THE T.



A newsletter for the Transportation Department









December 2025 Issue

A message from your Transportation Director, Christof Spieler:

It's remarkable how many things all of you do to get the people of Madison where they need to go every day. We have parking enforcement officers keeping our streets clear 24 hours a day, mechanics working overnight to keep buses in good shape, bus operators reporting at 4 am to be ready for morning commuters, traffic signal crews fanning out across the city so intersections work, a radio shop connecting police officers to dispatch, parking staff issuing permits for neighborhood festivals, maintenance crews cleaning bus stops, garage staff making sure people can park to go out in the evening, and many more. Meanwhile, we're busy making sure that Madisonians of the future will have a transportation network that serves them well. Our planners and engineers are designing streets, scheduling bus routes, rethinking highway plans, mapping out future connections, and meeting with communities to understand their needs. And we have administrative staff who do the essential work to make all of that possible.



I've had the chance in my first 5 months on the job to go out to the many places we work — Sayle, Hanson, Town of Madison, Ingersoll, MMB, Nakoosa Trail. I've had a chance to meet many of you, and I see you at work every day. I'm in awe of that you get done in all sorts of places, through all kinds of weather, at all times of day.

I've also heard lots of good ideas. It makes me happy to see us doing so any things well, but I know there are many things we can do better, and you understand that better than anyone. We'll be working on that at our department-wide meeting early next year — come with your ideas!

Your work is often behind the scenes, and easy to take for granted. But you are essential, and you are appreciated. Thank you all for what you do!

Fun Transportation Facts!



Early **Bus service** in Madison was provided by a private company until 1968 when Madison voters approved a referendum to acquire the struggling bus company. The acquisition took place in May of 1970. Since, service grows and changes each year to meet the needs of our rapidly expanding city.



The **Parking Division** centralized its **Parking Enforcement Officers** (PEOs) in 2023. This meant that PEOs were moved out of multiple police district stations and consolidated into one unit under the Transportation Department's Parking Division.



As part of **Vision Zero**, Madison is using a "Safe Systems" approach — meaning they focus not just on preventing all crashes but on making sure that when a crash *does* happen, the design prevents it from becoming fatal or life-changingly serious.



In 2020, the **Adult Crossing Guard program** was moved under Traffic Engineering to improve coordination of things like: where to place guards, how to study crossings, how to integrate speed/signal changes, and how to fund/plan these as part of pedestrian/bike infrastructure rather than as a standalone enforcement program.

Transportation Employee Spotlight



Caroline Haskin
Accounting Technician 2
Traffic Engineering Operations, Sayle Street
13 years of public service with the City of Madison

If you've ever wondered who keeps things running smoothly behind the scenes in Traffic Engineering at Sayle Street with Traffic Operations—especially when a streetlight goes out at the wrong moment—meet **Caroline Haskin**, Accounting Technician 2 and all-around go-with-the-flow problem solver.

Caroline joined the City of Madison back in August 2012, and since then she's become a bit of a Traffic Engineering Swiss Army knife. She triages complaint reports, wrangles work orders with the Electrical section, helps colleagues navigate software mysteries, and even serves as an authorized IT contact and EAP representative. (If there's a question floating around the office, odds are good someone's heading toward Caroline's desk.)

Her proudest accomplishments? Surviving—and succeeding—in multiple software migrations. Her secret weapon? A surprising mastery of **traffic control devices** and a solid knack for map reading. She reminds us that residents truly notice when infrastructure works well... or doesn't!

Caroline's motivation is simple: do your best—and don't wait to start your Roth plan (solid life advice, honestly). For anyone new to the field, she recommends staying curious and always be learning.

Outside the office, Caroline is all about fresh air—gardening, hiking, nature watching, and exploring Madison's incredible conservation parks. And here's a fun twist: if the voice in the City's **Seasonal Worker Recruitment video** sounds familiar... yep, that's Caroline too!

Project Highlights



Asphalt Art – Safety Demonstration Project

In September 2025, the department completed Madison's first-ever <u>Asphalt Art Safety Project</u>—a creative traffic-calming test project funded through the Federal *Safe Streets for All* grant. The project brought together staff planners and engineers with local artist Bernie & ZuZu and national ground mural experts Chalk Riot to test how art can help slow traffic and make streets safer for everyone. Staff will evaluate results and share findings and next steps in the months ahead. A big thank-you to everyone who helped bring this true #TeamCity collaboration to life!

Williamson Street Safety Test

Responding to resident requests, the City of Madison Traffic Engineering Division executed a test safety project that removed peak-hour travel lanes on Williamson Street, between Blount Street and Thornton Avenue, to evaluate safety benefits such as improved pedestrian crossings and reduced speeding.

Traffic Engineering staff presented <u>observations(opens in a new window)</u> made during the test and the <u>results of the public survey(opens in a new window)</u> to the Transportation Commission at the November 5, 2025 meeting. The Transportation Commission voted unanimously to remove the peak-hour travel lanes and keep the test conditions permanent. <u>Watch the video recording of the meeting</u>. Many members of the Traffic Engineering team contributed to this effort, and their prompt, coordinated response led to a smoothly executed test and a positive outcome.



