

From: [Mohelnitzky, Hannah](#)
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Subject: The E: December 2024
Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 10:09:05 PM
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THE E.

A newsletter for the Engineering Division



December 2024 Issue

A message from your City Engineer, Jim Wolfe

As most of you are now aware, our Construction Engineer, John Fahrney will be retiring from the Engineering Division after about 35 years!!! His last day in the office is coming up on December 6, and we'll have a little gathering at Emil St. that afternoon (1-3 p.m.) to celebrate. I want to first congratulate John and wish him all the best in his pending retirement; it's so very much deserved! I've had the pleasure of working with John fairly closely over my 18 years with Engineering, and I have learned so much from him over that time, some of it pretty basic transportation engineer knowledge, too. During one of my first preconstruction meetings with him when I was an Engineer 1, we had a project starting fairly late in the season, and during the meeting, John asked if we were planning to still put down surface pavement yet that year. At the time, I had no idea that the top layer of pavement was called the "surface," but I of course said "yes" to the question anyway. As it turned out, with my inexperience, I had significantly underestimated the time of construction for that particular project anyway, and we got no where near putting down surface pavement that year, but at least I knew what it was after that project. Thank you again John for your incredible dedication and service to the City of Madison over these years, and enjoy your very well-deserved retirement!!

Also, as we approach the end of the year, I want to thank you all again for your incredible work over the last year. I can't say that enough. I'm so proud of what we've been able to accomplish this year, and I'm looking forward to 2025. Have safe and Happy Holidays everyone!

-Jim



Combined Campaign Update: Pie in the Face Contest!

The Combined Campaign closed on Tuesday, Dec. 3. First off – a huge thank you to everyone that donated! As part of the campaign this year, the Engineering Division is having a contest to pie a supervisor! The “draft” final standings are noted below. If you made a pledge but haven’t yet reported it to be included in the pie contest, please let Chase O’Brien know by the end of the day on Thursday, December 5. Remember, the first place finisher will be getting pie’d by the second place finisher, and the last place finisher will also get pie’d by the second-to-last place finisher. [Click here to set up a contribution through payroll](#)

Draft Final standings:

Downtown:

1. Moder (\$2,622.93)
2. Cooper (\$1,579.08)
3. Zwiieg (\$1,154.68)
4. Wolfe (\$1,067.00)
5. Petykowski (\$780.00)
6. Fries (\$646.00)

Emil St:

7. Toso (\$531.20)
8. Schmidt (\$479.24)
9. Brody (\$106.00)
10. Scharf (\$84.50)
11. Brown (\$83.56)
12. Pare (\$83.00)
13. King (\$81.91)
14. Kelley (\$79.00)
15. Kasprzak (\$78.58)
16. Quamme (\$76.00)
17. Cryan (\$12.36)

Cash (voted in contest): \$361.04

Payroll Pledge (voted in contest): \$9,184.00

Additional Pledges (not voted in contest): \$750.00

Total Donated: \$10,295.04

Stay tuned for the details of where/when the pies will be flying!

Combined Campaign Background Information

As City employees, each day we tackle the most pressing challenges our community faces. However, there are other ways to make an impact. Through our donations to the 2024 Combined Campaign we can create a better future! Thank you all again for your generosity with the Combined Campaign this year!

Engineering’s John Fahrney Retirement Party this Friday

John Fahrney retires Dec. 6. A folder with two retirement cards is now circulating. Please sign whichever card has more signatures when it lands on your desk. The second card is for when additional space is needed.



City's Budget Passes

Budget Passes

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/news/2024-11-12/adoption-of-the-2025-capital-and-operating-budgets>

Watch Budget: <https://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Play/a40edb15e314497d98cc75a7b60555dd1d>

Equity Minute: December

December is National Human Rights Month. It was created as a way to encourage people in the USA to come together and honor the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a document that has been adopted by the United Nations. The document lays out the 30 rights and freedoms that all humans are entitled to. These are rights that should not be able to be taken away.

