

Lamers, Brandon - DOT

From: Berens, Jeff - DOT
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 6:30 AM
To: DOT DTSD US 51 Stoughton to McFarland EA
Subject: FW: 5845-06-03 US 51 Stoughton to McFarland: Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

From: Berens, Jeff - DOT
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 7:04 AM
To: Matt Schuenke <Matt.Schuenke@mcfarland.wi.us>
Cc: Hoelker, Michael - DOT <Michael.Hoelker@dot.wi.gov>; Lamers, Brandon - DOT <Brandon.Lamers@dot.wi.gov>; Grimes, Jennifer - DOT <Jennifer.Grimes@dot.wi.gov>; Brown, Joel R - DOT <Joel.Brown@dot.wi.gov>; Petersen, Joan <Joan.Petersen@strand.com>; Brad Czebotar <Brad.Czebotar@mcfarland.wi.us>; Sen. Miller - LEGIS <Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep. Anderson - LEGIS <Rep.Anderson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; DOT EXEC Secretary's Ofc <DOTEXECSecretarysOFC@dot.wi.gov>; DOT DTSD SW Region <swr.dtsd@dot.wi.gov>; Tim Swadley <tswadley@ci.stoughton.wi.us>; Jim Hessling <Jim.Hessling@mcfarland.wi.us>; Brian Berquist <brian@tcengineers.net>; Theisen, Steven R - DOT <Steven.Theisen@dot.wi.gov>
Subject: RE: 5845-06-03 US 51 Stoughton to McFarland: Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

Good morning Matt,

WisDOT anticipates the US 51 Stoughton to McFarland Environmental Assessment (EA) will be signed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in late November or early December 2020. Once the EA is signed by FHWA, there will be an approximate 30-day availability period for stakeholders to review and submit comments on the document.

During the EA document availability period, WisDOT will offer the opportunity to request a public hearing. A public hearing is a more formal event than a public involvement meeting that provides agencies and the public full opportunity to express opinions about the proposed project. If a public hearing is requested, it is anticipated to be held in February 2021, and the document availability period will be extended until that time. WisDOT will accept comment during the duration of the document availability period.

After the document availability period has ended, WisDOT will review all comments received and address any issues or concerns that are submitted. WisDOT will then work towards completing an addendum to the EA, which FHWA will review to determine whether the preferred alternative has a significant impact to the environment. If FHWA determines that the project does not have a significant impact to the environment, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued. At that point, the study will be completed, and the project can move forward into the final design process. If FHWA considers the impacts significant, further study in the form of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be required. Based on analysis and public and agency comments to-date, WisDOT anticipates that FHWA will sign the FONSI in Spring 2021.

As we have previously discussed, items the village of McFarland has identified concerns about will continue to be evaluated and refined as part of the final design process. During the final design process, WisDOT will continue to meet the Village to address comments and issues.

Please provide dates Village staff would be available to meet, and the region will work to schedule a virtual meeting with village representatives to further discuss concerns and the anticipated EA and final design schedule.

WisDOT looks forward to continuing working with the Village on this project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Berens, P.E.
Major Studies Project Manager
WisDOT SW Region - Madison Office
(608) 245-2656

From: Matt Schuenke <Matt.Schuenke@mcfarland.wi.us>
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2020 4:40 PM
To: Berens, Jeff - DOT <Jeff.Berens@dot.wi.gov>
Cc: Hoelker, Michael - DOT <Michael.Hoelker@dot.wi.gov>; Lamers, Brandon - DOT <Brandon.Lamers@dot.wi.gov>; Grimes, Jennifer - DOT <Jennifer.Grimes@dot.wi.gov>; Brown, Joel R - DOT <Joel.Brown@dot.wi.gov>; Petersen, Joan <Joan.Petersen@strand.com>; Brad Czebotar <Brad.Czebotar@mcfarland.wi.us>; Sen.Miller - LEGIS <Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Anderson - LEGIS <Rep.Anderson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; DOT EXEC Secretary's Ofc <DOTEXECSecretarysOFC@dot.wi.gov>; DOT DTSD SW Region <swr.dtsd@dot.wi.gov>; Tim Swadley <tswadley@ci.stoughton.wi.us>; Jim Hessling <Jim.Hessling@mcfarland.wi.us>; Brian Berquist <brian@tcengineers.net>; Theisen, Steven R - DOT <Steven.Theisen@dot.wi.gov>
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Jeff,

Will we be able to meet before or after the Environmental Plan is submitted to Federal Highway for approval?

Its not clear exactly what the next steps are in the process given the adjustments made in the schedule to date. Our preference is that we meet before given that there are aspects of the plan that do not adequately address our concerns and if submitted for approval, then the design cannot properly address these aspects which would again elicit an elevated response from the Village to oppose this project. Again though, where we are at within the schedule I'm not as clear on at the present.