Meet our new signs! - Education and outreach project

We've been developing a new standardized format for project information, survey collection, and on-street education. These signs are designed to make it easier for community members to engage with the City of Madison and understand how we're working to make our streets safer for all who use them. The new signs improve consistency across various programs, reduces design time, and most importantly—strengthens our public-facing communication. Above all, almost all signs are available in 4 languages: English, Spanish, Hmong, and Chinese. Visit the webpage

Alternate Side Parking Changes - Phased Updates Expected Over the Next Few Winters

The City of Madison is exploring updates to the winter <u>Alternate Side Parking program</u> with the goal of improving snow removal efficiency and reducing confusion among residents. This planning effort builds on lessons learned from past winters and feedback from community members.

Beginning with the 2025-2026 winter season, the City will test a delayed enforcement model and expand public education efforts to help residents better understand parking requirements and improve compliance.

For this winter:

- Enforcement will begin only when the Street Superintendent declares the first general plowing operation or snow emergency. A "general plow" is the term used when every street in the City of Madison is plowed curb-to-curb.
- Once activated, the Alternate Side Parking requirements will remain in effect until March 15, 2026. However, ticketing for alternate side violations may be paused during prolonged periods without snow or ice.
- The City will also evaluate enforcement timing to determine whether adjustments to the overall winter parking timeframe are appropriate in future years.



John Nolen Drive Reconstruction Project

The John Nolen Drive reconstruction project began in mid-October and encompasses the corridor between Broom Street and Lakeside Street. This is a full reconstruction effort that includes removing and replacing all three bridge structures along the causeway. Planned improvements include narrowing the travel lanes and adding curb and gutter to create a more urban roadway environment. The Capital City Trail will be enhanced with separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities, along with new standalone trail bridges to eliminate existing pinch points. The Broom Street intersection will be reconfigured into a more conventional T-intersection, and a shared-use path will be added on the north side of John Nolen Drive to provide connections between Broom Street, North Shore Drive, and Bedford Street. Construction will continue over the next year and a half, with completion anticipated in summer 2027.

Metro Transit's Expanded Payment Options for Riders

In addition to the new <u>Fast Fare cards</u>, riders are now also able to pay their adult rate bus fares with both physical contactless Mastercard or Visa credit cards as well as mobile wallets like Apple Pay, Samsung Pay, and Google Pay.

Using a <u>contactless credit card</u> will provide all the same multiple-ride discounts as using an adult Metro Fast Fare single ride at \$2.00, including a 2-hour transfer, and Fare Capping at \$5.00 daily, \$16.25 weekly, or \$65 monthly rates. To receive transfers and discounts, riders need to use the same credit card for fare payment each time they board.

#TeamCity Awards

#TeamCity Awards is a unique citywide recognition program launched in February 2020. Since then, hundreds of City employees and teams have been recognized in ceremonies for outstanding work by Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway. Any City employee can nominate an employee or a team.

To **nominate a** City **staff member** or **staff team**:

- send along your <u>nomination form</u> to Ilknur at <u>iuludag@cityofmadison.com</u>
- send along your <u>nomination form</u> by Inter-D to Fleet HQ, 4151 Nakoosa Trail
- Nominations are also accepted at any time on a rolling basis, so send along your nominations at any time.

2025 award recipients



#TeamCity Dignitary Protection Team - Cross departmental team including Traffic Engineering, Parking & Metro Transit (5/7/2025)



#TeamCity Community Service & Support Award Garfield Cunningham, Parking Division (3/1/2025)



#TeamCity Mayor's Choice Award (5/7/2025)
Scott Smail, TE Communications



#TeamCity Mayor's Choice Award (11/13/2025) Wayne Block (not pictured), Metro Transit



#TeamCity Community Team Award - Metro Operations Division (8/8/2025)



#TeamCity Public Works Award (11/13/2025) Valerie Draves, Traffic Engineering



#TeamCity Administration Award (11/13/2025)
Trina Protz, Metro Transit



#TeamCity Community Award (8/8/2025) Cleo Le, Metro Transit



#TeamCity Administration Team Award for the ADA Transition Plan Team which included Liz Callin, Transportation (8/8/2025)

End of Year – Payroll Reminders

Upcoming Holiday and Paid Leave Days for timesheet entry:

Holiday Leave: Christmas Day (12/25), New Year's Day (1/1), and MLK Jr Day (1/15)

Paid Leave: Christmas Eve (12/24), and New Year's Eve (12/31)

Sick Leave balances were paid out with PY25 (12/5/25 paycheck) for employees with over 150 days (1162.50 hrs with 7.75 hr daily shift). For CG 18, any hours accrued over that limit are paid out entirely, while for CG 16/20, 50% of the hours accrued are paid out while the other 50% continue to bank with the total Sick Leave balance.

Comp payouts will occur with PY26 (12/19/25 paycheck). For CG 18, the maximum limit to carry over into the following year is 40 hours, while for CG 16/20, the maximum limit is 80 hours. Make sure to take your PTO so that your vacation balances are at or below the approved carryover limit.

Cost-of-Living Raise:

In the 2026 operating budget there was a **3% cost-of-living adjustment** approved for all general municipal employees. The raise will go into effect at the beginning of the year (PP#2, first seen on 1/16/2026 paycheck).

^{*}Not pictured, #TeamCity Community Service and Support Award recipient John Villarreal, Parking Division (5/7/2025)

Community Engagement - Join the fun!



