

Public Information Meeting  
Summary Report

**Northwestern Avenue**  
**Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue**  
**WIS 38**  
**Racine County**  
(Project I.D. 2290-17-00)

PREPARED FOR:



PREPARED BY:

**Rice**  
& Associates  
June 2012

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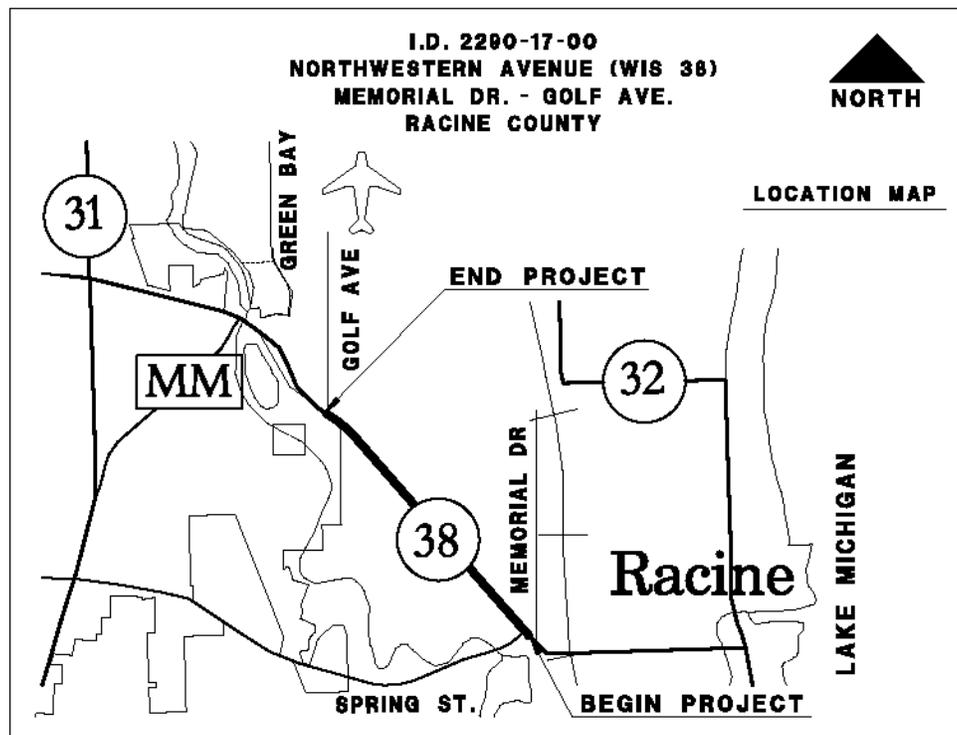
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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the City of Racine are proposing to reconstruct Northwestern Avenue, from Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue. The project will include new pavement marking, new signs, sidewalk replacement, ADA-compliant curb ramps, roundabout, streetscape, and landscaping. Sidewalk replacement is limited to the areas impacted by proposed roadway improvement. A roundabout would be considered at the Spring Street and West High/Albert Street intersections. Streetscape features such as benches, trash receptacles, landscaping, and decorative lighting would be proposed for the east half (W. High Street to Spring Street) of the project. Minor driveway changes are anticipated. Right-of-way acquisition is anticipated within the vicinity of the intersections. The design work on the project is scheduled to be completed by the May of 2014.

As a part of the planning for this project, the second Public Information Meeting was held on May 23, 2012 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at John Paul II Academy Klas Hall (school gym), 2023 Northwestern Avenue, Racine. The meeting was conducted in an informal, open house format to allow for dialogue and individual questions and comments. WisDOT, City of Racine, and consultant representatives were available to discuss the proposed project and address questions or concerns.

### 1.1 Location Map



A total of 28 people attended the meeting, including agency and consultant representatives. Sign-in sheets from the meeting are included in Appendix B. Meeting materials and handouts are found in Appendix C.

## 2.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING NOTIFICATION

A variety of techniques were implemented to notify the public and agencies about the Public Information Meeting. A letter was sent to property owners in the project vicinity (see Appendix A). Information was also announced through local government coordination and media notification. All notification materials invited the public and agencies to attend the public information meetings and provided information regarding the purpose of the project; the limits of the proposed improvements; the location, date, and time of the meeting; and contact information.

### 2.1 Media notification

A news release was distributed to several media outlets to serve as notices to the general public about the meetings.

