



SPRING 2013

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Design of roundabouts to be constructed at the I-39/90 and Highway 11 (Racine St.) interchange in Janesville.

Work to begin on reconstruction of the Highway 11 (Racine St.) interchange

Crews will break ground in late June/early July 2013 to reconstruct the Highway 11 (Racine St.) interchange in Janesville. The major reconstruction project will convert the current cloverleaf interchange into a diamond interchange incorporating two-lane roundabouts at the ramp terminals. These roundabouts, approximately 200 feet in diameter, will accommodate large trucks and oversize/overweight trucks that use the highway.

The project will be on an accelerated schedule to minimize traffic and community impacts.

Single lane closures on Highway 11 (Racine St.) will occur throughout construction. One lane in each direction will be open at all times along with turn lanes to/from the Interstate. In addition, periodic nighttime lane closures may occur on I-39/90 below the bridge. Access to area neighborhoods, businesses, Dean Clinic and St. Mary's Hospital will be maintained. Information on lane closures and traffic impacts will be posted on the project website and project Facebook page throughout construction.

This reconstruction project will take place prior to the Interstate expansion due to the many safety concerns with the current cloverleaf configuration. From 2006 to 2010, there were 101 crashes at

the Highway 11 (Racine St.) interchange, including two fatalities. The majority of the crashes occurred at the ramp merge. There is inadequate merging capacity for vehicles (especially semi-trucks) when traveling from eastbound Racine Street to northbound I-39/90 and westbound Racine Street to southbound I-39/90.

The two-lane roundabouts at the ramps will increase safety and efficiency for all road users at the interchange. Some roundabout safety statistics are provided in the roundabout story on page two.

Reconstruction of the Highway 11 (Racine St.) interchange is scheduled to be completed in November 2013.

In conjunction with the reconstruction of the interchange, WisDOT will construct a multi-use path connection for the Spring Brook Trail along Racine Street on land owned by the city of Janesville. Spring Brook Trail is part of the Ice Age Trail corridor, which includes 5.1 miles of paved trail connecting downtown Janesville to the Rotary Botanical Gardens, Palmer Park, the Youth Sports Complex and Highway 14.

Want to be in the know? Sign up for email updates!

A component of any WisDOT project is to keep the public informed about what is happening and when.

We encourage residents, commuters, property and business owners to sign up to receive I-39/90 project updates via email. These periodic updates provide a variety of project related items, including:

- When new information is placed on the project website;
- When Public Information Meetings (PIMs) are scheduled;
- Construction timeline and traffic impacts; and
- Other important project related information.

Simply visit the project website at www.i39-90.wi.gov and click the “sign up for updates” link/tab on the home page. Please provide your first and last name with your email address. After you sign up, you will receive a notification in your email inbox asking you to confirm your registration. Do not forget to confirm the subscription from your email when the notification arrives.

You can also follow the project on Facebook at [Facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project).

RIDESHARE helps match commuters for carpooling

This free service provided by the State of Wisconsin, serves all of Wisconsin and bordering counties in neighboring states (IA, IL, MI, MN). Visit the website for more information, www.rideshare.wi.gov.



I-43 and County Y interchange in New Berlin, WI.

Why roundabouts are incorporated into highway projects

Roundabouts are becoming more common in the United States and across Wisconsin due to their many benefits. The I-39/90 expansion project will incorporate roundabouts at key interchanges along the corridor to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion.

Roundabouts are used at strategic intersections due to the higher level of safety and traffic mobility. The safety benefits include:

- The roundabout design and the counterclockwise flow of traffic reduces the number of conflict points at an intersection;
- Driving speeds are reduced as motorists enter the roundabout; and
- The counterclockwise travel pattern eliminates head-on and right-angle collisions, two of the most severe types of crashes that can cause injury to the occupants of the vehicles.

Safety statistics from a 2011 UW Traffic Operations and Safety Laboratory Study highlight that Wisconsin roundabouts provide a:

- 52 percent reduction in fatal or injury crashes;
- 9 percent decrease in crashes; and
- Zero fatalities

Mobility is improved because vehicles no longer have to stop at a signalized or stop controlled intersections when no other vehicles are in the area. This helps improve the traffic flow and prevents unnecessary idling of a vehicle at stop sign or signalized intersections, reducing vehicle emissions. It also allows motorists to more efficiently reach their destination.

Visit www.wisconsinroundabouts.gov and click on “How Roundabouts Work” to view videos on how to drive a roundabout.

