

## A message from the City Engineer:

April (spring!) is now here, which means we have a lot of road and utility construction activity starting back up. This includes work resuming on a couple of major projects such as University Ave. and Blair/E. Washington Ave., and Pleasant View Rd.; work is or has started on some fresh 2023 projects on Atwood Ave., the East/West BRT route, and Hammersley Rd., and East Towne Detention Basin Improvements, and there will be many other projects that will be underway a little later this spring. So much time and energy by Engineering staff goes into all of these projects from the preliminary survey and pipe and structure inspections, to the design and public engagement, along with all of the inspection and mapping work. I'm so proud to be part of a division with so many dedicated staff that work so hard to improve and maintain our infrastructure, and I've always found it fulfilling to be able to see our hard work become something that our City's residents will benefit from for years to come. I'm looking forward to another safe and productive construction season!

-Jim

## GEAR: New Engineering Intranet Site Live

GEAR, the Engineering Division's new intranet site is now up and running, focused on **G**rowth, **E**ngagement, **A**ccessibility and **R**esources.

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

It's a one-stop-shop of documents, resources, information, tools and more to help make your life easier and help you feel connected to information as an Engineering Division employee.

There are a number of pages filled with engineering-focused resources for you as follows:

**Communications**

**Engineering Policies and Agreements**

**Finance**

**HR Resources**

**IT Resources**

**Maps and Apps**

**Onboarding Portal**

**Our Team**

**Pay, Benefits, Perks**

**Racial Equity and Social Justice**

**Training and Development**

**GEAR Email Updates**

Anytime there is a large update to the site, when a new resource becomes available, or a major change, you'll see a new type of communication in your email inbox. Those emails will have a subject line: **GEAR: (Page) Update**. The email will



include what update happened, and a link to the page. These will not be a lot, but just so you know what's available as it becomes available.

### **GEAR Evolution + Future Updates**

This intranet is only as good as our clicking and using it. You'll notice a few spots on the site will include the copy "Coming Soon!" If you see "Coming Soon!" that means, it's being worked on. If you see something that could use improvement, updating or adding, please email me as you click through. This new resource content was developed by Engineering Leadership and years of hearing how different information is placed in different locations in the files on the drives, in brains and emails. We want to make life easier, by not having to re-create the wheel every time. Having a place to put information, not tied to the network, is going to save time, cut stress of finding information, and provide consistency for employees.

**Please BOOKMARK GEAR, today!**

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

## **Kronos for Main Office Update**

Creation of new accounts was delayed a bit as we waited for IT to procure additional licenses. As such we are changing the tentative go-live date to April 30. Stay tuned for more info on training!

## **Human Resources Sends March Quarterly Employee Pulse Survey**

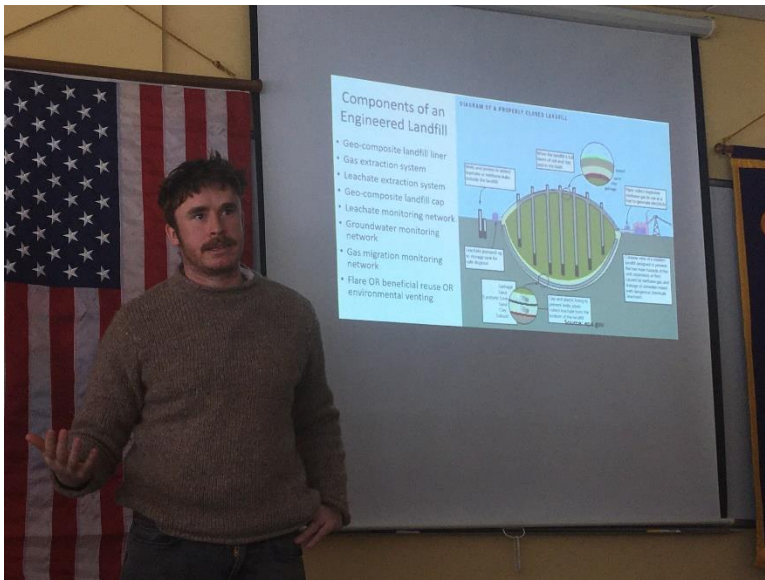
About 700 randomly selected City employees will see an email from Brad Wollmann, [bwollmann@cityofmadison.com](mailto:bwollmann@cityofmadison.com), in their emails as part of the March 2023 Quarterly Pulse Survey. The Quarterly Employee Pulse Survey was started in 2021 to engage employees and include employee opinions in decisions which affect the City staff and the customers which we serve. Employee participation in surveys is one way the Human Resources Department, and City management in general, learn what employees are concerned about and whether staff are feeling the organization is moving in a positive or negative direction.

