



Fall 2017

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## WisDOT and first responders collaborate during Interstate construction

With significant reconstruction work underway on I-39/90 between Beloit and Madison, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is continuing to work with area first responders to ensure quick response to incidents along the I-39/90 corridor.

Prior to the start of construction on the I-39/90 expansion project, WisDOT met regularly with first responders along the 45 miles of I-39/90 in Dane and Rock counties. Meetings were held frequently to help first responders prepare for the overall management and quick clearance of traffic incidents throughout the I-39/90 Project.

These coordination efforts are ongoing and serve as a vital component to help keep everyone informed of construction activities. Work zone safety is everyone's responsibility. Please do your part to obey the posted speed limit and pay attention when driving.

To assist response efforts during the 2017 construction season, WisDOT has been working with first responders along the corridor to

develop individual response plans for each construction area along I-39/90 to assist with safe and efficient incident clearance.

Based on the input and direction from first responders, a large corridor-wide map was

created that identifies each of the response zones. Additional maps were also developed to show each individual response zone as well as the equipment/response apparatus to be deployed.

These maps create a clear and effective plan of action when incidents occur on the Interstate and minimizes response

times. These plans identify how emergency vehicles would approach an incident from both directions (north/south or east/west) to provide the fastest response possible.

The outreach and coordination between WisDOT and the area emergency responders along I-39/90 provides an excellent example of project collaboration to provide greater service to the traveling public. These efforts ensure that when incidents occur, the response effort is as efficient as possible.



*WisDOT and local first responders are working collaboratively to ensure timely responses to incidents in construction zones.*

## Connect with us!

Stay up-to-date on the I-39/90 Expansion Project. From construction updates to meeting notices and handouts, you can connect with us to get information in whichever way is most convenient.

☎ 608.884.1234

💻 [www.i39-90.wi.gov](http://www.i39-90.wi.gov)

✉ [I39-90Project@dot.wi.gov](mailto:I39-90Project@dot.wi.gov)

Facebook [Facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project)

Sign up for email updates on the website.



Get real-time travel conditions by calling 511 or visiting [www.511wi.gov](http://www.511wi.gov).

## Roundabout takes shape as I-39/90 and County N interchange nears completion

The new I-39/90 and County N interchange (Exit 147), north of Stoughton, is scheduled to be completed by early December 2017. Once finished, the new diamond interchange will feature three roundabouts to improve safety and mobility. Two roundabouts will be located at the ramp terminals for I-39/90, and the third roundabout will provide access to local businesses south of the Interstate. As these roundabouts take shape at the County N interchange, read how to navigate roundabouts.

### **Roundabout navigation tips:**

- **Slow down.**
- **Follow the signs, pavement markings and choose the correct lane.**
- **Yield to all traffic on the left before entering a roundabout. Traffic within the roundabout has the right of way.**
- **Enter when there is a safe gap in traffic.**
- **Keep your speed low within the roundabout.**
- **Stay in your lane to your exit.**



*Roundabouts at the County N interchange (Exit 147) will be complete by early December.*

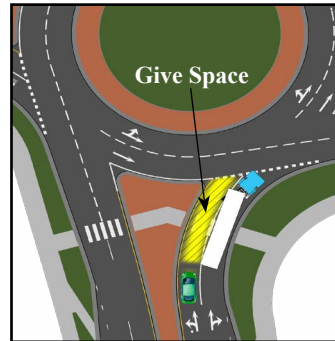
To learn more about the County N interchange, watch the narrated [animation video](#) by visiting the I-39/90 Expansion Project website and click on “County N Interchange” under the Resources tab at [www.i39-90.wi.gov](http://www.i39-90.wi.gov).

### **Wisconsin Act 139 requires:**

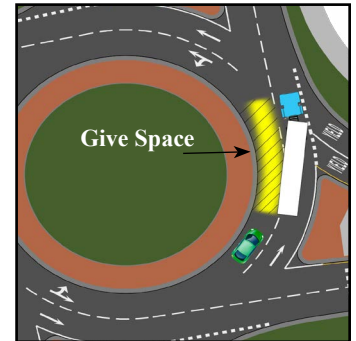
#### **Recent changes in the law**

Several changes have been made to Wisconsin’s roundabout laws in recent years.

Wisconsin Act 139 requires drivers approaching a multi-lane roundabout to yield to larger vehicles (such as tractor-trailers, buses, fire trucks, or farm equipment), and avoid pulling alongside larger vehicles as they navigate the roundabout. Also under the new law, if two large vehicles approach a multi-lane roundabout, the vehicle on the right must yield the right of way to the vehicle on the left. The law was passed in the interest of safety because many large vehicles need more space to negotiate a roundabout.



**Drivers must yield to large vehicles when approaching a roundabout.**



**Drivers should not drive alongside large vehicles inside of a roundabout.**

## **Proper preparation can lead to a safe winter on the roadway**

Winter driving in Wisconsin could start in early to mid-November (and some years even earlier). While we are still weeks away from the first round of cold, wintery weather, take some time to read these winter driving tips so you’re prepared before Jack Frost visits.

Over the next several weeks, get the following supplies together in advance of that first cold snap and flurries:

- Ice scraper and brush
- Small shovel
- Jumper cables
- Heavy blanket
- Warm clothing
- Winter boots
- Bag of sand or cat litter for tire traction
- Road flares and flashlight with fresh batteries

Once winter arrives, be sure to keep your fuel tank full to minimize condensation in the gas tank and your car can keep you warm if you’re stranded in a storm. Keeping an emergency survival kit in your vehicle is also wise.

Lastly, remember the phrase, “ice and snow, take it slow.” For additional advice on winter driving safety, search “Safe Winter Driving Tips” at [www.wisconsindot.gov](http://www.wisconsindot.gov).