Safety Saturday citywide safety awareness event



Parks Alive citywide community event



Bus RoadeoMetro Transit 'Olympics'

Section Updates

Each month the T. will share information on important topics that impact our work division-wide. This is to grow better internal communication between leadership and staff and share the great work of everyone in Transportation!

Division Communications

Kristin Brodowsky, Transportation Division Public Information Officer

A busy communication summer and close to our fall seasons with a plethora of community events, press conferences, program launches, quick-build projects, and some exciting #TeamCity moments.

We are also working on creating a more accessible online presence. Most of the website work has been completed, aside from some documents that will need to be refreshed, made into webpages, or retired. I will reach out for assistance with those content experts in the new year.

We would also love to see more images of the work you are doing, from the field! Consider making that part of your process so we can update the public as we work on projects. Before, during, and after!

Thank you to everyone as we continue to streamline our communication processes, from meetings and project pages to social content and press releases. Please continue to send photos, media requests, meeting needs, social content, news releases, and web updates to kbrodowsky@cityofmadison.com.

Metro Transit



Jamie Acton, Metro Transit General Manager

I'm <u>Jamie Acton</u>, the new Metro Transit General Manager. I officially started on October 13 and am bringing over 15 years of public transit experience to the department. Now that I'm officially on board, my focus isn't on being revolutionary or making change for change's sake- it's on implementing the mayor's transit vision, meeting Metro's mission every day, and building a rock-solid foundation. I'm concentrating on four critical areas to bring stability and ensure Metro operates at its best.

I'm excited to tackle these priorities together:

- Doing the Basics Well: Metro must excel at the core operations that keep our system moving reliably and efficiently. This includes
 evaluating all areas of the system; improving how we manage our day-to-day business; ensuring we have the right tools to
 keep service on the street; and confirming we're fully compliant with all federal, state, and local regulations that keep our grant
 funds flowing.
- **Safety & Security:** The safety and security of all Metro staff and every single rider is non-negotiable, whether that's on the shop floor, on a bus, in the field, or in the office.

- **Financial Health:** Metro needs to establish and maintain strong fiscal health to fund the safety, service, and innovation projects that make us successful.
- Communications & Relationships: We have some relationships to repair and rebuild, both internally among Metro staff and externally with our city partners. I'm dedicated to improving how we engage and communicate- it's important to me that you have the information you need, and externally, that we're keeping the riders and community informed of what's happening at Metro.

I'm excited to finally be in Madison and settling in. I genuinely look forward to working with all of you! More Metro GM Updates here: https://www.cityofmadison.com/employeenet/metro/gm-updates

Development

Mick Rusch, Chief Development Officer, Administration Office, E Washington Ave

At the start of the school year, Metro stopped selling youth passes to the general public and encouraged parents to use the Fast Fare reloadable cards and phone app. This reduced lines at our reception window at the start of school. (MMSD still provides a school year Fast Fare card to select students based on income levels.)

Some expected Fast Fare updates in 2026/2027 include an auto balance reload in the Fast Fare app, and the ability to add a Fast Fare card to virtual wallets.

We've started accepting credit cards directly on the bus. You get the same fare capping pricing using a credit card as you would using a Fast Fare cards.

We're officially closing the south transfer point on Sunday, December 7. Buses will board on Hughe. Staff continue to work on a second BRT route (Rapid Route B) that will run from the north side of Madison all the way south to Fitchburg. Rapid Route B is already running with buses purchased with the initial BRT project and serve Route A BRT stations in the downtown area. Depending on federal funding available, infrastructure for Rapid Route B would be expected to be constructed and go live in 2029.

Administration

Jessy Stammer, Chief Administration Officer, Administration Office, E Washington Ave

It's hard to believe, but we have more than a year of BRT under our belts. As a team, we've been able to settle a bit from the chaos of the massive amount of change. This has allowed us the space and time to identify cracks in the structure, and where we need to work to rebuild or restore. This delicate balance will be our continued focus in the coming year.

That works includes:

- Working with our partners to complete a deep dive into our financials, and restore balance to our budget
- Continued collaboration with the Teamster Union after several months of bargaining, we came to agreement and signed a new contract
- Launching new technologies to assist passengers and employees alike, including an upgrade to our paratransit scheduling system and Team City's new Human Resource Management tool

Operations

Bryan Mulrooney, Chief Operations Officer, Ingersoll

Our primary focus in Metro Operations is to heighten the customer experience for the service we deliver on the street. We're refining internal processes, improving cross-department coordination, and continuing progress on technology and service initiatives. This year, we launched an internal review team focused on operator assault protocols to ensure incidents are addressed consistently and that frontline employees are supported. This is an important step in strengthening our overall safety culture. All of this work is aimed at improving responsiveness, supporting our staff, and enhancing the rider experience.

Marketing

Andrew (AJ) Liedl, Marketing Manager, Administration Office, E Washington Ave

I've been on the job for just over 10 months now, and it's been great getting to work alongside an incredibly talented and hard-working Metro team. Our marketing group works on public-facing communication efforts, including visual branding design (print/digital) and community outreach. I look forward to getting involved, finding areas for improvement, and working together. Some of the key areas I look to focus on:

- Establishing a strong social media presence
- Focus on improving outbound public communication
- Develop campaigns to drive activation and trust
- Build and maintain relationships across the region

Maintenance

Hoyt Harrison, Interim Chief Maintenance Officer, Ingersoll & Hansen Road

Maintenance has been working on managing a mixed fleet, which requires teams to handle two fundamentally different vehicle types. We have also been working to establish the best procedures for Preventive Maintenance at two locations. We have had our battery-electric coaches on the road for over a year, and we're still learning about the seasonal changes that affect our fleet. Maintenance must coordinate closely with facilities and utilities teams to ensure that charging infrastructure (both in the depot and, in some cases, in-route) is operational and maintained.

