

Transportation

Major Findings

- ❑ The City of Sheboygan Falls is in an area where a number of major and minor arterial highways provide excellent access to the surrounding metropolitan area and interstate roadways.
- ❑ The City of Sheboygan Falls has a great opportunity to expand their pedestrian trail system with the recent award of a grant.
- ❑ Residents of Sheboygan Falls have a number of transportation modes that can be used to travel within and beyond the city limits.

Recommendations

- ❑ The City should strive to do whatever they can to bring back railroad service for the city's industrial businesses.
- ❑ The City should encourage the County to closely monitor the condition of bridges in the city, and to set aside funding, along with seeking state and federal monies, to eventually replace the Lower Broadway Bridge over the Onion River and the CTH "PP" bridge over the Mullet River.

Goal, Objectives, and Program

Goal

- ❑ To provide a safe, well-maintained and efficient system for motorized transportation, and enhance non-motorized forms of transportation through the planning and development of bicycle and pedestrian trails and sidewalks.

Objectives

1. **Relationships with Other Agencies:** Interact with Sheboygan County on county highway projects, and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) on state highway projects, that are in or adjacent to the City of Sheboygan Falls.
2. **Elderly/Disabled Transportation:** Monitor the need to provide transportation for the elderly and disabled residents of Sheboygan Falls.
3. **Natural Resources Impact:** Minimize the impact of new transportation improvements on existing development and the community's natural resources.
4. **Pedestrian Facilities Grant:** Maximize the use of a multi-million dollar grant that will enable the City to build trails or sidewalks to enhance non-motorized transportation between important locations within the city.
5. **Dangerous Crosswalks:** Identify and enforce crosswalk rules at heavily-traveled pedestrian intersections by the addition of signage.
6. **STH 23 Interchange:** The City of Sheboygan Falls will urge the State Department of Transportation to plan for a full interchange at CTH "TT" and STH 32 in the "WI 23 Designation and Corridor Preservation Plan."

Programs

- A tool the City of Sheboygan Falls uses to determine budget priorities for road construction and repair is the PASER program. PASER is a pavement management program that communities use to evaluate pavement surface condition. The PASER rating reflects the physical condition of streets in the city. The highest possible rating is 10. The roads with a low rating should be the focus of budget decisions made by the City of Sheboygan Falls regarding road repair and maintenance.

Background Information

Transportation Modes

See Map 6, *Street Classifications and Traffic Counts*

Table 7
Transportation Modes

Mode	Location/Provider	Analysis
Trucking	None in Sheboygan Falls, but there are a number of trucking firms in the Sheboygan metropolitan area.	Trucking firms in the area provide ample support to ship or receive materials and products.
Railroads	In March 2005, the Union Pacific Railroad Co. provided notice to embargo rail service between Kohler and Sheboygan Falls. Union Pacific Railroad sold the line that services the City of Sheboygan Falls to the State of Wisconsin. Wisconsin Southern will eventually be the operator for the State.	In order to restore rail service to Sheboygan Falls, the State of Wisconsin acquired the rail line from Plymouth through Sheboygan Falls, where the state-owned railroad system can connect at Plymouth. Before rail service can be re-initiated, eleven miles of the corridor must be upgraded (\$12 million estimated cost). In the meantime, the city's rail-based industries suffer from the lack of rail service, and must seek alternative transportation modes that are not nearly as efficient and effective.
Passenger Trains	Amtrak service	The closest Amtrak service is in Milwaukee, where route 330 Hiawatha Service runs south to north with daily connections to other parts of the United States by connecting routes.
Transit	City of Sheboygan Bus Service Para-transit services	The Sheboygan Parking and Transit Utility is a department of the City of Sheboygan, and contracts with the City of Sheboygan Falls to provide a fixed-route, fixed-schedule bus system service. The bus route that services Sheboygan Falls loops through the city, with the terminus being the bus station in the City of Sheboygan. The City of Sheboygan took over the management of operations from a private company in 1973. In the early 1990s, Sheboygan Transit initiated para-transit services under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This curb-to-curb service provides transportation within the transit service area to the disabled population that, in many cases, is unable to utilize fixed-route service. Sheboygan Transit currently contracts these ser-

