



Transportation District 3
 Volume 1, Issue 1
 April 14, 2003

Inside this issue

Study approved	1
Public meeting invitation	2
Advisory Committee	2
WIS 15 alternatives	3
Project schedule	3
Letters of support	4

Contact information

Rob Wagner
 Project Manager
 Phone: (920)492-5983
 E-mail:
 robert.wagner@dot.state.wi.us

Kim Rudat, APR
 District Communications
 Manager
 Phone: (920)492-5743
 E-mail:
 kim.rudat@dot.state.wi.us

If you have questions or concerns about this project, contact any of the above representatives



WIS 15 Study New London to Greenville

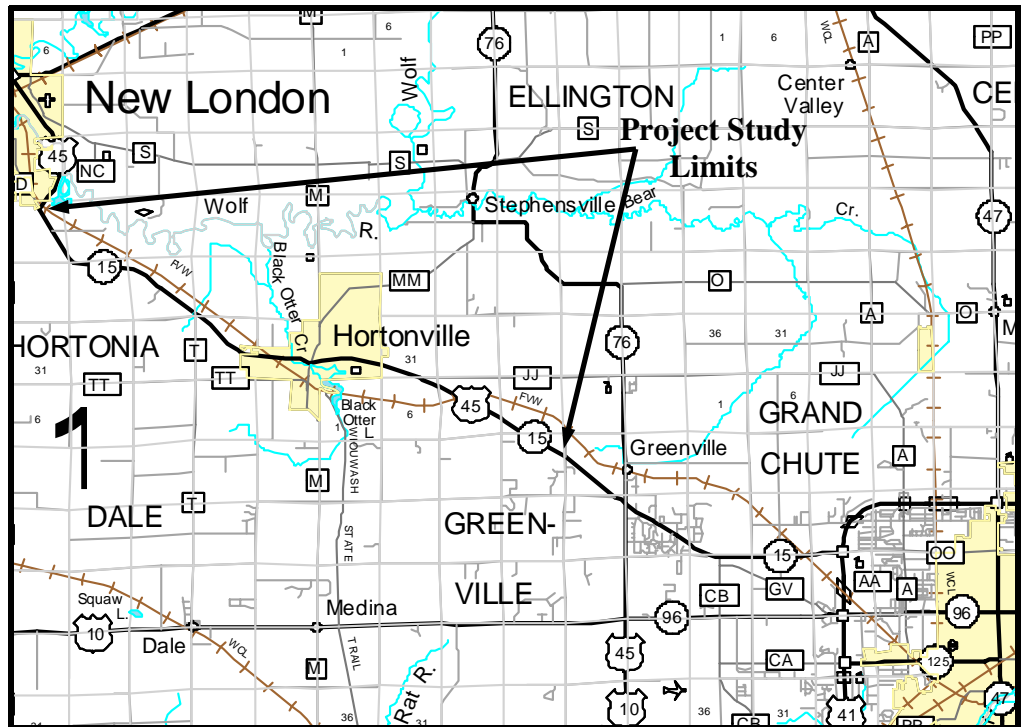
Transportation Projects Commission approves WIS 15 for study

The Transportation Projects Commission (TPC) approved a portion of WIS 15 from New London to Greenville for study in late 2001.

The study WisDOT will complete is an environmental impact statement (EIS). The EIS will include information and consideration of environmental

factors for transportation improvement alternatives.

The required EIS will provide information to governmental agencies and the public and will aid in the decision making process for the selection of the preferred transportation alternative.



WIS 15 project study limits approved by the Transportation Projects Commission.

A newsletter published by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to keep citizens informed.

Major highway projects process

Concept to completion

Step 1

Develop System Plans

WisDOT develops a long range plan (20 years) that looks at the “big picture” of the future of highway corridors in state.

Step 2

Analyze Project Needs

The Transportation Projects Commission (TPC) selects and approves projects for environmental study after analysis of transportation needs on roadways statewide.

Step 3

Environmental Impact Study

WisDOT conducts an EIS to identify the impacts of project alternatives. This includes impacts on social, economic, agricultural, archaeological, historical, and natural resources.

Step 4

TPC Approval

The TPC meets in even number years to evaluate projects statewide and recommend projects for construction or “enumeration”. Projects should demonstrate ability to enhance the state’s economy, improve traffic flow, enhance safety, serve the community, and minimize environmental impacts.