The Maintenance Team is constantly evolving and learning the best way to keep vehicles maintained and service out on the road throughout our daily challenges.

Capital Projects

Mike Cechvala, Capital Projects Manager, Administration Office, E Washington Ave

Tim Sobota, Capital Projects Manager, Administration Office, E Washington Ave

Work on the North—South BRT continues to move forward and the project is now about 60% through the design phase. Once complete, it will add roughly nine miles and 23 new stations to the BRT system, all served by the existing fleet of electric buses, which is an exciting step forward for the network.

Planning is also nearly finished for the Kennedy Road on-route bus charger, which is scheduled to be built in 2026 ahead of the North—South BRT launch. This will give Route B the ability to charge while in service and significantly reduce the need for buses to travel back and forth to the Hanson Road garage.

Looking ahead to the end of 2025, the South Transfer Point is scheduled to close in December. Metro has been working closely with Engineering, City IT, Traffic Engineering, Planning, the Fire Department, and other partners to coordinate the transition. New bus stops at Park Street and Hughes Place are already constructed, and new shelters will be installed there soon to support riders.

Parking Division



Stefanie Cox, Parking Division Director

Our team has been hard at work on several exciting initiatives across the Division. We're implementing changes to improve our organization, refine internal processes, and create new SOPs that promote clearer workflows and better service for everyone. We're also setting up test zones to carefully evaluate new restrictions, paid parking adjustments, and curb use strategies, all with the goal of making things better for our community.

Curb management is moving forward as we build a citywide program framework and prepare an RFQ for consultant support. Construction is progressing smoothly on the State Street Campus Garage and the upcoming Intercity Bus Terminal, while we expand Cityworks into more areas of Parking to improve work order and asset management. We're proud to share that the South Livingston Street Garage earned Parksmart Bronze Certification this year. We're developing the scope for a new Parking Access and Revenue Control System for all garages, with an RFQ coming soon. Additionally, we're working on improvements to winter parking regulations and starting the development of a five-year strategic plan to guide the Division's future.

<u>Field Operations: Maintenance, Garage, Lot, and On-Street Operations</u>

Glenn Hall, Field Operations Manager, Sayle Street

We have had a busy period of transition, with new hires, promotions, and retirements shaping the direction of the Operations section. Following the 2025 reorganization, many key positions in Field Operations have been filled across management, supervisory roles, lead workers, and customer service, along with the addition of several new cashiers. Recruitment efforts continue, as we are still working to fill several vacancies in technical, maintenance, and engineering roles over the next few months. Alongside these staffing changes, we have also seen several team members retire or move to other departments. Overall, our focus has remained on strengthening staffing, onboarding new team members, and advancing the operational procedures needed to support the reorganization and ensure a smooth transition for the section moving forward.

Field Operations Supervisors

Alan Wedel, Field Operations Supervisor, Sayle Street

Tim Birkley, Field Operations Supervisor, Sayle Street

Beth Bradley, Field Operations Supervisor, Sayle Street

Over the past six months since our promotions, our team has been focused on hiring and onboarding new staff while learning and implementing updated hiring processes. We also oversaw the upgrade to the Windcave Parking Access Revenue Control system, which added tap-to-pay, EV readers, Discover acceptance, and improved security. This installation came with challenges, but strong collaboration across the Parking Division ensured its success, along with new procedures and field-staff training.

We've been updating Field Operations policies and building a more thorough onboarding plan for new and promoted employees. As the division's reorganization continues, staff are adapting well to new roles and responsibilities. Their hard work and flexibility have positioned us for a positive path forward.

Administration and Finance

Anne Slezak, Finance & Administration Manager, Madison Municipal Building *Out on leave, expected to return in March*

Traffic and Parking Office

Scott Briggs, Administrative Supervisor, Madison Municipal Building

The front desk is recovering from a very busy RP3 season and is focused on improving and organizing our internal process documents on our new(ish) SharePoint site.

Data and Information Technology

Daniel Haueter, Data and Analytics Manager, Madison Municipal Building

We are working on updating processes and procedures related to our numerous sources of data (revenue, garage visits, meters, etc). The goal is to make these various sources of data work together in ways that will allow us to build an analysis more easily to better inform decision-making. We are also working on expanding the use of Cityworks to additional workflows related to Enforcement and the Front Desk.

Parking Enforcement Team – Town of Madison

Amy O'Rourke, Parking Enforcement Manager, Town of Madison

Eric Moran, Parking Enforcement Supervisor, Town of Madison

Our new Supervisor, Eric Moran, is doing a great job learning all things parking. We are gearing up for the winter parking season and working on our new enforcement plans related to snow and ice.

Traffic Engineering



Yang Tao, Director of Traffic Engineering

The Traffic Engineering team members are working together to maintain the City's traffic and communications infrastructure, to make transportation system improvements, and to add new accommodation for all road users. In addition to delivering eight major services for our residents, Traffic Engineering has been advancing many major initiatives for the City, such as leading Vision Zero, completion of the Complete Green Streets Guide, implementing the Safe Streets Madison Program, pursuing and delivering many federal grant projects, as well as improving employee development and communication.