## 3.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

### 3.1 Issues, concerns, and opportunities

Public meeting attendees were encouraged to provide input both during and after the meetings via comment sheets, meeting question and answer sessions, and phone and e-mail input.

In general, questions and comments focused on project engineering, the timeframe and schedule for the planning and construction; pedestrian and traffic safety; traffic interchange locations; roundabouts; and requests for more detailed information on the potential alignment alternatives and design details.

### 3.2. May 23, 2012 Public Information Meeting questions/comments and responses.

Issue	Question/Comment	Response
Engineering -- Design Alternatives	<p>Car shop owner (Mr. Peterson) on the southern side of the Spring/Northwestern intersection would like to get a pdf showing measurements to his building from the proposed sidewalk. He would also like to see us take/remove the house across the street instead of allowing a driveway into the roundabout.</p> <p>One attendee requested that no tree be placed on utility laterals and expressed concern over tree roots penetrating storm and sanitary utility lines.</p>	<p>Strand will send Mr. Peterson exhibits showing measurements to his building from the proposed sidewalk. Removing the house will be discussed with the project design group.</p> <p>Low growing less intrusive tree types have been selected for this corridor. The trees have also been placed to avoid existing utility laterals.</p>

Engineering --Traffic	A few individuals stated they thought that two lanes of travel in both direction would be more beneficial than providing a two-lane with parking and bike accommodation.	A total of four lanes of traffic along this corridor are not required for the future traffic projection on this corridor. Reducing the driving lanes to one in each direction provides parking and bike accommodation along with improved corridor safety.
Engineering --Access	Some attendees suggested studying how the road construction will affect the fire department access, both permanently and during construction.  Mr. Sturino (Owner of Sturino Funeral Home @ Golf and Northwestern Ave) expressed concern over driveway closure.	The project team will coordinate future and construction access with the fire department.  Mr. Sturino's access will be reviewed by the project team.
General Comments	One lady said that "Northwestern" begins at Albert, it's State street prior to that.  Property owner on Carlisle notified design team that the parked vehicles are prone to hit-and-run damage near intersection of Carlisle and Prospect due to vehicle turning the corner from Northwestern Ave at excessive speeds.	Correct street naming will be incorporated into the project plans.  Proposed improvements at this intersection should resolve the frequency of parked car crashes at this location.
Roundabouts	A woman who worked for one of the schools in the area as a crossing guard is stationed at the intersection of W. High Street and State Street, stated that there is a lot of children movement in the area. She was worried that the roundabout would pose problems to children crossing safely. Either by the children not knowing where it would be safe to cross or how she would be able to stop traffic safely to get them across.	Pedestrians at this roundabout location will need to cross one direction of traffic at a time; the roadway section will be reduced to two lanes instead of four improving safety. Drivers will need to yield to pedestrians as required by law. A crossing guard could still control traffic at this location as is done today.
Information requests	Number of attendees inquired about the project's impact on personal city assessments.  An utility company attendee requested verification that the [Silva Cell] modular concrete supports are compatible with existing utilities under sidewalks. The individual expressed concern that the Silva Cells would interfere with future utility construction.  Chris Geiger (Astar Capital Management, Inc., manages Lincoln School Apartment) requested for paramics and roundabout video.	The City will not be assessing for any of the current proposed project improvements.  The project team will work with the existing utilities on the Silva Cell implementation.  The paramics video and roundabout video will be sent to Chris Geiger

### 3.3 Written comments.

Comment forms were distributed to meeting attendees at the Public Information Meeting. Each comment form provided room for general comments. Meeting attendees were encouraged to complete and submit these forms to the WisDOT Project Manager by June 6, 2012. Written comments received to date are summarized in Appendix D

APPENDIX A – Invitation Letter



**Division of Transportation  
System Development**  
Southeast Region  
141 NW Barstow Street  
P.O. Box 798  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

**Scott Walker, Governor  
Mark Gottlieb, P.E., Secretary**  
Internet: [www.dot.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov)

Telephone: (262) 548-5903  
Facsimile (Fax): (262) 548-6424  
E-mail: [waukesha.dtd@dot.wi.gov](mailto:waukesha.dtd@dot.wi.gov)

May 8, 2012

Dear Property Owner or Resident:

You are invited to attend the first public information meeting for the upcoming reconstruction of Northwestern Avenue (WIS 38) from Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue in the City of Racine. A project location map is attached.

The meeting will take place at **John Paul II Academy Klas Hall (school gym), 2023 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, WI, from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, 2012.** The meeting will be conducted in an informal, open house format to allow for dialogue and individual questions and comments. No formal presentations will be given. WisDOT, City of Racine, and consultant representatives will be available to discuss the proposed project and address any questions or concerns.

