



Winter 2018

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Successful first responder event in November

First responders spend long hours working to ensure Wisconsin roadways remain safe. In honor of their service, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) hosted a special “thank you” event to show appreciation for their hard work and dedication along the I-39/90 corridor.

The event took place on Tuesday, November 14 at WisDOT’s field office in Edgerton. First responders enjoyed a complementary lunch sponsored locally, showcased emergency equipment and technology used at incidents, and participated in a special ceremony where state legislators, FHWA and WisDOT officials thanked them for their service.

The date of the event coincided with National Incident Response Week, November 13-17, 2017. Additionally, Governor Walker issued a proclamation to emphasize the importance of this week here in Wisconsin. This week was dedicated to honoring those who assist the traveling public in response to incidents along Wisconsin highways.

In addition to recognizing their efforts, the event highlighted the importance for motorists to move over or slow down for first responders.

First responders, elected officials and WisDOT staff, gathered for a group photo during the event.



Please follow these reminders when driving:

- Slow down and move over when passing by an incident scene to provide a protective buffer for responders and the motorists behind you.
- If you can steer it, clear it. Many drivers think they should not move their car if they are involved in a fender-bender or crash. If (and only if) your car is drivable and there are no injuries, you should move your car to the shoulder or nearby safe place off of the road before calling for help.
- Plan ahead. Know before you go with www.511wi.gov for updates on road conditions and incidents.
- Visit www.wisconsindot.gov/staysafe to learn more about safe driving tips, best practices for winter road safety and the law.

Thank you to our sponsors that made this event possible including Blain’s Supply, Festival Foods, Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce and Forward Janesville.

Year-in-Review: 2017 construction season

As winter brings another construction season to a close, we wanted to look back at what was completed in 2017.

The **County AB bridge** over I-39/90, south of Madison, was reconstructed and lengthened to accommodate additional lanes on the Interstate below. In July, crews poured approximately 500 cubic yards of concrete for this new bridge!



The **I-39/90 and County N interchange (Exit 147)**, north of Stoughton, was reconfigured with three multi-lane roundabouts to improve safety and mobility. The lengthened bridge over the Interstate will also accommodate the additional lanes below.



Reconstruction and expansion of the Interstate immediately adjacent to the interchange will be completed in fall 2018. Watch the [narrated animation video](#) on how to navigate the new County N interchange.

Temporary widening work was completed on I-39/90 southbound between **County AB and East Church Road**, north of the US 51 interchange (Exit 156), and also between I-39/90 and County S (Shopiere Road) interchange (Exit 183) and the Illinois state line near Beloit. The widening will handle future traffic staging of two lanes in each direction on one side of the Interstate.



Expansion of I-39/90 northbound, from the Dane/Rock County line to East Church Road near Edgerton. Work included the northbound side of the I-39/90 and US 51 interchange (Exit 156).



Reconstruction work continued on the **Rock River Bridges**. The northbound bridge was completed in July 2017 and crews worked this fall to remove the southbound bridge and begin reconstruction.



This project is ongoing and will be completed in late summer/early fall 2018. Reconstruction and expansion of the Interstate is also underway adjacent to the Rock River Bridges.

Replacement of the **Manogue Road bridge** over I-39/90, near the rest area north of Janesville, was completed. The lengthened bridge allows additional lanes to pass underneath.



Preliminary work occurred on **I-39/90 northbound near Hart Road in Beloit**. Pavement removal and bridge removal is underway on the old I-39/90 northbound lanes in Janesville, between the WIS 11/Racine Street and US 14 interchanges. This project work will continue until spring 2020.



Replacement completed of the **Stateline Road bridge** over the I-39/90, southeast of Beloit. The new bridge continues to welcome motorists entering Wisconsin and thank them for visiting.





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2018 Construction Guide

This year, several new projects are expected to begin along the I-39/90 corridor in Dane and Rock counties, as well as the continuation of two projects from 2017. Below is a brief summary of planned construction activities:

- Reconstruction and expansion of I-39/90 from Edgerton to Madison. The southbound Interstate will be expanded between East Church Road and the Dane/Rock County line. I-39/90 northbound will be expanded from East Church Road to County AB, south of Madison. Work will begin this spring and continue through fall 2018.
- Reconstruction of the Rock River bridges. Work will continue on the replacement of the I-39/90 southbound bridge over the river.

Work to replace these bridges began in spring 2016 and will be completed this summer.

- Temporary widening of the northbound Interstate from Townline Road in Janesville to just south of the Rock River bridges. Work is scheduled from spring 2018 to fall 2018.
- Reconstruction and expansion of I-39/90 northbound from Hart Road near Beloit to the US 14/Humes Road interchange near Janesville. Northbound traffic will be shifted to the opposite side of the Interstate during the expansion work.
- Work begins near the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange and adjacent Interstate sections in Beloit. Reconstruction work will take place on I-39/90 north of the interchange, on a section of I-43 to the east of the interchange, and on I-39/90 between the Illinois state line and Cranston Road.

