

WINTER 2014- 2015

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# We're "In This Together!"

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) recognizes that businesses located in or near construction zones are faced with special challenges. It is critical that customers, employees and delivery vehicles have access to businesses and places of work, regardless of any roadwork inconvenience.



The "In This Together" program, sponsored by WisDOT, assists businesses facing road construction in their community. The program's goal is to help businesses maintain daily operations while construction is underway.

This program helps support economic development in a number of ways including:

- Encouraging businesses to become proactive in attracting business during construction and working together with WisDOT;
- Providing owners with positive strategies and successful techniques to draw in customers;
- Reducing the fears and frustrations of business owners associated with construction disruptions, delays and detours; and
- Demonstrating that WisDOT wants to help businesses succeed and promote economic development.

For the I-39/90 Expansion Project, an "In This Together" information packet was created for the business community. This packet is meant to provide you with ideas as you prepare for road construction near your business. Inside the packet are techniques and tips for business owners and managers on how to maintain and attract customers during road construction. There is also a preconstruction checklist to help businesses plan and prepare in advance of the road work. This information has proven successful in communities throughout Wisconsin.

As a business along this project, it is important to stay informed and involved. Visit and bookmark the I-39/90 Expansion Project website, <u>www.i39-90.wi.gov</u>, and the project Facebook page, <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>WisconsinI3990Project</u>. On the project website, you can sign up for email updates, check out the construction schedules and click on the Resources tab to find out more about the "In This Together" program. Start planning now, and get involved early!

## **Congratulations to the TrANS 2014 Graduating Class!**

A new class of Transportation Alliance for New Solutions (TrANS) graduates are ready to start their careers as construction professionals. In late October 2014, the Southwest Region TrANS program held the first graduation in Beloit with its new provider, Forward Service Corporation. As reported in the summer 2014 newsletter, the TrANS program is WisDOT's investment in promoting equity and access to the potential new workforce generated by our projects.



TrANS class of 2014 and their instructors.

Students in the class learned about problem solving, construction math, professionalism, apprenticeships, and many other subjects. They also earned their certifications in OSHA 10 hours of construction safety, CPR/AED and First Aid, and are now certified flaggers in Wisconsin and Illinois.

In addition to the classroom work, the students participated in field trips to Rock Road Companies asphalt plant and worksites. While there, the students witnessed the behind-the-scenes aspects of construction and the true meaning of "time is money." They also had the opportunity to visit the Associated Builders and Contractors in Madison where they tried welding and operating heavy equipment in simulators.

The graduates capped this off with a networking session with area contractors. Since late October, 10 graduates are already working with one placed in an apprenticeship with Local 139 of the Operating Engineers.

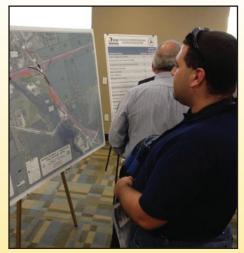
We look forward to reporting back on their new careers when the construction season kicks off in spring 2015.

## I-43 Interchange Public Hearing Scheduled

WisDOT is holding a public hearing to discuss the location, design and environmental aspects of proposed improvements on I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange between IL 75 to County S and Cranston Road to WIS 140 in Rock County.

The public hearing is planned for Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at the Beloit Public Library Community Room, located at 605 Eclipse Boulevard, Beloit, WI, 53511. The public hearing will be conducted from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Interested persons may attend anytime between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to review displays and other hearing materials, ask questions and provide testimony.

The purpose of the proposed I-39/90 and I-43/WIS 81 interchange improvements



is to upgrade the interchange to improve overall safety, meet current design standards, accommodate future traffic with an acceptable level of service, replace aging pavements and structures, and enhance local mobility to the city of Beloit.

The Draft Environmental Assessment and details on how to provide comments can be viewed on the I-39/90 Expansion Project website, <u>www.i39-90.wi.gov</u>, under the Resources tab and Environmental section.

