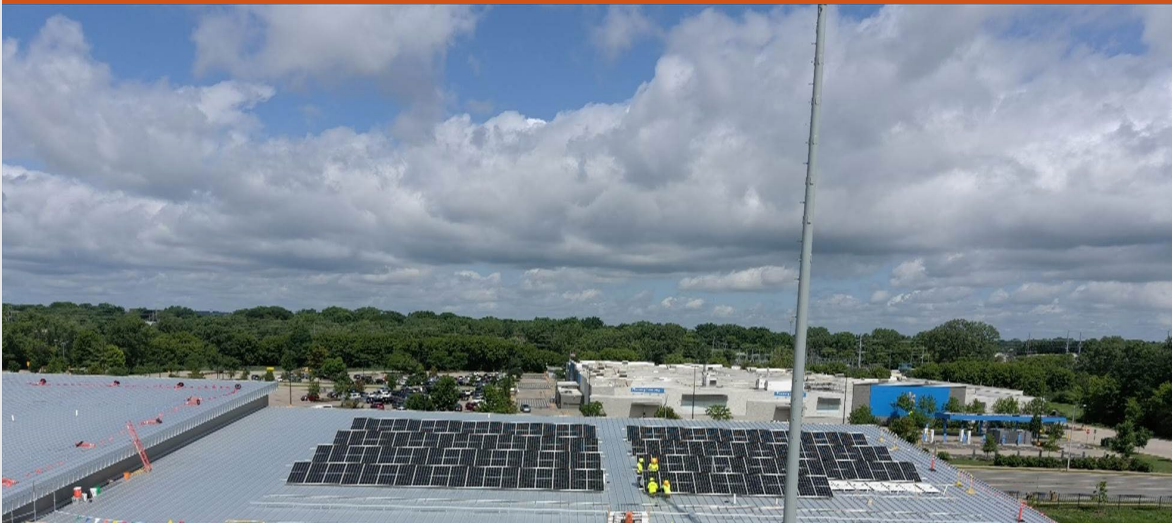


From: [Mohelnitzky, Hannah](#)
To: [Mohelnitzky, Hannah](#)
Subject: The E: April 2024
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 8:03:06 AM
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THE E.

A newsletter for the Engineering Division



April 2024 Issue

A message from City Engineer, Jim Wolfe

I was able to be the first person to take advantage of our new Ride Along program, and this was a great experience! First, a huge thank you to Andy, Ken, Sherri, and Jason for taking the time to show me just a handful of the things they're doing on the day-to-day with our CCTV and vectors, and I really appreciate their willingness to answer all of my questions and adjust their schedule to fit in my Ride Along in. I really did learn a lot from this experience, and it gave me some additional perspective to the work that we're doing in Engineering. I'm hope to be able to do another Ride Along soon! I really encourage folks to take advantage of this opportunity if you can, and more info for how to sign-up is below.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Spring All-hands Meeting, but we look forward to having one this fall. Some of the information that we were planning to share with all of you this spring will just become part of the fall meeting. Otherwise, we'll find ways to share some of the other information with you, some of which is in this edition of the "E," namely in the Equity Minute below and our new Ride Along program.

-Jim

GreenPower Staff Meet Vice President During Madison Visit



Vice President Kamala Harris announced an apprenticeship program for the federal workforce while in Madison earlier this month, with Engineering's GreenPower team present for the event.

Harris spoke at Engineering's Project with Metro Transit, the Hanson Road Satellite Facility Remodel, that will eventually house the city's fleet of electric buses. The city broke ground on the site [just three weeks ago](#) with the help of roughly \$13 million in federal funding from President Joe Biden's infrastructure act. Read the full article from Wisconsin Public Radio:

<https://www.wpr.org/news/vp-harris-announces-federal-apprenticeship-program-during-madison-visit>

Engineering Ride Along Program Up and Running

We are officially launching our new program to get staff out in the field to learn what our crews do first hand: Engineering Division Ride Along Program! **This is open to all staff.**

This idea was suggested after receiving feedback from our Fall 2023 City of Madison Engineering Division All Hands Meeting. See flyer for more information, and connect with Ben Carrao bcarrao@cityofmadison.com [for your first ride!](#)

HR Shares First Annual Report: Sheds Light on Key Data

As a part of our continuous improvement efforts and communication plan, City of Madison Human Resources will release a report each year to share some of the key data from the previous year and inform you about the work in Human Resources. The hope is that this information will improve HR's collective understanding of how the City's workforce and workplace is growing and changing, the progress the City makes to improve job quality, and how each City employee can lean in to making this a better workplace for all.

