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and Intelligence.

December 21, 2022

Wisconsin Department of Administration
Division of Facilities Development
101 East Wilson Street, 7th Floor
Madison, WI 53707

Re: 21C3B: Engineering Drive Utilities Extension, Replacement, and Restoration
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Environmental Impact Assessment

Potentially interested party,

The State of Wisconsin Department of Administration/Department of Facilities Development (DOA/DFD) has retained Ayres Associates on behalf of The University of Wisconsin – Madison (UW-Madison) to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed demolition, restoration, earthwork, and utility tunnels along West Dayton Street to North Randall Avenue; then north to Engineering Drive, then west along Engineering Drive, and throughout the Engineering campus to the Lot 17 Parking Facility and north to the south right-of-way line along the railway line.

The EIA will be prepared in accordance with the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA), Wisconsin Statutes 1.11, and UWSA guidelines (Board of Regents' Resolution 2508, November 6, 1981). An initial requirement of the EIA is the scoping process. The intent of the scoping process is to identify at an early stage the potential beneficial or adverse impacts of the project on the physical, biological, social, and economic environments, and to collect further public input on those areas. Because you or your agency or group may have an interest in the project, we are inviting you to participate in the scoping process.

Project Background

Buildings located on the UW-Madison campus are all served by various central utilities critical to their operation. The main campus portfolio of buildings is served by three heating and cooling plants that supply steam, chilled water, and compressed air throughout campus and are considered a district energy system. Madison Gas & Electric provides electrical power to campus, and the campus distributes the power to buildings from substations. Signal communications are primarily routed in parallel with the electrical power utilities and serve campus from several nodal locations. Civil utilities serving campus (domestic water, storm sewer, and sanitary sewer) are a combination of university-owned and public utility-owned systems. Maintaining and improving these systems is a constant process requiring a substantial and consistent investment. The operating budget supports routine maintenance; however, as the university portfolio of buildings grows and the utility system ages, major capital improvements are necessary to continue to maintain and provide sufficient service to the campus portfolio of buildings. Therefore, for each biennium, the university identifies critical maintenance and improvement projects, such as this proposal, to be funded through the capital budget to support these needs.

A Campus Utility Master Plan was completed in 2005 and updated in 2015. Both efforts recommended that the Engineering Drive utility systems be replaced and/or relocated due to age, condition, and location. They increased size, where necessary, to support current and future facilities and provide additional system redundancy. This proposed utility improvement project was developed to increase utility reliability, decrease operational costs, and develop the site utilities to be viable for the next 50 years or more. Advanced planning was completed in 2020, which clarified the scope of work needed for this request.

608.443.1200 | 5201 E. Terrace Drive, Suite 200 | Madison, WI 53718

www.AyresAssociates.com



Proposed Project Action

The proposed project includes demolition, restoration, earthwork, and construction of utility tunnels along West Dayton Street to North Randall Avenue, then north to Engineering Drive, then west along Engineering Drive, and throughout the Engineering campus to the Lot 17 Parking Facility and north to the south right-of-way line along the railway line. Work includes removing and replacing existing underground utilities on Engineering Drive, Engineering Mall, and replacing existing chilled water lines on North Randall Avenue and West Dayton Street back to Charter Street. In addition to replacing underground utilities, the project will also include erosion control, site grading, street replacement, traffic control, site restoration, and surveys verifying as-built conditions to assure an accurate development of design and bidding documents.

Construction will be completed in phases, each affecting a different section of the project site. Below is a summary of the targeted project schedule:

Project Schedule

Permitting and Preliminary Design	January 2023
SBC Approval	February 2023
Final Design Review	April 2023
Bidding	August 2023
Phase 1 Construction (Engineering Mall, Engineering Dr. b/t ERB and Engineering Hall)	Dec. 2023 to Dec 2024
Phase 2 Construction (Engineering Dr. and Randall Ave. crossing at Engineering Dr.)	Dec. 2024 to May 2026
Phase 3 Construction (Randall Ave. and Dayton St.)	Dec. 2025 to June 2026
Project Close Out:	July 2026

A project location map and aerial photo of the project site are provided as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.

EIA Schedule

The EIA report will evaluate the project's potential positive and adverse environmental impacts in accordance with the WEPA and UWSA guidelines. Issues identified during the scoping process will be addressed in the Draft EIA report. As part of our standard EIA process, Ayres Associates will perform research using available databases and resources to collect information pertaining to the project's environmental, social, economic, cultural, or historical aspects.

The Draft EIA report will be made available to the public for a 15-day comment period anticipated to start in January 2023. A notice will be published in state and local media to announce the availability of the Draft EIA and public meeting details. Following the completion of the public comment period, a public information meeting will be conducted, and any comments received will be evaluated.

Appropriate revisions will be incorporated into a Final EIA document based on comments received during the 15-day comment period and the public information meeting. If there are unresolved conflicts and impacts after the public information meeting is held, DFD and the UW System may decide to extend the project review process into a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), update the EIA to an EIS, and hold an additional public meeting to resolve those identified issues.

