

# 1208<sup>th</sup> Street

## INTRODUCTION

1208<sup>th</sup> Street is a local road in the Town of Oak Grove. It directly serves 68 residential units as well as loops into another development of 57 residential units. While 1208<sup>th</sup> Street has seriously deteriorated pavement, is too narrow, and has non-compliant horizontal and vertical curves, the problem is even more serious. 1208<sup>th</sup> has a drainage overflow across the surface of the roadway! Whenever there is a rainfall event any significance or during the spring snowmelt event, water runs



over the road. Back in the early 1980s, the road washed out and residents along 1208<sup>th</sup> Street were stranded for almost two days. To alleviate this issue, the Town completed the final connection to 497<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the late 1990s so residents at least had another option to get out of the development. However, the overflow remains over the road surface to this day.

The overflow tends to be very icy in the winter and impassible in the spring. At least three cars have been washed off of the road at the overflow area. The spillway was repaired in 2018 to address the voids under the concrete slab. The repair consisted of pumping foam into the voids as a temporary solution. The Town would like to look for a permanent solution.

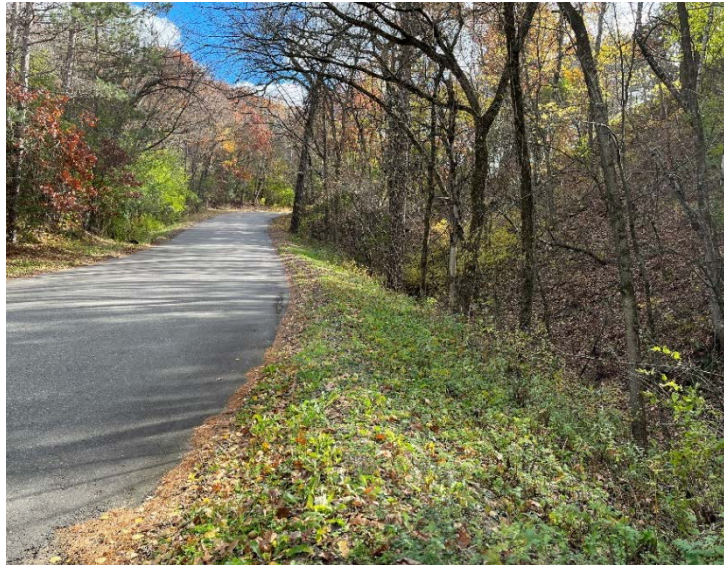
Along with the spillway, the road is very steep with sharp curves. This is especially challenging for drivers in the winter. There is actually a “parking area” at the base of the hill for people to park their cars and walk home when they are unable to navigate up the hill and around the curves in the winter. Corrections to the vertical and horizontal alignment as well as side slopes on this section need to be improved to meet current design standards.

While these challenges may seem “inconvenient”, they are truly posing a safety risk to the public during their travels as well as to emergency vehicles needing to access the residential neighborhoods. Improvements are desperately needed!

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Existing Conditions**

1208<sup>th</sup> Street is 20-feet in width with little to no shoulders and many areas of steep side slopes. The road surface has a Paser rating of 4. The section of 1208<sup>th</sup> Street being considered begins at STH 35 and ends at 508<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The total length being considered is 1,690 feet (0.32 miles). The current ADT on 1208<sup>th</sup> Street is estimated at 770 vehicles per day (68 residential units along 1208<sup>th</sup> Avenue plus 13 residential units on 497<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 9.5 vehicles per residential unit). The attached project overview map clearly shows the residential units that connect to 1208<sup>th</sup> Street.



The vertical and horizontal curves do not meet design standards. The side slopes in many areas are steeper than 3:1, which is the maximum recoverable slope allowed on a rural road according to AASHTO's Roadside Design Guide. The surface spillway needs to be removed and replaced with drainage structures under the roadway to address the flooding and icing.



## Proposed Improvements



The Town's proposed improvements will address the safety concerns and substandard roadway section. 1208<sup>th</sup> Street will be reconstructed to address drainage, correct the vertical and horizontal deficiencies, widen the road, and improve the road base.

