



Spring 2019

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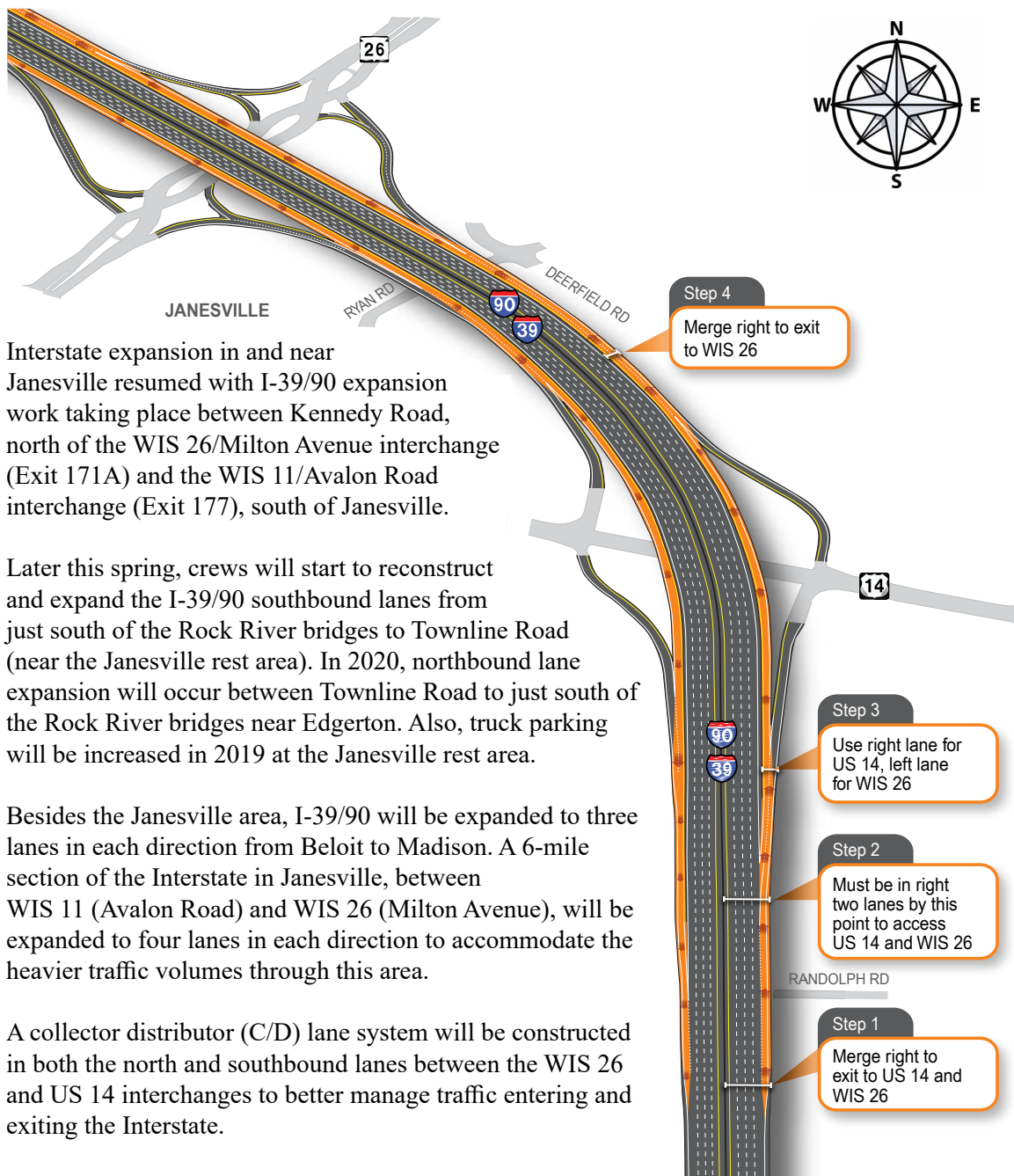
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Interstate expansion continues near Janesville



Interstate expansion in and near Janesville resumed with I-39/90 expansion work taking place between Kennedy Road, north of the WIS 26/Milton Avenue interchange (Exit 171A) and the WIS 11/Avalon Road interchange (Exit 177), south of Janesville.