As a result of our collective efforts, many roads in our city were transformed, many safe streets projects got implemented, numerous work orders were completed, thousands of kids crossed streets safely to school, and our customers' radio and fiber communication needs were fulfilled. The team received positive feedback from the public, #TeamCity awards from the Mayor, and recognition from the industry. Above all, we are saving lives, with traffic fatalities reduced by 58% on the roads that we control since we started the Vision Zero initiative.

Traffic Engineering is developing its 2026 agency workplan and will share it with all team members in January. We will continue to build on our successes, incorporate lessons learned, and make adjustments such as moving Complete Green Streets to the amazing staff at DOT. We look forward to collaborating with our partners within and outside of DOT to deliver the highest quality service to the public!

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Tom Mohr, Assistant Director, Madison Municipal Building

We have been involved in a range of traffic studies and planning efforts, including the Midvale Boulevard study, the Williamson Street peak-hour lane evaluation, Phase 1 construction and Phase 2 planning for the John Nolen Drive project, reconstruction planning for Regent Street, coordination of the Odana/Whitney HSIP project, and coordination activities for Safe Streets Madison.

Federal Grants Safe - Streets for All

Jessica Hersh-Ballering, Program Coordinator, Madison Municipal Building

This work is focused on managing our federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grants, which includes 20 separate planning, demonstration, and construction projects. I also collaborate on the Safe Streets Madison program to implement solutions to residents' traffic safety concerns around the city. I'm excited to share that as part of our Safe Streets and Roads for All work, we recently released an RFQ for a \$605,000 planning and design project that includes the East Washington and Schroeder corridors. By the time this newsletter is released, we will have released two more RFQs — one for design of safety improvements for over two dozen intersections across the city and another for road safety assessments and demonstration project implementation for four Madison corridors.

Electrical Operations: Planning and Development

David Hansen, Traffic Engineer, Madison Municipal Building

We've been staying busy with a wide range of signal and lighting work across the city. Right now, we're operating traffic signal priority for the East—West BRT and continuing work on several major construction projects. LED streetlight conversions are underway, with progress being tracked on a new dashboard. We're also in year one of a five-year effort to upgrade traffic signal controllers, with 33 completed so far this year. Path lighting was recently completed at Quann Park and Penn Park, and we wrapped up annual railroad crossing inspections at 17 locations. Some projects are temporarily on hold or being rebid, including the John Nolen Drive tunnel lighting, which is still in the early stages of figuring out next steps.

Several projects are actively under construction, including new traffic signals at Atwood and Hudson, along John Nolen Drive at Broom and North Shore, and at Wisconsin & Gorham and Johnson as part of the Safe Streets Madison project. Street lighting work is also moving forward on Hancock Street with pedestrian-level lighting, as well as on the Tancho Drive path. In addition, multiple RRFBs and APS installations are being added around the city.

Looking ahead: several projects are in design or planning, including SW Path lighting from Monroe Street to North Shore Drive, new traffic signals along Rimrock Road, and additional signal projects at West Washington & the SW Path, Milwaukee & Sprecher, and Fish Hatchery & Martin. We're also designing specialized signage for locations like UW Agriculture, Pleasant View, Hawthorne Court, and Johnson & Third for flood warning. Staff continue to support design review for major corridor projects as well, including North—South BRT and the Mineral Point Road reconstruction.

Street Safety & Traffic Management – Planning and Development

Sean Malloy, Traffic Engineer, Madison Municipal Building

In the past year, I have been assisting the BRT team with their planning and design for the North/South route along with coordinating various public works and private development construction projects.

Data, Mapping and Permitting

Eric Halverson, Computer Mapping, GIS Coordinator, Madison Municipal Building

A busy year working on the following: Cityworks upgrade, ESRI upgrade from 10.x to Pro, alterations to permitting group, Accela updates, SharePoint migration, workflow improvements, workflow documentation, data model improvements, and so on

Pedestrian & Bicycle

Kevin Luecke, Pedestrian & Bicycle Administrator, Madison Municipal Building

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Section has been hard at work on a variety of initiatives as we move from fall into the dark of winter. In early November, Colleen Hayes led a Be Bright light giveaway event with UW Police, Alder MGR Govindarajan, and several volunteers. Over two hours, the team stopped over 130 bicyclists, educated them about the importance of using lights on their bike at night, and installed a free set of lights for them before sending them safely on their way! The Pedestrian and Bicycle Section has also been hard at work on three planning efforts: a citywide Safe Routes to School Plan, a new Pedestrian Plan, and an All Ages and Abilities Bike Network Plan. All three plans will be completed in early 2026 and will help guide walking and biking priorities and investments in the years ahead.

Crossing Guard Program

Alex Stewart, Crossing Guard Supervisor, Madison Municipal Building

Niko Magallón, Crossing Guard Supervisor, Madison Municipal Building

We're already through the first quarter of the school year for the crossing guard program, and so far everything has been running smoothly—knock on wood! We had a really successful recruitment effort over the summer and were able to start the year fully staffed. Even better, this team is posting the best overall attendance we've seen in the past five years, which the mild fall weather has certainly helped.

