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Importance: High

THE E.

A newsletter for the Engineering Division



December 2023 Issue

A message from City Engineer, Jim Wolfe

With the 2024 budget approved, winter weather rolling in, along with the end of the calendar year, there is a lot going on and the Engineering Division will be transitioning our work a bit. Project design staff will be working on designs, with a heavy focus on public engagement for 2024 projects over the coming month, and inspection staff will be working more on contract close-outs than out in the field. Our Operations staff are also getting set up for snow removal, and all of the late night work and on-call stress that comes with that, and we are so grateful for their continued work to help keep our City infrastructure safe for use in the winter, along with our other Department of Public Works colleagues. I also wanted to send out a quick reminder to make sure that your annual Check-ins are completed with your supervisor. Last, but certainly not least, I want to wish all of our dedicated staff a safe and happy holiday season, and I want to thank all of you for your hard work over the last year to serve the residents of Madison so well!

-Jim Wolfe

Let's Go Bowling! Sign Up for City's Annual Bowling Tournament

Entries now being accepted for the 37th Annual City Employees' Bowling Tournament. The tournament will be held at Bowl-A-Vard lanes on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2023. Entries will continue to be accepted until December 8th or until all 80

team spots are filled. There will be two shifts of 40 teams each (10am and 1:30pm). Be sure to mark your preference on the entry form.

Tournament Entry Rules:

1. Each entry submitted must contain 5 bowlers, of which THREE must be current City of Madison employees, retirees, or Madison Credit Union employees.
2. Bowlers may enter the tournament only once.
3. Entry form AND one \$50 check (paid to the order of CITY EMPLOYEE'S BOWLING TOURNAMENT) must be returned by December 8th to a Tournament Committee Member or returned to Madison Credit Union. Cash will be accepted only if you drop off your entry form and fee directly to Madison Credit Union.
4. Complete entry form must accompany the full \$50 payment, or the form will not be accepted.

Entry forms and payments may be submitted via Inter-D to any of the following Tournament Committee Members or directly to Madison Credit Union at 949 E. Washington Ave.

- Felix McKnight, Streets East
- Luke Olson, Streets West
- Ken Dalton, Fleet
- Jason Raisbeck, Engineering
- Dillion Joyce, Metro
- Rebecca Laurysens, Madison Credit Union

Questions: rlaurysens@madisoncu.com

Quarterly Vision Zero Newsletter Includes Wilson, Davies Streets, Dempsey Reconstruction

The final issue of 2023 for Madison's Vision Zero [Quarterly Newsletter](#) focuses on Madison's Vision Zero initiative and discusses the need to create safer environments for all roadway users, current projects in progress or nearly complete, and ways the City is working together to create safer roads for all.

This edition of the newsletter features articles on the following topics:

- Safety and Safe Speeds – Madison's Way Forward
- Wilson Street Reconstruction
- Safe Drivers Save Lives
- World Day of Remembrance: Sunday, November 19, 2023
- Davies Street/Dempsey Road Reconstruction
- Together for Safer Roads

Combined Campaign Contest Underway in ENG

The Combined Campaign contest is underway. You can begin voting now in the break room. This contest is to raise money and awareness for the Combined Campaign (<https://combined-campaign.countyofdane.com/>), and to have some fun too!

Vote for your favorite one:

[Downtown contest](#)

- Bryan Cooper wears a wig for a day
- Jim Wolfe dresses up one day as a nerdy old fashioned engineer and one day as a wacky partying engineer
- Trivia contest: Room 115 vs Room 118. Losers make pancakes for the winners.

Emil St contest

- Kathy Cryan dresses up in the bee keeper suit for a day
- Stephen King works on a Green Power crew installing solar for a day
- Trivia contest: Operations+Facilities vs Inspection+Mapping. Losers make pancakes for the winners.

You can vote on the 3 activities by putting money into the respective jars in the break room. You can vote as much or as little as you want.

The contest runs through Dec. 15. The winning activity is the one with the most dollars donated. Proceeds from the contest will be split between [United Way of Dane County and Thursday's Child charities](#).

