

# Janesville Road Reconstruction

Project Newsletter

January 2008

## Project Update

This is the second newsletter for the Janesville Road Reconstruction Project study. The engineering and environmental study began in Fall 2007 and is in the early stages of alternatives development. This newsletter is intended to provide you with an update of the study team's activities and what you can expect to happen on the project over the next few months. As was mentioned in the first newsletter a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) approach is being applied to this project. As a part of the CSS approach, an advisory group was selected from a list of community residents and has been working closely with the City of Muskego, Waukesha County and the study team.

## Context Sensitive Solutions Workshops

The CSS Advisory Group, which is made up of 23 members of the Muskego community represent a wide range of interests in the Janesville Road improvements. The Advisory Group has met twice for workshops at the Muskego Public Library. The first workshop was held on November 6, 2007. Approximately 18 members of the Advisory Group attended in addition to 13 members of general public. The first workshop was used to introduce the Advisory Group to the CSS process and how CSS would help Waukesha County develop alternatives that are in harmony with the goals and values of the City of Muskego community. At the first workshop, the Advisory Group was asked to develop a list of issues that the reconstruction project should address. The following issues were identified:

- Too narrow
- Not much
- Poor access
- Pedestrian safety
- Congestion
- Poor sight distances
- Variable speeds
- Poor geometrics
- Drainage
- Cross access between properties
- Aesthetics
- Poor lighting
- Left-turn movements
- Not scalable for growth
- Noise
- Turning movements
- Downtown identity
- Usability of downtown
- Bike Accommodations

The Advisory Group was then asked what they would like accomplished by the reconstruction. The following list was developed:

- Sidewalks on both sides
- Provision for economic development
- Buried utilities
- Accessibility – Business Roadway
- Attractive downtown
- Community identity
- Limit displacements/relocations
- Safety at intersections
- Pedestrian friendly
- Beautification, aesthetic treatments, thematic elements
- Avoid strip takings
- Maintain and promote economic development
- Congestion (slower traffic)
- Consistency with land uses
- Reduce sound and visual impacts

The information from the first workshop was used by the study team to prepare for the second workshop.

The second workshop was held on December 4, 2007 at the Muskego Public Library. The purpose of the second workshop was to develop a project definition that would be used by the study team as it began to develop a range of alternatives for reconstructing Janesville Road. The project definition was based on the issues and desires that were engendered at the first workshop by the Advisory Group. The following project definition was presented and adopted by the Advisory Group:

*The improvements to Janesville Road (CTH L) will provide an improved arterial roadway between Racine Avenue to Moorland Road. The roadway should serve its proposed transportation functions of enhancing access and improving mobility while complementing adjacent land uses, addressing pedestrian and vehicular safety, enhancing opportunities for economic development, and developing a community identity for the City of Muskego.*

After defining the project, the Advisory Group was asked to review a list of summarized goals that was developed by the study team from the information received at the first workshop and to provide a ranking for each summarized goal. The top five ranked goals of the individual advisory group members were:

- Accommodate/enhance economic development opportunities
- Improve operations/relieve congestion
- Improve geometrics/vehicle safety
- Develop downtown Muskego identity/ Streetscaping
- Accommodate pedestrians/safety

The Advisory Group was also divided into 4 subgroups and each subgroup was asked to rank the summarized goals. The following were the top five ranked goals by the subgroups:

- Improve geometrics/vehicle safety
- Develop downtown Muskego identity/ Streetscaping
- Accommodate existing businesses
- Accommodate pedestrians/safety
- Accommodate/enhance economic development opportunities

The results of these two exercises will be the basis for the range of alternatives that the study team will develop for the next workshop and for the forthcoming Public Information Meeting.

## Upcoming Events

**February 12, 2008** – CSS Workshop #3 –  
Muskego Public Library Rm. 4-5, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**March 11, 2008** – Public Information Meeting –  
Muskego High School, Old Cafeteria, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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