**ICE AND SNOW,  
TAKE IT SLOW**



Construction crews have begun reconstructing and expanding approximately 12 miles of Interstate 39/90 from Hart Road, north of Beloit, to the US 14 interchange (Exit 171B) in Janesville. Temporary ramp connections are being built near the WIS 11 (Racine Street) interchange or Exit 175. A crossover for future traffic staging is also being added at the US 14 (Humes Road) interchange.

First, crews will begin reconstruction and expansion of the northbound Interstate lanes within these limits. To accommodate this work, in late October 2017, northbound traffic shifts over to temporary lanes on the southbound side, and will continue through the winter months. This crossover is located just north of the WIS 11 (Racine Street) interchange.

In spring 2018, the crossover will be shifted further south to the Hart Road overpass, near Beloit. This will allow crews to finish reconstructing and expanding the northbound lanes within the project limits. Once that portion of the project is complete, both directions of traffic will be shifted to the

new northbound lanes and crews will begin to reconstruct and expand the southbound lanes. Noise barrier installation will also occur between the WIS 11 (Racine Street) and US 14 interchanges in Janesville.

Two lanes of Interstate traffic remain open in each direction during peak travel times. Single lane closures will take place weeknights from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. All lane restrictions and work operations are weather dependent and subject to change.

During construction, local roadways under the Interstate in Janesville may temporarily close to accommodate construction of the I-39/90 bridges. Advanced notice of these temporary closures will be announced to the media and on the I-39/90 Expansion Project website at [www.i39-90.wi.gov](http://www.i39-90.wi.gov).

While on the website, be sure to sign up to receive weekly construction updates via email. It's simple and you'll receive notifications on all projects associated with Interstate reconstruction. You can also follow project activities on our [Facebook page](#) by searching "[Wisconsin I-39/90 Project](#)."

### Reconstruction to ramp up near I-43/WIS 81 interchange in 2018

As the project continues along I-39/90 between Madison and Beloit, permanent roadway construction activities along the Interstate in Beloit is scheduled to start in late summer 2018.

In 2017, construction crews continued to lay the groundwork for the eventual reconstruction and expansion of I-39/90 in the Beloit area. Temporary widening work was completed between County S (Shopiere Road) and the Illinois state line, and the Stateline Road bridge near Beloit was reconstructed over the Interstate to accommodate three lanes of traffic in each direction.

Due to the complexity of the I-39/90 and I-43 interchange improvements, construction will occur in two main stages between 2018 and 2022.

The first stage of reconstruction activities is anticipated to begin in late summer 2018 near the I-43 interchange, including I-39/90 expansion from the Illinois state line to Cranston Road as well as I-43 work from the County X (Hart Road) interchange to the west. Also during this time, off-alignment sections of the interchange and WIS 81 will be constructed.

The second stage of construction near Beloit is scheduled to begin in summer 2020. Along with completing I-39/90 and I-43 improvements and interchange ramps, WIS 81 will be extended east of I-39/90 and will connect to Gateway Boulevard, providing a direct local connector road between the east and west sides of the Interstate. A multi-use path along



*The current cloverleaf interchange will be removed and reconfigured to improve safety and mobility at the I-39/90 and I-43 interchange.*

WIS 81 will also provide bicycle and pedestrian access between the east and west sides of the Interstate.

To view the planned improvements to the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange, visit [www.i39-90.wi.gov](http://www.i39-90.wi.gov), and click on the Project Segments tab, then under South Segment choose "[Maps and Exhibits](#)."

More information on these planned improvements will be shared via local media, the project website, and the project email distribution list. To sign up for the distribution list, visit the [project website](#) and click on "[Sign Up For Updates](#)."



**Wisconsin Department  
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I-39/90 Project  
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## I-39/90 Expansion Project Newsletter

FALL 2017

### What to do after a crash: Steer it, clear it.

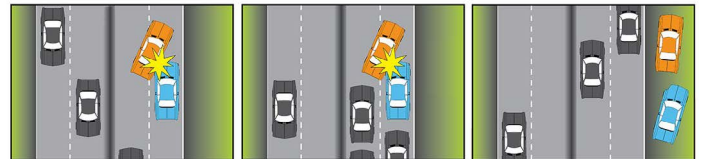
Crashes can occur on all roadways, including in work zones throughout Wisconsin. Read these important reminders on what to do if you're involved in a crash.

First, keep calm and assess your surroundings. Then check for injuries and call 911 if medical assistance is needed. If no one has been injured, then follow the "Steer It, Clear It Law."

The "Steer It, Clear It Law" requires motorists involved in crashes to move their vehicle to a safe location away from traffic if no one is injured and if the vehicle can be driven. Vehicles should be moved to a location, such as the shoulder of the highway, emergency pull-off area, an exit ramp, a parking lot or a crash investigation site so traffic can resume travel. Once the vehicle is moved to a safe location, drivers should contact law enforcement and exchange information if multiple drivers are involved.

If your vehicle is disabled, do not risk injury by trying to push it out of traffic. Instead, turn on your hazard lights and stay in the vehicle with your seatbelt fastened. Your vehicle is the safest place to wait for emergency responders and roadside assistance.

## Steer It, Clear It



You can also take these simple steps to prevent crashes:

- Pay attention. Keep your head up and phone down when driving.
- Give yourself room. Rear-end collisions are one of the most common work zone crashes, so do not tailgate.
- Plan ahead. Leave early or map out an alternate route. Find the latest road conditions and work zone news at [www.511wi.gov](http://www.511wi.gov).

WisDOT does operate highway safety patrols for basic roadside maintenance and towing on certain highways, including the I-39/90 project area. If one is around, these trucks can assist by relocating the affected vehicles, cleaning up debris and managing traffic.