

**Wisconsin Federal Highway Administration**  
**Finding of *De Minimis* Impact on Parks, Recreation Areas and Wildlife and Waterfowl**  
**Refuges (Updated 7/25/2017)**

**1. Project Description**

WISDOT ID: 3876-05-00  
Route: CTH D (East Church Street)  
Termini: CTH Y – N. School Street  
City/County: V Oakfield, Fond du Lac County

**Project Description:**

The purpose of this highway improvement project along CTH D (East Church Street) between CTH Y (Station 19+05) and North School Street (Station 43+75) in the Village of Oakfield, Fond du Lac County, is to address deficiencies in the existing corridor as they relate to the following: deteriorated pavement, drainage, pedestrian and bicycle safety and right of way corrections. Reconstruction of the roadway, widening the curb-to-curb width, and replacement of storm sewer, curb and gutter, sidewalk and curb ramps will appropriately address these issues. Improvements to the existing facility will improve the overall safety, function, and operational characteristics of this roadway within the county highway system. The 0.47 mile long project will have an estimated cost of \$1.7 million dollars (year of expenditure 2021). Additional permanent limited easement (PLE) of 0.008 acres and a temporary limited easement (TLE) totalling 0.077 acres will be necessary to be acquired from the Wild Goose State Trail property. Impacts resulting from this project will be documented by a Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC) environmental document.

A project location map is presented in Attachment 1.

**2. Name of Section 4(f) resource: (If the resource is a park and a historic property please indicate the historic property name and the park name if different.)**

Wild Goose State Trail (WGST)

**3. Description of Section 4(f) resource (Include a map and/or photos of the property in relation to the proposed project):**

The Section 4(f) resource is Wild Goose State Trail (WGST), open for public use. The WGST, Wisconsin's first "cooperative" State trail, is a 34 mile long, multi-use recreation trail located in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties on an abandoned Chicago and Northwestern railroad corridor. This is not a "Rails to Trails" facility, meaning there is no reversionary clause. 23 CFR 774.11(h) and 23 CFR 774.11(i) do not apply. The trailhead is located at 370 W. Rolling Meadows Dr., Fond du Lac. The trail is publicly owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), while Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties develop, maintain and operate the trail. The trail runs from the southern trail head at HWY 60 (about 4 miles south of the City of Juneau) in Dodge County to the northern trail head at Rolling

Meadows Drive in the City of Fond du Lac. This all-season recreational trail's usage is for bicycle riding and hiking in spring, summer and fall, and snowmobiling in the winter.

Within the Village of Oakfield, the trail crosses the subject WisDOT project ID 3876-05-00 at an angle southwest to northeast, crossing CTH Y (Main Street) at side road Station 3+14 and crossing CTH D (East Church Street) at mainline Station 22+15. There are no off-street parking areas for the trail in the vicinity. There are "no parking" signs and pavement markings along the streets directly adjacent to the trail crossing. There is on-street parking available beginning as near as 30 feet from the trail, subject to municipal street parking regulations.

According to prior correspondence with WDNR for this project, the trail has used Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) funds in the past.

See Attachment 2 for a map of the full trail, an aerial boundary map in the project area, and photos of the trail as it abuts the project. The full trail map was downloaded from <http://www.co.dodge.wi.gov/government/departments-e-m/land-resources-and-parks/parks-and-trails/wild-goose-state-trail>.

#### **4. Description of impacts:**

The CTH D project will require a PLE of 329 square feet or 0.008 acres from the WGST to replace deteriorated sidewalk along the south side of CTH D. This is the only location requiring a PLE from the trail. The existing sidewalk here is currently an asphalt-paved edge of roadway shoulder. There is currently no curb and gutter to protect pedestrians along CTH D from errant vehicles. For safety, the sidewalk will be replaced with a concrete sidewalk placed above and behind new curb and gutter along the south side of CTH D. The curb will add some delineation and protection from errant vehicles for pedestrians walking along CTH D.

The sidewalk along this south edge of CTH D will be replaced generally in a similar location as the existing asphalt-paved sidewalk on the edge of shoulder. The sidewalk currently lies partially outside the existing right of way. After the real estate transaction and construction, the front (street side) approximate 3.2 feet of the 5-foot sidewalk will lie within the existing street right of way and the back approximate 1.8 feet of the sidewalk will lie within the PLE. The existing sidewalk is approximately 4 feet wide, delineated by two white paint edge markings. The proposed sidewalk will be 5 feet wide, adjacent to a 3 foot paved terrace. The PLE limits will be located approximately 6 inches behind the proposed sidewalk to ensure accessibility for future maintenance by street crews.

The additional PLE area listed above will also cover the need for an area drain to be installed behind the proposed sidewalk that will drain an existing low area at Station 22+40, 29 feet right, on the south side of CTH D.

The distance from the existing south right of way of CTH D to the proposed PLE limits varies from 3.8 feet on the west end to 10.5 feet on the east end of the trail property where the PLE extends around the proposed area drain.

