



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Chad Enright** Chief Deputy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dodge County Highway Improvements

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office is committed to finding ways to keep our highways safe for all who use them every day. The sheriff's office does this through enforcement efforts, education of the public, and working with stakeholders to improve highway design.

We are currently waiting for the Department of Transportation (DOT) to complete two major projects. One of those projects is the new design for US 151/County C, and the other is a new design for US 151/County DE. Both intersections have seen crash data, which suggested improvements were needed. Highway Commissioner Brian Field, the Dodge County Highway Safety Commission, led by Captain Scott Smith and Captain Jason Boeck, our local representatives, including Wisconsin Representative Mark Born, and I prompted these projects to get underway.

We are now waiting for design and funding to be approved for possible projects at County A/W in the town of Oak Grove and County S/County G in the town of Beaver Dam to be completed, as those two intersections are priorities for potential work in the coming years. Unfortunately, while some would love work to occur immediately, planning and design do take time to accomplish.

This brings me to State Highway 33, particularly from Highway 26 to the east Dodge County line. This stretch of highway through Horicon and including the intersections with County TW, County V, State Highway 67, County AY, County P, and other town roads in between, has become increasingly more heavily traveled and increasingly more dangerous over the last five years compared to five years prior to that. A few weeks ago, I sent a letter to the DOT, and I copied local leaders that this area requires additional study for highway enhancement and potential expansion. In that letter, I provided traffic crash data justifying this research to look at safety enhancements. After this letter, Representative Mark Born, Representative William Penterman, and Senator John Jagler co-authored a letter to the DOT urging this analysis as well.

As sheriff, I believe it is important for our citizens to know that we are always looking toward the future and doing what we can to improve safety for all using our highway system in Dodge County, and while at times it may not seem like things are being done to address issues that arise, there is work being done. Unfortunately,

the system moves very slowly, which is why we must jump on these issues when justification exists in hopes of eventual solutions that everyone can benefit from.

Attached to this press release are the letters I sent and the letters from our local representatives and senator for the community's information.

Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt

Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt.

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