When you see the email invitation, please take a few moments to fill out the survey and give HR your honest opinions (*it's only about 20 questions and should not take long*). No information allowing the identification of individual employees will be shared with your supervisors or the City management team. If you don't receive an invitation to participate this quarter, HR will randomly select another 700 employees during the summer.

## **Equity Minute: Racial Equity Social Justice book club now forming**

The Engineering Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Education Team is looking to start a book club for staff interested in learning more about RESJ topics and discussion with their peers. Reading material, frequency of meetups, and meeting times will be decided by the group. Please email Megan Eberhardt, [meberhardt@cityofmadison.com](mailto:meberhardt@cityofmadison.com), if you are interested and would like to be included in the email list for future events.

## Engineering's Jack Brody Speaks at Optimist Club Meeting



Landfill Engineer Jack Brody spoke to an engaged group at the Madison Breakfast Optimist Club, Feb. 14, 2023, at Lussier Center in Madison about the City's Closed Landfill Program and the ongoing gas system improvements being installed at Mineral Point Landfill. If you're interested in Jack's presentation, email [jbrody@cityofmadison.com](mailto:jbrody@cityofmadison.com)

## Next TeamCity Awards Deadline: April 21, Next Ceremony, May 9

The City needs new nominations for the next TeamCity Awards, scheduled for May 9, 2023, as part of Public Service Recognition Week.

Uniquely for any awards program anywhere, *any* City employee may nominate *any* other City employee or functional team (specific department or interdepartmental) for an award. A supervisor can nominate a subordinate. A subordinate can nominate a supervisor. Any employee of any level can nominate any other employee of any level, at any department. Candidates ARE NOT proposed by Mayor's Office (final selection), or Fleet (only collating nominations).

**To be eligible for the next bimonthly ceremony, nominations must be in by April 21, 2023.** To nominate an individual colleague or a team, please use one of the attached forms, and email/Inter-D to Fleet Data Analyst Ilknur Uludag at [iuludag@cityofmadison.com](mailto:iuludag@cityofmadison.com). Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis, meaning all previous nominations are held for consideration for the next one or future ceremony.

[You can find the nomination form and instructions to nominate a team or a colleague on GEAR.](#)

## Timelapse: Rain Garden Through the Seasons



Wisconsin experiences a lot of change over the course of the year. The native plants that thrive in rain gardens are adapted to the extreme weather fluctuations and are also in pretty fierce competition with their garden neighbors. The interaction of plants with the seasons is something we are all familiar with on some level but when the year is condensed to two minutes, the changes are much more dramatic.

Engineering Stormwater Engineer Phil Gaebler shot this [video](#) using a trail camera mounted to the tree in his terrace (the area between the sidewalk and the street). It took two photos a day from May 2021- July 2022. [Watch the full video.](#)

## Media Roundup

### News Releases

- [Blair Street South Project Resumes Work on E. Washington Ave.](#)
- [Women in Construction 2023: Wilkie](#)
- [Women in Construction 2023: Emily Jorgensen](#)
- [Women in Construction 2023: Shannon Davis](#)
- [Women in Construction 2023: Gretchen Avilés Piñeiro](#)
- [Upcoming Construction to Close Southbound Atwood](#)
- [Women in Construction Week 2023: Taylor Voeltz](#)
- [Celebrate Women in Construction Week 2023 March 5-11, 2023!](#)

