

Chapter Six: Transportation

Introduction

There are a variety of transportation facilities available in the Town of Waubeek ranging from town roads to federal and state highways. Many residents commute to and from work and rely on road facilities to meet these needs. There are limited opportunities for pedestrian and bicycle transportation. The Chippewa and Eau Galle Rivers are navigable waterways and therefore can be used as a mode of recreation. Other modes of transit, including light rail and air transportation are not directly available to residents of this Town. Currently, there are no widespread available forms of public transit in the Town; however, the Office of Aging has a van for purposes of transporting the elderly.

Vision

The Town of Waubeek has easy access to 4 major communities; Durand, Mondovi, Menomonie and Eau Claire. The roads to these communities are well maintained. The current road system of Federal and State Highways, County Roads, and Town Roads provide easy and safe travel for all visitors and residents of this community. The neighboring City and Town of Durand to the east, has a bike trail that is used by hiking and biking enthusiasts. The Town also has ample snowmobile trails during the winter time that provides recreation and sport to most of the surrounding Communities.

Roads and Highways

There are nearly 25 miles of roads and highways throughout the Town of Waubeek. Table 1 shows the names and lengths of all roads in the Town, ranging from town roads to State highways. The main types of roads in the Town of Waubeek are Town roads, County roads, Federal and State highways. See Figure 6.1 for a map of roads and highways.

**Table 1
NAMES AND LENGTHS OF ROADS
AND HIGHWAYS**

Highways	Length in Miles
Federal Highway 10	2.3
State Highway 25	4.4
Total Miles	6.7

County Highways	Length in Miles
CTH C	1.96
CTH D (1)	4.65
CTH D (2)	.11
CTH DC	.5
CTH DD	.76
CTH P	.13
Total Miles	8.11
Town Roads	Length in Miles
Anthony Lane	.17
Church School Lane	.50
Drysee Lane	1.02
Ingram Road	1.22
Joyce Road	.58
North Kirk Road	.27
South Kirk Road	.72
Lakeview Lane	.14
North Lakeview Lane	.11
North Prairie Lane	.27
Pine Ridge Lane	.23
Pine View Road	.04
South Lakeview Lane	.12
South Prairie Lane	1.01
Schaub Lane	.17
Semple Road	1.23
South Ten Road	.25
Tammy Drive	.05
Terry Court	.07
Waubeek Mound Road	.92
Weinzirl Lane	.11
Total Miles	9.02
Total Combined Miles	24.01

Traffic Volumes

The State of Wisconsin takes traffic counts for the County roads every 2-3 years. Table 2 shows the traffic counts per day for some of the County highways in the Town of Waubeek in 2005.

**Table 2
TRAFFIC COUNTS**

County Road	County (Vehicles per day)
CTH D (1)	1,100
CTH P	1,200

Planned Road Improvements and Projects

The Eau Claire Transportation District 6 consists of Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix and Taylor Counties. Table 3 shows the upcoming road improvement projects listed for the next six years for the Town of Waubeek according to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

**Table 3
Road Improvement Projects**

Road	Project Title	Year	Project Description
Highway 25	Resurfacing	2010	Resurfacing North of Hwy 10

Road Classification

Streets and highways are classified according to their primary function, either to move vehicles or to serve adjacent land. Arterials accommodate the movement of vehicles, while local roads are designed to provide direct access to individual parcels of land. Collectors serve both local and through traffic by providing a connection between arterials and local roads.

Principal Arterials – serve interstate and interregional trips

Minor Arterials- accommodate interregional movements, often in conjunction with principal arterials.

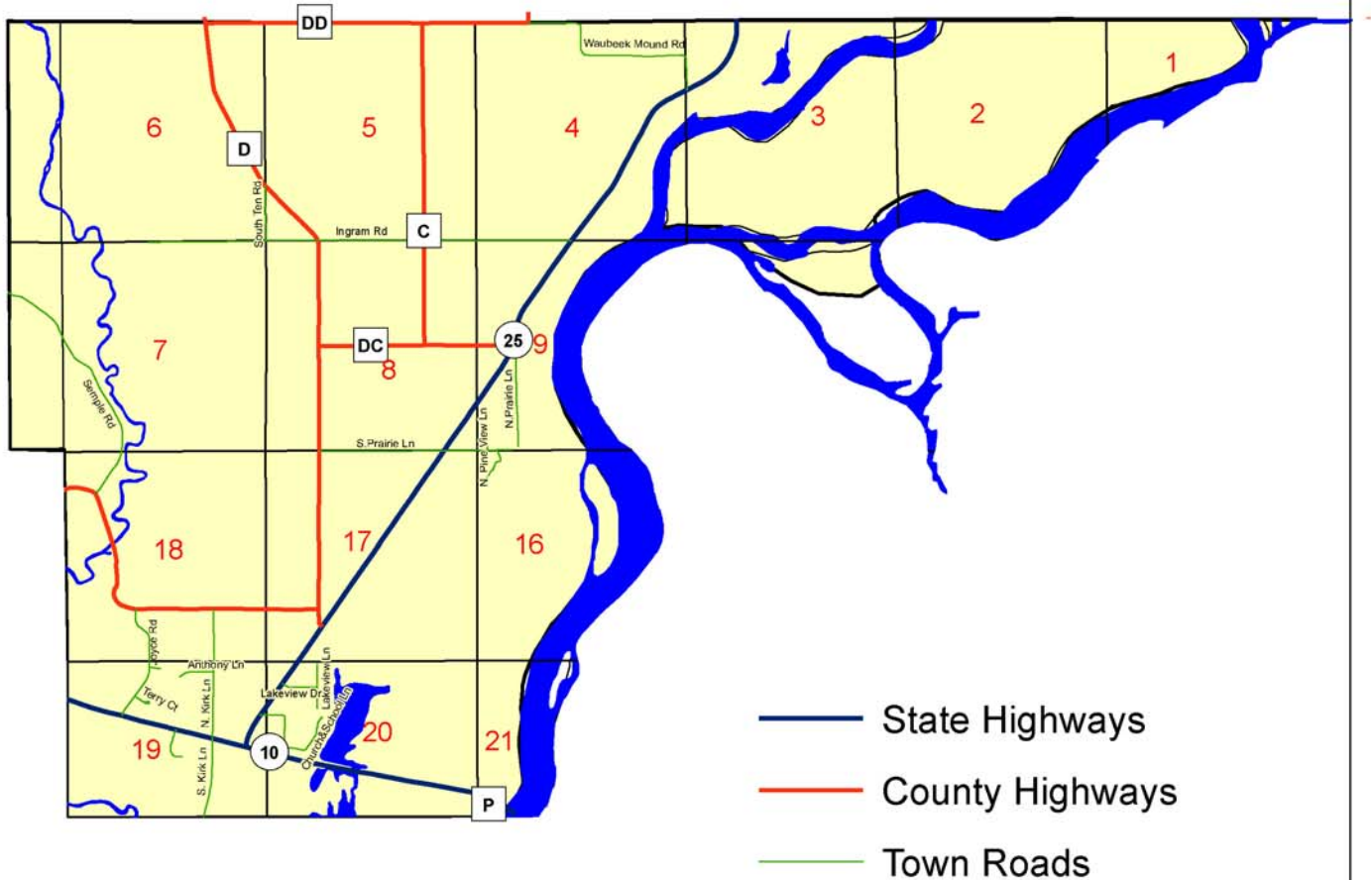
Major Collectors- provide service to moderate sized communities and other intra-area traffic generators. Many County trunk highways fall into this classification.

Minor Collectors- these roads collect traffic from local roads and provide links to all remaining portions of smaller communities and other higher function roads.

Local Roads- provide direct access to residential, commercial and industrial development.

Figure 6.1

Waubeek Roads and Highways



Map Created by Joel Brown Pepin County Land Management Office March 12, 2008

Pedestrian and Bicycle

Many of the local roads are not suitable for safe pedestrian traffic due to the high speed limits and limited shoulder width. However, State Highway 25 and US Hwy 10 have small extended shoulders on both sides. County Highways P and D are designated bike routes. See Figure 6.2 for Bicycle Map.