For the 2018 construction season, motorists should continue to be alert for crossovers redirecting traffic to the opposite side of the Interstate.

Two lanes will remain open in each direction along the 45-miles of I-39/90, with occasional single lane closures and ramp closures during nighttime hours. You can find additional information on all of these construction activities by visiting the [project website](#), [Facebook page](#) or the 2018 Construction Guide, which will be posted on the project website in March. Please eliminate all distractions when driving. It's for everyone's safety!

Bridge removals to briefly close local Janesville roads under the Interstate

It will be a busy winter for construction crews in the Janesville area as they work to reconstruct and expand Interstate 39/90 from the WIS 11/Avalon Road interchange to the US 14/Humes Road interchange. As part of the construction, several Interstate bridges over local roadways are being replaced and widened to accommodate the additional lanes.

The bridge removals require periodic closures of the local roads underneath the Interstate, which include:

- Ice Age National Scenic Trail bridge – early December 2017
- East Milwaukee Street bridge – early January 2018
- Ruger Avenue bridge – late January 2018
- Mt. Zion Avenue bridge – early to mid-February 2018
- Palmer Drive bridge – mid-April 2018

The closures are expected to only last a few days and advance notice will be sent through area media, the [project website](#), project [Facebook page](#), and the [project email distribution list](#). In addition, a portion of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail Bridge will stay closed until spring 2018. A detour route is in place for bicyclists and pedestrians.



In early December, demolition began on the I-39/90 northbound bridge over the Spring Brook Trail. Similar reconstruction activities will take place on the bridges listed to the left.

Interstate expansion within these limits between Beloit and Janesville is scheduled to be completed in spring 2020. Reconstruction work on the WIS 26 (Milton Avenue) and US 14 (Humes Road) interchanges is scheduled from spring 2019 to fall 2021.

TrANS program impact along I-39/90 corridor and beyond

As work to expand I-39/90 continues, a notable program, the Transportation Alliance for New Solutions, or TrANS program, is actively working to find talented workers for the projects.

This program is designed to increase the number of those historically underrepresented in the industry, including but not limited to women and minorities, find jobs in the construction and transportation industry. It is a collaborative effort among industry and labor, community-based organizations, local and state government and contractors throughout Wisconsin.

Training under the program is intensive. The 120-hour training regimen includes courses such as physical conditioning, tool usage, construction math, job site safety and work ethics. To graduate, candidates must pass a written exam and an apprenticeship test from one of the skilled trades. They must also be certified as a flagger and have successfully completed an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) construction safety course.

TrANS was exactly the type of break that Marisol Cardenas needed. Before the Rock County native became involved in the TrANS program, she worked as a customer service representative, a job that paid \$7.25 an hour and offered no

benefits. Needing to provide for her children, she tried to get an education, but the school she was attending closed. At that point, Marisol turned to TrANS, and found success. She advanced through the training program, and was able to land a job with Zignego Company Inc., earning \$48 an hour, which included benefits.

The success of TrANS by the numbers

More than **600** people have found jobs as laborers and apprentices.

More than **50** Wisconsin contractors have hired TrANS graduates.

“The program is a bridge to bring people to the construction industry,” Cardenas said. “It connects people who otherwise wouldn’t have the opportunity to succeed in the construction industry.”

The TrANS program also benefits contractors by allowing them to save time and money by taking on the job preparation and training costs. Furthermore, TrANS provides a wage subsidy for companies who hire graduates of the TrANS program on specified Wisconsin DOT projects.

If you are interested in becoming a TrANS participant, or if you are a contractor who is interested in learning more about the program, contact TrANS Coordinator [Lorie Thompson](#), for information that serves your region. You can also find more information on [WisDOT’s TrANS website](#).

Know before you go with the 511 Wisconsin app

The freezing temperatures and frequent snowfalls can make for slippery driving conditions. Before you head to your next destination, plan ahead using www.511wi.gov to stay up-to-date on the latest winter road conditions throughout the state.

You can also receive information directly at your fingertips (not while driving). WisDOT has a free smartphone app that provides current information on winter road conditions, closures and travel times. It also alerts drivers to work zone related delays, backups and detours. It is available for both [Apple](#) and [Android](#) devices, and can be programmed to align with the travel areas favored by the user.

Other features include:

- More than 350 live traffic cameras.
- Travel times and speeds for highly traveled routes.
- Roadwork information, including dates and times of closures and lane restrictions.
- Incident notifications.


Alerts and updates provided via these sites are **not** intended for use while driving. When driving, your focus should **always** be on the road.



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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.

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