The CTH D project will also require 3,328 square feet or 0.077 acres of TLE from the WGST to blend slopes behind the proposed sidewalk on the west and east sides of Main Street and on the south and north sides of CTH D. The slope blending will be minor in depth and will vary from 0.5 to 22 feet in approximate width behind the new sidewalk. The limits of the trail itself affected within the TLE areas for slope blending will be replaced in-kind with base aggregate  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. Disturbed areas will be restored and landscaped to preconstruction conditions. Aside from the sidewalk and the slope blending, none of the trail's features will be impacted by the project.

See Attachment 3 for a Plan & Profile exhibit showing the existing and proposed PLE and proposed sidewalk facilities. Impacts to the WGST occur along each trail intersection with street right of way on Main Street and CTH D.

See Attachment 4 for Existing Typical Section and Proposed Typical Section, for the CTH D roadway adjacent to the trail.

There should be no temporary or permanent loss of recreation opportunities for the trail. There is no anticipated loss of trees, shrubs, benches, trail or any other landscaping or park resource facilities. During the construction project that is anticipated to last an entire construction season, or approximately 6-8 months, the CTH D roadway will be closed to through vehicular traffic with no detour signed. The work will be staged to maintain vehicular traffic on Main Street north-south and Church Street to the west of Main Street. However, there will periodic shorter-term street closures for the work in these areas. There will be no anticipated closures of the trail during construction. While the street closures are occurring, the contractor will be required to maintain access thru the project for WGST users via alternate routes using the adjacent existing and proposed sidewalks along Main Street and CTH D. These temporary periods of alternate route usage by trail users will be in spring, summer, or fall; there should be no impacts to snowmobile users.

**5. Discuss avoidance, minimization, and compensation efforts and how the impacts after avoidance, minimization, and compensation do not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes listed in Number 3 above:**

**Avoidance:**

The majority of the CTH D reconstruction project will avoid the trail property. Total avoidance of the trail property was not possible since the existing sidewalk along the south side of CTH D is located partially outside the existing south right of way line, partially within the WDNR-owned trail property. An area inlet is required behind the proposed sidewalk to drain a low area there. For maintenance reasons, it is desirable for the sidewalk and area inlet to be located within the right of way or PLE limits.

**Minimization:**

The design utilized less than the maximum widths for the curb to curb widths along CTH D and CTH Y/Main Street. The minimum 5 foot sidewalk width was used for the proposed sidewalks, along with a minimum 3 foot terrace width, to minimize the impacts to trail property.

Compensation:

The trail opening width at each of the four curb openings will be increased over existing conditions, in order to allow enough room for a snowmobile trail groomer to cross the street in line with the trail and not have to jump the proposed curb. The existing trail width at the openings to the street is 5.5-8.5 feet, measured perpendicular to the trail. The proposed trail width at the openings to the street will be 12 feet, measured perpendicular to the trail.

Impacts after Avoidance, Minimization and Compensation:

The changes to the sidewalk and slope blending mentioned under the sections above occur on the far edges of the trail as the trail enters the street right of way. The trail will be kept open during construction using alternate routes along adjacent sidewalks. These impacts do not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes of WGST listed in Number 3 above.

**6. Describe the public involvement process and results:**

The public has been afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the effects of the project on the protected activities, features, and attributes of the Section 4(f) resource. A public involvement meeting (PIM) was held at the Oakfield Community Center Building on May 17, 2018. The impacts to WGST were presented. No comments directly pertaining to WGST's protected activities, features, and attributes were received. Attachment 5 shows the PIM handout and exhibits.

**7. Name of and notification to the official(s) with jurisdiction over the property:**

WDNR has jurisdiction over WGST. Michael Bergum is the WDNR representative that has jurisdiction on the trail. He was made aware that FHWA may make a *de minimis* finding under Section 4(f). The Fond du Lac County Parks Department, led by Sam Tobias, maintains the trail itself. Coordination with the Fond du Lac County Parks Department was also completed to make them aware that FHWA may make a *de minimis* finding under Section 4(f).

**8. Describe the results of coordination with the official(s) with jurisdiction over the property following public involvement (attach correspondence from the official(s)):**

WDNR has jurisdiction over WGST. Michael Bergum of WDNR provided concurrence of the a *de minimis* finding through the written concurrence letter dated January 22, 2019, enclosed as Attachment 6. In summary, WDNR agreed that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of WGST that qualify it for protection under Section 4(f).

**9. Are there federal and/or state special funding encumbrances such as Land and Water Conservation funds or Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program grants on the Section 4(f)**

resource? If "Yes", indicate the type of encumbrance and discuss how all requirements relating to the encumbrance will be satisfied independent of this 4(f) determination. This should be addressed in Factor Sheet # in the Environmental Document.

Yes, LWCF funds have been used within WGST in the past. All requirements relating to this encumbrance will be satisfied independent of this 4(f) determination.