What is the Combined Campaign you ask? It is an annual drive that the City and County participate in where employees can sign up to make donations to any of hundreds of different charities. Please consider setting up an automatic contribution from your paycheck. You can choose the amount/frequency and which specific charities get your money. For example you could set it up to donate \$1 to the Dane County Humane Society every paycheck. Or you could make a single donation of \$20 to the Special Olympics. You can even select umbrella organizations in which your donations will be split up to their many member charities. It's easy to set up ([click here to set up a contribution](#)) but I will be happy to walk you through it too.

ENG Presents to Deputy Consul-General for Thai Pavilion Roof Project

Engineering's Amy Scanlon was part of a small group who shared updates to the Royal Thai Consulate-General. In the meeting, which included a visit to the renovation site, was also attended by Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway and Mrs. Lora Klenke, Managing Director of the Wisconsin Alumni Association at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The purpose of this collaboration was to strengthen ties and cooperation between the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Chicago and Madison, Wisconsin.

Read more, see more photos of the visit:

<https://www.mfa.go.th/en/content/pr-chicago-11072023-2?cate=5d5bcb4e15e39c3060006844>

ENG Equity Minute

The restructured Equity Team is looking for Engineering staff that are interested in participating!

The team will kick off 2024 with a full-day retreat in January to develop the Equity Action Plan (and resulting work plan) for the year. Key focus areas of the Equity Action Plan will be:

- Identify and take action on inequitable policies, procedures, and programs.
- Ensure compliance with Prohibited Harassment and/or Discrimination (APM 3-5) training requirements.
- Ensure language access.
- Support equity learning and training.
- Members should be able to spend 5 to 8 hours per month working on their assigned projects and attending meetings and trainings.

Interested?

- Talk with your supervisor to get their approval.
- Email one of the Equity Team co-leads, Danielle Dixon at ddixon@cityofmadison.com or Stephen King at srking@cityofmadison.com to let them know you are interested.

Monthly GEAR Update

GEAR: GROWTH. ENGAGEMENT. ACCESSIBILITY. RESOURCES

If you have a section to be updated on GEAR, email ENGWeb@cityofmadison.com

The updated 2024 BPW Deadlines calendar is now live on GEAR. You can check it out here:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/employeeenet/engineering/board-of-public-works-common-council-calendar>

BOOKMARK GEAR TODAY:

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

City Staff Celebrate Atwood Completion with Bike Ride

Everyone is excited the [Atwood Avenue Reconstruction](#) project has come to an end, including City staff! A couple weeks ago, on an unusually warm fall day, City staff took a tour of the improved infrastructure led by staff from Traffic Engineering and [City of Madison Engineering](#). We were joined by folks from [Greater Madison MPO](#), [Madison Bikes](#), and [Wisconsin Bike Fed](#). Madison [BCycle](#) provided fully charged bikes for staff who don't bike to work but wanted to participate.





ENG Safety Shoe Reimbursement Deadline: Dec. 22

Engineering employees should submit 2023 safety shoe reimbursements by Dec. 22, 2023. Safety shoes purchased in 2023 will not be approved if submitted in 2024. If you cannot submit before the deadline, you will need to wait until the new year.

2023-2024 - \$195

2025-2026 - \$200

Media Roundup

Engineering and DPCED partnered to host a dedication for South Pinckney Street's new public art sculptures : *Greeting Arc I* & *Greeting Arc II*, by artist Sunhee Min. The dedication was held Nov. 15, 2023.

Read more: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/news/2023-10-30/new-public-art-to-be-dedicated-on-south-pinckney-street-median>