View the first annual report: [first annual report has an executive summary intended to provide a snapshot of key data points and strategies for those who are interested in getting a summary but would rather not read the entire report.](#)

Assistive Technology in the Workplace

Assistive Technology (AT) is used in almost every workplace. For people with disabilities, assistive technology removes access barriers and opens doors for enhanced opportunities. The City's Disability Resource Group (an affinity group of staff with disabilities, and the Department of Civil Rights) hosted a hybrid panel discussion with AT users and professionalson March 21, 2024. For more information on this technology or the Resource Group, please contact Rebecca Hoyt (Disability Rights and Services Specialist at rhoyt@cityofmadison.com or (608) 266-6511.

Engineering to Celebrate 2 Megawatts of Installed Solar

Engineering will lead an April 22, 2024 Earth Day Press Event celebrating the City's recent accomplishment: **2 megawatts of installed and commissioned Solar PVs on City sites/facilities!**

It took the City from 2007 to 2019 (13 years) to achieve one megawatt of installed solar PV on City sites/facilities. With

significant financial investments in the City's budget for materials and staff, the City has achieved a second megawatt in under five years (2020-2024). This achievement continues the City's efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, save on operational costs, improve public health outcomes, and further develop leaders/in-house expertise (i.e. GreenPower) in the design and installation of renewable energies.

The event will be at the Larry D. Nelson Engineering Division Operations Facility, also fitting since that was the location of the City's latest solar installation that pushed the City over 2 MW.

Equity Minute

The [Engineering Division's Equity Action Plan](#) was approved by the Department of Civil Rights. As DCR noted we have an ambitious plan for 2024!

We've identified the following projects to review for potentially inequitable policies, procedures, and programs and develop actionable solutions:

- Create use policy and standards of behavior for the upcoming gender-neutral locker room at Emil.
- Create an Engineering specific outreach plan that targets potential applicants for open Engineering positions from underutilized communities in Madison.
- Develop standardized training curriculum for each job classification in Operations and identify career pathways to provides for career advancement.
- Make the process by which registrants sign up to speak for BPW more equitable.
- Perform a comprehensive equity analysis of the Sidewalk Repair Program (by request of owner).
- Expand use of language access resources for Public Information Meetings.

An Equity Team Member will lead each project but subject matter experts throughout Engineering will be needed for the deep dive into each of these subjects. Let Danielle Dixon know if you are interested in being part of the team working on a specific project.

GEAR:

Don't forget to bookmark GEAR today!

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/employeeenet/engineering>

[The Equity Action Plan for the Division is now up on GEAR.](#)



Media Snapshot



Press Releases

- [Women in Construction Week 2024: Ali Heinritz](#)
- [Women in Construction Week 2024: Maria Delestre](#)
- [Women in Construction Week 2024: Nadine Resler](#)
- [Women in Construction 2024: Keira Miller](#)
- [Women in Construction 2024: Taylor Lemon](#)
- [Celebrate Women in Construction Week 2024: March 3-9, 2024](#)

Blog

None at this time. Send in your blogs to hmohelnitzky@cityofmadison.com if you want to be posted!

Section Updates

Each month, Engineering Division City Engineer Jim Wolfe leads a section head meeting. Each month in The E, we will share main points for employees to know what was discussed on important topics that impact employees division-wide. This is to improve better internal communication between leadership and staff. This is separate from official meeting minutes.

Division Communications

Hannah Mohelnitzky, Engineering Division Public Information Officer

We are gearing up for another round of podcast recordings. Please email me if you have an idea for an upcoming topic! We've had a number of groundbreakings/planning cancelled/postponed recently (State Street Garage and Village on Park Garage), but we have one upcoming event that we're all very excited for: our 2 Megawatt Celebration on April 22. I'm working on prepping for our PIO AASPIRE Intern and also wrapping up our Communications Plans for 2023 and 2024. Lastly, IT will have a Photo Intern this summer, that they are willing to share with us. If you have a process or project that you'd like to have nice, professional photos taken of, please email me the info, contact person and location!