Guards returned this fall to find quite a few upgrades waiting for them around the city, including refreshed pavement markings and signage, new RRFBs at several crossings, curb extensions and a new pedestrian refuge on Raymond Road, and the long-awaited completion of the sidewalk along Nakoma Road. With the shorter days now here, we also rolled out new LED lighted stop sign paddles for each guard, and they've been a big hit with both guards and the public.

It's also been great to hear from many of our long-tenured guards about how quickly and thoroughly Traffic Engineering responds to their feedback and requests for improvements. That kind of responsiveness really highlights the strong teamwork across the division.

Finance & Administration

Keith Pollock, Finance and Administration Manager, Madison Municipal Building

Traffic Engineering's 2026 operating, and capital have been adopted by the Common Council and the Mayor. These budgets were largely cost to continue with the exception that new funding was provided for a new capital project funding streetlighting and traffic signals for the Southwest Commuter Path. This position is currently <u>posted</u> for hire and will close on 12/15/2025.

Field Operations: Installation, Maintenance & Communication

Phil Nehmer, Traffic Operations Manager, Sayle Street

The Electrical Section supported the installation of 50 new air-quality sensors, working closely with the Mayor's Office Sustainability team and UW to advance the city's environmental monitoring efforts. Meanwhile, the Signing Section contributed to several placemaking and safety-focused roadway painting projects, including assisting with pavement art on State Street and implementing median islands and visual bump-outs on West Dayton Street to enhance visibility and traffic calming.

Electrical Field Operations: Installation & Maintenance

Chad Veinot, Electrical Operations Supervisor, Sayle Street

The Electrical Operations Section has had another strong and productive year in 2025, completing more than 2,600 work orders so far this year. The team continues to focus on keeping the city's infrastructure running reliably while also delivering key modernization projects throughout the year.

We've made great progress on traffic modernization and safety. Full signal modifications were completed at five major intersections, and 20 Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons were added to improve pedestrian crossings. The traffic signal cabinet upgrade project was also a big success, with 30 cabinets replaced and numerous Accessible Pedestrian Signals installed across Madison and surrounding communities to improve accessibility and safety for everyone.

On the sustainability front, our LED conversion work continues to move the city toward greater energy efficiency. With the help of a strategic partnership and an LED Conversion grant, we installed more than 3,500 new LED streetlights this year alone. That brings us to about 90% conversion of city-owned circuits, with utility-owned lights now also in progress.

We've also continued investing in smart infrastructure and connectivity. Internal fiber communication upgrades have now linked more than 30 intersections into the Central Monitoring software, which has significantly improved traffic signal coordination. This includes stronger support for bus priority along key corridors like Mineral Point Road, Whitney Way, Gammon Road, and East Washington Avenue.

Street Safety & Traffic Management: Field Installation and Maintenance

Jason Williams, Traffic Operations Supervisor, Sayle Street

We're currently working on updating existing arrow and "only" traffic control pavement markings to meet WisDOT standards. Looking ahead to 2025, a lot of exciting work is planned, including new contra-flow and separated bike lanes, bike boulevard projects on Hoard Street and North Franklin Avenue, along with support for public works projects and Clean Streets/Clean Lakes installations and removals across the city.

Radio Shop & Communications

Andy Oliver, Radio Communications Supervisor, Nakoosa Trail

The Communications section has had an outstanding year so far, with zero unplanned downtime in 2025 while continuing to serve more than 5,600 individual subscribers. That reliability has been a huge win for everyone who depends on the system every day.

We're also working on updating our signal strength mapping using our Anritsu device. This will allow us to create a new radio system coverage map, complete with KML data that can be imported into Google Earth for a more interactive and detailed look at system coverage.

In addition, we'll be conducting antenna sweeping and fault checks at all of our RF sites. This will give us baseline performance data for each site, which will be incredibly valuable long-term as we monitor for any damage or degradation to antennas and feedlines over time.

On the security side, we're planning to deploy a passive intrusion detection system using Security Onion on the City's radio network infrastructure. This will help us keep a closer eye on network health, detect any unusual traffic, and support deeper root-cause analysis if an issue ever arises. The best part is that this will come at minimal cost since we'll be using open-source software on hardware we already own.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING TEAM

Liz Callin, Principal Planner, Madison Municipal Building

This year has brought a lot of exciting momentum to our transportation work. We've advanced creative efforts like the Asphalt Art project highlighted earlier, and we've also been laying the groundwork to improve how we communicate with the public during both planning and project delivery. Strengthening those connections is a major focus as we move into next year.

Several important planning efforts are currently underway, including continued design work on the North—South Bus Rapid Transit line, the Passenger Rail Station Location Study, and the Perry Street Connection Study, which recently held its first public meeting and received thoughtful feedback. We're also moving forward with the Vision Zero Steering Committee as we push for safer streets, and our curb management work is helping us rethink how we use and prioritize curb space throughout the city. Alongside all of this, we're coordinating closely with partners like WisDOT and Dane County to ensure projects stay aligned and progress smoothly.

All of these efforts together are helping us build a transportation network that's more connected, accessible, and responsive to our community's needs.