Step 5

Design and Construction

Final design and construction plans begin on enumerated projects.

First public information meeting scheduled

You are invited to attend a public information meeting about WIS 15. WisDOT will hold a public meeting to provide information and hear public comment regarding the WIS 15 environmental study.

The meetings are scheduled for May 28, 2003. Two duplicate sessions are scheduled for your convenience.

One session is from 2 pm to 4 pm and the other is from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Hortonville Community Center located at 312 West Main Street in Hortonville.

Information displayed at the public meeting will include:

- Highway alternatives

- Traffic data
- Environmental areas
- Land use

WisDOT staff, Highway 15 advisory committee members and local officials will be available to answer questions.



Highway 15 advisory committee provides direction

How important is the Highway 15 advisory committee’s role in the environmental study process? Committee members represent their communities and are responsible for providing direction

in the decision making process. They are the eyes and ears of the local communities. The committee’s involvement will contribute towards a supported transportation recommendation.

Highway 15 Advisory Committee Members

Outagamie County

Alvin Guerts
Director of Public Works.....920-832-5673
 Mike Hendrick
County Planner.....920-832-5255
 Marvin Obry
County Supervisor.....920-779-6436

City of New London

Kent Hager
City Administrator.....920-982-8500

Village of Hortonville

Roger L. Retzlaff
President.....920-779-6011
 J. Everett Mitchell
Administrator.....920-779-6011

Town of Hortonia

Kevin Bolssen
Chair.....920-779-0264
 Dennis Clegg.....920-779-6028

Town of Dale

Marcia A. Kelly
Clerk.....920-779-6769

Town of Ellington

Orville Nelson
Chairperson.....920-779-6186

Town of Greenville

David Tebo
Administrator.....920-757-5151

Hortonville School District

Dr. Gregory Joseph Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools920-779-7900

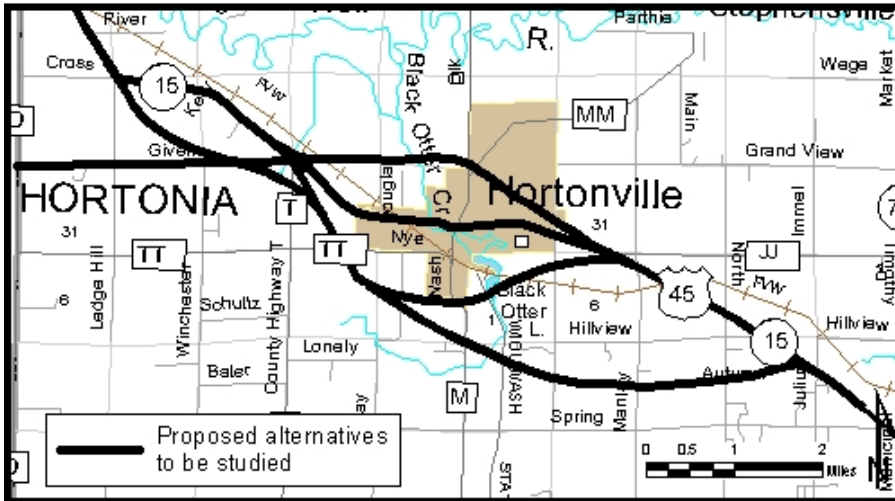
Citizens

Ed Heyes.....920-739-6311
 Pat McNicols.....920-779-4940
 James Olsen.....920-779-7000
 Paul Bernegger.....920-982-7739
 Robert Schneider.....920-779-6738
 Tom Olk.....920-779-4277

WIS 15 potential alternatives include bypasses of Hortonville

The map shows potential WIS 15 alternatives. Alternatives include WIS 15 remaining on existing alignment or on new location. Whereas these alternatives are likely to be chosen for the environmental impact statement (EIS) study, they are not finalized.

Input from the upcoming public informational meeting on June 12 and concurrence from cooperating agencies will determine the alternatives to be studied. It is important that you attend the meeting to share your comments with WisDOT staff.



WIS 15 bypass alternatives.

The WIS 15 environmental study limits are from the US 45 bypass in New London to approximately Julius Road in Greenville.

Project history and timeline

The following is a WIS 15 history and projected timeline.