Installation of ITS features to start in July 2013

Intelligent Transportation Systems, ITS for short, utilizes technology including traffic monitoring cameras and message boards to monitor traffic flow and provide motorists with real-time traveler information.

Beginning in July, WisDOT will install additional ITS equipment along the 45-mile corridor from the Illinois state line north to the US 12/18 interchange near Madison. Periodic lane and shoulder closures may occur on I-39/90 in order to install the equipment. Information about the lane and shoulder closures will be posted on the project website and project Facebook page.

Work is anticipated to be completed in November 2013.

Once installed, the ITS equipment will alert motorists of potential traffic delays and provide alternate routes so motorists may reach their destination safely and efficiently. Anyone interested can also view the traffic cameras and travel times on Wisconsin’s highways by visiting WisDOT’s 511 website, www.511wi.gov, or by simply dialing 511 to get free, real-time travel conditions.



Message board on I-39/90/94, north of Highway 19, near Windsor, WI.

Temporary widening of Interstate shoulders near Beloit

To accommodate four lanes of traffic on one side of I-39/90 during mainline construction, crews will temporarily widen the Interstate shoulders from the Illinois state line north to the Woodman Road overpass. Temporary widening will start in July 2013 and motorists should be aware of crews working in the median and along the shoulders.



Traffic heading southbound on I-39/90 near the Illinois state line.

The additional pavement will be used as travel lanes when reconstruction begins on the Interstate, allowing workers to reconstruct and expand I-39/90 while maintaining two lanes of traffic in each direction. During the temporary widening, periodic nighttime lane

closures will occur on southbound I-39/90 along with daytime shoulder closures. Information about the lane and shoulder closures will be posted on the project website and project Facebook page prior to the start of the closure.

Work is expected to be completed in November 2013.

Upcoming Public Information Meetings

The I-39/90 segment teams continue to refine design alternatives for the reconstruction and expansion of the Interstate.

In the upcoming months, each segment team will host another Public Information Meeting (PIM) to present their design concepts and gather feedback. Dates for the PIMs have not been set at this time, but are tentatively

planned for June/July 2013. When dates are set for each PIM, invitations will be sent to residents in the area informing them of the date, time and location of the meeting. In addition, the meeting dates/times and locations will be posted on the project website, www.i39-90.wi.gov, and Facebook page, [Facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project), at least three weeks before the meeting.

In This Together program helps area businesses



WisDOT recognizes that businesses located in work zones have special needs as a result of construction. It's critical that customers have access and continue to visit businesses, regardless of any inconveniences road work may cause.

The *In This Together* program was designed by WisDOT to provide resources and tips for business owners on how to promote their business during construction. The program includes an online workbook, case studies and promotional samples that demonstrate techniques that have been used successfully by business owners in both large and small communities throughout Wisconsin.

This program is offered to business and community leaders as an idea source when planning for road construction. Through communication and cooperation, businesses can not only survive, but thrive, when road construction happens near them.

To learn more, visit www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/itt/index.htm for strategies on how to thrive during construction.

In addition, the *In This Together* site provides opportunities for business owners to place information about their business and hours of operation onto the site. This helps viewers visiting the *In This Together* website find your business. Our goal is to help customers make the connection with you!



Give 'em a BRAKE

Be Alert, Be Safe

Crashes in construction zones happen far too frequently and can easily be avoided. For your safety and the safety of our work crews, please follow these tips for driving in a construction zone:

- **Don't get distracted.** Eliminate eating, drinking, talking on the phone, or using electronic devices when driving.
- **Expect the unexpected.** Speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may change, and people and vehicles may be working on or near the road.
- **Slow down.** Follow posted speed limits at all times. Fines are double in construction zones.
- **Give yourself room.** Rear-end collisions are the most common work zone crashes, so don't tailgate. Allow about three seconds of braking distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- **Watch for signage.** Diamond-shaped, orange signs provide ample warning of lane closings, construction areas and when crews are working ahead.
- **Be patient.** If you don't see workers, that doesn't mean they're not there. Observe the signs until you see one that says you've left the work zone.
- **Plan ahead.** Leave early or map out an alternate route. Call 511 or visit www.511wi.gov for real-time travel conditions on Wisconsin's highways.
- **Follow the law.** Slow down and move over, if possible, when you see flashing lights or vehicles parked on the side of the road.



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I-39/90 Expansion Project Newsletter

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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, connect with us to get information in whichever way is most convenient.



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