Media Roundup - 2025 Highlights

Press Releases

- City of Madison Secures \$17 Million in Federal Funding to Modernize Metro Fleet posted November 24, 2025
- City of Madison marks World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims posted November 12, 2025
- Updates to Winter Alternate Side Parking Program posted November 3, 2025
- John Nolen Drive Reconstruction Begins Monday, October 13 posted October 6, 2025
- Parking Division to Test New Meter Payment Equipment posted October 1, 2025
- Asphalt Art to Improve Safety on Dayton Street posted September 10, 2025
- Test Removal of Williamson Street Peak-Hour Travel Lanes to Evaluate Safety Benefits posted September 5, 2025
- Committee Seeking Artists for State Street Campus Garage Public Art posted September 2, 2025
- New Metro Transit General Manager posted August 25, 2025
- Half-price Youth Fast Fare posted August 25, 2025
- 20 is Plenty Officially Launches in Madison posted July 18, 2025
- Metro Transit Now Accepting Credit Cards posted June 25, 2025
- 2025 Vision Zero Safe Streets and Speed Management Projects posted June 13, 2025
- Christof Spieler Selected as Madison's Director of Transportation posted May 28, 2025
- Metro Transit and MMSD Partner Again for Free Summer Passes posted May 19, 2025

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- Metro Transit and MMSD Partner Again for Free Summer Passes posted May 19, 2025
- Overture Center Garage Fiber Upgrade on May 19 posted May 15, 2025
- Help Shape the Future of Biking, Walking and Rolling in Dane County posted May 6, 2025
- Equipment Upgrades Occurring this Week at City-Operated Garages posted April 21, 2025
- Metro Transit to Expand Service into Monona posted February 17, 2025
- City of Madison's State Street Campus Garage Mixed-Use Project Moves into Phase Two of Construction Jan 14, 2025

City Press Conferences

- News Conference: World Day of Remembrance November 12, 2025
- News Conference: Wilson Street Ribbon Cutting August 20, 2025
- News Conference: Launch of 20 is Plenty July 21, 2025
- News Conference: Kick Off to Spring Biking Season, City Celebrates New Autumn Ridge Path
- News Conference: East-West BRT Ribbon Cutting September 24, 2024

Coming and Going (this list entails all of 2025 so far)

New Hires

- Christof Spieler, Director of Transportation
- Jamie Acton, Metro Transit General Manager
- Herbert (Bert) Chee, Engineer 2, Signals & Lighting, Traffic Engineering
- Casey Deg, Engineer 2, Signals & Lighting, Traffic Engineering
- Max Nonnamaker, Transportation Planner 2, Transportation Planning Team, Transportation
- Ben Dimenstein, Vision Zero Intern, Transportation Planning Team, Traffic Engineering
- Andrew (Drew) Gilbertson, Traffic Signal Maintenance Worker, Electrical Operations Section, Traffic Engineering
- Ethan Reisman, Traffic Control Maintenance Worker, Signing and Marking, Traffic Engineering
- Christer (Chris) Pilman, Traffic Control Maintenance Worker, Signing and Marking, Traffic Engineering
- Lauren Sroda, Communications Technician 1, Communications, Traffic Engineering
- Tyson Roessler, Communications Technician 2, Communications, Traffic Engineering

- Savannah Schultz, Customer Service Ambassador, Parking Division
- DaJsha Riddle, Customer Service Ambassador, Parking Division
- Robert Wiegert, Customer Service Ambassador, Parking Division
- Amanda Leggett, Customer Service Ambassador, Parking Division
- Joseph Aldrich, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Zerina Bacon, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jack Barthell, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Barry Bartlett, II, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Lexington Bell, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Sharon Bell, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Ardit Beluli, Maintenance Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Abdelkabir Benkaddour, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jordan Blumer, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Cheryl Bowers, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Mohamed Ifis, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Karim Chambers, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Charlie Chavous, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Abdelmounaim Chadli, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Michael Chase, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Heather Corcoran, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jameson Davis, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Kolin Dix, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Jason Dou, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Israel Douglas, Transit Bus Cleaner, Metro Transit
- Amy Draper, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Issa Fofana, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- David Galinski, III, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Nicolas Garcia, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Amy Griffin, Information Systems Coordinator, Metro Transit
- Terrell Harris, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Joel Heaberlin, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jack Henrich, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Richard Hodges, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Samuel Immel, Transit Utility Worker, Metro Transit
- El Mostafa Iraoui, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
 Jeremiah Jackson, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Kayvion James-Ragland, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- John Johnson, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Kitaik Jung, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Hachemi Khelif, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Andrew Liedl, Marketing and Customer Service Manager, Metro Transit
- Mary Lott, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Bertha Madison, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Humberto Galvez Martinez, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Edgar Mercado Ramirez, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Latisha Miller, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Abubakir Mondi, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Bryan Mulrooney, Transit Chief Operating Officer, Metro Transit
- Shamika Odell, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Angel Ojeda Reyes, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Omar Kanyi, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Francisco Padilla, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Vicente Rea Giron, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Diana Reyes, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Steven Riddiough, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit

- Branden Roberge, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Gabriel Rouse, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Yvonne Ruiz, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Laura Sargent, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Salvatore Schiro, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Scott Schuette, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Christopher Shields, Transit Utility Worker, Metro Transit
- Damonte Stewart, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Sean Sullivan, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Soum Thor, Transit Parts Specialist 2, Metro Transit
- Beau Tippery, Transit Parts Specialist 2, Metro Transit
- Jacob Valov, Transit Accountant 2, Metro Transit
- Alec Vlahos, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Winter Ward, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Donovan Wilson, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Ronni Tyson, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- John Zamber, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Chad Zirbel, Transit Operations Data Analyst, Metro Transit
- Wayne Block, Consultant, Metro Transit
- Kathryn Schwenn, Consultant, Metro Transit