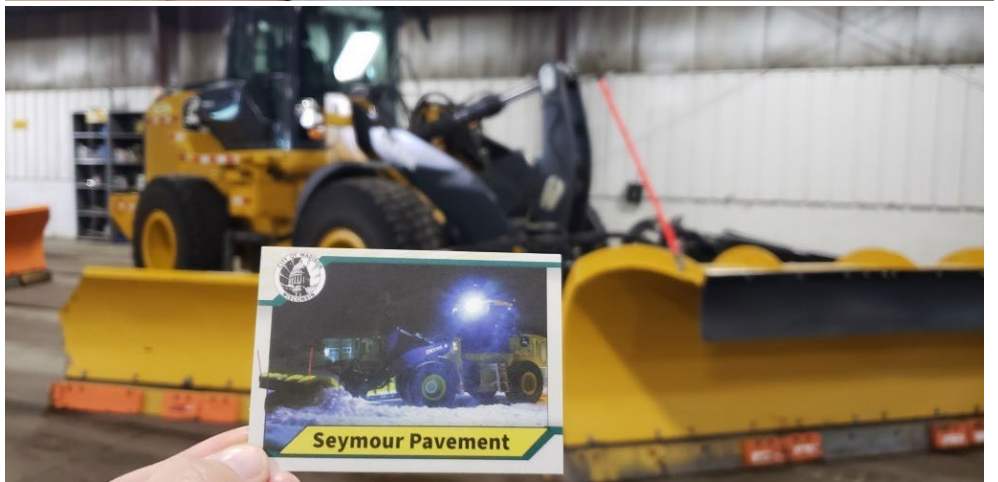
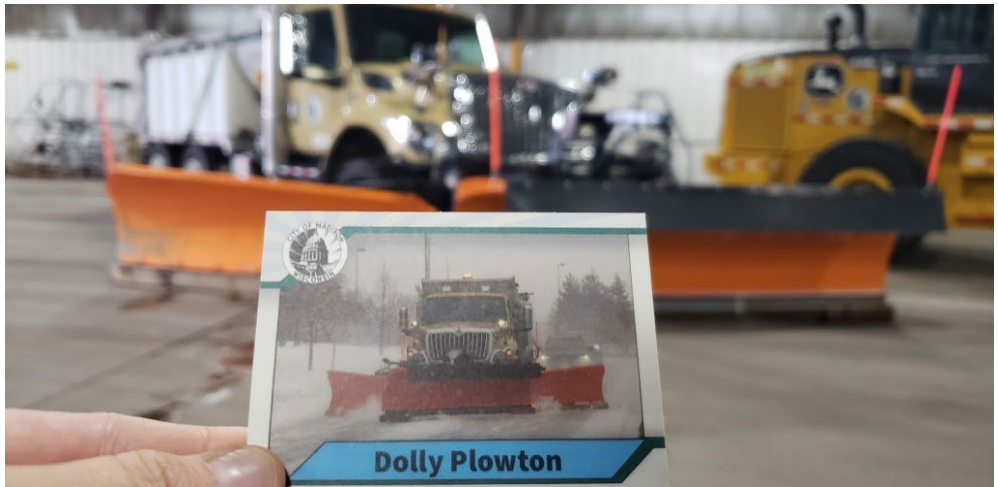
Watch the dedication: [News Conference: Pickney Street Art Dedication](#)



ENG Partners with Streets Division, WI SaltWise to Launch Baseball Cards

The City officially launched its new educational snow machine baseball cards as a new take on public education about the City's snow machines and processes. Last year, the community named four snow machines, one being Engineering's bike path snow clearing machine: Snowbi Wan Kenobi. Snowbi, along with the three other machines, were featured on individual baseball cards, which can be collected for free at any Madison Public Library. Read more: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/news/2023-11-21/winter-is-coming-collect-new-free-snow-machine-baseball-cards>





Public Market Groundbreaking

The construction phase is officially underway for the City's new Madison Public Market. The City of Madison, Madison Public Market Foundation and project stakeholders hosted an official groundbreaking Monday, Nov. 27, 2023.

The groundbreaking was held at 202 North First Street, Madison, Wis., site of the new Madison Public Market (MPM). During the groundbreaking, city leaders and project stakeholders shared information about the project and its anticipated impact. Speakers shared historical highlights of the effort while celebrating the progress made to date and hopes for the future.

Read more: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/news/2023-11-27/madison-public-market-groundbreaking-a-place->

[where-dreams-come-true](#)

Watch the full groundbreaking: [News Conference: Madison Public Market Groundbreaking](#)



Press Releases

[Madison Public Market Groundbreaking: 'A Place Where Dreams Come True.'](#)

[Winter is Coming. Collect New Free Snow Machine Baseball Cards](#)

[HUD Selects City of Madison Community Development Authority's Bjarnes Romnes Apartments as Study Area for the Annual Innovation in Affordable Housing Student Design and Planning Competition](#)

Blog

[Plant of the Week: Poison Ivy](#)

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

Press, press, press. What a busy month promoting all of your work, and connecting with our community. We've had a very busy month with a lot of public information meetings, ground breakings, press events, and it's not stopping in the new year. It's an honor to coordinate these projects on such a public level. Thank you for keeping me in the loop as everything develops and each project continues to move forward. Coming up next: groundbreakings for State Street Garage, Metro Hanson Road Remodel, "Salt and See" Press Event for Salt Awareness Week and 2 Megawatt Celebration at Emil Street. I'm continuing to make progress with DCR on helping them build their new communications plan, and still working with DPCED as they work to hire a new PIO. The Transportation Department is also preparing to hire a new PIO as well, as I look forward to helping the process to find the City's next professional communicators. Please continue to copy me and forward me your media requests. I'm also working on an Atwood Timelapse video that will be a fun piece of media to promote in the new year since the project is complete.

