Wisconsin’s Administrative Ability to Manage Access

§84.25 Wisconsin Statutes
Wisconsin’s Access Management Plan

- Plan has 3 tiers
  - Corridor 2020 Routes
  - Other Routes of Importance
  - The Remainder of the STH System
Old plan was ignored because it did not provide any direction to designers.

New plan will provide a hierarchy of highways.

Will provide direction to anyone dealing with a highway regarding the method of management that could be used in that particular situation.
SAMP (cont’d)

• Access Management should be considered on all state highways. Type, Level and Effort will depend upon the location of that highway in the hierarchy.
Methods

- Administrative Control
- Purchased control
- Regulatory control
- Driveway Permits
- Land divisions
- TIA’s
- Official Mapping
- Comprehensive Plans

- Land Use/Access Mgmt Plans
- Early review of rezoning
- Scenic easements
- Access spacing and design guidelines
- Interchange and frontage road spacing and design
§84.25 Wisconsin Statutes

- Statute for the state system
- Similar statute for the counties
  § 83.027
- Subtle differences between the two statutes.
  – 2000 ADT State/1000 ADT County
  – 1500 miles State/35% of the CTH mileage
Requirements

- Rural Areas only
- Freeze existing access
- Public hearing required
- Department must find, determine and declare in the interest of public safety, convenience and the general welfare that highways are designated and established as control access highways
Requirements

- CA (controlled access) plat must be created
  - Existing r/w
  - Property lines and owners names
  - Access locations, types, and restrictions
Requirements (cont’d)

• Existing accesses must be “authorized”.
• Department must give written notice to the property owner or municipality in the case of public streets.
Authorization for Access to or Across a Controlled-Access Highway

Document Number: 1145348

AUTHORIZATION FOR ACCESS TO OR ACROSS A CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAY

Document Number: 000049

RECEIVED FOR RECORD

FEB 11, 2004

This Authorization, superseding any and all prior Authorizations, is issued to the person named above, under the provisions of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin Access Management Act, and is subject to all the conditions and restrictions as set forth in the application for permit to construct a highway, road, or other structure across a controlled-access highway.

Michael T. D. Welch
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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Results

• No new accesses are allowed to the highway unless the public interest is served.
Results

• New divisions of land must be served by the existing access.
Results

• No right of entrance upon or departure from the highways except under such terms and conditions as may be specified from time to time by the department.
• This method of control allows for the management of access over time, as properties develop and redevelop.
Results

• Department can easily close any public street connection.
Results

• As alternative access becomes available to parcels the department can close accesses without providing compensation for access rights.
Results

• System has been in place from the mid 1950’s.
• WisDOT has controlled approximately 1150 miles of highway in this manner.
• Stood the test of courts and time.
Thank you!

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