## Engineering Division Blog

- [Timelapse: Rain Garden through the Seasons Inspiration](#)
- [Community Scientist Makes Big Splash, Leads to Grant Protecting Starkweather Creek](#)

## Podcast Episodes

### An Exciting Time for John Nolen: Reconstruction and Design Contest Next Steps

A new opportunity to create renewed connection with the beauty of our lakes and urban space, we're talking about the generational project of John Nolen Drive Reconstruction paired with the intense Lake Monona Waterfront Design Contest. City of Madison Engineering Division Public Information Officer Hannah Mohelnitzky hosts Parks Division Landscape Architect Mike Sturm and City of Madison Engineering Division Deputy City Engineer for Public Works and Private Development Chris Petykowski to talk about the contest, how the two projects will shape the future of the City's most iconic path into the heart of downtown. You'll also learn what happens next once design finalists are selected and how it'll impact the community.

Check out our episodes lists (over 50!):

[iTunes](#)

[GooglePlay](#)

Have an idea for an upcoming podcast? Email Hannah Mohelnitzky, [hmohelnitzky@cityofmadison.com](mailto:hmohelnitzky@cityofmadison.com)

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## Manager Section Updates

Each month, Engineering Division City Engineer Jim Wolfe leads a section head meeting. Right now, Kathy Cryan is leading the meeting each month with Jim being on parental leave. 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 are working on a Public Involvement Plan, an extension of our Engineering Communications Plan. This PIP will layout a basic framework checklist for designers to follow and know when it comes to public involvement points in their projects. We also are working on a number of huge projects that involve media requests, website updates, public meetings and more: Public Market, Bartillon Shelter, Atwood Avenue Reconstruction and John Nolen Drive. Please continue to forward your media requests to me as soon as you get them. We also finally launched GEAR, our new intranet site for our division. It's a NEW tool that will continue to get better with time. Please check it out, click around and send me any additions as we work together to make sure all the tools are there for your team to succeed. I'm also excited to kickstart the AASPIRE PIO Internship Program for 2023, interviews are coming in the next few weeks!

### Public Works and Private Development

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

The Public Works and Private Development section welcomes two new Engineer 1's starting April 3rd, Rachel Dudley & Mario Galindez. They will be working on new public works project and private development designs. Public works engineers are continuing to work on 2023 and beyond projects. Private development

Engineers and Managers continue to service contracts and issue plan sets. Plans issued this month include W Wilson St, 5535 University Ave, 5109 Barton Rd. W Towne Path Design. Atwood Ave, University Ave, Pleasant View Rd & Harvey Schmitt projects had public information meetings this month. Plans approved at Board of Public Works were Harvey/Schmitt.

## **Facilities Management**

*Bryan Cooper, Deputy City Engineer, Facilities Services and Management*

- 2023 GreenPower trainees hiring complete and they will start in early April.
- Construction commencing for new [Streets West Badger Salt Barn](#)
- Advertising construction bid for CCB remodels (Assessor/Clerk/Treasurer/OIM/Common Council). [Link to project page.](#)
- Advertising construction bid for Door Creek Shelter. [Link to project page.](#)
- Continue design work for....[Bartillon Shelter](#), [Metro – Satellite Facility](#), [WPCRC Expansion](#), and [Streets – Waste Transfer – Public Drop Off Access and Flatwork Improvements](#)
- Design started on [State Street Campus Garage Mixed Use Development](#)

## **Operations – Sewer and Stormwater Utilities**

*Kathy Cryan, Deputy Division Manager, Operations, Admin, and Personnel*

Supervisors have been busy interviewing to get new employees onboard before the busy season. As a result we have 6 new permanent, entry-level employees starting along with 6 MI-TE trainees. We still have a few more promotional processes to cycle through. Promotions combined with recent departures will result in a number of additional entry-level positions for us to fill. So, for now, we will continue to be somewhat short-staffed.

Crews had a historic snowfall to end this winter season. But now that spring has arrived we're starting to get back to work on construction projects. In addition to typical sanitary and storm repairs, crews are working on a building demo to make way for a new bike path, a number of last minutes bus stop additions for the BRT project, and 2023 water ways projects. Crews are also starting to work on spring cleaning of catchbasins to remove sand that accumulated over the winter. And we're getting ready to set up our sand bags sites - another sure sign that spring is here.