- **February 2001**—Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH), consultants for WisDOT, completes the New London to Greenville corridor plan.
- **August 2002**—SEH completes a second corridor plan along the WIS 15 corridor, from Greenville to US 41.
- **Winter 2002/2003**—WIS 15 alternates developed with cooperation of the advisory committee and presented to cooperating agencies.
- **Spring 2003**—Newsletter published and public meeting conducted.
- **Spring/Summer 2003**—Present the corridors to be studied in the EIS. Information gathering begins to evaluate the cost and impacts of alternatives.
- **Summer 2003**—Mail newsletter to update the public.
- **Winter 2003/2004**—WisDOT analyzes collected data for each alternative.
- **Spring 2004**—Newsletter published and public meeting held to present the impacts of the alternatives being studied.
- **Spring/Summer 2004**—Submittal of the draft EIS to the Federal Highway Administration for approval.
- **Summer 2004**—Public hearing held and open period allowed for comments on the draft EIS.
- **Fall 2004**—WIS 15 advisory committee meets to recommend preferred alternative.
- **Fall 2004**—WisDOT selects preferred transportation alternative and presents choice to the public. Newsletter published.
- **Late Fall 2004**—TPC determines the enumeration of WIS 15 and other highway projects in the state.
- **2005**—Final EIS approved.
- **2011 or later**—Begin construction of WIS 15 if funding is approved.

Transportation District 3

944 Vanderperren Way
P.O. Box 28080
Green Bay, WI 54324-0080

Phone: (920)492-5643
Fax: (920)492-5640
Email: greenbay.dtd@dot.state.wi.us



WisDOT

WisDOT, local officials, legislators receive letters from citizens

WisDOT would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to write letters or contact legislators, local officials and WisDOT staff regarding this project.

A number of the contacts have come with questions, comments and suggestions. This kind of interest on the part of citizens is great and helpful. All we can say is, "Keep 'em coming."

When you write, please include contact information so we can

make sure you have a spot on our mailing list. Additionally, comments are recorded and included as part of the corridor selection process.

Contact information is included on this newsletter. Additionally, you can find a copy of this newsletter (and other transportation information) on the WisDOT Web site by clicking on www.dot.wi.gov/projects/d3/index.htm.



Transportation District 3
 Volume 1, Issue 2
 August 12, 2003

Inside this issue

Archaeology Survey	1
Timeline & Schedule	2
EIS Study Update	2
Advisory Committee	2
WIS 15 alternatives map	3
Website Information	4

Contact information

Rob Wagner
 Project Manager
 Phone: (920)492-5983
 E-mail:
 robert.wagner@dot.state.wi.us

Kim Rudat, APR
 District Communications
 Manager
 Phone: (920)492-5743
 E-mail:
 kim.rudat@dot.state.wi.us

If you have questions or concerns about this project, contact either of the above representatives



WIS 15 Study New London to Greenville

Field work for WIS 15 archaeology survey begins

You may have already seen field crews in the area of the WIS 15 project shown below.

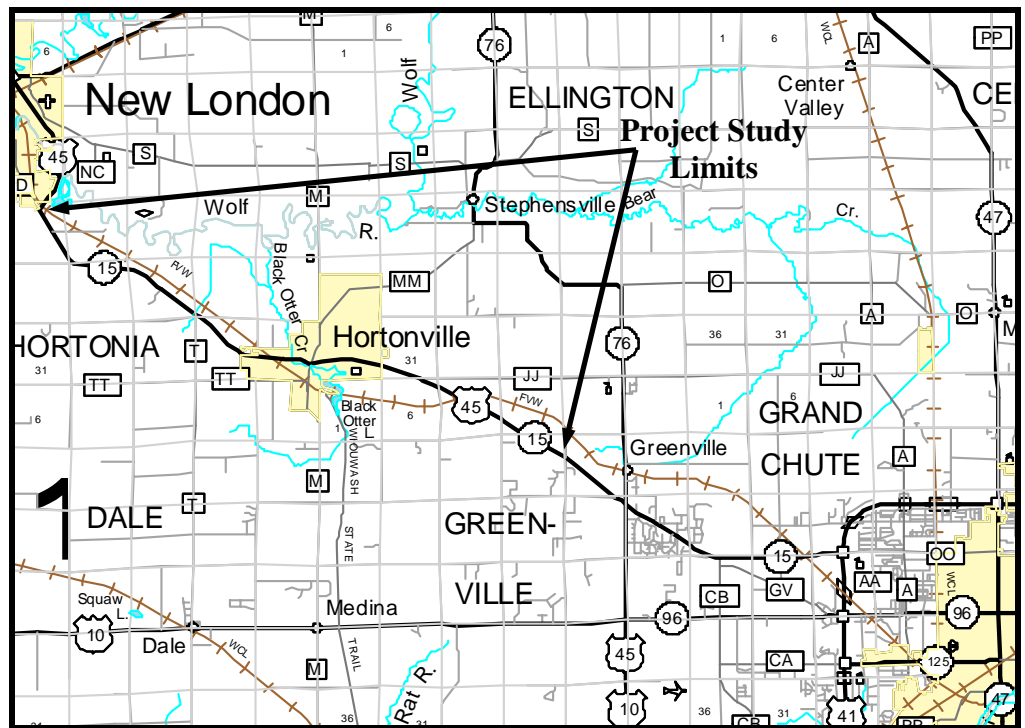
These crews are looking for evidence of archeological and historical significance within the WIS 15 project corridor.