	Intercity Bus Service	<p>vices to the Sheboygan County Health and Human Services Department, which has subcontracted with Sheboygan Community Connections (Handicare Transportation) to deliver this service.</p> <p>Intercity bus service by Greyhound Bus Lines is available in the City of Sheboygan, with interconnecting service to Milwaukee and Green Bay. The Greyhound station is located at the Sheboygan Transit transfer point. Two northbound and two southbound buses serve the Sheboygan area. This service will operate as long as the demand exists for this type of service.</p>
Air	<p>General Mitchell International Airport http://www.mitchellairport.com/index.php</p> <p>Sheboygan County Regional Airport www.co.sheboygan.wi.us/html/airport.html</p>	<p>General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee has fourteen airlines offering an estimated 230 daily departures and arrivals. Approximately ninety cities are served non-stop or direct from Mitchell International. In addition to the commercial passenger service, airfreight, chartered flight service, car rentals and aviation technological services are also available.</p> <p>Sheboygan County Regional Airport, located at N6180 Resource Drive, Sheboygan Falls, encompasses 654 acres of land and serves the Sheboygan metropolitan area and the surrounding counties. The airport has qualified staff available to respond to incidents, emergencies, and other airport-related situations at all times. From 1997 through 2007, the Sheboygan County Regional Airport invested \$12.5 million in capital projects. In addition, the Airport recently completed a \$6.4 million runway 3/21 extension.</p>
Water	<p>Port of Milwaukee http://www.port.mil.wi.us/</p> <p>Passenger Ferry http://www.ssbadger.com/index.html</p>	<p>Those in need of water transportation for commercial shipping purposes have access to the Port of Milwaukee. It is approximately fifty miles south of Sheboygan Falls. The Port of Milwaukee serves as a regional transportation and distribution center for Wisconsin, northern and western Illinois, and eastern Minnesota.</p> <p>Badger Express provides car and passenger ferry service mid-May through mid-October across Lake Michigan out of the Port of Manitowoc, 27 miles north of Sheboygan Falls. The ferry travels between Manitowoc and Ludington, Michigan</p>
Elderly and Disabled Transportation	Sheboygan County	<p>Sheboygan County Health and Human Services Department, contracted through Sheboygan Community Connections (Handicare Transportation), provides transportation for residents 60 years of age and older, and to disabled residents regardless of age, for \$1.50 per round trip. A fee of \$2.50 is charged for trips outside the community of origin, provided they are within Sheboygan County. Elderly and disabled transportation services are coordinated by a Transportation Coor-</p>

	Sheboygan Transit System	<p>dinating Committee, which makes recommendations to the Health and Human Services Board. The Sheboygan County Board sets county policy on elderly and disabled transportation matters.</p> <p>Sheboygan Transit provides ADA Para-transit trips for a cost of \$3.00.</p>
Trails	City of Sheboygan Falls (see Map 7)	Some trails exist along the Sheboygan River within the park system. More trails are planned in the future. The City obtained a 2.7 million dollar grant to implement a planned trail system.
Bridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monroe Street Bridge over the Sheboygan River-built in 1991 • Broadway Street Bridge (STH 32) over the Sheboygan River-built in 1984 • Lower Broadway (CTH “EE”) over the Onion River - built in 1936 • CTH “PP” over the Mullet River - built in 1936 • CTH “PP” Pedestrian Bridge over the Mullet River - built in 2002 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major maintenance - in good condition • Epoxy Deck Overlay in 2006 • Onion River (May need work in next 20 years) Miscellaneous Repairs in 1992 • Concrete Deck Overlay in 1994 (May need work in next 20 years) • No maintenance <p>Under contract, the County maintains the City-owned bridges. County also inspects bridges bi-annually and provides a report to the city.</p>

Source: Martenson & Eisele, Inc. and City of Sheboygan Falls

Street and Highway Classification

- ❑ The street and highway system in Sheboygan Falls consists of principal arterials, collectors, and local streets. These classifications are from the WDOT, and are based on which primary function the street or highway serves, either the movement of vehicles through an area or to provide access to adjacent land.
- ❑ Arterials accommodate the movement of vehicles while local streets provide direct access to individual parcels of land. Collectors serve both local and through-traffic by providing a connection between arterials and local streets.
- ❑ Roads or streets in or near Sheboygan Falls are classified as follows:
 - The major arterial road in the area is Interstate 43. This freeway is accessible only from State and County highways.
 - Principal arterial roads are STH 23 (four-lane freeway) and STH 32 north of STH 28, which passes through Sheboygan Falls.
 - Minor arterial roads are STH 28 west of STH 32 along the southern edge of the city, STH 32 south of STH 28, CTH “PP”, CTH “PPP”, CTH “C” east of CTH “TT”, and CTH “TT” south of CTH “C”.
 - Major collectors are CTH “C” west of CTH “TT”, and CTH “PP” west of the city limits.
 - Collector roads are CTH “I” west of STH 32, and CTH “TT” north of CTH “C”.
 - Local Streets: All of the other streets in the City of Sheboygan Falls are local streets, which provide direct access to residential, commercial, and industrial uses.

Official Map

One of the tools available to help in planning for future roads is an Official Map Ordinance. The mapping of major future roadways provides guidance to land development and reserves critical access points to undeveloped properties. The City needs to identify critical access points to preserve the most efficient entry to undeveloped land and secure collector road locations.

Traffic Counts

- ❑ Traffic flows through Sheboygan Falls fluctuated between 2000 and 2005.
- ❑ Table 8 (and Map 6) shows the average annual daily traffic counts for the major roads in and around Sheboygan Falls.