Later this spring, crews will start to reconstruct and expand the I-39/90 southbound lanes from just south of the Rock River bridges to Townline Road (near the Janesville rest area). In 2020, northbound lane expansion will occur between Townline Road to just south of the Rock River bridges near Edgerton. Also, truck parking will be increased in 2019 at the Janesville rest area.

Besides the Janesville area, I-39/90 will be expanded to three lanes in each direction from Beloit to Madison. A 6-mile section of the Interstate in Janesville, between WIS 11 (Avalon Road) and WIS 26 (Milton Avenue), will be expanded to four lanes in each direction to accommodate the heavier traffic volumes through this area.

A collector distributor (C/D) lane system will be constructed in both the north and southbound lanes between the WIS 26 and US 14 interchanges to better manage traffic entering and exiting the Interstate.

This lane system is designed to improve motorists' safety and mobility through the area. The C/D system is used to separate the entering and exiting ramp traffic from the higher-speed Interstate traffic on the through lanes of I-39/90. An example of a nearby collector distributor system is I-39/90/94 near the US 151 interchange on Madison's east side.

The illustration above depicts how the C/D system works in conjunction with the I-39/90 northbound exit ramp to US 14 and WIS 26.

DDI configuration to be used for new I-39/90 and WIS 26 interchange

Similar to the WIS 11/Avalon Road interchange (Exit 177) with Interstate 39/90, the WIS 26 interchange (Exit 171A) in Janesville will be reconstructed as a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI). Reconstruction of this interchange will start in 2020 and is scheduled to be completed in fall 2021.

A DDI functions by shifting traffic to the opposite side of the road as it approaches the interchange. This allows for free-flow, left turn movements onto the Interstate without being impeded by oncoming traffic.

Signs, traffic signals, and pavement markings direct motorists to cross over to the left side of the roadway. Traffic proceeding through the interchange on WIS 26 will travel through a second set of traffic lights and cross back to the right side of the road.

The benefits of a DDI include the elimination of crossing conflicts for vehicles turning left from WIS 26 to the Interstate, fewer points of conflict for potential collisions, and minimized driver delay. This allows traffic to flow better and accommodates all road users, including large trucks and oversize/overweight vehicles. Similar to roundabouts, truck aprons are installed at interchange ramps where those vehicles may off track.

This will be the third DDI in the state of Wisconsin. The first was I-39/90 and WIS 11 (Avalon Road), which was completed

in fall 2016, followed by the WIS 441 and US 10 interchange near Appleton completed last fall. Wisconsin's fourth DDI will be constructed at the I-39/90 and WIS 81 interchange in Beloit, opening in fall 2021. Feedback from motorists traveling these interchanges has been very positive.



Watch a narrated animation video of the new WIS 26 interchange at:
www.projects.511wi.gov/i-39-90/ddi/wis26

Work Zone Safety Week is a reminder on how to drive year round

This year's theme for the national Work Zone Awareness Week (April 8-12) is "Drive Like You Work Here." In other words, be mindful of work zones and drive with caution much like you would want motorists to do if the roles were reversed.

It's a crucial reminder as road construction activities ramp up now that warmer weather has arrived. Here are some important tips to remember when driving through a construction zone:

- **Be patient.** Slow down and pay attention to your surroundings in work zones.
- **Eliminate distractions.** Don't eat, drink, talk on the phone, or fiddle with electronic devices.
- **Expect the unexpected.** Speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people and vehicles may be working on or near the road.
- **Obey the posted speed limit.** A car traveling 60 mph travels 88 feet per second, and the faster you go the longer it takes to stop.
- **Give yourself room.** Rear-end collisions are the most common work zone crashes, so don't tailgate. Allow four seconds of braking distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you when traveling 60 mph.



- **Plan ahead.** Leave early or map out an [alternate route](#). Find the latest road conditions and work zone news at 511wi.gov.
- **Follow the law.** Slow down and move over, if possible, when you see flashing lights.

Following these simple tips will help ensure that you and the work crews remain safe and will get to go home to their loved ones at the end of the work day.