**This *de minimis* determination documentation was prepared by**

Signature Quirin R. Klink Date February 8, 2019

Print Name & Title Quirin R. Klink, MSA Professional Services, Inc.  
(Consultant or Region Project Staff)

**This *de minimis* determination documentation was reviewed by**

Signature Kathie M VanPrice Date 2/18/2019

Print Name & Title Kathie VanPrice, Regional Environmental Coordinator  
(Regional Environmental Coordinator or Region Local Program Manager)

**This *de minimis* determination documentation was reviewed and approved by**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name & Title \_\_\_\_\_  
(Federal Highway Administration)

cc: WISDOT Bureau of Technical Service /EPDS  
WISDOT Region

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF ATTACHMENTS

WISDOT ID 3876-05-00

CTH D FOND DU LAC COUNTY

CTH Y TO N. SCHOOL STREET

<u>Attachment No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Project Location Map
2	Trail Map, Boundary Map, and photos
3	Plan Exhibit
4	Typical Sections
5	PIM handout and exhibits
6	Written Concurrence of De Minimis Finding from DNR

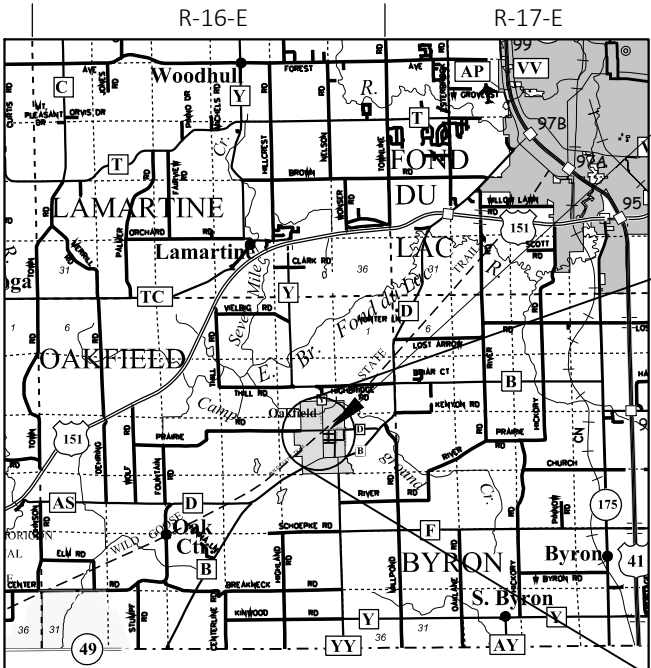
ATTACHMENT 1  
PROJECT LOCATION MAP

# PROJECT LOCATION MAP

DESIGN PROJECT ID: 3876-05-00  
CONSTRUCTION ID: 3876-05-71  
VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD, CTH D  
CTH Y - N. SCHOOL ST  
CTH D  
FOND DU LAC COUNTY



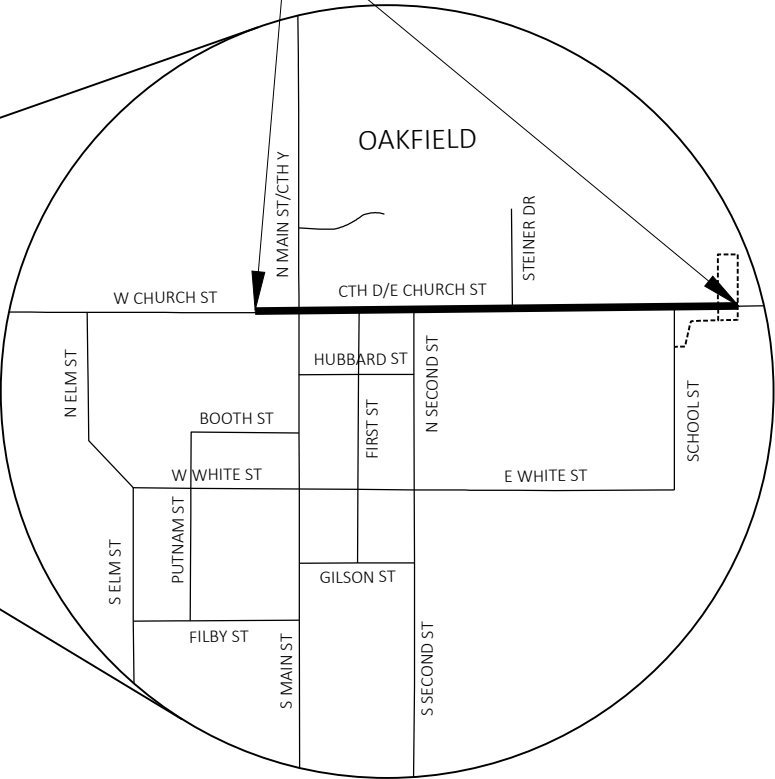
PROJECT LOCATION  
FOND DU LAC COUNTY



PROJECT 3876-05-00  
VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD  
FOND DU LAC CO., WI

