

Dear West Waukesha Bypass Opponent,

We have received information that the Bypass planners are completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). It appears that the Pebble Creek West Alternative has been chosen (even closer to Pebble Creek than the Far West Alternative that was being proposed) and the FEIS will be submitted to the County and other agencies at the end of May. This doesn't dampen our enthusiasm that we can defeat this project! So please don't let it stop You! Please pass this message on to any neighborhood or organization e-mail lists you maintain!

I also wanted to let you know that tonight the Coalition Opposed to the West Waukesha Bypass submitted a complaint to the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Our complaint focuses primarily on Waste and Abuse of Federal Highway Funding Programs related to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Public Hearing Process.

Also, watch for our "Bypass Yard Sign" program announcement soon!

Take Action Message #2

Write an e-mail or letter to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) asking them to withdraw funding for the West Waukesha Bypass. The FHWA is one of the most important "approving" bodies for the Bypass. They are both part of the planning and a holder of the "purse strings". So our goal at this time is to ask the FHWA to withdraw funding of the Bypass by targeting three areas; 1) purpose & need statement, 2) range of alternatives, and 3) the selection of the Pebble Creek West Alternative.

Please write and submit your comments by May 26th to:

Wisconsin Division
525 Junction Road, Suite 8000
Madison, Wisconsin 53717
Phone (608) 829-7500
Fax (608) 829-7526
E-Mail: Wisconsin.FHWA@dot.gov

Please cc all e-mails to execsecretariat.fhwa@fhwa.dot.gov

Some Points To Make:

- This expensive highway expansion project is unneeded and a waste of \$65+ million of taxpayers money.
- We cannot afford to pay for maintenance of highways already built and we should not build new ones until maintenance needs have been taken care of.
- Range of Alternatives
 - A "No Build. Improve" option was never seriously considered. Only "Build" or "No Build" options. Everyone agrees that some improvements can be made in the route, but because "Improve" was not an option, planners forced people to choose "Build". This created a false impression that people support this project!
- Selection of Pebble Creek West
 - One of the worst environmental impacts of this project is the decision by planners to build this project through the valuable Pebble Creek Environmental Corridor.
 - Regardless of the "rationale" for this decision it is clear that planners never intended the final route to be anything other than this. This highway will carve a destructive path through the Pebble Creek Watershed and cause negative impacts forever. The County's own plans intended this area to be protected!

- The Draft Environmental Impact Statement's "Purpose and Need Statement" is flawed. Here is the "Statement" broken down and the reason each is flawed.
 - "Complete the long-planned circumferential route around Waukesha."
 - The planners state that this project is no longer a Bypass project, then how can this be used as a Purpose?
 - "Accommodate growing traffic volumes"
 - Traffic was studied for a minimal time. Traffic volumes are based primarily on projections which do not consider high gas prices, fewer miles driven by people today, and other nearby highway expansion projects.
 - "Improve tight curves, steep hills, narrow lanes, and lack of shoulders."
 - This is a huge misstatement intended to make it sound like the Hwy TT route is terribly unsafe. Anyone who drives this route would disagree. There is perhaps one unsafe hill at Madison Street that could be repaired. Spending \$65 million on this route is a terrible waste of taxpayers money!
 - "Provide a safe and efficient north-south arterial roadway on the west side of Waukesha"
 - There are already two safe routes; Hwy 83 which is being expanded to 4-lanes right now and St Paul Ave, which was recently improved.
 - This statement implies that TT is not safe which is untrue - No deaths and minimal accidents, of which most are minor fender benders due to inattention at stop lights.

Here's a sample letter. Please make it your own by adding the problems you have with the project, but keep your e-mail shorter rather than longer.

I'm writing you today to urge you to deny funding to the West Waukesha Bypass extension in Waukesha County Wisconsin (<http://www.waukeshabypass.org>); This project's funding should be denied on several levels. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement's "Purpose and Needs Statement" is flawed. Planners agree that the project is not really a bypass yet the "Statement" uses this as a reason to build it. The statement highly exaggerates the current roads curves, hills, and lanes as tight, steep, and narrow. This does not accurately represent this route! Finally the "Statement" represents that traffic volumes are increasing when traffic on the south end of the route is actually decreasing. In addition gas price increases and the impact of other local highway improvements (Hwy 83 and St Paul Ave) on traffic were not even considered. Finally, the Pebble Creek West Alternative, which is apparently going to be the recommended route, will cause extensive damage to the Pebble Creek Environmental corridor. There are other very good alternatives that were never fully considered because of the poorly written Purpose and Need Statement. Please remove the funding for this unnecessary highway expansion. This project does not meet the FHWA's three concurrence points!

Sincerely

(Name, address, phone)

Thank You

Allen Stasiewski 414-507-8358
Coalition Opposed to the West Waukesha Bypass