

Daniel P. Vrakas
County Executive



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WAUKESHA COUNTY RELEASES 2011-2015 CAPITAL PROJECTS PLAN
Plans Submitted to County Board for Consideration and Approval

WAUKESHA, Wis. – County Executive Dan Vrakas announced the full list of Capital Projects to be included in the 2011 – 2015 Five Year Capital Plan. In addition to infrastructure, the plan includes maintenance projects, and a number of environmental and technological initiatives designed to reduce operating costs in the future.

“I believe Waukesha County’s 2011-2015 Capital Projects Plan balances our desire for continued growth and maintenance of our high quality infrastructure while holding taxes at a minimum,” Vrakas said. “This plan is taking care of business.”

Among the facilities projects the plan includes is the construction of a new Human Services Center in 2012-2013 at an estimated cost of nearly \$37 million over a number of years. It will be built on the southeast corner of the grounds of the existing Health and Human Center Campus and requires the replacement of the existing grounds and golf course maintenance building at another site. Also, a study to address the Courthouse facility occurs in 2011.

About 40% of the five-year Capital Projects Plan or \$45.8 million is dedicated to highway improvements. These projects include expanding County Trunk Highway (CTH) VV (Silver Spring Drive), a project that began earlier this year, the reconstruction of CTH X (St. Paul Avenue) in Waukesha, which will be completed next year and completing the second phase of CTH L (Janesville Road).

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“Waukesha County Releases 2011-2015 Capital Projects Plan,” continued ...

The Waukesha West Bypass project, the expansion of CTH O (Moorland Road) in New Berlin between CTH H (College Avenue) and Grange Avenue and the widening of CTH M (North Avenue) from CTH YY (Pilgrim Road) to the East County Line (124th Street) in Brookfield are included in the plan.

New transportation projects include the rehabilitation of CTH I (Beloit Road) in the City of New Berlin and CTH C (Genesee Street) in the City of Delafield under a cost share and jurisdictional transfer agreement to the City of Delafield.

The 2011-2015 Capital Projects Plan makes significant technology investments to Justice and Public Safety in Waukesha County. The plan includes new projects to update the technology used to operate the County’s 9-1-1 phone system and replace radio console equipment. Another project will modernize the County’s communication system, migrating the radio technology from analog to digital signal in 2014.

Parks projects include park roadway maintenance improvements and bikeway pavement improvements. Other projects include a roof replacement at the Exposition Center and a new project for an orthophotography update to digitized maps for Land Informational Systems.

The 2011-2015 Capital Projects Plan continues to make investments in sustainability. These investments include HVAC upgrades at the highway substations and roof replacements at the Highway Operations building and Eble Ice Arena. These projects will consider current products and methods for energy efficiencies and sustainability.

“The Capital Projects planning process is an excellent opportunity for us to make infrastructure improvements and operational changes that save real, ongoing tax dollars through environmentally friendly conservation efforts,” Vrakas said. “Investing in energy efficient equipment at the County is not only an effort to be more environmentally conscious, but ultimately to save tax dollars. We are now seeing cost savings and a return on our investment from these initiatives.”

Interior and exterior lighting upgrades using energy efficient technology will take place at the Waukesha County Exposition Center, Highway Operations building, Communications Center and the Government Center building. Additionally, various street lights and traffic signals will be replaced with sustainable LED lighting. Also, a Solar Thermal System to supply hot water to the Waukesha County Jail and Law Enforcement Center will be implemented under this plan as part of the Law Enforcement Center roof replacement project.

The Capital Plan portion of the budget will be introduced to the County Board of Supervisors on September 1st. The County Board will review Vrakas’ full 2011 Budget in late September with final passage expected in November.

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