T-15-N

T-14-N





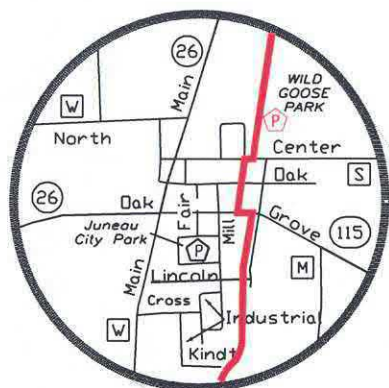
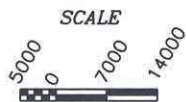
ATTACHMENT 2

TRAIL MAP, BOUNDARY MAP, AND PHOTOS

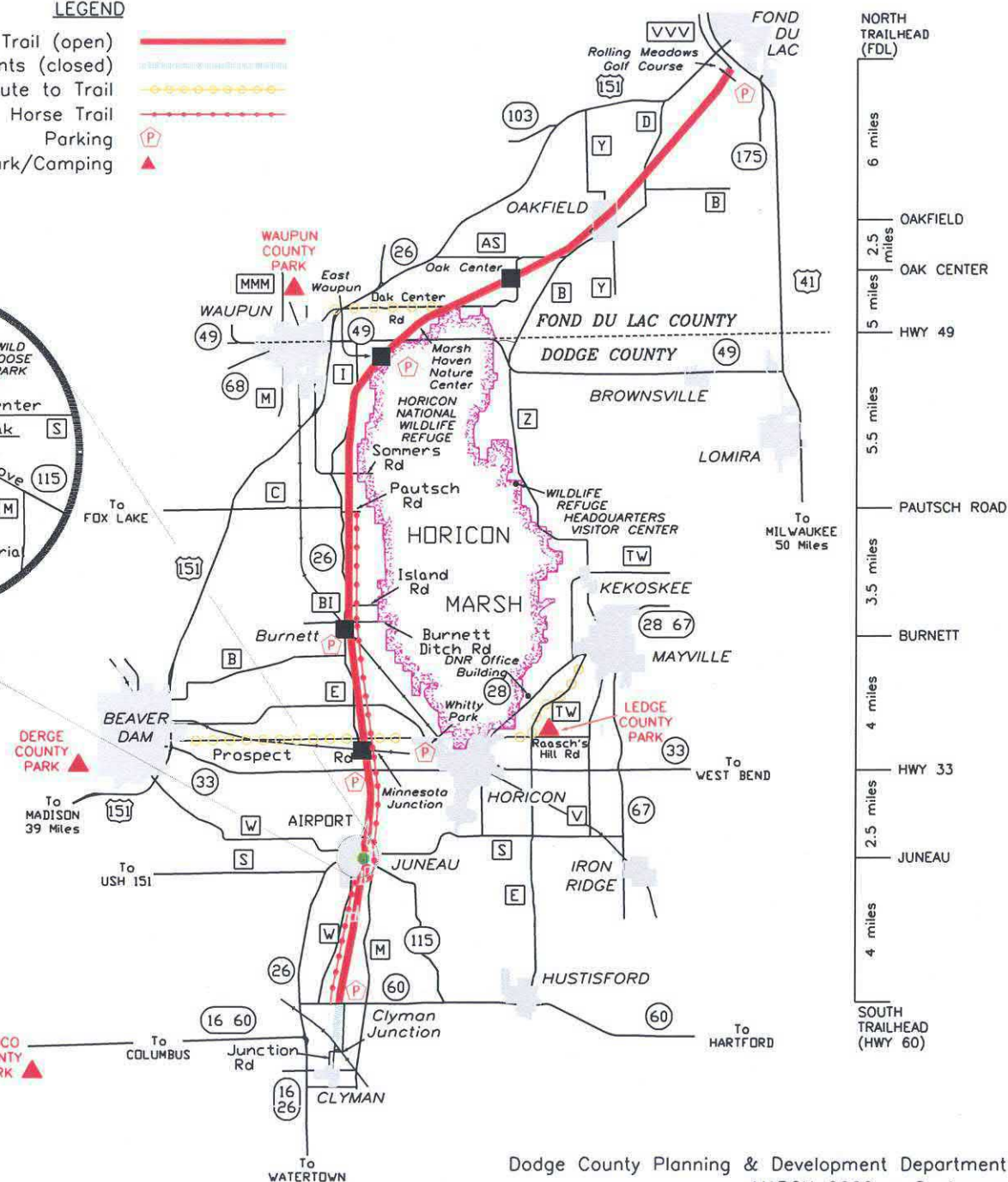
# Wild Goose State Trail

LEGEND

Wild Goose State Trail (open)  
Pending Trail Segments (closed)  
Recommended Bike Route to Trail  
Horse Trail  
Parking  
County Park/Camping

CITY OF JUNEAU  
DETAIL

1 INCH = 7000 FEET



Dodge County Planning & Development Department  
MARCH 2002 – S. Jansen



Wisconsin DNR  
Wild Goose State Trail Boundary Map  
Village of Oakfield  
S14 T14N R16E NE/NE, SE/NE, SW/NE







Looking west along the north edge of CTH D  
(Wild Goose Trail shown with gravel)



Looking northeast at Wild Goose Trail  
(taken from the CTH D R/W line)





Looking southwest across CTH D at Wild Goose Trail  
(From NE corner of the trail)



Looking northeast at Wild Goose Trail across CTH D  
(Looking northeast on trail)





Looking southwest at Wild Goose Trail across CTH D  
(Trail is between CTH D and N Main St.)





