

Bowen Street Reconstruction

Otter Avenue to Parkway Avenue City of Oshkosh Winnebago County Transportation Committee – January 9, 2024 Steve Plachinski, Jessica Lancelle

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Project Overview

Reconstruct Bowen Street between Otter Avenue and East Parkway Avenue

- Project design 2023-2026
- Construction scheduled for 2027



Bowen Street Facts

- 1969 original construction
- Right of Way width = 49 feet
- Roadway width = 34 feet
- City utilities sanitary, storm, water, lighting plus various private utilities
- No transit service on Bowen, but buses travel through intersections at Otter Ave and E. Parkway
- Traffic signal at Merritt Avenue
- Average daily traffic of about 5,000
 vehicles of which about 170 (3.4%) are trucks
- Included in the City Bicycle Plan for consideration of adding bike facilities



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Bowen Street Facts

- Land use is mostly residential, with some commercial and institutional parcels
- About 15% of the adjacent population are people of color, and about 14% of the adjacent population is living in poverty.
- Up to 20% of adjacent residents report having a disability.
- Important community facilities located in the corridor include schools, churches, and social service agencies.



Project Purpose and Need

Purpose: To maintain the utility of Bowen Street for motor vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists Needs:

- Pavement has reached the end of its useful life
- Lack of formal facilities for bicycling
- Inconsistent pedestrian facilities (broken or missing sidewalk paving, narrow terrace separating walkers from car traffic, inconsistent curb ramps)
- Underutilized on-street parking
- Utilities in need of repair







Design Constraints and Considerations

- Maintain or improve safety for all travelers.
- Avoid or minimize impacts to private property
- Maintain access to homes and businesses.
- Maintain traffic operations and rightsize parking availability.
- Improve walking conditions for everyone, including people with disabilities.
- Better accommodate bicycle travel.
- Strive for cost-effectiveness in construction and future operations.



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Project Schedule

- Notice to Proceed May 23, 2023
- Survey Complete August 2023
- 30% Plan December 2023
- Pavement Design January 2024
- Draft Environmental Documentation February 2024
- 60% Plan May 2024
- DSR May 2024
- TPP Complete September 2024
- Land Acquisition Complete May 2025
- 90% Plan May 2026
- PSE August 1, 2026
- Construction 2027



Items for Transportation Committee Input

 On-street bike lanes vs potential for traffic calming and parking availability.



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Items for Transportation Committee Input

- Widen terrace by removing on street parking in select areas or in areas currently signed No Parking.
- Standardize corner treatments to shorten pedestrian crossing distances and calm traffic.
- Sight distance may be improved at certain intersections





Items for Transportation Committee Input

- Mill Street removal alternatives between Waugoo and Bowen