The proposed work includes the reconstruction of Northwestern Avenue, from Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue, including new pavement marking, new signs, sidewalk replacement, ADA-compliant curb ramps, roundabout, streetscape, and landscaping. Sidewalk replacement is limited to the areas impacted by proposed roadway improvement. A roundabout is proposed at the Spring Street and West High/Albert Street intersections. Access from Summit Avenue, Hamilton Avenue and Prospect Street on east side of Northwestern Avenue will be eliminated. Carlisle Avenue will be re-aligned. Small park with some streetscape amenities will be developed around Lincoln Statue and within the are bounded by Carlisle Avenue/Prospect Street and Northwestern Avenue. Streetscape features such as benches, trash receptacles, landscaping, and decorative lighting would be proposed for the east half (W. High Street to Spring Street) of the project. Minor access changes are anticipated. Right-of-way acquisition is anticipated within the vicinity of the intersections. The design work on the project is scheduled to be completed by November 2013. Final design phase is scheduled to begin in Summer 2012, with construction currently scheduled for 2015.

Re-aligning Carlisle Avenue will impact small portion of land located at the NW quadrant of Carlisle Avenue and Northwestern Avenue intersection. This public informational meeting is also being held to provide information regarding impact to historical property and seek your feedback. Exhibits showing the impacts to historical property will be on display.

Parking is available behind the school. Enter Klas Hall (school gym) through the orange painted set of doors facing the parking lot.

If you have any questions or concerns that may assist in the development of this project, we encourage you to attend the meeting. If you can not attend this meeting or would like additional information, feel free to contact the project staff listed below:

Steven Schindler, P.E.  
WisDOT Project Manager  
Southeast Region  
141 NW Barstow Street  
P.O. Box 798  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

John C. Rooney, P.E.  
Asst. Commissioner of Public  
Works/City Engineer  
City of Racine  
730 W. Washington Avenue  
Racine, WI 53403

Bhupendra B. Bista, P.E.  
Consultant Project Manager  
Strand Associates, Inc.<sup>®</sup>  
126 N. Jefferson St., Suite 350  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
Phone: (414) 271-0771

