

RESOLUTION NO.: 43—2018-19

1 TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2 LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

3 In the 1960s US-41 was constructed in its current location as a four-lane divided highway
4 between Appleton and DePere. In the 1970s US-41 in the Appleton area attained
5 freeway status with the removal of all intersecting crossroads. In 1992 US-41 between
6 Breezewood Ln and CTH OO/STH 15 was upgraded to six lanes. In 2015 US-41
7 attained official Interstate status in Wisconsin and the speed limit in the Fox Cities area
8 was increased to 70 mph. In 2015/16 Interstate 41 from DePere to Howard was upgraded
9 to six lanes.

10
11 The current four-lane 23-mile segment between CTH OO/STH 15 and Scheuring Rd
12 creates a bottleneck between two six-lane segments. I-41 is outdated and doesn't meet
13 current design standards for the volumes of traffic and a 70 mph speed limit. Average
14 daily traffic in 2015 was 55,600 per day and 63,000 in 2016, which is a yearly increase of
15 11.7%. There are a high number of crashes that occur daily, which causes significant
16 injuries, fatalities, delays, costly vehicle damage, infrastructure damage, and costly and
17 dangerous clean-up activities for emergency, state, county and municipal staff.

18
19 I-41 is designated on the national Primary Freight Network due to the sheer number of
20 trucks that transport products into and out of the region. I-41 is a crucial commuter route
21 for the much needed northeast Wisconsin workforce, as well as promoting tourism in the
22 area.

23
24 The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has recognized that the
25 existing facility is failing and has plans to spend \$1 million between 2018 and 2021 to
26 design improvements to five interchanges and \$3 million to design surface
27 improvements. It is important to note that construction funding for these design
28 projects has not yet been scheduled.

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30 The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) is the federally
31 designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Fox Cities Urbanized Area
32 and has had the expansion of Interstate 41 recommendation in the required and adopted
33 MPO Long Range Transportation Plan. ECWRPC Transportation Committee has
34 adopted a resolution on July 27, 2018 with the same recommendation described below.
35 Many local municipalities are taking similar action.

36
37 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Highway, Recycling and Solid Waste
38 Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does request the
2 Wisconsin Department of Transportation plan, design and expand Interstate 41 to six lanes between WIS
3 15 in Outagamie County and Scheuring Road in Brown County as soon as possible, and

4 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy
5 of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker, WisDOT Secretary of Transportation David Ross, the
6 Outagamie County Highway Commissioner and the Outagamie County Lobbyist for distribution to the
7 Legislature.

8 Dated this ____ day of August 2018

9 Respectfully Submitted,

10 HIGHWAY, RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE
11 COMMITTEE

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15 _____
16 Don DeGroot

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20 _____
21 Bob Buchman

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25 _____
26 Brian Peterson

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29 Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: _____

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32 Signed: _____
33 Board Chairperson

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36 Approved: _____

Vetoed: _____

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39 Signed: _____
40 County Executive