Major reconstruction resumes on I-39/90 and I-43 in Beloit

Travelers in the Beloit area will notice work has resumed on Phase 1 of the reconstruction of I-39/90 and I-43 in Beloit. In mid-March, I-43 traffic shifted to the southbound side and was reduced to one lane in each direction so crews can reconstruct the lanes on the northbound side. Work also includes updating the interchange ramps and modifying the roundabouts' truck aprons at the County X/Hart Road interchange.



Just before the 2018 construction season finished last November, grading work took place on the northeast quadrant of the I-39/90 and I-43 interchange (Exit 185 A-B) near Beloit. This photo shows future I-43 southbound lanes to the I-39/90 northbound ramp.

At the same time, all I-39/90 traffic has been shifted to the southbound side between Cranston Road and the Illinois state line as crews work to reconstruct and expand the northbound lanes of the Interstate. The Interstate bridge over Colley Road

will be reconstructed and widened creating the need to close the local roadway under the Interstate for the duration of the project.

In late summer or early fall, all I-39/90 traffic will shift to the new northbound concrete pavement between the Illinois state line and Cranston Road as crews begin to reconstruct and expand the southbound lanes within these limits. I-43 traffic will also be shifted to the newly completed Interstate lanes and crews will begin reconstruction of the southbound side.

Phase 1 work is expected to be completed by late fall, weather permitting. Phase 2 of the project is anticipated to begin in fall 2019 and scheduled to be completed in late fall 2021. Phase 2 work will focus on reconstructing the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange.

Throughout construction, I-39/90 will remain open to two lanes in each direction during peak travel times. Nightly single lane closures will occur on I-39/90 weeknights from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. within the construction project limits. I-43 will have one lane open in each direction east of Beloit. Periodic overnight ramp closures may occur at the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange.

All lane restrictions, ramp closures and work operations are weather dependent and subject to change. Motorists are reminded to be alert and drive with caution in all work zones.

BELOIT AREA TRAFFIC IMPACTS FOR 2019

- I-39/90: Reduced speed limit of 60 mph.
- I-43: One lane open in each direction and reduced speed limit of 55 mph.
- Periodic nighttime lane closures on I-39/90 from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. weeknights.
- Possible overnight ramp closures at the I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange (Exit 185 A-B).
- Access to the Beloit Rest Area and Wisconsin Welcome Center is anticipated to remain open.

A collaborative approach to workforce development

WisDOT's [Transportation Alliance for New Solutions](#) (TrANS) program, created to help fulfill a shortage of entry-level laborer positions for construction contractors, is working collaboratively with [Community Action, Inc.](#) (CAI) in Beloit to help meet the demand by contractors for qualified, entry level workers.

CAI is a not-for-profit organization offering programs to fight poverty in Rock and Walworth counties. To that mission, CAI works with individuals to provide mentorship and workforce

training to develop the skills needed to transition into the workforce.

The collaboration includes CAI hosting two TrANS training classes a year at its office. CAI also assists with locating and screening candidates to enroll in the classes. The screening includes potential candidates participating in an orientation program that outlines the program's benefits, the coursework and expectations. It also involves basic skills testing including reading and math, an interview with a TrANS coordinator and completion of the program application.

In addition, CAI also provides daily monitoring and guidance to ensure that the program participants succeed.

Working to achieve the similar goals, the two organizations have been working cooperatively since the I-39/90 reconstruction project started in 2013.

For the current class, CAI has referred 12 participants and is optimistic each will complete the program and enter the workforce.



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I-39/90 Expansion Project Newsletter

SPRING 2019

Beginning of construction season means Interstate speed limit reduction



WisDOT reduced the speed limit to 60 mph within the construction zones on sections of the 45-mile I-39/90 corridor between Beloit and Madison. A section of I-39/90, between E. Church Road and just south of the Rock River, will remain at 70 mph as reconstruction in this area is complete.

The public will be alerted to this change and the Wisconsin State Patrol has also communicated that they will increase surveillance efforts. This includes additional troopers patrolling the corridor and conducting aerial enforcements to ensure motorists are complying with all traffic laws.

Two lanes of Interstate traffic are maintained in each direction during daytime hours and weekends. Motorists should obey the posted speed limit.

As a reminder, it is illegal to drive within a Wisconsin zone while talking on a hand-held mobile device. For everyone's safety, please keep your heads up and phones down!

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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