



PIM #2 – MINUTES & COMMENTS SUMMARY

Re: West Side Arterial
Corridor Location Study
Winnebago County Highway Commission
Winnebago County

Date of Comments: May 7, 2008

SEH No.: AWINNW0602.00

Attendees: John Haese (Winnebago County Highway Commissioner), Ray Polkinghorn (SEH), Dean Stodola (SEH), public attendees

The meeting presentation began at 6:15pm and included introductions, a brief project history and a PowerPoint presentation discussing project purpose and need, alternatives considered, the recommended alternative, and the project schedule. After the presentation the floor was opened for questions and answers. A handout containing frequently asked questions and public comment forms were provided. Displays showing the recommended alternative, existing and future land use, and past alternatives considered were exhibited.

Comments:

- General concerns for the project need were expressed. The attendees voiced that they didn't see a need for the project and that the impacts to their farming community were unfounded. It was stated that the even though the mapping process may begin at an earlier date, the construction of the arterial may not happen for 20 years and would be dependant on future growth.
- Concerns over impacts to agricultural land that is part of the Farmland Preservation were voiced. There were concerns about housing acquisitions, the dividing of farmland, and drainage ways. The public expressed concern about protected agricultural lands for the future and conflicting development pressures.
- Concerns about the Official Mapping process where voiced, including mapped land value, whom will perform the mapping, when the mapping could occur, and if the public would have any future say about the corridor location after the meeting. It was stated that Winnebago County doesn't have the authority to do the mapping and that it would be done by local municipalities such as the City of Oshkosh. The public voiced concern over the ability of the City of Oshkosh to officially map their lands, which are outside of the City limits.
- Concerns on whether or not the public comments would be reviewed and addressed and included as part of this study. It was stated that all public comments and concerns are important and are reviewed and taken into consideration when revising the corridor alignment.
- Concerns on if the latest exhibits would be available on the County's website. It was stated that all the exhibits displayed are on or will be on the County's website. The recommended alternative exhibit would be updated to show the property owner names.
- Concerns were expressed over who was pushing to have the West Side Arterial location be planned and mapped.
- Comments were made on whether alternative routes such as using existing CTH FF or expanding on WIS 41 were considered.

- Concerns were voiced on if another meeting was planned. The public has lots of questions on the official mapping process and what their respective rights are. The public would like representatives from the City of Oshkosh to attend and to answer questions.