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 include Harvey/Schmitt, Segoe/Sheboygan, Hammersley Ph 2, 2012 Winnebago St, 825 E Washington, . Lowell St, Lake Mendota Dr Ph3, and Knutson Dr project teams had public information meetings to obtain input on designs. 2024 Resurfacing was presented at Transportation Commission also.

Facilities Management

Bryan Cooper, Deputy City Engineer, Facilities Services and Management

1. 2023 GreenPower team nearing completion of solar PV work at [Police Training Center](#), work underway at [Engineering Operations Facility](#), and a crew is moving to [East District Police soon](#). [Design and procurement activities for CDA Truax Apartments Solar PV](#) project underway.
2. Construction > [Streets West Badger Salt Barn, CCB remodels \(Assessor/Clerk/Treasurer/OIM/Common Council\)](#), [Royal Thai Pavilion roof replacement/restoration](#), [Door Creek Park Pavilion](#), [Tenney Park Beach Shelter](#).
3. Construction ground breaking event completed for [Madison Public Market](#)
4. Construction bidding completed and construction contracts routing for [State Street Campus Garage Mixed Use Development](#), [Metro – Satellite Facility](#)
5. Rebidding [Village on Park Parking Structure and Site Improvements](#)
6. Design > [Bartillon Shelter, Streets – Waste Transfer – Public Drop Off Access and Flatwork Improvements](#), [Country Grove Park Shelter](#), [Imagination Center at Reindahl Park](#), [WPCRC Expansion](#)

Operations – Sewer and Stormwater Utilities

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

Kudos to our vector team. They have been knocking it out of the park this year! They've worked together as a team to wrap up our ACs dealing with a lot of access issues. Monthly PMs – as usual – are on schedule. And we currently have 9 sewer main back ups for the year. Jason Raisbeck and Brent Walker were promoted to CCTV Technicians so we are back to full staffing of this team. The MI-TE program is done for the season. We had a great first year and are looking forward to year 2. HR will be posting a Leadworker 1 position as a promotional opportunity for Engineering employees in CG 15 in the very near future and we will be actively recruiting trainees for next year. First snow fall gave us a chance to get out on our routes. No complaints for our bikepaths! And a special thanks to Kong Vang for all his hard work and commitment to the City. Great job everybody!

Stormwater

Janet Schmidt, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

Budget is approved and new project assignments are out! Sauk Creek Greenway Corridor Planning and the Stormwater Vegetation Management Plan are now underway with public input meetings. The Pheasant Branch Enhancement project at Old Sauk Trails Business Park is gaining steam as we continue working on the design. We had one stakeholder meeting and will be working on the first public input meeting in early 2024. Wexford Pond dredge and Grassman Greenway will both be starting construction now, so there will be work through the fall and winter. The University Ave box culvert repair was delayed slightly but we hope to get that moving forward at the end of January or early February. This should hopefully extend the life of that box for several decades. Spring Harbor Watershed Study is moving along with lots of revisions to the model to address public comments. We hope to have that ready for the 4th public meeting in January or February. The street projects continue to move forward – design season is in full swing again! As we close out 2023 I wanted to take the time to thank all our section for the work they do and wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Sanitary Sewer

Mark Moder, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

Project assignments for 2024 construction year are now out. Engineers are encouraged to check their project lists and get out to see the project sites and request survey work prior to winter if it is still needed. It is much harder to find private storm connections after it snows. Please take the time to get out when you can. Private development is still steady with infill site redevelopments and plat development design work. Infill developments are resulting in larger regional infrastructure sewer projects. Some will require that the work be bid by the City: Lake Street Garage Redevelopment (Lake St. and Dayton St. Sewer), Gardners Bakery Redevelopment (Commercial Ave.(Hwy 30) sewer crossing), 1617 Sherman Ave. (Fordem-First St. Sewer Replacement), & possibly 838 Williamson St.(S. Paterson St. Sewer Replacement). We are anticipating this trend to continue as we see apartment growth along the City's key transportation corridors. We have an impact fee project to build a regional sewer to serve pending development on undeveloped lands in the vicinity of Portage and Hoepker Road. Development now appears to be moving forward so

we will need to establish the impact fee and put together the plans for construction. Finally, Thank you everyone for a very productive 2023. I hope that everyone has a great holiday season and look forward to 2024.