In order to keep the WIS 15 environmental impact statement (EIS) progressing in a timely manner, crews have started researching the existing WIS 15

corridor.

This survey involves no more than a random non-destructive hand shovel probe of the terrain, searching for archaeological evidence.

When the survey is complete, we will have a better idea of areas to avoid or those requiring more research. At this time, the corridors to be studied have not all been finalized.



The WIS 15 environmental study limits are from the US 45 bypass in New London to approximately Julius Road in Greenville.

Project history and timeline

The following is a WIS 15 history and projected timeline.

- **February 2001**—Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH), consultants for WisDOT, complete the New London to Greenville corridor plan.
- **August 2002**—SEH completes a second corridor plan along the WIS 15 corridor, from Greenville to US 41.
- **Winter 2002/2003**—WIS 15 alternates developed with cooperation of the advisory committee and presented to cooperating agencies.
- **Spring 2003**—Newsletter published and public meeting conducted.
- **Summer/Fall 2003**—Corridors chosen for evaluation in the Environmental Impact Study (EIS). Information gathering begins to help evaluate the possible alternatives.
- **Fall 2003**—WIS 15 advisory committee meets. Newsletter update mailed out.
- **Winter/Spring 2003/2004**—WisDOT gathers and evaluates collected data for each alternative. WIS 15 advisory committee meets.
- **Spring/Summer 2004**—Newsletter published and public meeting held to present the impacts of the alternatives being studied.
- **Summer/Fall 2004**—Submittal of the draft EIS to the Federal Highway Administration for approval.
- **Fall 2004**—Public hearing held and open period allowed for comments on the draft EIS.
- **Fall 2004**—WIS 15 advisory committee meets to recommend a preferred alternative.
- **Fall 2004**—WisDOT selects preferred transportation alternative and presents choice to the public. Newsletter published.
- **Late Fall 2004**—The Transportation Projects Committee determines possible approval of WIS 15 expansion against other state highway projects.
- **2005**—Final EIS approved.
- **2011 or later**—Begin construction of WIS 15. Construction is contingent on approved funding.

EIS study corridors update

The alternatives shown at the right in solid black were presented at the public informational meeting (PIM) held in Hortonville this May.

These viable alternatives are still being reviewed by state and federal agencies for future study. In addition, the dashed line alternatives shown on the right were developed from comments at the public meeting and from an independent group.

This group completed a study known as a Value Planning Study (VP), mandated by the Federal Highway Administration. The group includes state and national experts in the fields of highway engineering, traffic engineering and planning. Local individuals were also included to provide a more local perspective.

These nearby alternatives are also being reviewed by the approving agencies. WisDOT is currently working with these agencies and plans to have the chosen corridors for study determined this fall.

Highway 15 advisory committee provides direction

How important is the Highway 15 advisory committee's role in the environmental study process? Committee members represent their communities and are responsible for providing direction in the decision making process. They are the eyes and ears of the local communities. The committee's involvement will contribute towards a supported transportation recommendation.