Looking southeast at triangle piece of Wild Goose Trail  
(CTH D on the left, N Main St. on the right)



Looking east along the south side of CTH D  
(Wild Goose Trail is shown diagonal across CTH D)





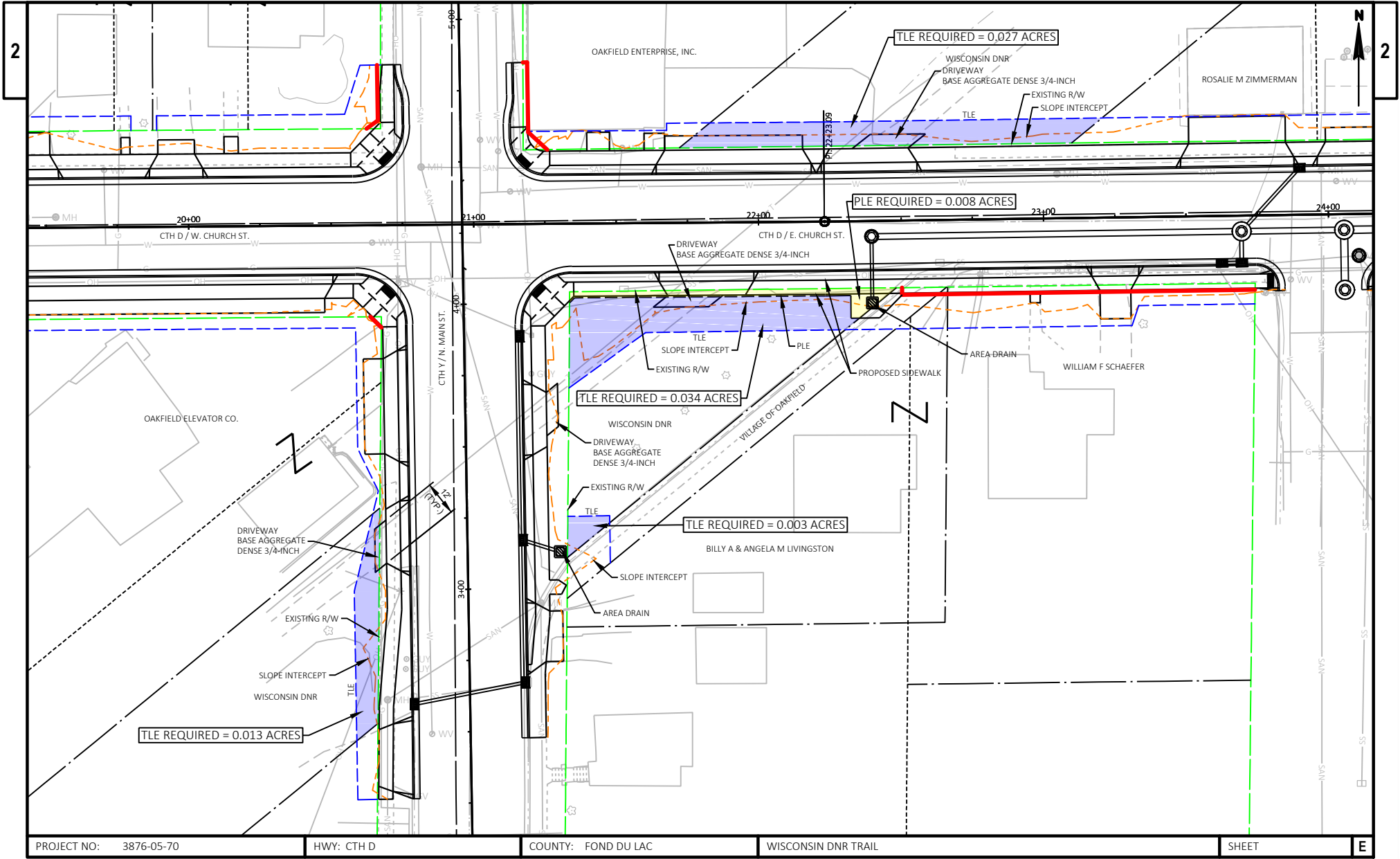
Looking northeast at N Main St.  
(Wild Goose Trail is shown in the background)



Looking west at the Wild Goose Trail on N Main St.  
(trail is on west side of N Main St.)