The Town proposes to:

- Pulverize the existing bituminous surface for use as subgrade material.
- Remove the concrete spillway and install four box culverts (approximately 300 sf of hydraulic opening).
- Widen 1208<sup>th</sup> Street to 22-feet of pavement with 2-foot gravel shoulders on each side. This is consistent with the Town's standard roadway section.
- Improve the road subbase by removing the poor subgrade materials and replacing with 12" of granular sub-base and 8" of dense graded base course.
- Reconstruct the recoverable slopes so they follow the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide of 3:1 slopes or less.
- Provide guardrail in areas where horizontal curves and side slopes cannot be fully corrected.
- Replace all culverts located underneath the road to address condition and future drainage needs.
- Surface with 2 ½" of asphaltic pavement and gravel shoulders.
- Restore using seed and erosion mat as needed.

The cost of the project is estimated to be \$750,510.



## Summary of TRID Selection Criteria

### Safety

1208<sup>th</sup> Street is not safe. The spillway, substandard widths, non-compliant horizontal and vertical curves, and steep side slopes all contribute to the Town's concerns. With the narrow road width and steep side slopes, it is very difficult to recover if a driver moves too close to the road edge. In the area of the spillway, the Town has



posted signs warning of “Impassable During High Water” at the spillway, sharp curves, and steep hills. The speed limit has already been reduced to 25 mph. While these help from an informational standpoint, the road is still very unsafe. The Town is in dire need of improvements to address the spillway, the narrow drive lanes (currently 20-feet wide with no shoulders), correct the vertical and horizontal curves, and improve side slopes. Attached you will find a listing of texts, emails, and letters from the adjacent Town residents begging to have the road fixed. As you will read, there are stories of accidents or near accidents that were experienced on 1208<sup>th</sup> Street. Also attached is a letter from the Prescott Area Fire and Ambulance Association that addresses their safety concerns about 1208<sup>th</sup> Street. They have outlined that the road conditions delay their response time by as much as 15 minutes which is far outside of the standard. Given these grave concerns, we are hopeful to be considered for the grant.



## **Reconstruction**

Full reconstruction of 1208<sup>th</sup> Street will be required to incorporate the new box culverts that will replace the spillway, correct the horizontal and vertical curves, fill side slopes to a minimum of a 3:1 grade, widen and improve the structural deficiency of the subgrade. At the same time, we will also improve the existing drainage culverts that are in poor condition. This is a significant undertaking that the Town would be unable to afford without this grant.



