

Public Involvement

SAFETEA-LU requires the Governor (under 23 CFR 450.200 - 450.224) to ensure that WisDOT and MPO's develop plans to actively involve the public in the development of the STIP. WisDOT proposes an ongoing, grassroots STIP public involvement plan that includes:

- 30-day written comment period on the STIP (yearly)
- State Trunk Highway System project development and Six-Year Highway Program hearings (ongoing)
- MPO public hearings on TIPs (yearly)
- Local government hearings on transit projects for smaller systems (ongoing)
- Local government hearings on local road projects (ongoing)

The focus of this plan is on maximizing public involvement at the state, MPO, and local levels—on an ongoing basis—when initial project decisions are presented and made. WisDOT published its first STIP Public Involvement Plan in November of 1993. It summarized the STIP as well as the role of public involvement in the STIP. The STIP Public Involvement Plan, which was updated in December of 2007, focuses on the public involvement processes used on various types of transportation projects.

Though this year's STIP Public Involvement Plan does **not require** any public hearings, WisDOT may agree to have a public hearing if one is requested. As a result of the lack of public interest/attendance at these hearings in the past, the STIP Public Involvement Plan will continue to rely on written comments from the public regarding the draft STIP.

The legal notice advertising the draft STIP was published on November 1, 2011. A copy of the notice is presented below.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation announces the availability of its draft 2012 multimodal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The draft STIP is available from the State Transportation Improvement Program website:

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/highways/stip.htm. The comprehensive improvement program includes all federally funded highway, transit, and bike and pedestrian projects to be undertaken in Wisconsin during the 2012-2015 timeframe. The draft STIP is subject to a 30-day public comment period. The final STIP will be issued on approximately January 9, 2012. Inquiries about the draft STIP and written comments on the improvement program should be directed, before December 5, 2011, to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Division of Transportation Investment Management, Bureau of Planning and Economic Development, P.O. Box 7913, Madison, WI 53707-7913; 608-267-7751.