

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-office Communication

DATE: 12/30/2025

TO: Marcelia Nicholson-Bovell, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Joe Lamers, Acting Director, Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: From the Acting Director, Department of Transportation, providing an Informational Report Regarding the Completion of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) Reimagining WIS-175 Feasibility Study.

FILE TYPE: Informational Report

BACKGROUND

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) Reimagining WIS-175 Feasibility Study from Wisconsin Avenue to Lisbon Avenue started in 2022 in partnership with Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee. The study looked at viable options along the WIS-175 corridor, just north of the stadium interchange, to address safety and traffic operations; support transit, biking and walking; reconnect neighborhoods and promote economic vitality; and evaluate where the freeway ends. Extensive public outreach with three public involvement meetings to gather information, evaluate and narrow down alternatives was conducted. The final report is complete and will be posted on the study webpage after being rolled out to county and city officials.

As the information in the attached presentation slides depict, our initial 27 different alternatives for this corridor have been narrowed down to four options:

- 1) Replace-in-Kind
- 2) Alternative 1 (End Expressway North)
- 3) Alternative 2 (End Expressway Middle)
- 4) Alternative 3 (End Expressway South)

The three alternatives range in estimated cost from \$123 million to \$227 million, have one or more relocations associated with each alternative, open dozens of surplus acres of potentially developable land and converts segments of the expressway to local road.

WisDOT is evaluating funding opportunities to continue the project engineering in partnership with Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee. Timing of construction will be dependent on funding. More information can be found on the feasibility study website <http://wisconsindot.gov/reimagine175>.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity.

2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions.

FISCAL EFFECT

This report is informational only.

TERMS (If applicable)

N/A

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Joe Lamers, Acting Director, Department of Transportation, MCDOT Director's Office

John Rodgers, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation, MCDOT Director's Office

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APPROVED BY:

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ATTACHMENTS:

PowerPoint

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk