NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

News release on Labor Day weekend travel

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on a news release related to safe Labor Day weekend holiday travel (Chapter 346), a proposed guidance document.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21

days by:

1. Department's website:

https://trust.dot.state.wi.us/act369/?id=OPA262&uri=file:LaborDay19&division=OPA

 Mailing written comments to: Office of Public Affairs Wisconsin Department of Transportation 4822 Madison Yards Way PO Box 7910 Madison, WI 53707-7910

WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at wisconsindot.gov to allow for ongoing comment.

AGENCY CONTACT

DOTOPAGuidanceDocs@DOT.WI.GOV

August 29, 2019

For more information, contact: WisDOT Office of Public Affairs 608/266-3581, <u>opa.exec@dot.wi.gov</u>

Labor Day holiday travelers asked to buckle up, be patient, alert and safe

Most highway construction will come to a temporary stop, but motorists will need to be alert for work zones, reduced speed limits and potential slow-downs

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and its Division of State Patrol are asking Labor Day holiday travelers to buckle up, stay alert, and be prepared for slower traffic in work zones and along major travel corridors. Peak travel periods are expected between noon and 8 p.m. on Friday and during the same timeframe on Labor Day.

For the safety of motorists and workers, construction on most highway projects will stop by noon on Friday (August 30) and will not resume until 6 a.m. on Tuesday, September 3. Still, drivers are asked to be alert for work zones, lane restrictions and potential delays. During last year's Labor Day holiday weekend, seven people were killed and 355 injured in Wisconsin traffic crashes.

"The State Patrol and other law enforcement agencies will be working to help keep traffic moving safely and efficiently," WisDOT Secretary-designee Craig Thompson said. "But motorists need to do their part. That means buckle up, watch your speed, be patient and focused on the road ahead."

Law enforcement agencies across Wisconsin are working in greater numbers for longer hours as part of the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign that continues through Labor Day. Important safety tips for travelers:

- Buckle up, slow down, eliminate distractions;
- On interstates and other multi-lane highways, keep right to the extent possible and don't linger in the passing lane;
- Move Over or slow down when approaching emergency responders such as police and fire vehicles, ambulances, tow trucks and highway maintenance vehicles that are stopped along a highway with their warning lights flashing.
- Before heading out, ensure that trailers and any cargo are properly secure. If your vehicle breaks down, try to get safely off the highway. Remain buckled up in your vehicle and wait for help to arrive.

For up-to-the-minute information on work zones and incidents that may affect highway travel, motorists can access the state's 511 travel information system by downloading the free 511 Wisconsin mobile app or following <u>@511WI on Twitter</u>. Users can also access the system by visiting <u>511wi.gov</u> on the web.