

Oppose WISDOT's I-94 Highway "Billion Dollar Boondoggle"

WISDOT's Proposed Options are Wasteful, Unnecessary, Irresponsible

Background: On December 3rd and 4th, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT) is hosting public hearings on its proposals for the East-West Corridor between the Marquette and Zoo Interchange. WISDOT has proposed two options:

- Expand the highway with a Double Decker structure
- Expand the highway 'at grade' – at surface level, but shrinking lanes and removing shoulders without a double deck structure

The proposed options are wasteful, unnecessary and irresponsible!

These options will waste hundreds of millions of dollars, take money away from other urgent local road repair and local transit needs, and raise your taxes.

Why WISDOT's Options Are Wasteful, Unnecessary:

It Will Increase Your Taxes and Waste Taxpayer Money:

To finance these proposals WISDOT Secretary Gottlieb has recommended raising taxes, including the gas tax, a diesel tax, a fee on hybrid owners and a fee on the purchase of new vehicles. He also wants to borrow more than \$800 million in the next two-year budget.

We Don't Need It:

WISDOT's proposal for I-94 expansion is based on the presumption that traffic volumes are expected to grow by 2030. In fact, traffic has been dropping in this corridor. A 2014 1000 Friends of Wisconsin report found that traffic counts on this stretch of highway decreased 8 percent from 2000-2012. WISDOT has argued that a widening is needed for safety, but they concede that a rehabilitation option, without widening, would address the identified safety concerns. The expansion of I-94 is NOT a safety project, it is a widening project premised on increasing traffic volumes that are NOT materializing.

It Won't Improve Mobility:

In addition to squandering resources on a project that data don't support, WISDOT has refused to include any transit components in its plan for this corridor. The lack of transit especially hurts people of color, those with low income, seniors and people with disabilities.

The Community Doesn't Want It:

The Milwaukee Common Council and the Milwaukee County Board have passed multiple resolutions opposing expansion. In addition, thousands of community members have expressed public opposition to the expansion options.

Oppose BOTH of WISDOT's Wasteful Options!

Attend the WISDOT Hearings and Let Your Voice be Heard:

- **Wednesday December 3, 2014 — 3:00pm-7:00pm** State Fair Park - Tommy Thompson Youth Center (Gate #5) 640 S. 84th St. (Bus routes: #44, #44U, #67 84th St branch)
- **Thursday December 4, 2014 — 5:00pm-8:00pm** Marquette University High School, 3401 W. Wisconsin Av. (Bus routes: #10, #30, #35) (enter from Michigan St. parking lot)



Double Decker Disaster – One of two unneeded options being proposed by WISDOT is a double deck expansion that will dishonor veterans' graves, pollute waterways, potentially lower property values, and divert hundreds of millions of dollars away from local road repair and transit needs.



Crumbling Local Roads – Cities and villages across Wisconsin can't meet local road repair needs, as the share of cost covered by state transportation dollars has fallen by 59.1% over the past 15 years. Meanwhile, major highway spending has increased by 40.5%.



Transit Needs are Growing – Lawmakers have slashed funding for non-emergency medical transportation, shared ride taxi, and transit service despite record demand. New priorities are needed to serve an aging population and Millennials' strong preference for urban living.

For More Information: Contact the Coalition for More Responsible Transportation, www.facebook.com/CMRTWI
Bruce Speight, WISPIRG, (608) 251-9501, bspeight@wispirg.org