



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING

T COLBY, SANDHILL AVENUE
POPPLE RIVER BRIDGE P-10-0904
CLARK COUNTY
PROJECT ID: 7837-00-01

Public Involvement Period:
October 23 – December 7, 2024



Project Team

- Larry Oehmichen– Town Chairman
 - Town of Colby
- Teresa Davis
 - WisDOT Northwest Region Local Program
- Todd Becker
 - WisDOT Northwest Region Local Program
- Dennis Mack, P.E. – Consultant
 - Cedar Corporation

Purpose of Public Involvement

The public involvement effort for this project was developed to inform the general public and users of this portion of Sandhill Avenue of the proposed project and potential traffic impacts along the project area during construction. Objectives include:

- Identifying stakeholders which may be affected by the project and include them in the project development process
- Communication with concerned parties to understand expectations and address issues brought forth by the public and other stakeholders
- Coordination with local officials and law enforcement to complete the project safely and in accordance with community needs

The effort includes holding public meetings, developing press releases, and sending letters to affected parties.

Objectives

- Project Location
- Project Purpose and Need
- Existing Facilities
- Current Deficiencies
- Proposed Improvements
- Real Estate Impacts
- Project Costs
- Project Schedule
- Questions

Project Location

- Project Limits
 - Sandhill Avenue over Popple River, Popple River Bridge P-10-0904
 - Project length: approximately 450 ft.
- Sandhill Avenue
 - Local Road
 - This section connects rural areas west of the City of Colby and County N to WIS 29 to the north.
 - Average Daily Traffic (ADT): 116 vehicles per day
 - Two-lane rural road with 10-ft. gravel travel lanes and 3-ft. gravel shoulders
 - Speed limit: Statutory 55 mph
 - Right-of-Way: 66 ft.
- Popple River Bridge P-10-0904
 - 24 ft. long and 21 ft. wide deck
 - Posted as a narrow bridge
 - Constructed in 1926, no documented major repairs



Project Location (Clark County GIS)

Project Purpose and Need

- Purpose

- The purpose of the proposed action is to maintain a safe and efficient transportation system by addressing roadway deficiencies that affect roadway serviceability/maintainability and could also affect roadway safety.

- Need

- The project need which supports the purpose is identified below:

- Structural Deficiencies

The existing bridge is showing signs of deterioration. The concrete abutments are characterized by delamination, spalling, cracking, and patching. In addition, the footings on the north and south abutments have exposed footings 1-2 ft. vertically at the east end. There are also cracks in the southwest and northeast wingwalls and the footings are also exposed. The metal bridge rail is corroded, and the east rail is down due to impact damage.

The sufficiency rating for the structure was determined to be 36.7 on a scale of 100, per the 2024 bridge inspection, making it eligible for replacement.

- Stream Flow Migration

The flow of the East Fork Popple River has migrated over time. A stream meander has formed north of the bridge on the west side of Sandhill Avenue which has begun to cut into the roadway. This has resulted in the need for continuous maintenance (gravel and riprap replacement) after large rain events in order to preserve the roadway.

Existing Facilities



Existing roadway



Existing Channel Flow,
cutting into the roadway

Existing Facilities



Cracks in abutments



Damaged metal bridge rail

Proposed Improvements

- The proposed project involves:
 - Removing existing bridge
 - Constructing new two cell box culvert
 - Reconstruction of approaches (225 ft. on either side of the bridge)
 - Placing riprap along the abutments
 - Realignment of approximately 295 ft. of the stream to reestablish the original stream channel
- No changes to speed limit are proposed
- Minimal right-of-way (approximately 0.35 acres) would be required to complete the project, primarily TLE and FEE.
- Construction is proposed for summer 2026.
- Traffic Impacts:
 - Sandhill Avenue would be closed during construction. No detours would be posted.
 - Access would be maintained to properties along the project area.

Real Estate Impacts

- Estimated Fee: 0.09 acre
- Estimated Permanent Limited Easements (PLE): 0 acres
- Estimated Temporary Limited Easements (TLE): 0.26 acres

Project Costs

- Funding for this project is provided in part by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) STP-Rural Program.
- Federal funding would cover 100% of the total construction costs.
- Federal funding would cover 80% of the design costs and the Town of Loyal would fund the remaining 20%.
- The total cost for this project is anticipated to be approximately \$420,000; the final cost would be based on final quantities for the project.

Project Schedule



Public Involvement – October 23 through December 7, 2024



Preliminary Plans – September 2024



Environmental Document – November 2024



Final Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) – August 1, 2025



Construction would be scheduled for 2026

Questions?

Comments are welcomed. If you have any concerns, or would like to request additional information, please contact the following individuals:

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Comments can be sent by mail, email, or phone to either of the above individuals. A comment form is provided on the same webpage as this presentation

(<https://www.townshipofcolby.com/>)

Comments regarding this project may be submitted until: **December 7, 2024**