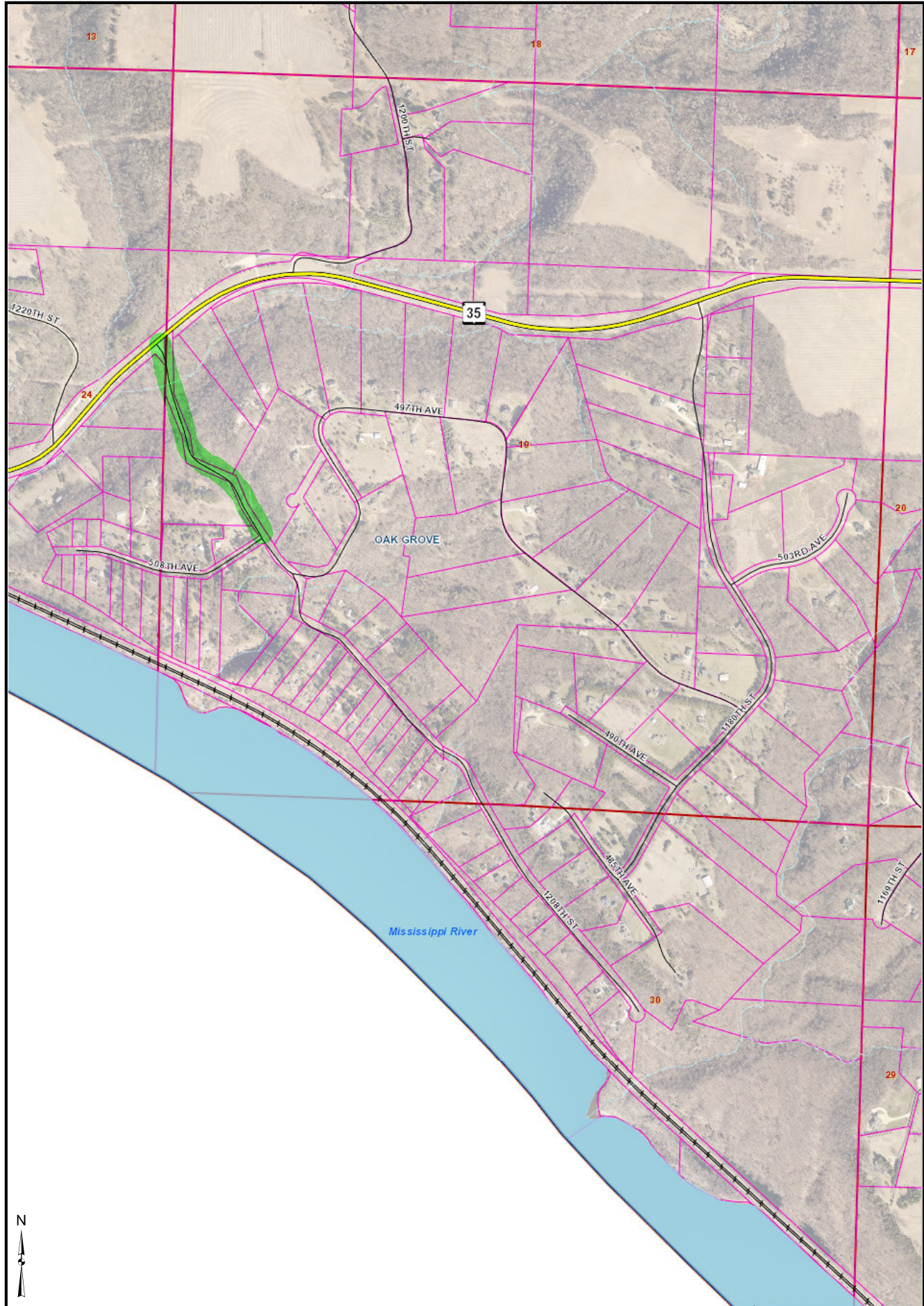
## **High Traffic Volume**

As mentioned in the previous sections, this road directly serves 68 residential units as well as loops into another development of 57 residential units. This area has the densest population in the Town of Oak Grove given the proximity to the Mississippi River. The Town does not have traffic counts on this road and, given Covid, would not be able to get accurate counts at this time if they tried. Therefore, we can calculate the ADT based on ITE Trip Generation manuals that estimate 9.5 vehicle trips per residential unit. Based on 68 residential units along 1208<sup>th</sup> Avenue plus 13 residential units on 497<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 9.5 vehicles per residential unit, we calculate a total ADT of 770. Per the WisDOT Facility Development Manual and Trans 204, this road would be classified as a RT3 which is the highest class in the Town Road hierarchy.

**Summary**

The Town of Oak Grove has concerns about the safety of 1208<sup>th</sup> Street. The spillway is a high-risk factor for the residents and the Town. They receive complaints from adjacent residents on a regular basis. Given the high cost of repairs, the Town does not have options to make the required improvements in a timely manner. We are requesting your consideration for financial assistance to make the improvements needed on 1208<sup>th</sup> Street. The reconstruction project will address the many safety concerns by eliminating the spillway from the surface of the road, widening the road section, improving the non-compliant horizontal and vertical curves, and adding material to have recoverable side slopes. Thank you for your consideration!





These data are provided on an "AS-IS" basis, without warranty of any type, expressed or implied, including but not limited to any warranty as to their performance, merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose.

# 1208th Street

1:7,569

Date: 11/11/2021

This map is not a substitute for accurate field surveys or for locating actual property lines and any adjacent features.



