

State Project ID: 5992-11-21/28

Date: November 21, 2025

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 1 Start Date: October 13, 2025

Anticipated Stage 1 Completion: November 24, 2025

Current Stage / Traffic Impacts – Stage 1: Work entails constructing temporary crossovers and temporary signals. Temporary storm sewer outfalls will also be constructed beneath the northbound lanes of John Nolen Drive.

- Traffic restricted to one lane each direction
- No left turns from Broom St to John Nolen Dr

Upcoming 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.

- Traffic restricted to one lane each direction on existing northbound lanes
- No left turns from Broom St to John Nolen Dr
- Nighttime full closures (causeway only) anticipated for bridge girder removal and girder installation.

Work Week of 11/24/25

- Traffic moves to Stage 2.
- Traffic control devices, temporary pavement markings and temporary signals will be modified for Stage 2 traffic.
- No work scheduled for Thanksgiving or “Black Friday”



Work Week of 12/1/25

- Cofferdam installation will continue. This work will start at the northernmost bridge on the lake side.
- Cofferdam installation is expected to take several weeks.

Traffic/Pedestrian/Bike Impacts

- The existing crosswalk at Broom St will be closed starting the week of 11/24. A new temporary crosswalk on the north side of Broom St is in place will be the only crossing at Broom St until the project is complete.
- The Capital City Trail will remain open. No additional trail disruptions are anticipated until summer of 2026. Cyclists are encouraged to dismount from their bikes when crossing active construction zones near Broom St and North Shore Dr.
- Motorist should expect a new traffic pattern the week of 11/24. All vehicles will use existing northbound lanes between Lakeside St and the Monona Terrace.
 - Southbound traffic will be reduced to one lane prior to entering the active work zone. Motorists should expect longer drive times.
 - Northbound traffic will see new message boards providing direction on where to “zipper merge”. Motorists should utilize all lanes and avoid early merging.

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.

Events

Olin Park is currently hosting the annual Fantasy in Lights display. Access remain available from both E Lakeside St and Olin-Turville Ct.

[Welcome to the Holiday Fantasy in Lights - Fantasy In Lights](#)



*NECA and IBEW Local 159, along with many sponsors, bring you the **37th Annual Holiday Fantasy in Lights**. 6 weeks of lights at Olin Park for all to drive through and enjoy at no charge. Over 60 lighted holiday displays to include tunnels and local scenes and treats. Lights on at Dusk- Candy Canes handled out at the exit 4:30pm to 10:00pm. Lights on every single evening through December 31st.*

Contact Information

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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

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The logo for the City of Madison Engineering department, featuring a circular seal with a building and the text "CITY OF MADISON ENGINEERING".

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Engineering Office in City County Building Closed to Public, Nov. 26, 2025

Staff are working remotely. Please call Engineering's general line for assistance, (608) 266-4751.

Engineering City County Building Office Closed November 27 - 28, 2025

Our office is closed November 27 - 28, 2025 in observance of Thanksgiving and Ho-Chunk Day.

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John Nolen Drive

Monthly Meeting Reminder

Monthly construction progress meetings will be held IN-PERSON at the field office located at 701 E Washington Ave, Suite LL3 (former Brink Lounge) on the first Tuesday of every month at 11 a.m. starting on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025. The public is welcome to attend these meetings to learn about construction progress, upcoming work, as well as opportunity to ask questions of the construction team. Access to the field office building is located off of the

Progress Pictures