If you are interested in this project, we welcome any comments, suggestions, or other input you feel are important. Please submit your comments related to this project in writing by **January 3, 2023**, for consideration in the Draft EIA report. A comment form is attached.



Further opportunity for comment is included through the Draft EIA process. Send your comments to:

Bill Honea, PG
Ayres Associates
3376 Packerland Drive
Ashwaubenon, WI 54115
HoneaW@AyresAssociates.com

If no comments are received from you or your group, we will assume that there are no project issues that negatively impact you, or that you would like to comment on.

Ayres Associates Inc



Bill Honea, PÖ
Project Manager

Enclosures

Comment Form
Location Map
Aerial Map



COMMENT FORM

Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Process
Engineering Drive Utilities Extension, Replacement, and Restoration
University of Wisconsin – Madison
Madison, Wisconsin
DFD Project #21C3B

I have the following comments regarding this project and items to be considered as part of the scoping process:

[Please write your comment here. Attach additional pages if necessary.]

Please complete the following information and sign if submitting comments:

Name: _____

Title/Representing: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address (optional): _____

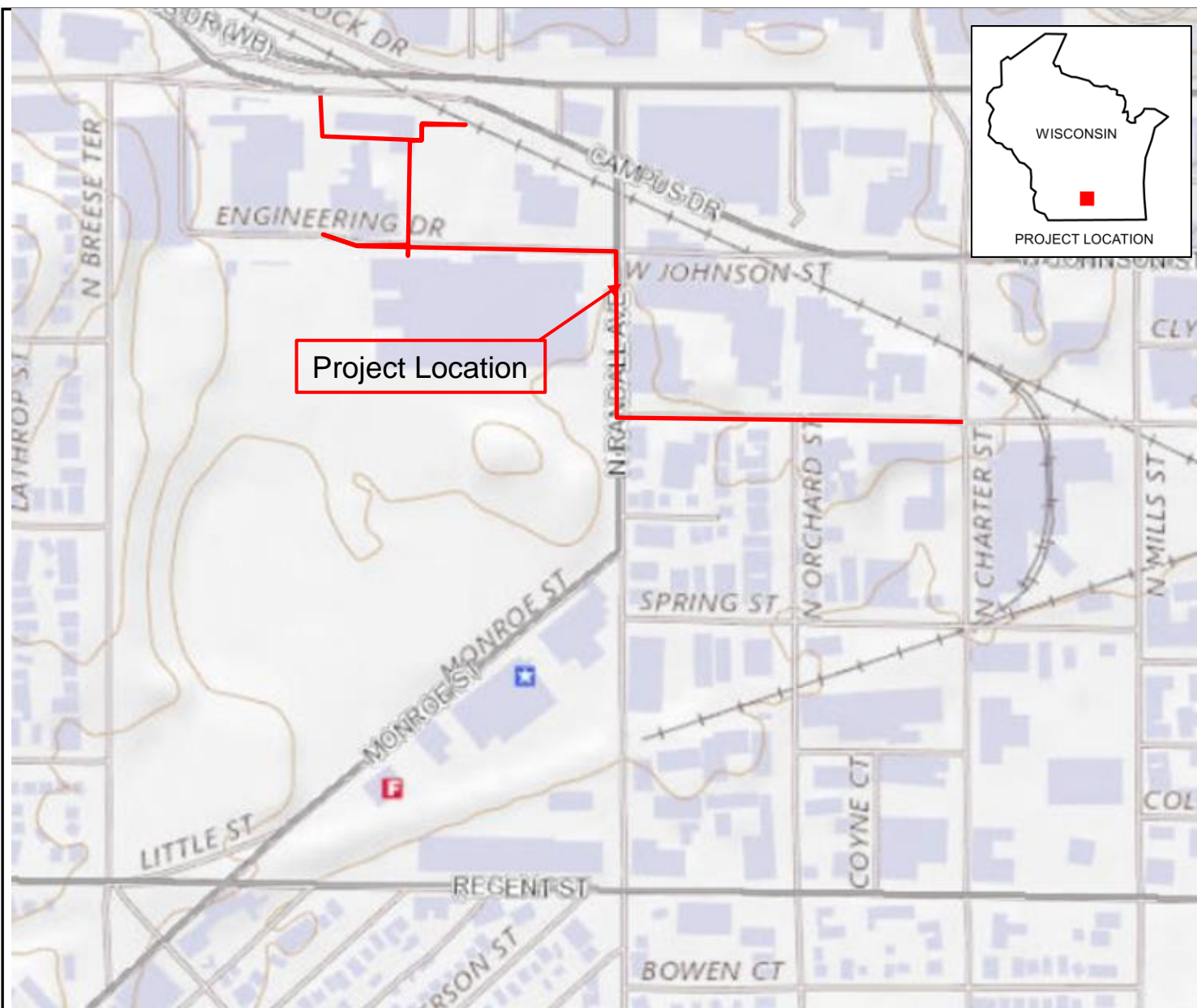
Signature: _____

- I am interested in continuing my involvement in the public participation components of this project. Please continue to send me project notices.
- I am NOT interested in continuing my involvement in the public participation of this project. Please do NOT continue to send me project notices.