Pierce County, WI



# 1208th Street

STH 35 to 508th Avenue

Legend

STH 35

1208TH STREET

508TH AVE



Google Earth

1000 ft





## LOCAL RESIDENT TEXTS AND EMAILS OF SUPPORT

Yes, I support this.

Thank you

Charlotte King

Charlotte King <charking92@gmail.com>

715-222-1109 – I am a resident of Oak Grove and I support the proposal to fix 1208<sup>th</sup> Street. In 30 years I've seen multiple vehicles in the ditch. In the spring it's impassible because of the rushing water across the road.

715-821-0038 – Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>

715-307-0682 – Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>

612-554-2565 – Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>

715-338-2355 – Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>

920-579-2393 - +1 to Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>. Dangerous. Especially for unfamiliar drivers. Especially in winter.

715-821-4617 – FIX 1208<sup>th</sup>

715-821-4601 – Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>!

As a 30 year resident of 508th Avenue, I and my family are daily users of 1208th Street. We know the perils of the hill from the 95% of the people who do not understand that this is not a "one-way" street. Possibly due to the curves and narrow road, but most drivers use the center of the road as they maneuver the curves and crest the hill. My kids were taught at a very young age to always ride the shoulder of the road coming up or down the hill. Then there is the issue of winter driving, since the hill is shaded it is always icy and treacherous. Then due to the curvy nature of the hill getting up or down it during and following a snow is an adventure. Have pulled many motorists either up the hill or out of the ditch. But I don't get them all so the ones left on the hill constitute an obstacle for the snowplow as he has to weave around the one stranded on the hill and the cluster of abandoned cars at the bottom. This leaves a partially plowed hill and intersection for days. Also have to include the issue of flooding. Since I somewhat overlook the 1208th dip I see just how fast the flooding occurs and lasts. It is scary and most people are unaware just how dangerous it is to tempt fate and make the dash through the raging water. If their car is stopped even momentarily by a rock or boulder being washed over the road their vehicle would be swept away. It has been just a miracle that no serious injuries or death has occurred on that hill. Why tempt fate?

Bruce Dravis

W12104 508th Ave

Prescott, WI 54021

715-497-6319 – Fix 1208<sup>th</sup>

To: Representative at Stevens Engineering reviewing grant request for 1208<sup>th</sup> St. safety improvements

From: Taud and Sandy Hoopingarner, W11949 497<sup>th</sup> Ave, Prescott, WI, 54021

Dear Oak Grove Township Consultant:

We are responding to a recent note from our neighbor Mark Helmer regarding the potential for seeking State funding to improve 1208<sup>th</sup> St. and reduce the potential for continued serious safety issues and accidents resulting from the road and drainage design. We have lived in our home for 30 years and have experience and witnessed multiple incidents of serious accidents and near accidents resulting from the road design as well as weather conditions. In fact my family members have slid off of both sides of this section of road on at least 2 occasions over that time period, resulting in damage to our vehicles. I have also assisted other motorists who have had similar experiences on the lower stretch of 1208<sup>th</sup>, just above the concrete spillway section. I have also seen vehicles stalled out as well as stuck on the spillway section due to high water runoff in the spring.

In order to protect the user of that road and limit liability to the township that maintains the road and its residents, we support any effort to improve the road to reduce future accidents. I would also note that the home east side of the road is for sale, which may provide an opportunity for the township to purchase the necessary easement to straighten out the road from a willing (and likely motivated) seller.

Your attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

If you need additional information regarding our experiences, please feel free to reach out to us at:

612.328.5864 cell (Taud)  
Sandy Hoopingarner – [shooping@centurytel.net](mailto:shooping@centurytel.net)

Hi,  
I live at N4845 1208th St.  
I completely support the efforts in getting this road safe and passable at all times including adverse weather conditions when it snows and rains.  
Thank you so much in making this happen.  
Sincerely,  
Joanne Anderson  
[Joho1@comcast.net](mailto:Joho1@comcast.net)