ATTACHMENT 3

PLAN EXHIBIT



PROJECT NO: 3876-05-70

HWY: CTH D

COUNTY: FOND DU LAC

WISCONSIN DNR TRAIL

SHEET

E

FILE NAME: P:\80005\80305\80308\08038013\CADD\SHETS\OTHER\PAK 4F EXHIBIT.DWG  
LAYOUT NAME: Trail Exhibit

PLOT DATE: 10/5/2018 2:35 PM

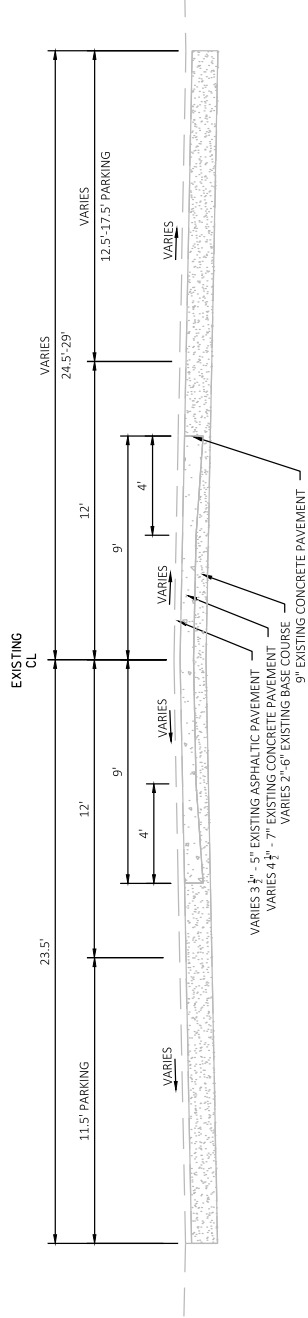
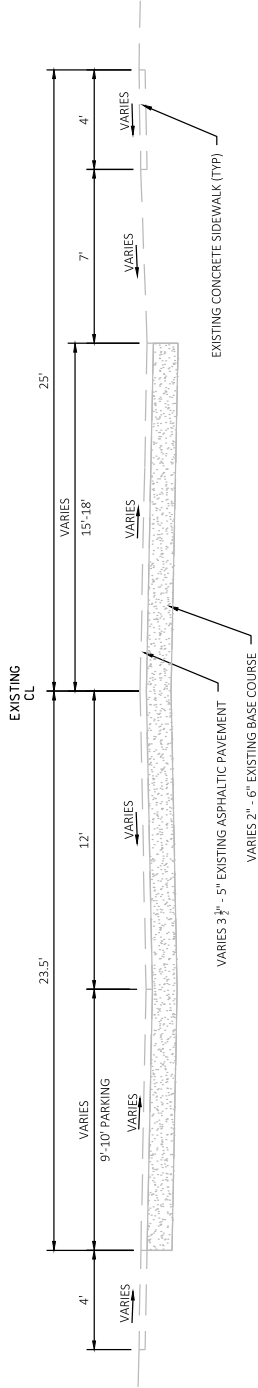
PLOT BY: BOBBI MAXWELL

PLOT NAME:

PLOT SCALE: 1 IN = 30 FT

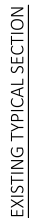
WISDOT/CADD SHEET 42

ATTACHMENT 4  
TYPICAL SECTIONS



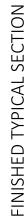
PROJECT NO: 3876-05-71	HWY: CTH D	COUNTY: FOND DU LAC	PLAN: TYPICAL SECTIONS	SHEET	E
FILE NAME: P:\WORK\050508\0508038013\CADD\05SHEETS\PLAN\050301-15.DWG	LAYOUT NAME: 06	PLOT DATE: 10/9/2018 2:37 PM	PLOT BY: BOBBY MAXWELL	PLOT NAME: 1 IN=5 FT	WISDOT/CADD 5-SHEET-42





CTH D  
STA 22+69 - STA 24+14

[illegible]



CTH D  
STA 19+05 - STA 27+00

<b>PROJECT NO:</b>	3876-05-71	<b>Hwy:</b>	CTh D	<b>COUNTY:</b>	FOND DU LAC	<b>PLAN:</b>	TYPICAL SECTIONS	<b>SHEET</b>	E
<b>FILE NAME:</b>	P:\WORKS\3876-05-71\CD\3876-05-71\CADD\SHEETSPN AND CROSS-TS.DWG LAYOUT NAME =_09					<b>PLOT DATE:</b>	10/2/2018 2:37 PM	<b>PLOT BY:</b>	BOSBY MAXWELL
								<b>PLOT SCALE:</b>	1 IN.= 1 FT.
<b>WSDD/CADD SHEET 42</b>									

ATTACHMENT 5  
PIM HANDOUT AND EXHIBITS

# Project Information

## County D, Village of Oakfield

### Fond du Lac County

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

#### EXISTING CONDITIONS

The project is located on County D in the Village of Oakfield in Fond du Lac County. Running west–east, County D (East Church Street) was originally constructed in 1928 and last reconditioned in 1989. The pavement is in poor condition with cracking and spalling.

#### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The proposed work consists of reconstruction of County D from just west of Main Street to N. School Street in the Village of Oakfield. This includes replacing the deteriorated pavement, curb and gutter, sidewalks, storm sewer with replacement of the box culvert near the park, and updated village utilities. Multiple alternatives are being investigated to improve the storm water drainage in the area. Through traffic will be detoured during construction. Some staged construction is planned for local traffic to access Steiner Dr.

#### PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss project concepts and alternatives and to obtain input from attendees. Continued public involvement is essential throughout the development of this project.

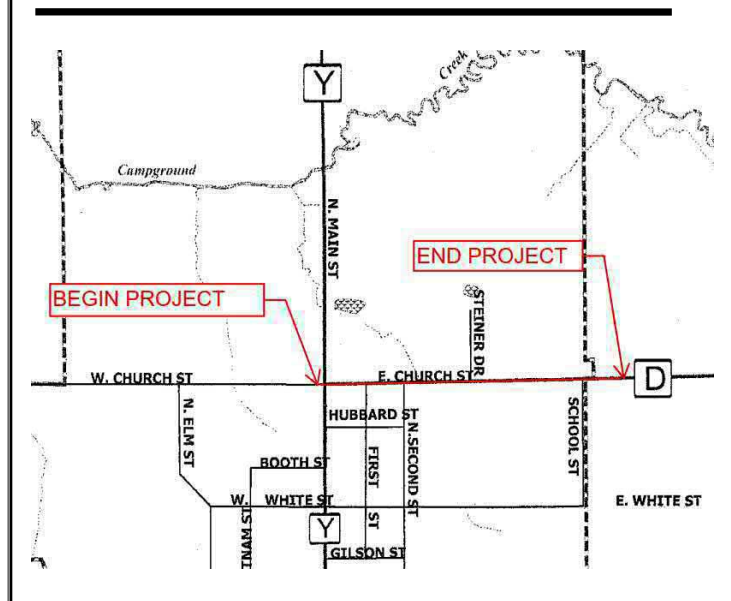
#### REAL ESTATE

Additional right of way will be required for this project. Sliver areas will be needed near the back of the sidewalks and some temporary easements will be needed to help blend driveways and slopes to the adjacent lands. The County anticipates beginning real estate acquisition as early as the winter of 2019-2020.

#### DEVELOP FINAL PLANS

It is anticipated that final plans for project ID 3876-05-00 will be completed in the summer of 2020. The bid letting will be in the winter of 2020 with construction beginning in 2021.

### PROJECT LOCATION



If at any time during the project you have any questions or would like more information about this project, please contact:

Quirin Klink, P.E.

**MSA Project Manager**  
MSA Professional Services, Inc.  
1230 South Boulevard  
Baraboo, WI 53913  
(608) 355-8890  
[qklink@msa-ps.com](mailto:qklink@msa-ps.com)

Tom Janke, P.E.

**Fond du Lac County Highway Commissioner**  
301 Dixie Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54936  
(920) 929-3488  
[tom.janke@fdlco.wi.gov](mailto:tom.janke@fdlco.wi.gov)

Thank you for attending this Informational Meeting regarding the proposed improvements to County D.

There will be a short presentation at 6:00 pm and the rest of the time an open house for you to talk with project staff. You are encouraged to meet with project staff, view exhibits, and discuss proposed improvements.

Your comments are important to us. Comments can be made by completing the attached comment form.

## TEMPORARY TRAFFIC IMPACTS

The project will be constructed in one year, 2021. The project will be closed to through traffic but parts of the project will be staged for access to Steiner Dr. The side roads of 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, and N. School Street will be used for access to the project area from the south. The contractor will be required to maintain access during construction to adjacent properties.

SCHEDULE	Project Activities	2018				2019				2020				2021				2021				2022				2023			
		Quarter				Quarter				Quarter				Quarter				Quarter				Quarter				Quarter			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
	Design		●		□							◆																	
Purchase RE																													
Construction 3876-05-00																													

● PIM, □ Planned environmental review, ◆ Final Plans



Scale: 1" = 100'

North Arrow

**MSA**

Map Scale: 1" = 100'

Map Date: 10/1/2019

Map By: MSA

Map For: MSA

Map Of: MSA

Map For: MSA

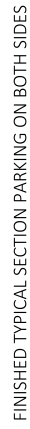
Map By: MSA

Map Date: 10/1/2019

Map Scale: 1" = 100'



CTH D  
STA 20+75 - STA 41+66



CTH D  
STA 20+75 - STA 41+66

[illegible]

ATTACHMENT 6

WRITTEN CONCURRENCE OF DE MINIMIS FINDING FROM DNR



## Bobbi Maxwell

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**From:** Schiefelbein, Jeremiah J - DNR <Jeremiah.Schiefelbein@wisconsin.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 3:57 PM  
**To:** Edwards, Brian - DOT; Bobbi Maxwell; Quirin Klink; Bergum, Michael D - DNR  
**Cc:** Schiefelbein, Jeremiah J - DNR; Janke, Tom (Tom.Janke@fdlco.wi.gov); Hefty, Brian - DNR; Vanlanduyt, Melissa A - DNR (Missy)  
**Subject:** DOT ID 3876-05-00 CTH D, Village of Oakfield, Fond du Lac County - Wild Goose Trail De Minimis Impact  
**Attachments:** Section 4(f) Review Letter.pdf