PHOTOS: World Day of Remembrance





PHOTOS: Ops Crews Clean up Sandbag Sand for Season



Media Snapshot November 2024

Press Releases

- [Update: Reconstruction to Pause Until Spring Due to Cold Weather](#) posted November 27, 2024
- [Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard and Doty Street Closures – Concrete Restoration](#) posted November 18, 2024

Blogs

None

Press Conferences

- [News Conference: World Day of Remembrance November 15, 2024](#)

Everyday Engineering Podcast

- [NEW: Transportation Demand Management with guests: Liz Callin and Trent Shultz](#)



Make sure to subscribe to Everyday Engineering on iTunes and watch for these upcoming episodes featuring your coworkers and their expertise on topics and projects:

- [LISTEN: The Madison Lakes are Pretty... with guests: Phil Gaebler, Eric Booth](#)
- [LIVE: New Signs Coming to A Neighborhood Near You: 20 is Plenty with guest: Jeremy Nash](#)
- COMING SOON: Just Don't Do It, Illicit Dumping and Contractor Questions with guest: Phil Gaebler
- COMING SOON: Life's Blueprint: Paul Lauby and the Career of a Construction Inspector with guest: Paul Lauby
- COMING SOON: The Grass is Greener on Stormwater Land, Mowing with guests: John Toso, Maddie Dumas

Don't miss an upcoming episode! <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/madisons-everyday-engineering/id1476609194>

Section Updates

Each month, Engineering Division City Engineer Jim Wolfe leads a section head meeting. Each month in The E, we will share

main points for employees to know what was discussed on important topics that impact employees division-wide. This is to improve better internal communication between leadership and staff. This is separate from official meeting minutes.

Division Communications

Hannah Mohelnitzky, Engineering Division Public Information Officer

We're in the process of planning and promoting our upcoming ribbon cutting for Autumn Ridge Path next week. We're also working on a number of public information meetings, web updates and project questionnaires. Please continue to use ENGweb@cityofmadison.com for all your web updates and forward all media requests to me immediately as they come in.

Public Works and Private Development

Chris Petykowski, Deputy City Engineer, Public Works and Private Development

Public works engineers are beginning to work on 2025 projects. Private development Engineers and Managers continue to service contracts and issue plan sets. Plans issued this month include Starker Ave and a path & bridge included in the Pheasant Branch Creek Project. Public information meetings for the new Southwest Plan and Southeast Plan with the neighborhoods. The Badger Rusk project was approved at the Board of Public Works. The Hill Valley Plat was presented to the Transportation Commission. The Common Council adopted our capital budget which sets our budgets for our 2025 projects. Lastly a ribbon cutting is planned for the new Autumn Ridge Path on the east side which includes a new path and bridge over Hwy 30. The ceremony is scheduled for Dec 12 at 2pm.

Facilities Management

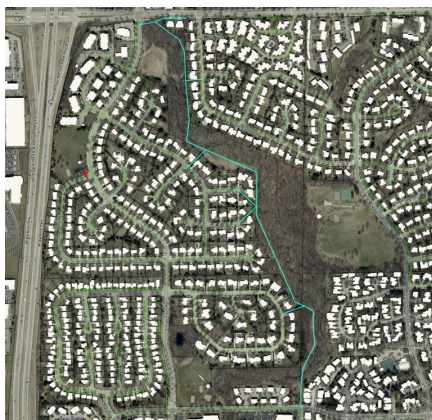
Bryan Cooper, Deputy City Engineer, Facilities Services and Management

- 2024 GreenPower team construction activities continue for [CDA Truax Apartments Solar PV](#).
- Construction Phase > [Door Creek Park Pavilion](#), [Tenney Park Beach Shelter](#), [Madison Public Market](#), [Metro – Satellite Facility](#), [State Street Campus Garage Mixed Use Development](#), [Village on Park Parking Structure](#), [Rennebohm Park Shelter Restroom Renovation](#), [Country Grove Park Shelter](#), [West Streets Facility HVAC and Lighting Upgrade](#), [Bartillon Shelter](#), [WPCRC Expansion](#)
- Bidding Phase > [CCB – DCR Offices](#)
- Design Phase > [Streets – Waste Transfer – Public Drop Off Access and Flatwork Improvements](#), [Engineering Services Building Locker Room Renovation](#), and [Imagination Center at Reindahl Park](#).

