

SCEDC E-NEWS: DECEMBER 20, 2011

PLYMOUTH TO KOHLER RAIL



The Plymouth to Kohler Rail Rehabilitation Project ([see project area](#)) is still in the planning and development stages. A meeting was held on December 14th to discuss the project's status. At this event, attendees learned that the \$15,000,000 project is now estimated to cost \$19,200,000.

The original \$15,000,000 project was proposed to be covered by:

- \$12,000,000 from the Wisconsin Freight Rail Preservation Program
- \$1,000,000 from the Wisconsin Transportation Economic Assistance Program
- \$2,000,000 in local financial match commitments from area businesses, local units of government, and the Wisconsin and Southern Railroad (WSOR)

The additional project costs are expected to be covered by:

- Additional commitment of funds from the Wisconsin Freight Rail Preservation Program through the WisDOT
- WSOR
- Value engineering or bringing some of the estimated costs down

During the meeting WSOR CEO Bill Gardner stated he remains

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THE PROMISE OF SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



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committed to this project and other rail rehabilitation projects through Wisconsin.

The State Department of Transportation stated that the contract to reconstruct the track must be in place by June 2012 or State funds will be used on other freight rail projects in the State.

The SCEDC will continue to support this important development project. If any business along this corridor believe they will use rail in the future, please contact us today at (920) 452-2479.

FOCUS ON WI AGRICULTURE

Food production and processing has been the bread and butter of many area local businesses (pun intended), and Sheboygan County has a unique strength in this industry. A series of Wisconsin-based resources exist to help Wisconsin agribusinesses build their operations both here and abroad. The services are offered through the [Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection \(DATCP\)](#).

Staff at DATCP offer a variety of resources, from export development consulting to local and regional marketing support. The services benefit all sectors of agriculture and all sizes of companies, from the family farmer looking to sell champion livestock genetic material overseas, to specialty food producers trying to grow their markets domestically, to multi-national food companies seeking to expand into new markets. DATCP staff works with producers of any value-added product grown in Wisconsin from food to livestock to wood products. In addition to providing free consulting services, DATCP staff also oversees many market development programs; a few are listed below:

[Reimbursement Available for Marketing Internationally](#)

If your company is seeking to enter an international market, this may be the time to do it. DATCP encourages companies to apply for the Branded Program, which provides funding to help small and medium-sized food and agricultural businesses cover pre-approved international marketing costs.

Contact the following individuals to learn more about the Branded Program:

[Information for Value-Added Food and Feed Producers](#)

Contact: Lisa Stout, International Marketing Consultant
(608) 224-5126

[Information for Livestock or Genetics Producers](#)

Contact: Jennifer Lu, Economic Development Consultant
(608) 224-5102



[Something Special from Wisconsin](#)

DATCP also partners to run the Something Special from Wisconsin™ program which can help your product stand out above the competition in grocery stores, retail outlets, farmers'

[through September - JSOnline](#) | www.jsonline.com

[Discover Wisconsin comes to Sheboygan for slice of pizza](#) | www.sheboyganpress.com

[Community Bank & Trust makes \\$55.1M in SBA loans](#) | www.sheboyganpress.com

[Governor Walker signs bill aimed at creating more jobs in Wisconsin - 620 WTMJ - Milwaukee's Source](#) | www.620wtmj.com

[Our Promise, "Do More" in Sheboygan County](#) | www.vimeo.com

[100 years behind the scenes: Rohde Brothers Inc. helps businesses improve infrastructure](#) | www.sheboyganpress.com

[America's Best Hot Wings](#) | www.thepostgame.com

[SCORE column: Offers on the Internet don't have all the answers](#) | www.greenbaypressgazette.com

[WATCH: Sheboygan County](#) | www.b93radio.com

[Milk production up slightly in Wisconsin - JSOnline](#) | www.jsonline.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Grand Opening - Newly Renovated Plymouth High School Technology Education & Engineering Department](#) | Plymouth, WI | 1 Feb 2012

[International Cheese Technology Expo](#) | Milwaukee, WI | 10-12 Apr 2012

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markets and restaurants. If over 50% of your product originated in Wisconsin, you are eligible to market your product through this program.

International Trade Events

DATCP provides educational programs to value-added agriculture producers in Wisconsin. Check out their [calendar of upcoming seminars](#).

All area food processors, wood product, and food producers should [contact DATCP](#) to learn what they can do for you.

I-43 SPRING CONSTRUCTION

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will continue its work on I-43 in the spring and summer 2012. There are two major areas of construction:



I-43 South-bound lanes

Location of

Construction: North side of Sheboygan from Hwy 23 to Hwy 42 ([see map](#))

Time Frame: March - June

Traffic Impact: All exits for northbound traffic will be open. Southbound traffic will not be allowed to exit the interstate on Hwy 23 or enter the interstate from Hwy 42.

Detours: Southbound I-43 traffic entering the City of Sheboygan is encouraged to exit on Hwy 42 and take Hwy 42 east to their destination. Southbound traffic looking to travel west towards Kohler or Plymouth is encouraged to exit on Hwy 42 west then take County Road Y south to Hwy 23.

Hwy 32 bridge over I-43

Location of Construction: Hwy 32 bridge deck over I-43 will be replaced just east of Cedar Grove. ([see map](#))

Time Frame: Unknown. May be March-June or mid-summer.

Traffic Impact: Traffic will not be allowed to cross the Hwy 32 bridge in either direction.

Detours: State is encouraging traffic looking to enter Cedar Grove to exit at County Road A and travel west through Oostburg, then take Hwy 32 south to Cedar Grove.

IMPACTED BUSINESS TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

Businesses that will be impacted by the construction may apply to the Wisconsin DOT to put up temporary way-finding signage on the detour routes. All signs must meet WisDOT standards. It is also recommended that you talk with neighboring business and submit a joint application for way-finding signage.

To begin the signage application process contact:
Paul Brauer, WisDOT Project Manager
(920) 492-0135
paul.brauer@dot.wi.gov

For additional information regarding the SCEDC or any newsletter article, please contact:

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SCEDC 2011 MAJOR INVESTORS

PROMISE KEEPER: Sheboygan County and City of Sheboygan

SCEDC CHAMPION: ACUITY Charitable Foundation and Kohler Company

DIAMOND SPONSOR: Johnsonville Sausage, Sargento Foods, Schenck S.C. and Town of Sheboygan

PLATINUM SPONSOR: Aurora Health Care, Bemis Manufacturing Company, Plastics Engineering Company, City of Plymouth, Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation, Sheboygan Chevrolet/Chrysler, City of Sheboygan Falls and St. Nicholas Hospital

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Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation | 508 New York Ave. | Sheboygan | WI | 53081