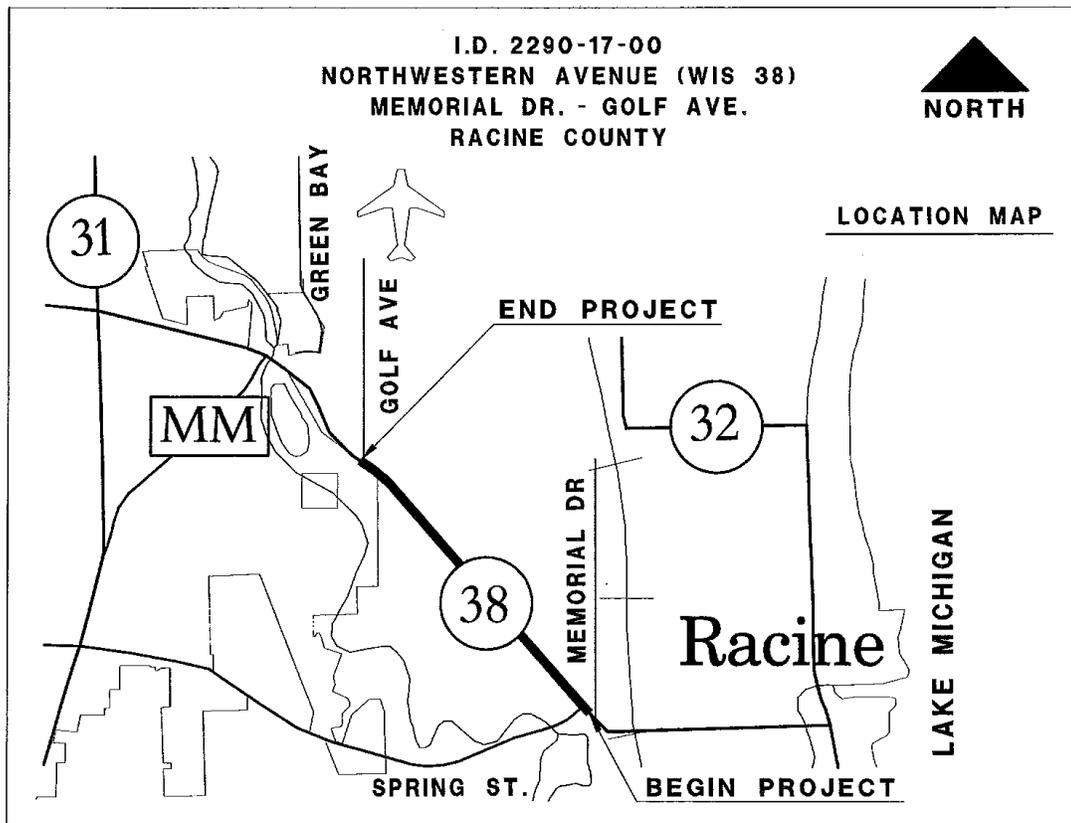


John Paul II Academy Klas Hall (school gym) is wheelchair accessible. Hearing impaired citizens who requires an interpreter may request one by contacting WisDOT through the Wisconsin Telecommunication Relay System by dialing 711.

Sincerely,

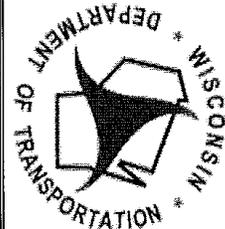
*Steven Schindler*

Steven Schindler, P.E.  
WisDOT Project Manager



APPENDIX B – Sign In Sheets

**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING 2**  
Project I.D.: 2290-17-00  
Northwestern Avenue (WIS 38) Reconstruction  
Memorial Dr. - Golf Ave.  
Racine County



DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:	PURPOSE:
05-23-2012	5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	John Paul II Academy/Klas Hall (school gym), 2023 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, WI 53404	Public Information Meeting No. 2

**ATTENDANCE RECORD**

Please Note: The information in this document (including names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and signatures) is not confidential, and may be subject to disclosure upon request, pursuant to the requirements of the Wisconsin open records law, sections 19.31—19.39 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

NAME (Please Print)	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE	REPRESENTING	PHONE NUMBER
JOSEPH RICE	1749 N. Prospect Ave	Milwaukee, WI 53202	Rep. Kocourek	414-364-2101
BHUPENDRA BISHA	126 N. JEFFERS DR. ST.	MILWAUKEE, WI 53202	STRANDB	414-291-0331
TRAVIS VOEBEL	"	"	"	"
Colin Doherty	"	"	"	"
JANEA BITHRU	1931 Saturn Ave "	Racine		262-632-1702
Pam RATTAYAKS	2758 TADA WOODWAY	RACINE	WHEELER BROS	574-9427-5339
Josh Skaka	910 West Wington Dr	Madison, WI	STRAND	608-251-4843
Dan Williams	1960 State St	Racine, WI 53404	Race Towing & Repairs	262-637-9557
JEAN C. BEERS	1960 STATE ST	Racine, WI 53404	Race Towing & Rep	262-637-9551

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Please Note: The information in this document (including names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and signatures) is not confidential, and may be subject to disclosure upon request, pursuant to the requirements of the Wisconsin open records law, sections 19.31—19.39 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

NAME (Please Print)	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE	REPRESENTING	PHONE NUMBER
Russell B. Bredel	2508 N. High	Racine WI 53104		262-998-0988
Sandra Scheduling	2206 Crawford	Racine		
Garrett Langas	1900 Kentucky St	Racine	The Racine Museum Society (lead)	619-2444
Dan Bethison	2319 Northwestern	Racine	Boy Scouts	714-614-7546
Doreen Maniz	1109 Carlisle	Racine		262-634-2725
Paula M. Birch	2207 Wood High	Racine		262-637-2942
Barbara Kynk	2207 W. High St.	Racine		262-637-2942
BERRI WILSON	1130 Carlisle	Racine	WINGOLD	262-633-9355
CHARS GERBER	135 S. 8th St #100	MILWAUKEE	Lincoln School	414-395-4455
LOUISE WILLIAMS	2710 N. W. AVE	Racine		262-633-7570
STEVEN SANDUW		WISDOT		262-548-6412
Chris DeGraeve				
Ray DeGraeve	2706 W. Lane Ave	City of Racine	WE Energies - GAS	262-886-7018
John P. Johnson	1661 8th St.	Racine 53404	City of Racine	262-448-3340
Janice Hanson	1651 Maple St.	Racine 53102	Spartans Youth Spring "Sports"	262-634-8151



APPENDIX C – Meeting Handouts

## **Northwestern Avenue**

**Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue**

**WIS 38**

**Racine County**

**Project I.D. 2290-17-00**



# **Public Information Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 23, 2012**

**5 to 7 P.M.**

**John Paul II Academy Klas Hall (School Gym)**

**2023 Northwestern Avenue**

**Racine, Wisconsin 53404**

## Northwestern Avenue Reconstruction Project

Welcome to the Public Information Meeting for the reconstruction of a 1.3 mile segment of Northwestern Avenue (WIS 38) from Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue. Representatives from the project team, including Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), the City of Racine and Strand Associates, are available to address your questions and concerns. This meeting is an open house format, and no presentation will be given. One additional public information meeting is planned for this project.