Highway 15 Advisory Committee members

Outagamie County

Alvin Guerts
Director of Public Works 920-832-5673
 Mike Hendrick
County Planner 920-832-5255
 Marvin Obry
County Supervisor 920-779-6436

City of New London

Kent Hager
City Administrator 920-982-8500

Village of Hortonville

Roger L. Retzlaff
President 920-779-6011
 J. Everett Mitchell
Administrator 920-779-6011

Town of Hortonia

Kevin Bolssen
Chair 920-779-0264
 Dennis Clegg 920-779-6028

Town of Dale

Marcia A. Kelly
Clerk 920-779-6769

Town of Ellington

Orville Nelson
Chairperson 920-779-6186

Town of Greenville

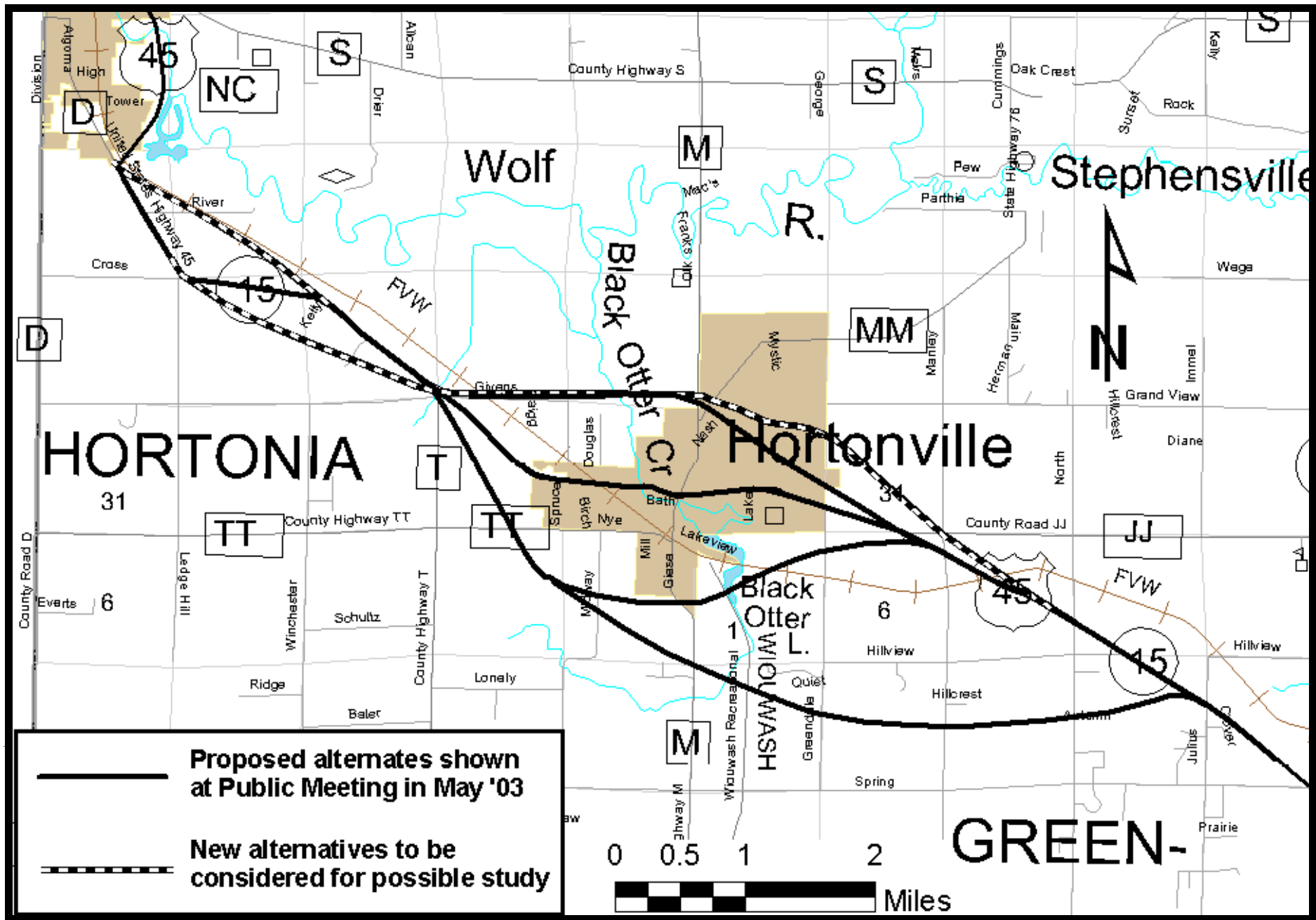
David Tebo
Administrator 920-757-5151

Hortonville School District

Dr. Gregory Joseph Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools 920-779-7900

Citizens

Ed Heyes 920-739-6311
 Pat McNicols 920-779-4940
 James Olsen 920-779-7000
 Paul Bernegger 920-982-7739
 Robert Schneider 920-779-6738
 Tom Olk 920-779-4277



WIS 15 bypass alternatives.

