary and permanent easement. The project will require the full acquisition of 5 residential properties and the relocation of 4 households (one property is vacant).

WisDOT, Racine County and Kenosha County entered into a state trunk highway jurisdictional transfer agreement in April 2018 for County KR improvements between I-94 and Old Green Bay Road. The agreement allows WisDOT to complete design and construction activities for this section of County KR. The counties are responsible for right of way acquisition and relocations. After construction, WisDOT will return jurisdiction of the roadway to the counties for ongoing control, access rights and maintenance. The design and construction of the section of County KR between I-94 and County H is being completed as part of a separate project. The section between County H and Old Green Bay Road is being evaluated in this Environmental Assessment (EA) and is referred to as the County KR-Phase 2 project.

Further information concerning the proposed improvement to County KR is available for inspection and copying at the Department's Southeast Region Office in Waukesha, Wisconsin at the address given below. (Information can also be viewed online at: <https://projects.511wi.gov/fdr/county-kr-environmental-document/>).

The public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2019, at Somers Village Hall, 7511 12th Street, Kenosha, WI 53144. The public hearing will be conducted from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Interested persons may attend anytime between 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. to review displays and other hearing materials, ask questions, and provide testimony.

The traditional-style portion of the public hearing will begin at 4:30 p.m. and will end when all interested persons have provided testimony or 7 p.m., 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. Deaf or hard of hearing 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 general location and detailed 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 U. S. 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. Racine County and Kenosha County will complete real estate acquisition and relocations. Relocation assistance will also be discussed. It is anticipated that the relocation of persons and farms will occur as a result of the proposed improvement. Any person who feels that he or she may be thus affected by the proposed improvement may obtain acquisition and relocation assistance information from the applicable county representatives. For affected properties in Racine County, please contact Julie Anderson, Director Racine County Public Works at 262-886-8440. For affected properties in Kenosha County, please contact Clement Abongwa, P.E., Director/Highway Commissioner Kenosha County Division of Highways-Public Works Department at 262-653-1870.

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 March 7, 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 Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act. 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:

Southeast Region Office*
Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation
141 NW Barstow Street
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

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

Village of Mount Pleasant
8811 Campus Drive
Mount Pleasant, WI 53406

Village of Somers
7511 12th Street
Kenosha, WI 53144

*Printed copies of the draft 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/fdr/county-kr-environmental-document/>

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.

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 March 7, 2019. Written comments on the Environmental Assessment should be sent via U.S. mail or e-mail to the WisDOT contact person listed below.

Steve Hoff, P.E.
Southeast Region Office
Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation
141 NW Barstow Street
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798
Steve.hoff@dot.wi.gov

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

Project ID 3763-00-04