Public Works and Private Development

Chris Petykowski, Deputy City Engineer, Public Works and Private Development

Public works engineers are continuing to work on 2024 projects. Private development Engineers and Managers continue to service contracts and issue plan sets. Plans issued this month are E. Wilson/E. Doty, District 11 Sidewalk, Ohmeda St, Lowell St, W Washington, Chip & Crack Seal 2024. Tancho Path, Hermina St, Pheasant Branch & Danbury, Beverly, Doncaster was presented to the Transportation Commission. Hermina, Tancho & Danbury, Beverly, Doncaster had public information meetings. A revision to the Street Assessment Policy has been approved by council, allowing for TIF funds to be used for infill development projects.

Facilities Management

Bryan Cooper, Deputy City Engineer, Facilities Services and Management

- Event planned at Engineering Services Building for Earth Day, April 22, recognizing GreenPower team's achievement of 2 megawatts of installed solar PV.
- 2024 GreenPower team continuing solar PV installation work at [Police Training Center, East District Police, and Water Utility Paterson Operations](#). [Design and procurement activities for CDA Truax](#)

[Apartments Solar PV project underway.](#)

- Construction Phase > [Streets West Badger Salt Barn \(substantially complete\), CCB remodels \(Assessor/Clerk/Treasurer/OIM/Common Council\), Royal Thai Pavilion roof replacement/restoration, Door Creek Park Pavilion, Tenney Park Beach Shelter, Madison Public Market, Metro – Satellite Facility, State Street Campus Garage Mixed Use Development, Village on Park Parking Structure, Fire Station 14 Training Site Phase 1](#)
- Bidding/Contract Phase > [Rennebohm Park Shelter Restroom Renovation, Country Grove Park Shelter, West Streets Facility HVAC and Lighting Upgrade, and Bartillon Shelter](#)
- Design Phase > [Streets – Waste Transfer – Public Drop Off Access and Flatwork Improvements, WPCRC Expansion, Engineering Services Building Locker Room Renovation, and Imagination Center at Reindahl Park](#)

Operations – Sewer and Stormwater Utilities

Kathy Cryan, Deputy Division Manager, Operations, Admin, and Personnel

Sewer cleaning, as usual, is on schedule. Two sewer main backups year to date. Congrats to Vaughn Porter on his promotion to Tech 1 and joining our team of Vactor operators. CCTV crews are up and running full speed. Congrats to Jason Raisbeck and Brent Walker for becoming PACP/LACP/MACP certified.

Spring storm structure cleaning has begun. This cycle of special structure cleaning is complete and crews are working on catch basins. The Willow Creek “bath tub” will be cleaned in April.

We had one “spill” call - contractor discharging concrete slurry to curb that entered storm. PHMDC did a nice write up on the work of our crew in their [blog, Speaking of things in the storm sewer that don't belong there – in March we had calls to recover a phone, football, and coin that were dropped into a storm inlet.](#)

Locators have been extra busy with locates for Forestry's spring tree plantings.

Construction crews have been busy working on casting adjustments and replacements, point repairs, structure repairs and installation, and sinkhole repairs. They also installed the new road sensors Streets is using to monitor winter pavement conditions.

We're excited to welcome our MI-TE trainees who start on Monday, April 1st. Congrats to Sam Quinn on his promotion to Leadworker 1. Sam will be leading a MI-TE crew in his new position. We will have two full crews this year and are looking forward to a productive season. Congrats also to Alex Koeser, Bill Wenninger, and Nathan Pribbenow on their promotions to Operator 2. They will be spending time working with the MI-TE crew as well as other Op2 assignments.

Stormwater

Janet Schmidt, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

Construction season is here! Our vegetation and ecology teams are hard at work already gearing up for the season with prescribed burns and restoration plans for our newly constructed ponds. Work continues to chug along at our Wexford Dredge and Grassman Greenway sites. The dredging is complete and the ponds need to have the restoration done. At Grassman Greenway, most of the tree removals and a good chunk of the grading work is well underway. The restoration will be starting at Robin Greenway this spring as well. We still have a lot of design work to do this spring but many projects are either out for bid or waiting to start. The designers did a great job keeping everything moving forward. Our Vegetation Management Plans is moving along. This will be very helpful to use as a guide for how we manage our lands. A call for expert volunteers netted more than 80 people that have background in various subjects that will help guide us with our plan and will also help with conversations around some of these nuanced subjects with the public. We just launched another watershed study for the Nine Springs area, which includes south Madison. We are also doing the Pennito Creek watershed study in-house. That means the entire city will be either completed or started. Our hope is to complete all of our 22 study areas by 2026.

