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Mohelnitzky, Hannah

**The E:** March 2025 **ate:** Wednesday, March 12, 2025 10:46:25 AM

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A newsletter for the Engineering Division



March 2025 Issue

# A message from your City Engineer, Jim Wolfe:

First, I want to thank Hannah for putting together the amazing videos to help celebrate Women In Construction Week at the City. I really appreciate that we can continue to showcase the wide variety of different opportunities here at the City.

As we're starting to enter spring, and at risk of jinxing it, I want to thank all of our Ops crews for their dedicated service over winter to respond to winter storms. While it was not a huge snow season around Madison, and it's still possible more still could come, but let's hope not! Spring also means the start of construction season! Our construction inspection group is preparing for a number of projects to get started over the next couple of weeks. Spring also means kicking off budget season! Up first is preparing our capital budget, with our submissions due April 18.

-Jim

#### Women in Construction Week 2025: Share Their Stories!

What an incredible week of sharing the stories and journeys of the five profiles featured on all the City platforms. Make sure to take the time to watch their video profiles and read about their journeys in each of the write-ups. Feel free to share out, send an email to any of them and celebrate their work here at the City of Madison.

- Molly Berkholtz, Conservation Technician, City of Madison Parks Division
- Sarah Johns, Field Service Representative, Madison Water Utility
- Emma Almy, Engineer, City of Madison Engineering Division
- Renee Callaway, Assistant Director, City of Madison Traffic Engineering Division
- Taletha Skar, Fiber Manager, City of Madison Information Technology



Molly Berkholtz Parks

Sarah Johns Madison Water Utility

Renee Callaway
Traffic Engineering

Emma Almy Engineering

**Taletha Skar**Information Technology

# **Women in Construction Week 2025**

March 2-8, 2025

Learn more on the City of Madison Engineering Division Facebook, X, YouTube and website for videos, written stories and photos of each unique journey and career path.

# **Equity Minute: March 2025**

The equity team is made up of multiple different subgroups. This month we will be spotlighting our PIM/Language Access Team

A team lead by Aaron Canton worked with IT to include a standard blurb about translation resources added to all public-facing Engineering project pages. The team will continue into the new year by meeting to figure out how to get a standard blurb about translation on all Engineering mailings.

### It's Public Information Meeting Season

There are a lot of public information meetings happening this month and next. Thank you to everyone who is following the process, everyone is! If you're about to do a public information meeting, and are not familiar with our process, please view GEAR and visit our Public Engagement Program section—Public Information Meeting Set Up page along with the Templates and Documents section. It walks you through the process, the forms, etc. We're starting to get consistently MORE people attending our meetings. This tells us that the community outreach is working, we're reaching more people, and we've been consistent with our outreach (postcards, project websites and virtual meetings), that people know where to find us to get the information they need about projects that impact their lives. Thank you to everyone working together on this effort.

# **Media Roundup**



AGING INFRASTRUCTURE | MONONA TERRACE

# Madison wants to use geothermal to modernize Monona Terrace — if it can find space

Nicole Pollack | Wisconsin State Journal

Feb 28, 202



Madison plans to study using geothermal to electrify the aging heating and cooling system at Monona Terrace. Some of the options would involve drilling holes around the building, but one of the technologies involves placing heat exchangers in Lake Monona, at right.

AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL

#### **Press Releases**

City of Madison Celebrates Women in Construction Week 2025 posted February 28, 2025

Imagination Center at Reindahl Park Construction Process Begins with Bid Advertisement posted February 19, 2025

# Blog

None

#### Podcast: Everyday Engineering on Apple iTunes and YouTube

Recording and planning underway for next batch of recordings.

Don't miss an upcoming episode! https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/madisons-everyday-engineering/id1476609194

# Got Maps? Want them Online? IT Updates Website Access for Editors to Add Embed Codes

**ArcGIS map embeds:** ArcGIS updated their embed code for web maps. We've updated the Embed component to accept the new code. Your department's GIS staff can provide you with the web map embed code.



# **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

I'm chiseling away at my video projects, and have the following next now that the Women in Construction Week video haul is complete: MI-TE Updated Recruitment Video, CDL Training Video, Practical Test Training Video, Alder Onboarding Video and Materials, How-To Training Public Information Meeting Video for GEAR, Op 1/Maintenance Worker 1 Recruitment Video, Engineering's first Annual Report, 2024/2025 Engineering Division Communications Plans. Another big project for our division: updating our website on all things accessibility. Our web editors will hear more from me in the coming weeks to complete this effort.

#### **Public Works and Private Development**

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

Public works engineers are working on design and approvals for 2025 projects. Private development Engineers and Managers continue to service contracts and issue plan sets. Plans issued this month include Sidewalk Dist 10, Dist 20 Sawcutting, Franklin Ave. Meyer Ave, Chip Sealing & Crack Sealing was approved at the Board of Public Works. A public information meeting was held for 2025 Resurfacing.

# **Facilities Management**

Bryan Cooper, Deputy City Engineer, Facilities Services and Management No blurb submitted.

#### Operations - Sewer and Stormwater Utilities

Jay Pare, Infrastructure Training Program MI-TE Supervisor

Vactor crews are working through their PM's and are looking to start storm catch basin cleaning in the next few weeks. All three CCTV trucks are up and working well, busy with CMOM and special projects. Jason's portable structure camera suffered a little damage, but was repaired under warranty and has come in real handy with off road structure inspections.

Construction crews have been busy with sanitary point repairs, dredging projects, and replacing pin type sanitary castings to help reduce infill. After dealing with the last snow events, they quickly shifted to clearing inlets and storm grates to prevent localized flooding. MITE interviews are scheduled and we hope to get them rolling early April.