Angela,  
I will attach photos and video of water going over the road at 1208th Street. Size of these will determine how many emails.  
My wife also had a spinout on the curves up the hill, luckily no one else was using the road at that time. Her car did a 360°.  
I have also saw 3 accidents that occurred there.  
Jeff Berg  
[Jberg001@centurytel.net](mailto:Jberg001@centurytel.net)



**From:** [Jeffrey Berg](#)  
**To:** [Angela Popenhagen](#)  
**Cc:** [Andria Hayday](#); [Richard Ruemmels](#); [rkosin@centurytel.net](mailto:rkosin@centurytel.net)  
**Subject:** Re: 1208th St Spillway/Curve Project -- Grant Application (Photo Followup)  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 6:15:53 PM

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This photo was taken March 14th 2019. If you look at the edges of the road you'll notice the windrow of snow the snowplow pushed up. That spring the plow drivers did not wing the snow far enough right away which created a dam that held the water on the road creating a large ice patch with water underneath. I took a shovel and made some holes in it. I wasn't going to brave working on the one on the left side of this pic. Looks like a second spillway.  
I think it was later that spring I inspected the lower side and noticed the the water had undercut the spillway side and reported to Gary Huppert, Think he called the state who sent out an engineer.  
later the summer someone was hired to inject high density foam to keep it from collapsing.  
Jeff



From: [Jeffrey Berg](#)  
To: [Angela Popenhagen](#)  
Cc: [Richard Busmelle](#); [gkosin@centurytel.net](#); [Andria Hayday](#)  
Subject: Re: 1208th St Spillway/Curve Project -- Grant Application (Photo Followup)  
Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 5:57:53 PM  
Attachments: [MOV02777\\_2.mpg](#)

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Angela,

I will attach photos and video of water going over the road at 1208th Street. Size of these will determine how many emails. My wife also had a spinout on the curves up the hill, luckily no one else was using the road at that time. Her car did a 360°.

I have also saw 3 accidents that occurred there.

Jeff Berg





**From:** [April](#)  
**To:** [Angela Popenhagen](#)  
**Subject:** Fix 1208th St  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 23, 2021 4:46:30 PM

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Hello,  
My husband and I support fixing 1208th street.

The narrow curved road is unsafe in the winter. Especially when someone can't get there car up the hill and leave the car on the side of the road. Every winter this happens and multiple times it has almost caused an accident. We feel it is a matter of time before someone is gravely injured.

Thank you,  
April and Cody Davidowski  
W12135 508th Avenue

Donald E. Barber  
N4765 1208 Street  
Prescott, WI 54021

lets get 1208 St, Prescott WI  
fixed. It's getting too tough!

Donald Barber

11, 17, 21





# Prescott Area Fire and Ambulance Association



800 Borner Street N, Prescott, WI 54021

Phone: 715-307-0222

November 29, 2021

I am issuing this letter in support of the proposed Oak Grove Township 1208<sup>th</sup> Street Project.

As Fire Chief of the Prescott Fire Department, I am also accountable to the citizens of Oak Grove Township for providing first response assistance and fire protection. Response to approximately 125 households as well as an estimated 4.18 miles of roadway has been dangerously affected by the often-impassible conditions on 1208<sup>th</sup> Street.

Emergency calls must receive a rapid response to save lives and reduce property damage. The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) NFPA 1710, Standard for Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the Public recommends that fire departments strive to meet the response time goals of 320 seconds (5 minutes 20 seconds) for the first engine at a fire suppression incident. Response times to the area in question, depending on conditions, could be delayed by as much as 15 minutes; far outside that standard.

I believe strongly that this repair project is critical to our ability to safely carry out our commitment and responsibility to protect our citizens, fire fighters and properties.

It is the Department's responsibility to confirm adequate access to emergency responders. The Department therefore requests the Township of Oak Grove to ensure safe and consistent access can be provided. To meet the urgency of this repair, outside financial assistance is desperately needed. Your support of our efforts to secure this funding is humbly requested.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Oak Grove Township as they seek external funding to bring safe and timely access to all Oak Grove residents. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tom Lytle, Fire Chief, Prescott Fire Department

Prescott Fire and EMS Association  
Prescott, Wisconsin