Table 8
Traffic Counts – City of Sheboygan Falls

Roadway	2002	2005	Comments
Main Street south of Forest Avenue	8,700	8,800	Increased by 100
Forest Avenue east of Main Street	3,300	3,000	Decreased by 300
Fond du Lac Street east of Main Street	2,100	1,900	Decreased by 200
Fond du Lac Street west of Main Street	3,800	3,900	Increased by 100
Fond du Lac Street west of Bluebird Lane	3,300	3,300	No Change
Leavens Avenue east of Main Street	2,000	2,000	No Change
Broadway Street east of 1 st Street	9,700	9,000	Decreased significantly by 700
Buffalo Street south of Broadway Street	4,700	4,700	No Change
Monroe Street west of Water Street	9,200	9,200	No Change
Popular Street south of Fond du Lac Ave.	3,400	3,600	Increased by 200
Popular Street north of Fond du Lac Ave.	4,400	4,500	Increased by 100
Broadway Street south of Dartmouth Dr.	2,900	2,900	No Change
Giddings Ave. south of Amherst Avenue	3,500	3,200	Decreased by 300
Amherst Ave. east of Giddings Avenue	1,600	1,800	Increased by 200
Dartmouth Drive north of Amherst Avenue	760	940	Increased by 180
CTH “PPP” south of CTH “PP”	3,300	3,300	No Change
CTH “PP” west of CTH “PPP”	3,800	4,500	Increased significantly by 700
CTH “PP” west of CTH “TT”	830	830	No Change
CTH “TT” north of CTH “PP”	1,800	1,800	No Change

Source: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Transportation Plans

City of Sheboygan Falls

- ❑ City of Sheboygan Falls officials review and budget road projects as part of the City’s annual budget process. As part of that review, the City communicates with the Sheboygan County Highway Department and WDOT to identify projects being planned in the city.
- ❑ A bicycle/pedestrian trail study was done.

Sheboygan County

- ❑ Sheboygan County prioritizes and budgets for transportation improvements on an annual basis. In the County Six-Year Capital Improvements Plan, no County road projects are anticipated within the limits of Sheboygan Falls.

Regional, State, and Federal

Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission

- ❑ As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Sheboygan Urbanized Area, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission prepared the 2035 Sheboygan Area Transportation Plan (SATP). This plan includes a substantial amount of facts regarding all forms of transportation in the SATP.
- ❑ A number of recommendations are included in the plan, including recommended bicycle transportation projects in the 2007–2012 planning period. The study discusses existing and future designated bicycle paths and transportation strategies. Recommended pedestrian trail projects in Sheboygan Falls are shown on Map 6. The report can be found at: http://www.baylakerpc.org/sheboygan/SATP/executive_summary/2035_SATP_Executive_Summary.pdf

Wisconsin Department of Transportation – Northeast Region

- ❑ The City of Sheboygan Falls, and the rest of Sheboygan County, is part of the WDOT's Northeast Region.
- ❑ The Northeast Region has established a Six-Year (2008-2013) Highway Improvement Program to make necessary maintenance and improvements to the state's road network. The entire Northeast District Six-Year Highway Improvement Program can be viewed at the following website: www.dot.state.wi.us/projects/state/sixyear/docs/nerlisting.pdf
- ❑ No projects within Sheboygan Falls are listed in the Highway Improvement Program.
- ❑ In March 2008, the WDOT published the "WIS 23 Freeway Designation and Corridor Preservation Plan." The purpose of this study is to prepare a long-range plan showing the ultimate transportation facility, including access locations and type.
- ❑ In January 2009, WDOT held Stakeholder Meeting #2, identifying three freeway alternative access locations to USH 23. CTH "TT, which has direct at-grade access to STH 23, now provides access to the Sheboygan Falls Vision Business Park. The freeway plans for STH 23 show that this access will be lost on all alternatives, with only a crossing of STH 23 for direct access to the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport.
- ❑ STH 23 is considered a principal arterial highway between Fond du Lac and Sheboygan. This designation allows the State to preserve future right-of-way deemed necessary to convert the existing facility from an expressway to freeway status.

Transportation Programs

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

- ❑ The WDOT offers numerous federal and state programs to local units of government in need of financial aid for desired projects. The form of financial aid provided typically comes as a grant or loan with a reduced rate to the applicant. Each program's general goal is to enhance the state's overall transportation network. The following DOT web page has information on these programs: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/

PASER Program

- ❑ A tool the City of Sheboygan Falls uses to determine budget priorities for road construction and repair is PASER. PASER is a simplified pavement management program that communities use to evaluate pavement surface condition.
- ❑ The PASER rating reflects the physical condition of the street. The highest possible rating is 10. The roads with a low rating should be the focus of budget decisions made by the City of Sheboygan Falls regarding road repair and maintenance.