Transportation District 3

944 Vanderperren Way
P.O. Box 28080
Green Bay, WI 54324-0080

Phone: (920)492-5643
Fax: (920)492-5640
Email: greenbay.dtd@dot.state.wi.us



WisDOT

WisDOT WIS 15 Web site will soon be up and running

WisDOT would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to write letters or contact the WisDOT staff regarding this project.

A number of the contacts have come with questions, comments and suggestions. This kind of interest on the part of citizens is great and helpful.

We are in the process of completing a Web site for the WIS 15 project.

Look for the site at:

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d3/wis15/index.htm>

Additionally, you can find a copy of this newsletter (and other transportation information) on the WisDOT Web site at:

www.dot.wi.gov/projects/d3/index.htm.



WIS 15 Project Report

Greenville to New London

December 2004

Contact information:

WisDOT District 3
944 Vanderperren Way
P.O. Box 28080
Green Bay, WI 54324-0080

Phone: (920) 492-5643
Fax: (920) 492-5640
E-mail:
greenbay.dtd@dot.state.wi.us

Web site:
www.dot.wisconsin.gov

Project Web site: www.dot.wi.gov/projects/d3/index.

Rob Wagner
Project Manager
Phone: (920) 492-5983

Kim Rudat
Communications Manager
Phone: (920) 492-5743

Mission statement:
To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.

Update on WIS 15 EIS progress

A year ago at this time, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) had anticipated having a Draft Environmental Impact Study (EIS) submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval this fall. However, certain elements of the EIS process have contributed to a substantial change in the EIS progress.

As a federal document, the EIS is required to meet FHWA standards, one of which is concurrence from regulatory agencies of the alternatives brought forward in the study. As seen in the newsletter from last fall, new alternatives have been proposed. WisDOT has needed to evaluate these alternatives before recommending them to the regulatory agencies for approval. This process has taken longer than originally projected with all of the regulatory agencies



having just approved the alternatives for study this fall.

Additionally, the archaeological field work started in 2003 has carried over to 2004. The archaeological work should be finishing up this fall, with the newer alternatives having been studied.

Included in this issue:

- Updated on WIS 15 EIS progress
- Corridors finalized
- Corridors considered
- What is next?
- Timeline
- Public information meeting

Version 2.0

Corridors finalized for study

The corridors shown on the following page have been approved by the required federal agencies for inclusion in the Draft Environmental Impact Study (EIS). These corridors will be evaluated individually for their impacts on social, economic, and agriculture factors, and natural effects to the air, land, and water within the various corridors.

At last year's Public Information Meeting, several alternatives were presented for comments to help decide which would be carried forward in the Draft EIS. As shown in last September's newsletter, some corridors were changed or brought forward. Since then, WisDOT has evaluated similar corridors to identify those which could best serve the need of the WIS 15 in the

future. With these corridors now approved by the regulatory agencies, the Draft EIS can be completed. Once the Draft EIS is approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sometime next year, the procedure of selecting a preferred corridor can be initiated.

Corridors to be considered in the Impact Study

After a long and challenging process of determining the alternatives to be studied, WisDOT is progressing forward in the next stage of the Environmental Impact Study (EIS).

The alternatives shown in the map below have been chosen for comparative impact study after public involvement, corridor refinement, preliminary study, and regulatory agency approval.

In the next public information meeting, preliminary estimates of impacts of all of the below corridors will be shown. These impacts will be evaluated in greater detail in the Draft

EIS. The Draft EIS will likely be presented to the Federal Highway Administration this coming winter for approval.

The corridors seen below are broken up into sections east and west of County Highway T, which is on left third of the map below.