Thanks,
Matt

From: Berens, Jeff - DOT <Jeff.Berens@dot.wi.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Matt Schuenke <Matt.Schuenke@mcfarland.wi.us>
Cc: Hoelker, Michael - DOT <Michael.Hoelker@dot.wi.gov>; Lamers, Brandon - DOT <Brandon.Lamers@dot.wi.gov>; Grimes, Jennifer - DOT <Jennifer.Grimes@dot.wi.gov>; Brown, Joel R - DOT <Joel.Brown@dot.wi.gov>; Petersen, Joan <Joan.Petersen@strand.com>; Brad Czebotar <Brad.Czebotar@mcfarland.wi.us>; Sen.Miller - LEGIS <Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Anderson - LEGIS <Rep.Anderson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; DOT EXEC Secretary's Ofc <DOTEXECSecretarysOFC@dot.wi.gov>; DOT DTSD SW Region <swr.dtsd@dot.wi.gov>; Tim Swadley <tswadley@ci.stoughton.wi.us>; Jim Hessling <Jim.Hessling@mcfarland.wi.us>; Brian Berquist <brian@tcengineers.net>; Theisen, Steven R - DOT <Steven.Theisen@dot.wi.gov>
Subject: RE: 5845-06-03 US 51 Stoughton to McFarland: Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

Hello Matt,

Thank you for providing comments on behalf of the village of McFarland regarding the US 51 Stoughton to McFarland corridor study.

As mentioned in the Village letter dated October 23, 2020, WisDOT and Village representatives met in December 2019 to discuss the Villages' concerns with some of the design aspects of Alternative H, the preferred alternative for the corridor. WisDOT also provided additional information to the Village in March 2020.

Please know safety is a top priority for WisDOT, and we look forward to continuing to work with the village of McFarland through the final design process to resolve any outstanding issues. We will reach out in the future to schedule a meeting(s) to further discuss these concerns.

Sincerely,

Jeff Berens, P.E.
Major Studies Project Manager
WisDOT SW Region - Madison Office
(608) 245-2656

From: Matt Schuenke <Matt.Schuenke@mcfarland.wi.us>
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Berens, Jeff - DOT <Jeff.Berens@dot.wi.gov>
Cc: Hoelker, Michael - DOT <Michael.Hoelker@dot.wi.gov>; Lamers, Brandon - DOT <Brandon.Lamers@dot.wi.gov>; Grimes, Jennifer - DOT <Jennifer.Grimes@dot.wi.gov>; Brown, Joel R - DOT <Joel.Brown@dot.wi.gov>; Petersen, Joan <Joan.Petersen@strand.com>; Brad Czebotar <Brad.Czebotar@mcfarland.wi.us>; Sen.Miller - LEGIS <Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Anderson - LEGIS <Rep.Anderson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; DOT EXEC Secretary's Ofc <DOTEXECSecretarysOFC@dot.wi.gov>; DOT DTSD SW Region <swr.dtsd@dot.wi.gov>; Tim Swadley <tswadley@ci.stoughton.wi.us>; Jim Hessling <Jim.Hessling@mcfarland.wi.us>; Brian Berquist <brian@tcengineers.net>
Subject: RE: 5845-06-03 US 51 Stoughton to McFarland: Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

Jeff,

Please find attached a letter from the Village of McFarland as our updated public comments on the project. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Matt

Matthew G. Schuenke
Village Administrator
Village of McFarland

(608) 838-3153

From: Berens, Jeff - DOT <Jeff.Berens@dot.wi.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 10:48 AM
To: Brad Czebotar <Brad.Czebotar@mcfarland.wi.us>; Matt Schuenke <Matt.Schuenke@mcfarland.wi.us>; Hougan, Maria P - MUN <clerktreasurer@pleasantsprings.org>; Gerald Mandli <mandli@co.dane.wi.us>; edmond.minihan@gmail.com; Hasslinger, Cathy - MUN <chasslinger@town.dunn.wi.us>; Ben Kollenbroich <bkollenbroich@town.dunn.wi.us>; clerk@townofdunkirk.com; Tim Swadley <tswadley@ci.stoughton.wi.us>;

chair@town.rutland.wi.us; clerk@town.rutland.wi.us; Hanewall, Julie - MUN <jhanewall@townofalbion.net>

Cc: Hoelker, Michael - DOT <Michael.Hoelker@dot.wi.gov>; Lamers, Brandon - DOT <Brandon.Lamers@dot.wi.gov>; Grimes, Jennifer - DOT <Jennifer.Grimes@dot.wi.gov>; Brown, Joel R - DOT <Joel.Brown@dot.wi.gov>; Petersen, Joan <Joan.Petersen@strand.com>

Subject: 5845-06-03 US 51 Stoughton to McFarland: Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has planned a virtual public involvement meeting (PIM) for the US 51 Stoughton to McFarland study. A pre-recorded slide presentation and study exhibits will be available for public viewing on October 6, 2021. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update and gather input as the study moves toward completion.

I have attached a US 51 summary document that provides general information on the study and the virtual meeting. I have also attached the postcard that is being mailed out to project stakeholders. WisDOT appreciates your interest in the study and looks forward to your input.

Please contact me with any questions about the meeting or the study. Thank you.

Jeff Berens, P.E.
Major Studies Project Manager
WisDOT SW Region - Madison Office
(608) 245-2656

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