Operations – Sewer and Stormwater Utilities

Jason Kelley, Public Works General Foreperson– CCTV & Trenchless Rehab

It started out with crews completing a high priority & highly sensitive project; clean/televise the entire Sauk Creek Greenway with very little vehicular access. Construction crews built a temporary bridge for truck access, mowing crews were able to clear the easement and Vector/CCTV crews cleaned and televised from the intersection of Randolph Drive and Tree Lane all the way to the intersection of North High Point Road and Old Sauk Road; over 6,400 feet!



Next, Vector crews knocked out a large chunk of their remaining ACs for 2024 and are projected to meet their target before the end of 2024.

Crews were then able to solve the mystery of the secret cross bore in a 15" PVC sanitary main at Mineral Point Road and Commerce Road. The utility hired a contractor, approved in the Right of Way (ROW), who made the repair before the end of the month. This situation is a big reason why the PM/CMOM program is so vital. We have situational awareness of our utilities and provides a way to hold contractors responsible for damage.



Lastly, crews came across a large sanitary break near the airport security fence off Grimm Street. Construction came up with a plan of eliminating access from the inside of the airport to the outside, allowing easier access in an emergency.

Great job, crews!

Stormwater

Janet Schmidt, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

The Holidays are upon us and generally this time of year starts to slow for a bit but then gets going right away in January with design and public meetings. We have had 2 good bids on both the Prairie Hills Pond dredging and the Pheasant Branch Greenway Enhancement projects. Both are going to be starting up in earnest at the beginning of the new year. The Stormwater Vegetation Management Plan heads to the Board of Public Works for one final check in then for formal acceptance by the Board in January. That was a lot of hard work and kudos to Sarah Lerner for tackling such a bid initiative. The Sauk Creek Corridor plan is moving forward with more public meetings, a resident survey and a walk and talk with neighbors. Our goal is to have that plan approved in early 2025 to set the table for design and construction in 2026-2027. Thanks to Jojo O'Brien and her team for all the work that has gone into that effort. More design projects are in the works for 2025 including the box replacement on the Cap City Trail, the box replacement at Manitou and Nakoma, the Mineral Point Rd flood mitigation efforts. We are also trying to wrap up a lot of watershed studies in late 2024 or early 2025. We have a few more to go but have made a sizeable dent these last 2 years. Finally, a huge thanks for the entire Sewer Section for all the hard work this year. Happy Holidays and see you in 2025!

Sanitary Sewer

Mark Moder, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

The 2025 street projects are now assigned or are now under design. Engineers are encouraged to check their project lists and get out to see the project sites and request survey work prior to winter if it is still needed. It is much harder to find private storm connections after it snows. Please take the time to get out when you can. Private Development: Key apartment complex planned occupancy dates to hit in May of 2025 that we need new sewers in place for- 3401 E. Washington Ave. (Gardners Bakery redevelopment) and 838 Williamson St. The Commercial Ave. (Hwy 30) sewer crossing project which is also associated with the Gardners Bakery site redevelopment is now under construction. Sewer improvements for 838 Williamson Street- Paterson St Sewer Replacement is also now under construction. Fordem Ave.- First St. Sewer Replacement for 1617 Sherman Ave., will not be bid until we have Railroad Permitting. Lift Stations Projects: Truax Lift Station Replacement construction is nearing completion. The Badger Lift Station Replacement is not yet designed but construction is still planned for late 2025. The design firm consultant will be under contract soon. Mayflower L.S. will also be under design in 2025 for 2026 construction with the CDA redevelopment on W. Badger Rd/ S. Park St. Finally, Thank you everyone for a very productive 2024. I hope that everyone has a great holiday season and look forward to 2025.

Land Information/Official Map

Jeff Quamme, Section Manager

- Continuing work with Engineering Tech and IT to determine workflows for addressing and Storm Water Billing.
- Coordination of multiple Real Estate projects, vacations, research and relocation orders for several engineering, planning, transportation and water projects
- 911 Address Point population has been prioritized to complete situs addresses.
- Continued private development with extensive land rights reviews, acquisitions and releases with Real Estate projects.
- Checking and adding parcel mapping for future areas of Blooming Grove to attach in 2027 as time permits.
- Updating of base mapping to prioritize areas in need of adjustment spatially of areas that are not accurately mapped as time permits.