The east corridors include:

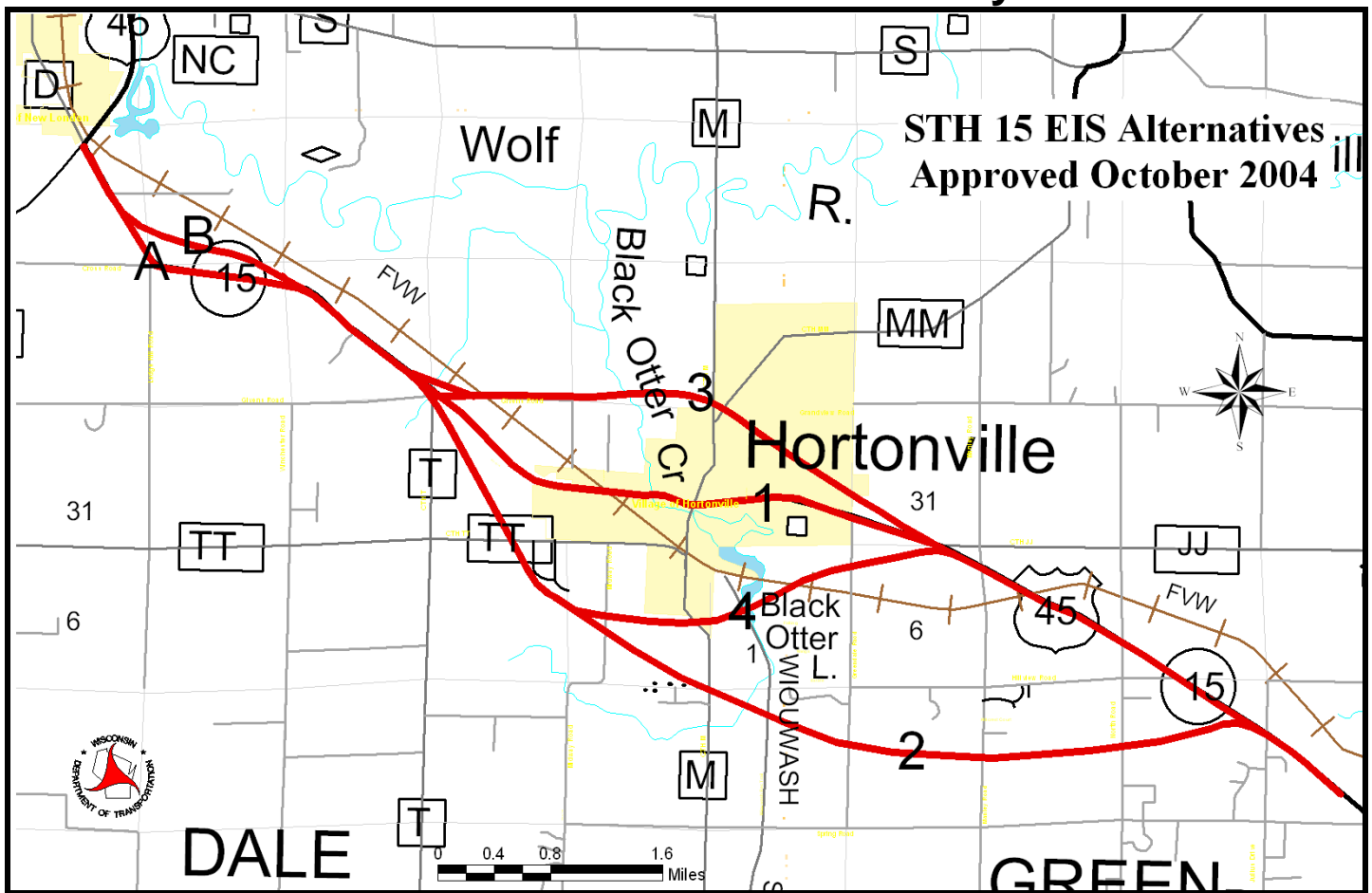
- Alternative 1 (exiting highway)
- Alternative 2 (south bypass)
- Alternative 3 (north bypass)
- Alternative 4 (lake bypass)

The west corridors include:

- Alternative A (existing highway)
- Alternative B (straightens the curves)



Finalized alternatives for study



What comes next?

We will hold a Public Information Meeting on January 19, 2005. This meeting will update the public with the preliminary impacts on the alternatives shown on the opposite page. There will be an opportunity to ask questions to WisDOT staff and comment on the alternatives.

Final data and reports on the alternatives will be submitted to WisDOT soon and the Draft Environmental Document (EIS) submittal for approval to the Federal Highway Administration will follow.

A public hearing will be held after the Draft EIS is approved. Depending upon the speed of the approval, the public hearing could be held in summer 2005.

WisDOT will then use comments from the public hearing, input from the Highway 15 Advisory Committee, considerations from local officials, and recommendations from regulatory agencies to select a preferred alternative. This selection should occur 3

to 5 months after the public hearing.