The lining contractor has resumed work and we have more contracts being awarded so it will be very busy season for Zak inspecting these projects. In addition to his as-built surveys, TJ has some requests from designers that he will be working on. Plus pond depth surveys.

## **Stormwater**

*Janet Schmidt, Principal Engineer, Section Manager*

Hawks Landing North Flood Mitigation is well underway and East Towne Pond is getting ready to start. Some of the nicer weather earlier this winter has provided a few windows for construction to ramp up faster than expected. Hope those projects get a good lead before we get into street construction. Now just have to get rid of the snow once and for all. The City's MS4 permit is approved and ready to submit by the March 31 deadline. Thank you Phil and all those that assisted for getting that done! Prequalification approvals are in full swing with the renewal deadline of March 1 and Megan has been very busy processing applications. Budget is in full swing now with a lot of work to be done before the submittal deadline of April 21. We will have a new

hire to replace Caroline Burger's role as the watershed study lead. Ryan Stenjem will join the team as an Engineer 3 on April 3. Please welcome Ryan when you get a chance.

### **Sanitary Sewer**

*Mark Moder, Principal Engineer, Section Manager*

The sewer design work load is now in peak design season with many street projects going out to bid. Staff are working extra hours to get projects out to bid on time and as always, it is greatly appreciated. The Lift Stations: The Truax Lift Station Replacement Project will be bid early April (waiting for final design documents). The 2 lift stations construction project carryover projects: Harper Lift Station (replacement) and Thurber lift Station (rehabilitation) are underway. We will have 1 more UV lining projects scheduled for bid in May. Resin prices have increased 40% in 2023 but this method is still far more economical to upgrade sewers than open cut replacement. Private development work (lot redevelopment and plat work) is steady with sewer design staff continuing to stay on schedule for sewer extension permitting. Finally, the budget planning for 2024 construction year is due mid-April so we will be busy putting together estimates for the next few weeks.

### **Land Information/Official Map**

*Jeff Quamme, Section Manager*

- Review of BRT Transportation Project Plat land rights acquisitions Mineral Point Road to the Beltline.
- Continued with Dane County on partial road vacation within the Alliant Energy Center and other sites.
- Broom St land disposal
- Official Map reservation project services.
- Addressing is continuing working with data to be used by Dane County 911. Review of addresses within entire City will be ongoing for most of the year.
- Continued work on internal Engineering address policy and procedures
- Private development in the City of Madison. Many ongoing and new projects needing review, real estate projects, addressing coordination and mapping services.
- Staff continues to work to update the Official Map of the City. Also maintaining / assigning addresses within the City and storm water impervious billing information.

### **Engineering Technology**

*Candice Kasprzak, CADD Administrator and Information Program Manager*

- Wrapping up transitioning all CAD users to new licensing setup – thanks for your patience as we work through Autodesk's new convoluted licensing formats
- Continue developing workflow with Dane County and the Land Information section on getting address points QC'd/sent out to E911
- Working with other Public Works agencies for new Digger's Hotline Software
- Pond & Greenway Inspections set up in CityWorks and using
- Finalizing data conversion from Pipelogix to ITPipes
- Implementing Sewer AI (software that codes our CCTV)
- Migrating facility's work order system (FAMIS) to CityWorks
- Ongoing - Setting up CAD standards, templates and efficiency improvements.
- Migrating Facilities Management construction administration system to Autodesk Construction Cloud. Testing is on-going. Planning on first real pilot project in Q2.