Land Information/Official Map

Jeff Quamme, Section Manager

- Ongoing street vacation projects.
- Continued coordination of Real Estate projects for several engineering projects
- Ongoing review and modification of addressing data to be used by Dane County 911.
- Private development in the City of Madison. Extensive land right reviews, acquisitions and releases.
- Continued maintenance of files and processing for storm water billing.
- Coordination with other agencies to assist with better addressing accuracy.
- Final policy changes for street naming and renaming policies and subsequent resolution
- Planning for parcel acquisitions at Mid Town Rd and annexation on north side of Madison.
- Relocation Order for material waste site Siggelkow Rd

Engineering Technology

Candice Kasprzak, Engineering Technology Manager

- John spoke at the national Autodesk University conference in Las Vegas this November about migrating Change Orders to ACC – It went very well.
- Getting construction report ready to send to DOT for road aid
- Getting the last couple of issues worked out with IT Pipes and Sewer AI – Using both in the field and Office.
- Starting on getting sidewalk inspections up in CityWorks
- Setting up new Facilities Management projects in Autodesk Construction Cloud (ACC)
- Start work with Construction Inspection in 2023 to configure ACC
- Will is working with Land Information Section on getting the parcels into our system while down a person
- Looking into getting CityWorks time imported into Kronos
- Setting up CAD standards, templates and efficiency improvements
- E911 Addressing Points with Dane County
- 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

- BPW resolutions are due by NOON on Wednesday, Dec 6 (12/13)
- 2024 Board of Public Works Calendar. A copy was posted on GEAR website
- We are assisting Affirmative Action Division with Small Business Enterprise Pre Bid meetings by hosting Zoom meetings and providing meeting support.

Finance

Steve Danner-Rivers, Financial Manager

- **Check your contracts** – if they expire soon and need to be extended, please work with Chase to extend them.
- **Billings to others** – please let Steve & Jen know if we need to bill anyone (including other City agencies) for work done by our crews or by our contracts for others
- **Grants** – please let Chase know the status of your grants this year. Was there any grant activity, new grant applications, awards, closeouts, etc.?
- **Spending** – budget is tight. Please limit any purchases to the extent possible/delay until January. Wait until after Christmas to purchase anything on p-cards that will be used in 2024. Likewise, after Christmas do not pay for any goods or services used in 2023 (we will cut a check instead). We can start issuing 2024 Purchase Orders around the beginning of December. Generally speaking, we should not be spending money in 2023 for stuff that is used or happening in 2024.
- **Memberships** – wait until January to renew any memberships.
- **Trainings** – if the training takes place in 2024, do not pay on p-card until after Christmas (after your claim is approved too).

- **Change orders** – if you have pending change orders and they won't be approved/finalized before the end of the year, let Steve and Chase know.

Construction Inspection

John Fahrney, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

Inspections continue on permits, private development projects and PW projects. All street PW projects were paved before plants closed. Surveyors are working on construction surveys and preliminary surveys for 2024. City of Madison staff is reviewing/preparing Standard Specifications for revisions. Staff is finalizing 2023 projects.

Coming and Going

- New Hires
 - Ben Carrao
 - Josh Luebke
 - Max Raemisch
- Promotions
 - Steve White
- Departures
 - Timothy Thoma
- Interview/Offer Process
 - Public Works Utilities Maintenance Worker 1 or Public Works Utilities Machine Operator 1
 - Engineer 1 – Sewer and Stormwater
 - Building and Trades Foreperson
- Posted
- Upcoming postings
 - Surveyor 2
 - Leadworker 1 – Operations
 - Utility Locator
 - Maintenance Mechanic 1
 - Leadworker 2 Trainee - Operations
 - Construction Inspector – Hourly
 - MI-TE
 - Green Power
 - Conservation Ecology Trainee

Our Madison – Inclusive, Innovative & Thriving

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