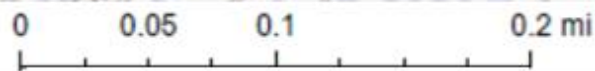
Please return this form by **January 3, 2022**,

to:

Bill Honea, PG
Ayres Associates
3376 Packerland Drive
Ashwaubenon, WI 54115
HoneaW@AyresAssociates.com



Project Location

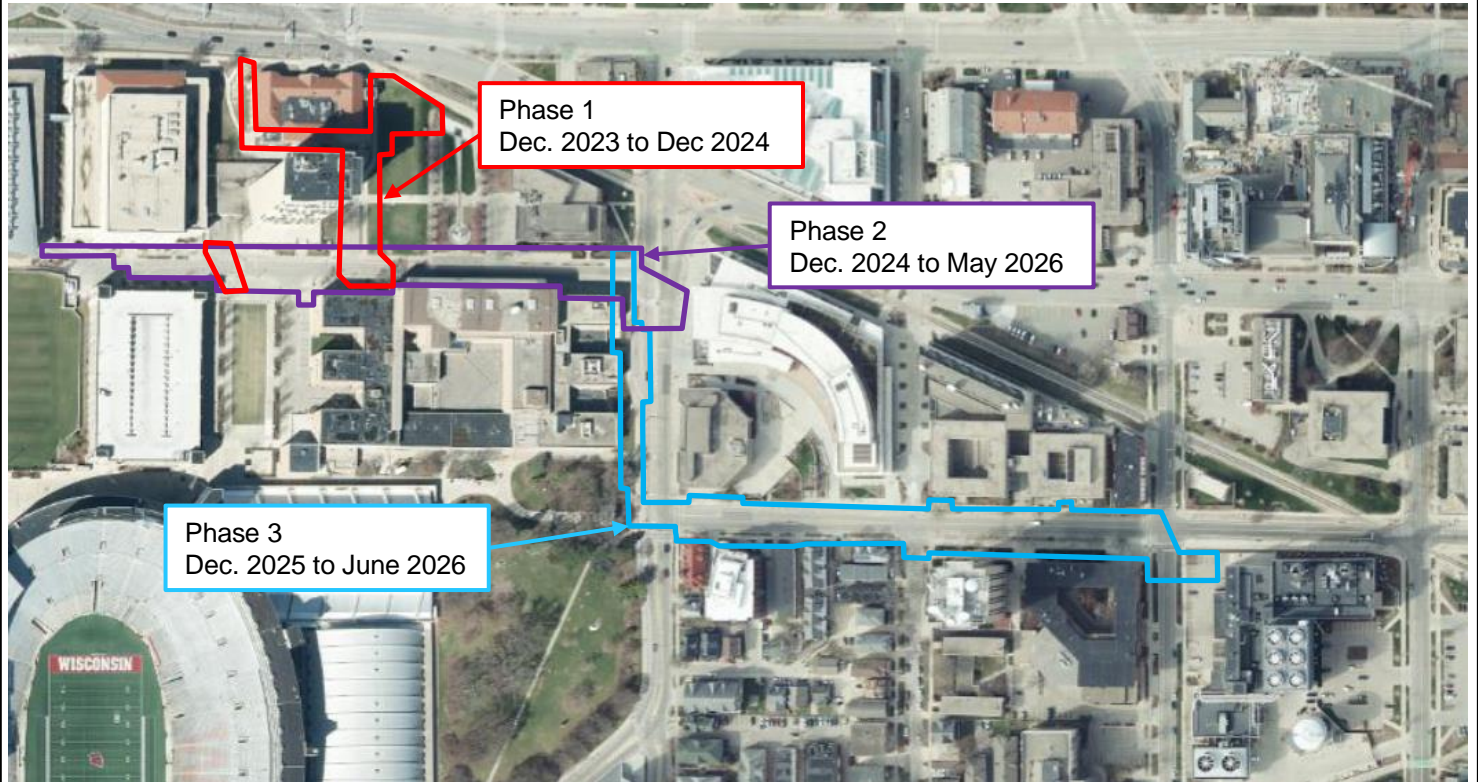


Source: USGS, City of Madison MAPS ArcGIS

Figure 1 – Location Map
 Environmental Impact Assessment
 WDA/DFD Project #21C3B
 UW-Madison Engineering Utilities
 July 2022

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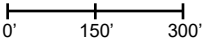




Phase 1
Dec. 2023 to Dec 2024

Phase 2
Dec. 2024 to May 2026

Phase 3
Dec. 2025 to June 2026



Source: City of Madison MAPS 2020 aerial photograph

Figure 2 – Aerial Map
Environmental Impact Assessment
WDA/DFD Project #21C3B
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