

State Project ID: 5992-11-21/28

Date: April 17, 2026



John Nolen Drive

Lakeside Street to North Shore Drive

Dane County

Project Weekly Update (John Nolen Drive Construction)

General Project Information – The John Nolen Drive project includes reconstructing John Nolen Drive and six bridges that span the causeway. New curb and gutter with a raised median separating northbound and southbound traffic will narrow traffic lanes to calm high traffic speeds. The Capital City Trail will be moved further from the roadway with the addition of three new bridge structures, increasing pedestrian safety and greenspace along the corridor. The trail will also be widened, increasing the capacity of the trail, with separate paths for bikes and foot traffic.

Project Schedule – Stage 2 Start Date: November 24, 2025

Anticipated Stage 2 Completion: August 2026

Current Stage / Traffic Impacts

Stage 2: Work entails reconstructing southbound John Nolen Drive, reconstructing three bridges on the causeway, and the Basset to Bedford pedestrian path.

- John Nolen Dr restricted to one lane each direction on existing northbound lanes

North Shore Dr intersection: Phase 1 work entails reconstructing inbound/westbound lanes of the North Shore Dr intersection extending roughly 400 feet west of the WSOR rail crossing.

- North Shore Dr (inbound only) closed between John Nolen Dr and S Bedford St
- Stop signs have been installed for every direction of travel through the intersection of S Bedford St/North Shore Dr.

S Broom St intersection: Phase 1 work entails reconstructing outbound/eastbound lanes of S Broom St.

- Broom St (outbound only) closed between W Wilson St and John Nolen Dr

Upcoming Work/ Traffic Impacts

S Broom St intersection – Phase 2: Phase 2 work entails reconstructing inbound/westbound lanes of S Broom St. Work will occur after inbound North Shore Dr reopens to traffic.

Anticipated start is **April 23rd**.

- Broom St (full closure) closed between W Wilson St John Nolen Dr
- Bike and pedestrian traffic detoured to North Shore during railroad reconstruction. Railroad work performed by others under contract with WSOR.
- A temporary “all way stop” will remain at the S Bedford St/North Shore Dr intersection to address an anticipated increase of vehicle traffic

North Shore Dr intersection – Phase 2: Phase 2 work entails reconstructing outbound/eastbound lanes of North Shore. Work will occur after S Broom St reopens to traffic. Anticipated start is early-June

- North Shore Dr (full closure) closed between S Bedford St and John Nolen Dr
- Bike and pedestrian traffic detoured to S Broom St during railroad reconstruction. Railroad work performed by others under contract with WSOR.

Work Week of 4/20/26 ***Traffic changes mid-week***

- North bridge
 - Pile driving for south abutment
 - Frame south abutment
- Middle bridge
 - Frame pier cap
- South bridge
 - Rebar for bridge deck
 - Pour concrete bridge deck
- Finish grading and asphalt pavement on WB North Shore
- Open North Shore Dr to traffic, Close S Broom St

Work Week of 4/27/26

- North bridge
 - Set girders (span 1)
 - Begin framing deck
- Middle bridge
 - Pile driving north abutment

- Framing north abutment
- South bridge
 - No update
- Box culvert/storm sewer in Broom St

Motorist Impacts

- All vehicles on John Nolen Dr use existing northbound lanes between Lakeside St and the Monona Terrace.
 - Both directions of traffic are reduced to one lane prior to entering the active work zone.
 - Signs have been installed on both end of the project to provide direction on where to “zipper merge”. Motorists should utilize all lanes and avoid early merging.
- A temporary “ALL WAY STOP” condition has been installed at the intersection of S Bedford St and North Shore Dr. This will remain in place until all work in the Broom St intersection is complete.

Pedestrian/Bike Impacts

- The temporary crosswalk on the north side of Broom St is in place and will be the only crossing at Broom St until the project is complete. Sidewalk along the southern side of Broom St is open between W Wilson St and the Brittingham Dog Park.
- The Capital City Trail remains open. No additional trail disruptions are anticipated until July of 2026. Cyclists are encouraged to dismount from their bikes when crossing active construction zones near S Broom St and North Shore Dr.

Waterway Impacts

- A navigable channel will be open for the duration of the project under the middle set of bridges. The channel has red and green buoys to aid navigation and regulatory buoys to delineate hazards. No other channels will be open and waterway users should avoid entering areas with active construction

Please be alert when traveling along the John Nolen Drive corridor. Please note that some work is dependent on weather and may be subject to change. Thank you in advance for your patience throughout this project.

Contact Information

Mark Sponem, WisDOT – Project Manager

Email: mark.sponem@dot.wi.gov

Dan Bauknecht, WisDOT – Project Engineer

Email: daniel.bauknecht@dot.wi.gov



If you would like to be added to the weekly update distribution list, please sign up using the subscribe button on the project website or email your name and email address to daniel.bauknecht@dot.wi.gov.

Project Website

[John Nolen Drive | Engineering | City of Madison, WI](#)

The screenshot shows the City of Madison website's navigation bar with "CITY OF MADISON" on the left and "Departments", "Report a Problem", "Services", "Jobs", "Accounts", "Contact", and a search box on the right. Below the navigation is a banner for "Engineering" with a sub-menu including "Stormwater", "Sanitary Sewer", "Streets & Paths", "Facilities", "Developers & Contractors", "Permits", "Projects" (highlighted), and "About". A breadcrumb trail reads "City of Madison / Engineering / Projects / John Nolen Drive". The main content area is titled "John Nolen Drive" and features a "Monthly Meeting Updates" section with text about in-person meetings at 701 E Washington Ave. A "Latest Update 4/13/2026" is also noted. On the left, a sidebar lists project categories: "Projects", "Bike", "City Facilities", "Road Construction" (with a plus sign), "Sewer / Storm", "Archived Projects", "John Nolen Drive" (with a minus sign), "Contact", "Documents, Plans", "Map", and "Project Overview".

Progress Pictures