When a preferred alternative is selected, a Final EIS can be completed. WisDOT is then required to complete 30 percent of the design work toward the ultimate project before it can be approved for construction. Once this work is completed, WisDOT can present the project to the Transportation Projects Commission (TPC) for approval.

The TPC meets in even number years and 'enumerates' or approves major highway projects for construction. WIS 15 will be competing for funding against other major highway projects in Wisconsin. The TPC cannot enumerate a project unless funding is available to begin work within six years.

Project History and Timeline

The following is a WIS 15 history and projected timeline.

- **February 2001**—Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH), consultants for WisDOT, complete the New London to Greenville corridor plan.
- **August 2002**—SEH completes a second corridor plan along the WIS 15 corridor, from Greenville to US 41.
- **Winter 2002/2003**—WIS 15 alternates developed with cooperation of the advisory committee and presented to cooperating agencies.
- **Spring 2003**—Newsletter published and public meeting conducted.
- **Summer/Fall 2003**—Information gathering begins to help evaluate the possible alternatives for the (EIS).
- **Fall 2003**—WIS 15 advisory committee meets. Newsletter update mailed out.
- **Winter/Spring 2003/2004**—WisDOT gathers and evaluates data for alternatives.
- **Summer 2004**—Alternatives refined and resubmitted to regulatory agencies for approval. Data gathering continues.
- **Fall 2004**—Agency approval, newsletter published and Public Information Meeting to update project progress.
- **Fall/Winter 2004**—Newsletter published and public meeting conducted.
- **Winter 2005**—Draft EIS document submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval.
- **Summer 2005**—Draft EIS approved by FHWA, followed by a open period allowed for comments and a Public Hearing held and on the draft EIS.
- **Fall 2005**—WisDOT meets with WIS 15 advisory committee, local officials, and regulatory agencies to help determine a preferred alternative.
- **Fall/Winter 2005**—WisDOT selects preferred transportation alternative and presents choice to the public. Newsletter published.
- **2007**—Final EIS approved.
- **2010 or later**—The Transportation Projects Committee determines possible approval of WIS 15 expansion against other state highway projects.

Highway 15 Advisory Committee members

Outagamie County

Alvin Guerts

Director of Public Works____920-832-5673

Mike Hendrick

County Planner_____920-832-5255

Marvin Obry

County Supervisor_____920-779-6436

City of New London

Kent Hager

City Administrator_____920-982-8500

Village of Hortonville

Roger L. Retzlaff

President_____920-779-6011

J. Everett Mitchell

Administrator_____920-779-6011

Town of Hortonia

Kevin Bolssen

Chair_____920-779-0264

Dennis Clegg_____920-779-6028

Town of Dale

Marcia A. Kelly

Clerk_____920-779-6769

Town of Ellington

Orville Nelson

Chairperson_____920-779-6186

Town of Greenville

David Tebo

Administrator_____920-757-5151

Hortonville School District

Dr. Gregory Joseph Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools

920-779-7900

Citizens

Ed Heyes_____920-739-6311

Pat McNicols_____920-779-4940

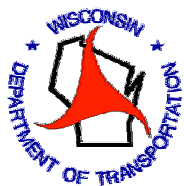
James Olsen_____920-779-7000

Paul Bernegger_____920-982-7739

Robert Schneider_____920-779-6738

Tom Olk_____920-779-4277

Wisconsin Department of Transportation



944 Vanderperren Way
P.O. Box 28080
Green Bay, WI 54324-0080

Phone: (920) 492-5643
Fax: (920) 492-5640
E-mail: greenbay.dtd@dot.state.wi.us

Project on the Web:

www.dot.wi.gov/projects/d3/index.

Address

Public information meeting scheduled for January

You are invited to attend a public information meeting about WIS 15. WisDOT will hold two public meetings to provide information and hear public comment regarding the WIS 15 environmental study.

The two duplicate sessions are scheduled for your convenience and will feature the same information. The meetings are being held in an open-house format with maps and exhibits of the proposed alternatives.

Information displayed at the public meeting will include:

- Highway alternatives
- Traffic data
- Environmental areas
- Land use

WisDOT staff will be available to answer questions.

Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday January 19, 2005
Session 1 Session 2
1 p.m. to 3 p.m. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Hortonville Community Center
312 West Main Street