### ***Purpose of the Meeting***

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to present the latest plan and answer questions and listen to your comments, concerns and suggestions; and to share information regarding the impact to a small portion of land (owned by Historic Lincoln School Apartment) at the northwest quadrant of the Carlisle Avenue/Northwestern Avenue intersection. This is an opportunity for you to provide input into the design process. It also provides an opportunity for you to review the current plans and potential impacts.

The **In This Together** program is designed to help businesses develop methods to survive and thrive during road construction projects. Please visit <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/itt/index.htm> for more information about this program and for examples of how **In This Together** has helped other communities.

### ***Project Overview***

The proposed work includes the reconstruction of Northwestern Avenue, from Memorial Drive to Golf Avenue, including new pavement marking and signs, sidewalk replacement, ADA-compliant curb ramps, roundabouts, streetscape, and landscaping. In general, Northwestern Avenue will be converted from a roadway with four travel lanes and restricted parking to a roadway with two travel lanes to include parking and bicycle accommodations on the outer lanes from Golf Avenue to Maple Grove Avenue and from Albert Street to Spring Street. From Maple Grove Avenue to Albert Street, Northwestern Avenue will be converted to two travel lanes with a two-way left turn lane in the center of the roadway, and bicycle lanes. Sidewalk replacement is limited to the areas impacted by proposed roadway improvements. Streetscape features such as benches, trash receptacles, decorative lighting, and landscaping are being proposed for the east half (West High Street to Spring Street) of the project. Minor access changes are anticipated.

Side road modifications are anticipated to occur at Golf Avenue, Summit Avenue/Hamilton Street, and Carlisle Avenue/Prospect Street. Golf Avenue will be realigned to improve the intersection geometry, but there will be no changes to the number of lanes. The geometry of the Summit Avenue/Hamilton Street intersection is proposed to be improved by eliminating direct access to Northwestern Avenue from Summit Avenue and Hamilton Street. Connection between Summit Avenue and Hamilton Street will be maintained. The geometry of Carlisle Avenue and Prospect Street is proposed to be improved by realigning Carlisle Avenue and closing Prospect Street north of Northwestern Avenue. Small parks with streetscape amenities and landscaping are proposed for the vacated areas at the Summit Avenue/Hamilton Street and Carlisle Avenue/Prospect Street intersections. Re-aligning Carlisle Avenue will impact a small portion of land (owned by Historic Lincoln School Apartment) located at the northwest quadrant of the Carlisle Avenue and Northwestern Avenue intersection. This public informational meeting is also being held to seek your feedback regarding any impacts upon historic property.

In addition, roundabouts are being proposed at the following locations:

- Spring Street /Blake Avenue/West Street
- West High/Albert Street

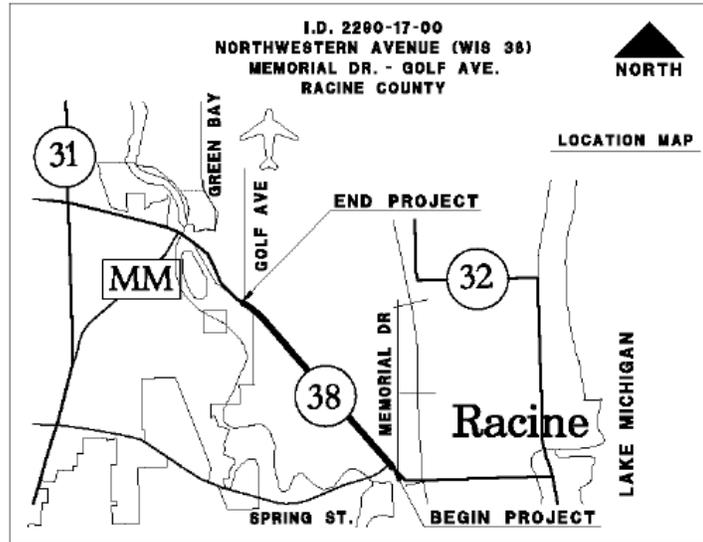
If you are interested in learning more about roundabouts, please visit the following Web site:  
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/roaddesign/roundabout-design.htm>

Current design reflects the lane configuration changes suggested during the Public Informational Meeting held in April 27, 2011.

