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March 12, 2014

MR. WESLEY SHEMWELL
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
WISCONSIN DIVISION OFFICE
525 JUNCTION ROAD SUITE 8000
MADISON, WI 53717-2157

Dear Mr. Shemwell:

Subject: Request Reconsideration of Partial Interchange Policy Determination
I-43 and County Line Road Interchange
Project ID: 1229-04-01
I-43 N-S Corridor
Silver Spring Drive to STH 60
Milwaukee & Ozaukee Counties

The Department requests that FHWA reconsider its policy determination regarding reconstructing the existing partial interchange at County Line Road with either full access or no access to I-43.

Since August 2012, the Department and FHWA have considered a range of alternative solutions to reconstruct the existing partial interchange at County Line Road, as part of the I-43 North-South Freeway Corridor Study. Through the course of the study, we have had ongoing discussions whether the reconstruction of the County Line Road interchange would need to meet FHWA's regulations and policies regarding Interstate design, which state that all newly constructed Interstate interchanges shall provide for all traffic movements, or whether an exception to those standards could be granted.

The Department developed an initial range of alternatives that could address various options (including no access, partial and full interchange options) with the understanding that FHWA may allow a partial interchange under special circumstances. However, in August 2013 FHWA indicated that a partial interchange option would not be acceptable.

Subsequently, the Department shared that determination with the public and local governments through several outreach efforts. The adjacent neighborhoods and local elected officials voiced concerns regarding impacts to local access changes, travel indirection and traffic impacts on local streets and the additional cost resulting from a full interchange. In response, the Department continued to refine a range of full access alternatives that would meet federal requirements and minimize impacts to the local community.

The city of Mequon has requested that the Department and FHWA reconsider restoring a partial interchange at County Line Road. The full access alternatives are perceived to have negative impacts on established residential neighborhoods that the interchange primarily serves. Please find an attached copy of a resolution from the City of Mequon supporting a partial interchange at County Line Road and meeting notes and minutes from the neighborhood meeting held in Mequon to discuss alternatives at the County Line Road Interchange.

The Department requests that FHWA approve the engineering and operational acceptability of all three access options. In addition, The Department has evaluated FHWA policies, as well as local considerations from the City of Mequon, and requests FHWA consider an exception to Interstate interchange requirements to allow the reconstruction of a partial interchange at County Line Road. If you have any questions, please contact the Majors Program Development Engineer, William Anderson at (608) 266-8663 or William.Anderson@dot.wi.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Don Greuel".

Don Greuel, P.E.
WisDOT DTSD BPD
Project Services Section Chief

Attachments