

West Waukesha Bypass Opposition Take Action Message #4

Dear West Waukesha Bypass Opponent,

Here's the latest "Take Action" e-mail message from the Coalition Opposed to the West Waukesha Bypass. Please pass this message on to other e-mail lists that you can access!

This time we are asking that you contact the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. If anyone has the ability to stop or slow down a highway project it would have to be the head of the agency itself.

E-Mail Secretary Mark Gottlieb at the e-mail listed below. We are asking that you also cc the Office of Policy, Finance and Budget at the DOT at the e-mail shown. Copy these e-mail addresses into your e-mail as indicated. Please take this action by June 26th, 2013

e-mail to; sec.exec@dot.wi.gov

cc to; opb.exec@dot.wi.gov

Here are some key points to make:

- The DOT can save \$40.1 million (The State's share of total costs of over 65 million) by removing funding for the West Waukesha Bypass.
- We cannot afford to fix the roads we have much less build new lanes! We have to stop spending so much on new highways.
- The State has many priorities and all areas must share in the cuts, including the DOT for highway building.
- The Town of Waukesha considers the project's Memorandum of Understanding invalid because it was never approved by the Waukesha Town Board. The Town of Waukesha has officially adopted a "No Build" position. Much of the project is located in the Town of Waukesha.
- The project was mapped 60 years ago as a Bypass around the west side of Waukesha, but it is no longer a Bypass. Planners address this fact in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (dEIS). Yet the entire dEIS is written based on Bypass standards.
- The Draft EIS Public Hearing did not meet the public input intent of the EIS process. There was little two-way communication, due to the organization of the hearing. We have photos of comments being made in an empty auditorium.
- Draft EIS traffic counts are inaccurate as they don't include the impact of other recent highway construction projects in the area. Our own traffic consultant shows traffic to be decreasing on the south end of the project corridor.
- Draft EIS accident counts are inflated due to the addition of accidents that are not in the project corridor. We have analyzed the raw data used by the planners.
- There is overwhelming and growing citizen opposition to the West Waukesha Bypass.

Here's a sample letter. Just copy and paste this into your e-mail. Put it in your own words and add any key points you might like to make if you would like.

Dear Secretary Gottlieb,

I'm writing you in regards to the West Waukesha Bypass project in Waukesha WI. being planned to begin in 2015. Specifically I'm asking that you cancel State funding for this unneeded highway expansion project and use these critical highway funds for more important projects. This controversial project was originally mapped as a Bypass around the west side of Waukesha 60 years ago. Much has changed in this area and this Bypass now passes through neighborhoods and past schools. It is only being built because it has been on the map all these years. Even the planners admit that this is no longer a Bypass

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project yet they are building it to Bypass specifications. This flaw in the planning process automatically eliminated more cost effective alternatives. Here just a few of the reasons you should eliminate funding for this project.

- The DOT can save \$40.1 million (The State's share of total costs of over 65 million) by removing funding for the West Waukesha Bypass in 2015 & 2016.
- We cannot afford to fix the roads we have much less build new lanes! We have to stop spending so much on new highways.
- The State has many priorities and all areas must share in the cuts, including the DOT for highway building.
- The Town of Waukesha considers the project's Memorandum of Understanding invalid because it was never approved by the Waukesha Town Board. The Town of Waukesha has officially adopted a "No Build" position. Much of the project is located in the Town of Waukesha.
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- Draft EIS traffic counts are inaccurate as they don't include the impact of other recent highway construction projects in the area. Our own traffic consultant shows traffic to be decreasing on the south end of the project corridor.
- Draft EIS accident counts are inflated due to the addition of accidents that are not in the project corridor. We have analyzed the raw data used by the planners.
- The draft EIS did not address the cumulative impact that this project will have on other highway projects in the area. Specifically the Hyw 83 expansion and the yet to be started Sunset Drive Expansion project. There just isn't enough traffic in this area to support all the 4 lane highways being planned. Planning in a vacuum like this is a waste of tax payer dollars.
- There is overwhelming citizen opposition to the West Waukesha Bypass.

Please investigate this project and you will find many problems with the entire process. Please eliminate funding for the West Waukesha Bypass.

Sincerely

(Your Full Name)

(Your Address)