

State Project ID: 5992-11-21/28

Date: May 8, 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

S Broom St intersection – Phase 2: Phase 2 work entails reconstructing the S Broom St intersection between northbound John Nolen Dr and the WSOR tracks

- 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

Upcoming Work/ Traffic Impacts

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 5/11/26

****Bike/Pedestrian: Crossing at Broom St closed starting 5/13. Posted detour to North Shore****

****Motorist: Overnight causeway closure scheduled from 11pm 5/14 to 5am 5/15****

- North bridge
 - Rebar for bridge deck
 - Pour concrete deck
- Middle bridge
 - Framing north abutment
- South bridge
 - Concrete approaches
- Mainline concrete pavement for new southbound lanes

Work Week of 5/18/26

- North bridge
 - Curing time for bridge deck
- Middle bridge
 - Set girders (span 2)
 - Begin framing deck
- South bridge
 - Form and pour west parapet
- Curb/medians/sidewalk for 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. More information can be found here: [Wisconsin Department of Transportation Zipper Merge](#)
- 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 crosswalk on the north side of Broom St will be closed for 10 days starting Wednesday 5/13. Crosswalk users will be detoured to North Shore Dr.*** 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 bar is a banner for "Engineering" with a sub-menu including "Stormwater", "Sanitary Sewer", "Streets & Paths", "Facilities", "Developers & Contractors", "Permits", "Projects", and "About". The "Projects" menu item is highlighted. Below the banner is a breadcrumb trail: "City of Madison / Engineering / Projects / John Nolen Drive". The main content area has a left sidebar with a "Projects" section containing links for "Bike", "City Facilities", "Road Construction", "Sewer / Storm", "Archived Projects", "John Nolen Drive", "Contact", "Documents, Plans", "Map", and "Project Overview". The "John Nolen Drive" link is expanded. The main content area features a "John Nolen Drive" heading, followed by a "Monthly Meeting Updates" section with text about construction progress meetings. Below that is a "Latest Update 5/1/2026" section with a heading for "General Project Information".

Progress Pictures