Engineering Technology

Candice Kasprzak, Engineering Technology Manager

- Finalizing Address Point and storm billing workflows to work with new CAMA system
- Completed a project finalization in ACC for public works projects
- Continue using "Issues" function of ACC to complete punch lists on projects
- Beginning private development workflows in ACC – working on templates and forms first
- Helping supervisors with getting their employee check-ins complete
- Working with ITPipes to get manhole inspections in
- ACC training ongoing and targeted to when users have project tasks to complete
- Researching BIM for facilities into CityWorks
- Working with Facilities on CityWorks process changes for PMs. Switching from WO to inspections
- Working with other Public Works agencies to get CW and GIS updated
- Demoed Power BI dashboards for ACC to get feedback from section heads and building for parcel information (replace GEO)
- Ongoing
 - Setting up CAD standards, templates and efficiency improvements
 - Data Governance – Working on data training. Looking at City-wide data warehouse.
 - E911 Addressing Points with Dane County
 - Misc CityWorks updates and maintenance
 - Sanitary & Storm record updates – working on sanitary and storm backlog

Administration Staff

Johanna Johnson, Heidi Fleegel, Isaac Gabriel

Common Council dates and Board of Public Works dates for December and January:

December:

- Common Council resolution deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 3, by 8 AM (CC meeting on 12/10)
- Board of Public Works resolution deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 11, by NOON (BPW meeting on 12/18)

January:

- Common Council resolution deadlines are Tuesday, Jan 7 & 21, by 8 AM (CC meetings on 1/14 & 1/28)
- Board of Public Works resolution deadlines are Wednesday, Jan 8 & 22, by NOON (BPW meetings on 1/15 & 1/29)

Finance

Steve Danner-Rivers, Financial Manager

Only a few more weeks until 2024 is over so here are several things to keep in mind during these final weeks of 2024:

- Please continue to close out Work Orders in Cityworks as quickly as possible after the work is complete. This is especially important for work orders that have to be billed out to another agency or external party.
- Any billings to utilities like MGE or anything done without a formal agreement needs to be billed out now. Please forward the necessary info as soon as you have it pulled together.
- Please limit purchases to what is needed for 2024, i.e. don't stock up, so that we are not paying for 2025 materials with 2024 budget. Stock can be replenished after 1/1/25.
- All grants need to be billed out or accrued (if unable to be billed out now) in order to have the revenue and expenditures both within 2024. Please work with Chase to get all grants up to date.
- Please review all consultant agreements and anything else under a POS contract to make sure any contract extensions are in place prior to the contract expiring (if the project is delayed or if the work will not be complete prior to the contract expiration date)
- Please review all open contracts and PO's that you are managing to make sure that we are either billed for all work through 12/31 or to identify items to be closed out.
- We will be able to begin issuing 2025 PO's sometime around the middle of December.

Construction Inspection

John Fahrney, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

Construction projects are winding up for the year. Notable project still under way: Doty/Wilson, Commercial Sanitary Sewer

All street PW project have been paved.

Surveyors are working on preliminary surveys for 2025.

Inspectors are finalizing projects, working on private development and permits

Inspectors continue to implement and fine tune ACC.

Sign Up for 38th Annual City Employees' Bowling Tournament!

Saturday, January 11, 2025 at Bowl-A-Vard lanes, [2121 E. Springs Drive](#).

There will be two shifts to choose from: [11AM](#) and [2:30PM](#). The first 80 teams entered will bowl, 40 teams per shift. The cost is \$10 per person, \$50 per team. *The cost includes bowling shoes, if needed.*

To enter, complete and print the attached fillable PDF entry form, and Inter-D the form with a check for \$50 to Madison Credit Union. The full \$50 payment must accompany enrollment form, or the form will not be accepted. If you prefer to pay in cash, you can do so in-person at the credit union, 949 E. Washington Ave.

If anyone has any questions or comments, please let Rebecca Laurysens know at: rlaurysens@madisoncu.com.

Forms can be found in your City email, which were sent on October 29.

Coming and Going

New Hires

- Elijah Booker

Promotions

- Ayanna Beckett
- Hector Acosta

Departures

- Alec Walters
- JJ Gumieny
- John Plasterer

GEAR: The Engineering Division Intranet Site

Don't forget to bookmark GEAR today!

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/employeeenet/engineering>



Our Madison – Inclusive, Innovative & Thriving

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