Sanitary Sewer

Mark Moder, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

The 2024 construction year is here, and design staff is very busy. I do want to remind designers to stay on top of permitting- WRAPPS, Sewer Extension Permits, Wetland Permits. We cannot start projects without permits in place. We have one project this year that is being delayed as a result of not having a sewer extension permit in place. Private development work (both subdivision and infill lot redevelopment) is ongoing. Infill lot redevelopments that resulted in larger regional infrastructure sewer projects are now being designed: Lake Street Garage Redevelopment (Lake St. and Dayton St. sewers); and Gardners Bakery Redevelopment (Commercial Ave.(Hwy 30) sewer crossing)

will both be put together soon. The 3rd project, 1617 Sherman Ave. (Fordem-First Sewer Replacement), will likely not be built in 2024 due to Railroad Permitting. We are anticipating more developments that will require offsite sewer improvements because of the significant increase in wastewater generated. 838 Williamson Street (Paterson St Sewer) is one project that we are awaiting a decision from a developer for the required sewer improvements on Paterson St. Lift Stations Projects: Truax Lift Station Replacement will be under construction April and completed in 2024. The Badger Lift Station Replacement will be designed in 2024. Sewer Projects funded by Impact Fees- The Pumpkin Hollow Neighborhood Sanitary Sewer (regional sewer improvement) will serve pending development in the vicinity of Portage Rd and Hoepker Road and potentially a much larger 674-acre basin which currently does not have access to City sewer. We are in the process of putting together the impact fee needs assessment. Finally, the 2025 Budget planning is well underway and will be submitted in April.

Land Information/Official Map

Jeff Quamme, Section Manager

- Coordination of multiple Real Estate projects and relocation orders for several engineering, transportation and water projects
- 911 Address Point population continuing to move along
- Private development with extensive land rights reviews, acquisitions and releases with Real Estate projects.
- Street name change projects and set up of application materials now that policy has been adopted.
- Review of all historic Official Map reservations still ongoing.
- Continued update and checks of impervious mapping for storm water billing.
- Begin checking and adding parcel mapping for future areas of Blooming Grove to attach in 2027

Engineering Technology

Candice Kasprzak, Engineering Technology Manager

- Facilities Management working fully in ACC including change orders and pay apps.
- Working heavily with Construction Inspection on getting the contract administration setup in ACC
- Also working with Construction Inspection on getting their forms into ACC digitally
- Looking into getting CityWorks time imported into Kronos
- Researching BIM for facilities into CityWorks
- Carey going to the CityWorks Conference in May
- Ongoing
- Setting up CAD standards, templates and efficiency improvements
- E911 Addressing Points with Dane County
- Misc CityWorks updates and maintenance
- Sanitary & Storm record updates – working on sanitary and storm backlog
- Data Governance –Working on data training. Looking into online class forums for different topics

Administration Staff

Johanna Johnson, Heidi Fleegel, Isaac Gabriel

The important Common Council and Board of Public Works dates to know in April:

- Common Council resolutions deadline is Tuesday, April 9 at 8:00 AM (4/16 CC)
- Board of Public Works resolution deadline is Wednesday, April 10 at NOON (4/17 BPW)
- Common Council resolution deadline is Tuesday, April 30 at 8:00 AM (5/7 CC)
- Board of Public Works resolution deadline is Wednesday, May 1 at NOON (5/18 BPW)

Finance

Steve Danner-Rivers, Financial Manager

The Finance section has finished closing out 2023 and is now working on preparations for audit which will occur the week of April 8. The Capital Budget for 2025 kicked off on March 19 and will be submitted to the Mayor on April 19. We are working on setting up a live contract training with the Attorney's office specifically for Engineering staff. We are aiming for some time in May. Anyone who writes contracts, amendments or the related resolutions is highly encouraged to attend.

Construction Inspection

John Fahrney, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

Inspectors are completing finalization of 2023 projects. Surveyors are working on construction staking and preliminary surveys for 2024 projects. Staff is inspecting permits. Staff is inspecting 2024 PW and private projects. Staff is working on ACC implementation.

Coming and Going

- New Hires
 - Matt Murphy
 - Paul DeJardin
 - Kyle Porter
 - Kemoney Woods
 - Britian Gloudeman
- Promotions
 - Vaughn Porter
 - Wayne Brown
 - Emma Almy
 - Nathan Pribbenow
- Departures
 - Steven Armstrong

Our Madison – Inclusive, Innovative & Thriving

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