

THE REPORTER

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FIREWORKS SAFETY



Fond du Lac Fire Department Chief Peter O'Leary holds a package of firecrackers during a demonstration on fireworks hazards.

PATRICK FLOOD/ACTION REPORTER MEDIA

Project plans to make 151 bypass safer

Upgrades could pave way for future development along FDL corridor

By Nate Beck
Action Reporter Media

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation held its last public hearing Tuesday on a plan to make Highway 151 safer and more pliable for future development.

About 50 people attended the session at University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac to hear the presentation and question DOT representatives about the project.

Planners replaced T intersections with slotted left turn lanes after a string of accidents along the 151 bypass — a “temporary fix,” Bryan Learst, Highway 151/County Trunk V interchange project manager, said.

The proposed plan that begins in 2015 includes:

» Replacing on-ramps to Highway 151 with a partial cloverleaf off-ramp and a frontage road connecting Highways 45 and 151

» Access to 151 from T will be cut off and replaced with a no-access overpass

The DOT still needs to acquire about 38.3 acres of land by February 2015, when planners will put the project up for a construction bid in spring 2015. If all goes as planned, construction will start in July or August 2015 and be completed by November 2016.

The plan aims to make access to Highway 151 safer — not more convenient — and

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VIDEO

Visit fdlreporter.com to watch a video of produce and crackers being destroyed by fireworks.

FOND DU LAC FIREWORKS

Fond du Lac's fireworks display will begin at 9:45 p.m. Thursday, July 4, in Lakeside Park. Festival Foods is again sponsoring the show.

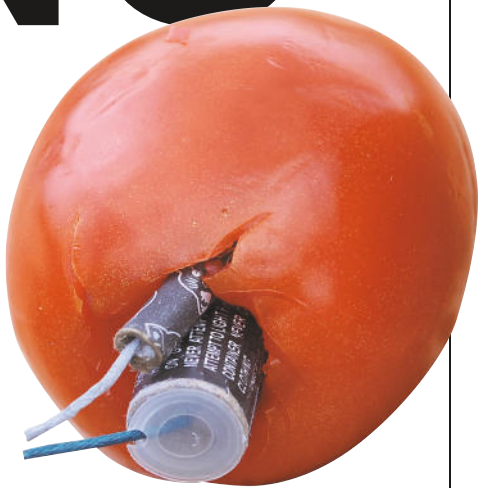
Fond du Lac firefighters warn of fireworks dangers

By Nate Beck | Action Reporter Media

Small fireworks have some big fire-power.

That was the message shared by the Fond du Lac Fire Department during a fireworks demonstration on Tuesday afternoon. Department members gathered at the Fond du Lac Off-Highway Vehicle Park to show the effects of common fireworks on an unlucky line of fruit and

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Firecrackers stick out of a tomato that was used in a demonstration Tuesday to display the strength of some common fireworks. PATRICK FLOOD/ACTION REPORTER MEDIA

Move to Amend petition requests referendum on ballot

By Sharon Roznik
Action Reporter Media

A local group working to remove big money from politics has garnered enough signatures to place a municipal referendum on Fond du Lac's Tuesday, Nov. 4, ballot.

Fond du Lac Move to Amend plans to turn in petitions at 1 p.m. Friday, June 27, at the Fond du Lac City Clerk's office. The petition asks the City Council to place a resolution on the ballot to allow Fond du Lac citizens to vote on an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to regulate the flow of money to elections.

Move to Amend is an effort to enact a Constitution-

al amendment to reverse the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court decision known as Citizens United.

City Clerk Maggie Heftner said once the signatures are turned in her office has 15 days to verify signatures. If everything is in order, the resolution would come before the City Council on Monday, Aug. 14.

If the City Council approves the resolution in August it could stop at that point and a referendum would not be necessary, but organizer Donna Richard said supporters want to see it go to referendum.

“We think the big money being spent in elections is an attack on free speech,” Richards said.

City Council President Sam Meyer said he welcomes any citizen concern that comes directly to the Council through a referendum measure or by contact with council members.

“This issue will be an interesting debate between free speech and money and politics and I look forward to the exchange of ideas,” Meyer said.

Fond du Lac Move to Amend kicked off its effort on May 1 to gain a minimum of 2,080 verified signatures from City of Fond du Lac electors within the required 60-day period. Organizers will hand in 3,000 signatures.

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WHAT IS THE REFERENDUM ABOUT?

» Move to Amend is asking for a Constitutional amendment to establish that corporations are not people and do not have the same Constitutional rights as people, and that spending money is not a form of speech, and therefore not covered under the First Amendment protections guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution.

» An Amendment can be proposed by a two-thirds majority vote in both houses of Congress, or through a Constitutional Convention called by two-thirds of state legislatures. The proposed amendment must be approved by three-fourths of the states.

» In the Citizens United decision, the court overturned decades of precedents and decided that the First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting political independent expenditures by corporations, associations or labor unions.

Source: Movetoamend.org

3-year-old run over by lawnmower

By Sharon Roznik
Action Reporter Media

TOWN OF LOMIRA — A 3-year-old boy was seriously injured Tuesday afternoon after he was run over by a lawnmower.

At 2:04 p.m., Dodge County rescue crews were called to a Brownsville residence along Highway 175 for a report that a child had run to the back of a riding lawnmower and was run over as a result. According to initial reports, the mower's operator was backing up and did not see the child.

Flight for Life transported the child for medical treatment. Where he was transported and his condition were not released by deadline.

Dodge County Sheriff Patricia Ninmann said the accident is not suspicious and “our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with the young child and family.”

Assisting the Dodge County Sheriff's Department were Lomira Police Department, Brownsville Fire and First Responders, Mayville EMS, Theresa Fire and Flight For Life.



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WEATHER

THE NEXT 36 HOURS

High today
73
Partly sunny

Low tonight
55
Mostly cloudy

High tomorrow
75
Mostly sunny

Five-day forecast
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INSIDE

‘What’s the Story?’

Ever wondered what the rules are for parking boats, campers and semi trucks on residential streets? See **Page A3**