There is a great pedestrian and bicycle transportation resource in the Chippewa River State Bike Trail that follows along the Chippewa River in the adjoining City and Town of Durand. This Trail provides access to nearly 70 miles of trails throughout the Chippewa Valley Trail System. The trail provides biking, walking and wildlife opportunities in the summer, and snowmobile and cross-country skiing in the winter. The Trail was constructed on a former railroad right-of-way. It consists of a 10' wide roadway with 3' wide shoulders.

Water Transportation

The Chippewa and Eau Galle Rivers are considered "navigable streams" according to the Wisconsin DNR. A "navigable stream" is defined as a body of water that has bed and banks and the ability to float the stream in a canoe or other small craft at some time of the year even if only during spring floods. These water bodies are generally not used as modes of transportation. However, the Chippewa River can be used by boats. Traffic on these bodies of water is not likely to increase in the near future for transportation purposes, however, recreational use will most likely increase as recreational potential is realized.

Rail Service

Currently, there are no rail lines in the Town of Waubeek and no plans for future lines to be developed. Therefore, there is no direct service for industry, commerce or residential rail transport. The closest passenger rail service to the Town of Waubeek is Amtrak in Red Wing, MN which is approximately 40 miles away.

Air Service

Air transportation is not directly provided to the residents of the Town of Waubeek. The closest airport is the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Eau Claire. The Chippewa Valley Regional Airport is approximately 40 miles away. Its main connection is to the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. Northwest AirlinK Airlines through Mesaba Airlines provides eight round trip flights per weekday with connecting service to over 220 domestic and international destinations. Mesaba provides both schedule passenger and air cargo/package express service from this airport.

Figure 6.2

Waubeek Bicycle Map



- Best Bicycling Conditions
- Undesirable Bicycling Conditions
- Moderate Bicycling Conditions
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Town Roads

The Waubeek Bicycle Map was created from data from the Wisconsin Bicycle Escape Guide published by the Wisconsin Department of Development. The map shows state highways, county highways, and town roads along with the suitable conditions for biking in the Town of Waubeek.



The Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport is approximately 70 miles away. It is one of the busiest airports in the world with more than half a million takeoffs and landings each year.

A private airport called the Chippewa Valley Airport is located 6 miles south of Durand along STH 25 in the Town of Maxville, Buffalo County. This private airport is owned by Bill Brunkow of Nelson and currently serves 9-10 people that rent hanger space. The paved runway is 2,600 feet long and 50 feet wide. The runway is plowed in the winter and open year round. This airport is open to the public by permission and no commercial use is currently at this airport.

Public and Specialized Transportation

The Town of Waubeek is a rather low density rural community and therefore does not have a use for a mass transit system. Taxi service is also not available in the Town of Waubeek. Due to the size of the population and the projected growth over the next twenty years, there should not be a demand for such services. Therefore, these services are not likely to be offered in the near future.

The only current method of specialized transportation is the Office of Aging van. Pepin County Senior Services will arrange transportation for any resident in Pepin County, age 60+ or handicapped. If you do not meet the qualifications, call (715) 672-8936 and they will discuss your options. They provide transportation 7 days a week, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. However, they will attempt to provide transportation at other times when it is possible to line up a driver.

If you need transportation, call Pepin County Senior Services at (715) 672-8936 and tell the receptionist the date, time and place of your appointment. If you have a driver preference, also state that. The receptionist will arrange for a driver to pick you up. She will then call you back and tell you who your driver is and what time you will be picked up.

Transportation is provided for all purposes such as medical, socialization or personal business.

For questions on cost, etc, call the Pepin County Senior Services at (715) 672-8936. Source: www.co.pepin.wi.us/cogovt/senior_services.htm#specialist

Goals

1. Maintain safe and adequate accessibility to our transportation system.
2. Enhance transportation system to encourage multi-modal facilities.

3. Encourage ride share commuting.
4. Encourage proper use based on road classification.
5. Develop a yearly maintenance program for our roads.

Objectives

1. Support future development of Chippewa River access points on the west side of the US Hwy 10 Bridge.
2. Encourage an Adopt-A-Highway Program for routes leading to the Pepin County Recycling Center.
3. Look at road access concerns for properties along US Hwy 10 and State Hwy 25.
4. Address road and right-of-way issues on Lakeview Lane, North and South Lakeview Lane roads.