Good afternoon,

I have attached the letter regarding the project above. If you have questions regarding the coordination with regards to the Wild Goose Trail, please call me. Thank you,

**We are committed to service excellence.**

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

**Jay Schiefelbein**

Environmental Analysis & Review Specialist  
Bureau of Environmental Analysis & Sustainability  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
2984 Shawano Ave. Green Bay, WI 54313-6727  
Cell Phone (920) 360-3784  
Fax: (920) 662-5413  
[jeremiah.schiefelbein@wi.gov](mailto:jeremiah.schiefelbein@wi.gov)



[dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)



January 22, 2019

Mr. Brian Edwards  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
944 Vanderperren Way  
Green Bay, WI 54304-5344

Subject: WDNR Section 4(f) Review – Wild Goose State Trail impacts  
Project ID 3876-05-00  
CTH Y – N. School Street  
CTH D, Fond du Lac County

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) acknowledges the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) proposed reconstructing of CTH D in the Village of Oakfield, Fond du Lac County. Within the project, the Wild Goose State Trail meets the recreational criteria as identified by the Federal Highway Administration and therefore qualifies as a Section 4(f) recreational lands. I am writing to you on behalf of the WDNR as the official with jurisdiction over the Wild Goose State Trail.

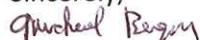
The Wild Goose State Trail, Wisconsin's first "cooperative" state trail is a 34-mile long, multi-use recreation trail located in Dodge and Fond du Lac counties on an abandoned Chicago and Northwestern railroad corridor. The trailhead is located at 370 W. Rolling Meadows Dr., Fond du Lac. The trail is publicly owned by the WDNR, while Dodge and Fond du Lac counties develop, maintain, and operate the trail. The trail runs from southern trailhead at HWY 60 (about four miles south of the city of Juneau) in Dodge County to the northern trailhead at Rolling Meadows Drive in the city of Fond du Lac. This all-season recreational trail's usage is for bicycle riding and hiking in the spring, summer and fall, and snowmobiling in the winter.

Within the Village of Oakfield, the trail crosses at an angle southwest to northeast, crossing CTH Y (N. Main Street) and CTH D (E. Church Street) for a total of two crossings on this WisDOT project. The WDNR understands that the highway reconstruction project will result in construction in the street right of way of both crossings consisting of replacement of an existing storm sewer system, replacement of an existing water main and sanitary sewer system, replacement of existing pavement, and enhancements to the crossing within street right of way including curb ramps and detectable warning fields. The project will require the acquisition of less than 0.08 acres of temporary limited easements (TLEs) and less than 0.01 acres of permanent limited easements (PLEs) along CTH D and N. Main Street within the trail. The easement areas consist of an asphalt-paved edge of roadway shoulder that will be restored to a raised concrete street sidewalk and safer pedestrian conditions following construction. The permanent easement acquisition is necessary to install this street sidewalk and for an area drain to be installed behind the proposed street sidewalk that will drain an existing low area. Within the TLEs, there will be minor slope blending to the existing Wild Good State Trail, using similar trail surface materials as coordinated with the trail maintainer, Fond du Lac County Parks Department. The street curb openings will be made 12 feet clear width as measured perpendicular to the trail, for a snowmobile trail groomer to be able to traverse straight through as it moves along the trail, as requested by County Parks. We understand that during the street construction, that the trail will remain open using either the in-line trail crossings, or a temporary short, signed bypass using the Main Street and Church Street sidewalks, when needed to construct the work and for trail user safety.

The WDNR agrees that the project is acceptable and that all reasonable alternatives to avoid transportation use of trail lands have been considered and that all practicable planning to minimize impacts to the Section 4(f) property has occurred. The proposed project will not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes of the resource. We have determined that the proposed project and impacts should be considered a de Minimis impact of a Section 4(f) resource. We expect that the CTH D project as proposed will improve travelling conditions and safety without compromising public recreational opportunities.

The above comments represent the Department's Section 4(f) determination of de Minimis impact as related to the Wild Goose State Trail. This does not constitute final concurrence for this segment of the project or overall project. Further coordination between the WisDOT, WDNR, and the County Parks Department will be required during the project's final design stage as related to the trail property. If any of the information provided in this letter requires further clarification, please contact this office at 920-424-7893.

Sincerely,



Michael Bergum

cc: Jay Schiefelbein, DNR Environmental Analysis and Review Specialist  
Tom Janke, Fond du Lac County Highway Department  
Brian Hefty, DNR Deputy Director Bureau of Parks and Recreation  
K. Raleigh Moses  
Quirin Klink, MSA Professional Services, Inc.