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# **Orange Barrels Hibernate for Winter**

It was a successful 2014 construction season with three different projects completed relating to the I-39/90 Expansion Project. Those projects included:

### WIS 73 reconstruction (I-39/90 north to US 12/18) in Dane County.

- This nine-mile stretch of WIS 73 opened on October 31, after seven months of construction. The highway remained open for local traffic and area businesses during construction.
- Improvements included addressing deficiencies in pavement conditions, drainage issues, substandard sight distances, and intersection safety along WIS 73.
- Starting in late spring 2015, the WIS 73 and US 12/18 intersection will be reconstructed. Visit the WIS 73 project website, <u>www.dot.wi.gov/projects/</u>

swregion/73, to learn more about the planned improvements (under the Maps section).

# I-39/90 southbound bridge reconstruction over Siggelkow Road, south of the US 12/18 interchange near Madison.

- Construction started in April 2014 and was completed in late November 2014.
- During the bridge reconstruction, all four lanes of I-39/90 were shifted onto the widened northbound lanes.
- Fun facts: 576 cubic yards of concrete was used for the new bridge deck. The girders range in length from 110 feet to 116 feet. There was also 166,500 pounds (or 83.25 tons) of steel used on this project.

# Pavement repairs on I-39/90 from Milwaukee Street in Janesville north to the WIS 73/US 51 interchange.

- Work began in May 2014 and replaced about 25,000 square yards of concrete and placed apporximately 72,000 tons of asphalt over a five month period.
- Safety improvements were made to the pavement, shoulders and other sections of roadway, including resurfacing sections of I-39/90 northbound and southbound.

Looking ahead, WisDOT is currently planning the following construction projects for 2015:

- County G reconstruction, between Huebbe Parkway and WIS 11 west
- County S (Shopiere Road) interchange reconstruction
- Reconfiguration of the WIS 73 and US 12/18 intersections near Cambridge and Deerfield
- Replacement of the Edgerton Road bridge over I-39/90, north of the WIS 73/US 51 interchange
- Replacement of the County A bridge over the Interstate, north of the US 51 interchange
- US 51 and US 14 alternate route improvements from Janesville to Edgerton
- WIS 73/US 51 interchange reconstruction near Edgerton
- WIS 11 (Avalon Road) interchange, south of Janesville
- WIS 59 interchange near Newville
- Rock River bridges, south of the WIS 59 interchange

# Note: These 2015 construction projects are subject to change.

Construction schedules are available on the project website, <u>www.i39-90.wi.gov</u>, under the Schedule tab. More information about the 2015 construction events will be provided online in the coming months.

Remember to sign up for project email updates! Visit the project website and click on the Sign Up for Updates tab. You can also follow the project on Facebook, <u>www.facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project</u>.









U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

Wisconsin Department of Transportation I-39/90 Project 111 Interstate Blvd. Edgerton, WI 53534-9399



## I-39/90 Expansion Project Newsletter WINTER 2014-2015

# **Open House Meeting Dates Set for Early 2015**

Spring is just around the corner, and project staff are preparing for the start of another construction season. Prior to that, WisDOT is hosting an open house meeting for each of the I-39/90 project segments to keep you involved and informed about the construction plans in your area this year and beyond. The dates and times of the meetings are as follows:

Central Segment – Janesville to Edgerton Wednesday, March 4, 2015 (3 p.m. - 7 p.m.)

North Segment – Edgerton to Madison Thursday, March 5, 2015 (3 p.m. - 7 p.m.)



#### South Segment – Beloit to Janesville

Late March, 2015. Monitor the project website for a date/time.

No formal presentations are scheduled; just stop by at your convenience. The open houses will be held at the WisDOT Southwest Region Project Field Office located at **111 Interstate Blvd. in Edgerton, WI.** If you are unable to attend, call us at (608) 884-1234 or email us at <u>i39-90Project@</u> <u>dot.wi.gov</u> for an update.

### 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.

- **6**08.884.1234
- www.i39-90.wi.gov
- I39-90Project@dot.wi.gov
- facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project

Sign up for email updates on the project website.

Get real-time travel conditions by calling 511 or visiting, <u>www.511wi.gov</u>.