Promotions

- Glenn Hall, Field Operations Manager, Parking Division
- Tim Birkley, Field Operations Supervisor, Parking Division
- Beth Bradley, Field Operations Supervisor, Parking Division
- Alan Wedel, Field Operations Supervisor, Parking Division
- Jason Williams, Traffic Operations Supervisor, Signing and Marking, Traffic Engineering
- Tyson Laux, Maintenance Painter, Signing and Marking, Traffic Engineering
- Michael Brown, Maintenance Mechanic 2, Administrative/Facilities, Traffic Engineering
- Curtis (Curt) Wilson, Traffic Signal Electrician 2, Electrical Operations Section, Traffic Engineering
- Thomas (Tom) Bodenstein, Traffic Signal Electrician 2, Electrical Operations Section, Traffic Engineering
- Christopher (Chris) Westphal, Traffic Signal Maintenance Worker, Electrical Operations Section, Traffic Engineering
- Michael Perry, Transit Maintenance Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Marshall Cordaro, Transit Garage Dispatch, Metro Transit
- Nicolas Olson, Transit Maintenance Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Kyle Tierney, Transit Class A Technician, Metro Transit
- Jenifer Horne, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Denise Munoz, Transit Account Clerk 3, Metro Transit
- Robert Johnson, Transit Garage Dispatch, Metro Transit
- Michael Dentice, Transit Customer Service Manager, Metro Transit
- Steven Haltvick, Transit Administrative Clerk, Metro Transit
- Austin Hetrick, Transit Customer Service Representative, Metro Transit
- Brian Wuethrich, Transit Operations Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Javier Moreno, Transit Operations Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Jacky Kyles, Transit Operator, Metro Transit
- Ethan Wagner, Transit Class C Technician, Metro Transit
- Hoyt Harrisson, Interim Transit Chief Maintenance Officer, Metro Transit
- Max Beardsley, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Sabrina McDonald, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit

Departures

- Gretchen Aviles Pineiro, Traffic Engineer 2, Signals & Lighting
- Justin Stuehrenberg, Metro Transit General Manager
- Sean Hedgpeth, Planning & Scheduling Manager, Metro Transit

- Hochi Bautista, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Adam Neider, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Kinberly Williams, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Mary Rieland, Customer Service Representative, Metro Transit
- Lee Gutman, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Leann Hester, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Richard Rathbun, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Neil Smithson, Assistant Transit Schedule Planner, Metro Transit
- Dina Stewart, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Allisa Brown, Transit Human Resources (HR) Manager, Metro Transit
- Hamid Shanjani, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Cesar Quintero Yanes, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Augustus Jones, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jerry Jackson Jr., Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Chris Bushby, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Bryan Hopgood, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Bearnita Davis, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Sherri Davis-Johnson, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Issac Oetzman, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Shawn McGrath, Transit Bus Cleaner, Metro Transit
- Flint Moua, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Christopher Rush, Vehicle & Charging Integration Engineer, Metro Transit
- Amber Norman, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Antonette Crosby, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Cheretta Grayer, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Ernest Bailey, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Thomas Kimble, Finance Manager, Metro Transit
- Tyran Kimball, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Bridgette Lanza, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jacqueline Cole, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- James Fink Jr., Maintenance Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Joel Duensing, Maintenance Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Uriel Reyes, Marketing Specialist 1, Metro Transit
- Terrence Caple, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Jose Huichan, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Antonio Martin, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Trisha Eldridge, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Matthew Dominguez, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Jaitaun-James Warfield, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Ravie Bhagwandin, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Colin Derke, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Brok Clifcom, Class C Mechanic, Metro Transit
- Jordan Festge, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Frank Vallejos, Transit Accountant 3, Metro Transit
- Yeison Rico Garces, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Richard Socorro Saavedra, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Daniel Farris Pleester, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit

Retirements

- Ted Valenza, Communications Worker/Vehicle Upfitter, Traffic Engineering
- Tom Lynch, Director of Transportation
- David Wills, Field Operations Manager, Parking Division
- Renee Callaway, Pedestrian Bicycle Administrator, Traffic Engineering
- Ronald Lalor, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Mohammad Salman, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Gerson Ramos, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Nancy Uy, Information Systems Specialist 3, Metro Transit
- Harold Stieve, Transit Service Worker, Metro Transit
- Larry Tiepelman, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Marcos Hernandez, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Michael Szlapka, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Bertram Nickles, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Sheri Biddick, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Anthony Feger, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Milton Fischer, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Ingrid Schurman, Transit Utility Worker, Metro Transit
- Monica Walsh, Transit Utility Worker, Metro Transit
- Clinton Boone, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- David Redd, Class A Mechanic, Metro Transit
- William Roeth, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- David Schroeder, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- Kurt Zigler, Transit Utility Worker, Metro Transit
- Richard Callaway, Operations Supervisor, Metro Transit
- Martin King, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit
- John Schoepp, Motorcoach Operator, Metro Transit

Our Madison - Inclusive, Innovative & Thriving

City of Madison Transportation Division

215 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Suite 109

Madison, WI 53703

608-266-4761

https://www.cityofmadison.com/transportation