#### Stormwater

Janet Schmidt, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

It feels like a perpetual cycle but Budget season is here already! We will be focusing on getting the CIP projects lined up and

having the stormwater ranking "matrix" updated for our flood mitigation projects. This matrix helps us rank our projects in an equitable way for consideration in the budget. The watershed study project managers and Sarah Lerner will be working to get that in place for budget season. The Sauk Creek Corridor made it through the first step of the approval process at the Board of Public Works. In Mid-March the plan goes before the Council for final approval. So much work went into this effort and a big thanks to Jojo O'Brien and Maddie Dumas for their commitment to getting it approved. The Cap City Trail Storm sewer replacement had its Public Informational Meeting in Mid-February. We look forward to getting that bid for a summer start. Good work to Daniel Olivares for pushing this one forward. Spring Harbor Watershed Study report is also getting the finishing touches and will be heading to BPC and BPW for approval. So much work went into reworking some of the proposed solutions and redoing the model work. Alana Baker did a great job ushering that through to the finish line. The Pheasant Branch Greenway Enhancement and Prairie Hills Pond Dredging are well underway and under construction. Those will be keeping inspection staff busy during the winter. We've had some project and staff shuffling as of late to help fill the gaps while we get new hires in place. We have a great team that was willing to assist where needed and we hope that this will be temporary until those positions get filled. We will be working on filling several positions in the upcoming months including adding a new Stormwater Utility Inspection position and filling the Hydrogeologist position formally held by Brynn Bemis. Maddie and Emily are working on hiring their summer hourlies as well. Finally a big welcome back to Tim Troester who will be returning to the Stormwater section for Erosion Control and permitting. Glad to have you back, Tim!

#### **Sanitary Sewer**

Mark Moder, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

2025 construction year is here. Projects assignments are now out, and utility designs are underway. Designers are reminded to stay on top of permitting- WRAPPS, Sewer Extension Permits, Wetland Permits. With the warm temps, contactors are likely going to start projects early and we need to have permits in place prior to beginning work. WDNR and CARPC have been taking their full-time allotment for their reviews so please try to apply for sewer extensions early. Private development is still steady with both infill site redevelopments and plat development design work. Private Development: We continue to focus on key apartment complex planned occupancy dates to hit in May of 2025: 3401 E. Washington Ave. (Gardners Bakery redevelopment) and 838 Williamson St. The Commercial Ave. (Hwy 30) sewer crossing project which is also associated with the Gardners Bakery site redevelopment is now under construction. Two additional apartment developments in this E. Washington Ave/(Gardners Bakery) corridor are now being proposed so there will likely be additional sewer projects required. Sewer improvements for 838 Williamson Street- Paterson St Sewer Replacement is now under construction. Fordem Ave.- First St. Sewer Replacement for 1617 Sherman Ave., will not be bid until we have all of the Railroad Permitting. We are most likely looking at a June bid. Lift Stations Projects: Truax Lift Station Replacement construction is nearing completion. The Badger Lift Station Replacement is not yet designed but construction is planned to begin late 2025/ early 2026. Mayflower L.S. will also be under design in 2025 for 2026 construction with the CDA redevelopment on W. Badger Rd/ S. Park St. Finally, the 2025 Budget planning will result in a very busy March.

# **Land Information/Official Map**

*Jeff Quamme, Section Manager*No blurb submitted.

### **Engineering Technology**

Candice Kasprzak, Engineering Technology Manager

- Finalizing Address Point and storm billing workflows to work with new CAMA system
- Beginning private development workflows in ACC working on templates and forms first
- Getting all of the PW front end contract documentation automated where possible, and into ACC.
- Trained inspectors on new IRA workflow using ACC, trying to eliminate as much paper and dual entry as possible
- Working with ITPipes to get manhole inspections in
- Working with TE on ACC workflows
- Researching BIM for facilities into CityWorks
- $\bullet \ \ \text{Working with Facilities on CityWorks process changes for PMs. Switching from WO to inspections}\\$
- Working with other Public Works agencies to get CW and GIS updated
- Working with IT and other public works agencies on GIS upgrades, training and governance

#### Ongoing

- Setting up CAD standards, templates and efficiency improvements
- Data Governance Working on data training. Looking at City-wide data warehouse.
- E911 Addressing Points with Dane County
- Misc CityWorks updates and maintenance
- $\bullet~$  Sanitary & Storm record updates working on sanitary and storm backlog

### **Administration Staff**

Johanna Johnson, Heidi Fleegel, Isaac Gabriel

Common Council dates and Board of Public Works dates for March:

Common Council resolution deadlines were on Tuesday, March 4 & 18, by 8 AM (CC meeting on 3/11 & 3/25) Board of Public Works resolution deadlines were Wednesday, March 5 & 26 (BPW meeting 3/12 & 4/2)

#### **Finance**

Steve Danner-Rivers, Financial Manager No blurb submitted.

#### **Construction Inspection**

Kyle Frank, Principal Engineer Section Manager

Construction inspection staff continue to work on 2024 project finalization. Several public works projects have started construction. Precon meetings for spring construction are getting scheduled. Asset/IRAs in ACC training for inspectors is completed, Inspectors to continue to work with John to get familiar and comfortable with new workflows.

# **Coming and Going**

- New Hires
  - Heidi Agnew (GIS Intern) (Ops)
  - Pedro Hernandez (Custodial Worker 1) (Facilities)
- Promotions
  - Amy Scanlon (Principal Architect) (Facilities) (Former: Architect 4)
  - Jack Brody (Engineer 4) (Landfills) (Former: Engineer 3)
- Departures
  - Genaro Cruz

# **GEAR: The Engineering Division Intranet Site**

Don't forget to bookmark GEAR today!

https://www.cityofmadison.com/employeenet/engineering



Our Madison - Inclusive, Innovative & Thriving

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