## Project Schedule

Final Design Phase Commencement	Fall 2012
Design Completion	May 2014
Construction Commencement	Spring 2015

## Location Map



## Traffic control

Northwestern Avenue and side roads within the project corridor will be open for traffic during construction and will be constructed in multiple stages.

## Right of way

Right-of-way acquisition is anticipated within the vicinity of the intersections.

## Public comments

We encourage you to share your comments and concerns about the project. A comment sheet is included with this handout for your convenience. Please submit your comments in the comment box at tonight's meeting or mail any comments before June 7, 2012.

For more information, please contact:

Steven Schindler, P.E.  
WisDOT Project Manager  
Southeast Region  
141 NW Barstow Street  
P.O. Box 798  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798  
Phone: (262) 548-6412  
E-Mail: [steven.schindler@dot.wi.gov](mailto:steven.schindler@dot.wi.gov)

John C. Rooney, P.E.  
Asst. Commissioner of Public  
Works/City Engineer  
City of Racine  
730 W. Washington Avenue  
Racine, WI 53403  
Phone: (262) 636-9191  
E-mail: [john.rooney@cityofracine.org](mailto:john.rooney@cityofracine.org)

Bhupendra B. Bista, P.E.  
Consultant Project Manager  
Strand Associates, Inc.<sup>®</sup>  
126 N. Jefferson St., Suite 350  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
Phone: (414) 271-0771  
E-Mail: [bhupendra.bista@strand.com](mailto:bhupendra.bista@strand.com)

## APPENDIX D- Written Comments

**May 23 Public Informational Meeting Comments**

**Northwestern Avenue  
Golf Avenue to Memorial Drive  
WIS 38  
Racine County  
Project I.D. 2290-17-00**

**FROM:**

<b>Name</b>	SANDRA SCHARDING
<b>Address</b>	2206 LAWN ST
<b>Representing</b>	RACINE, WI

**TO:**

Attn: Steven Schindler

WisDOT Southeast Region

141 N.W. Barstow Street, P.O. Box 798  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

**Comments:** 1st - My PRIMARY OBJECTION IS THE ROUNDABOUT ON ALBERT AND W. HIGH. HOW WILL THE CHILDREN BE ABLE TO CROSS THE STREET. IT IS ALREADY DANGEROUS, NOW IT WILL BE DEADLY! 3 KIDS HAVE ALREADY BEEN HIT IN THE LAST MONTH ON YOUR STREET WALKING TO SCHOOL (WAGIEWITZ) WE DON'T WANT ANY MORE! DO NOT PUT A ROUNDABOUT THERE PLEASE!

2nd USE THE MONEY FROM THE ROUNDABOUT TO BUY THE LOT ON HIGH AND NORTHWESTERN AND MAKE A PARK WITH PLAY TOYS AND PARK EQUIPMENT ON IT!

## May 23 Public Informational Meeting Comments

Northwestern Avenue  
Golf Avenue to Memorial Drive  
WIS 38  
Racine County  
Project I.D. 2290-17-00

FROM: Lincoln School

Name

TERRI Wilson Manager

Address

1130 Carlisle Ave

Lincoln School

Representing

Historic

TO:

Attn: Steven Schindler

WisDOT Southeast Region

141 N.W. Barstow Street, P.O. Box 798  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

### Comments:

- ① The corners of Hamilton & Summit being closed off may create a safety issue as police will not be able to easily access the alleys that are trouble spots.
- ② Corner of Prospect & Carlisle - most resident of Historic Property walk to stores at Memorial + State ease of access and safety issues

### Public Informational Meeting Comments

Northwestern Avenue  
Golf Avenue to Memorial Drive  
WIS 38  
Racine County

FROM:

Name
Barbara Kissel
Address
2207 W. High St
Racine, WI
Representing
_____

TO:

WisDOT Southeast Region

141 N.W. Barstow Street, P.O. Box 798  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0798

**Comments:**

I think it will look good + work well when done

Does it make a difference that Northwestern Ave  
doesn't begin until Albert St - from Albert St to Mem.  
Drive it is State Street.