- Start work with Construction Inspection to configure Autodesk Construction Cloud 2023.
- Ordering new computers capable of running CAD software (working with IT on simplifying this workflow)
- Sanitary & Storm record updates – working on sanitary and storm backlog
- Set up MITE (in-house Sidewalk construction) program in Cityworks

## **Administration Staff**

*Johanna Johnson, Heidi Fleegel, Lesley Parker*

- There is only one BPW meeting in April, on 4/19. Deadline for items is noon on April 12 to [BPWAgenda@cityofmadison.com](mailto:BPWAgenda@cityofmadison.com). Items approved at the 4/19 meeting will go to the 5/2 CC meeting. If you need your item rushed to the 4/25 CC meeting, tell us ahead of time so we can process it accordingly.
- Deadline for items for the 5/3 BPW meeting is noon on April 26 to BPWAgenda.
- CC resolutions are due to BPWAgenda by END OF DAY on: April 11 (4/18 CC), April 18 (4/25 CC), and April 25 (5/2 CC).
- Timesheet process changes are expected at the end of April. Keep an eye out for emails about that.

## **Finance**

*Steve Danner-Rivers, Financial Manager*

The Finance Section is currently finishing up year-end close and getting ready for the external audit that takes place in April. The 2024 Capital Budget kicked off on Tuesday 3/21. Capital Budget submittals are due 4/21 so section heads should plan to have their parts completed by 4/14 at the latest. This time the budget will be submitted using an Excel workbook rather than in Sharepoint which is a welcomed process improvement. The Operating Budget kicks off on 6/20.

## **Construction Inspection**

*John Fahrney, Principal Engineer, Section Manager*

There are permits, private development projects, PW and WISDOT projects in progress. Inspectors are working on final quantities and as-builts. Surveyors are working on preliminary surveys for 2023. Inspection of greenways are complete. Assisting with address updates. Interviews for construction inspector and seasonal inspectors.

## **Comings & Goings**

### **New Hires**

- Amy Kemp, Private Development Program Assistant – Public Works & Private Development
- Rachel Dudley, Engineer 1 – Public Works & Private Development
- Mario Galindez, Engineer 1 – Public Works & Private Development
- Ryan Stenjem, Engineer 3 – Sewer & Stormwater
- Alex Koeser, Street & Sewer Maintenance Worker 1 - Operations
- Bill Wenninger, Street & Sewer Maintenance Worker 1 - Operations
- Taylor Lemon, Street & Sewer Machine Operator 1 - Operations
- Daniel Chapman, Street & Sewer Machine Operator 1 - Operations
- Eleanor Dutton, GreenPower Trainee - Facilities
- Jadon Swan GreenPower Trainee - Facilities
- Mark Canter- GreenPower Trainee – Facilities
- Francisco Rodriguez, Ecology Restoration Trainee – Sewer & Stormwater



- Marlen Mares, GreenPower AASPIRE Intern - Facilities
- Rashaun Taylor, Street & Sewer Machine Operator 1 - Operations
- Tom Kinney, Street & Sewer Machine Operator 1 - Operations
- Dameon Allen, MI-TE Program Trainee - Operations
- Kollan Luczejko-Reid, MI-TE Program Trainee - Operations
- Nelson Rodriguez, MI-TE Program Trainee - Operations
- Kade Katz, Ecology Restoration Trainee – Sewer & Stormwater
- Mark Canter, GreenPower Trainee - Facilities
- Patrick Hotlen-Young, Green Power Trainee- Facilities

### **Promotions**

- Wayne Brown, Assistant Sewer Maintenance Supervisor – Operations
- Will Tian, GIS Specialist 1 – Technology
- Andy Zwieg, Principal Engineer 1 - Public Works & Private Development

### **Departures**

- Dylan Bongard, Street & Sewer Machine Operator 2 – Operations
- Pedro Caudillo Montes, Construction Inspector 1 – Public Works & Private Development
- Jackson Koprowski, Street & Sewer Maintenance Worker 1 - Operations

### **Interview/Offer Process**

- Conservation Ecology Restoration Intern - Sewer & Stormwater
- Construction Inspectors (including 1 locator), Seasonal - Construction Inspection & Operations
- Custodial Worker 1 - Facilities
- Engineer 1s - Public Works and Private Development
- MI-TE Trainees – Operations
- Principal Engineer 1 - Public Works and Private Development

### **Posted**

- Architect 2- Facilities
- Construction Inspectors (including 1 locator), Seasonal - Construction Inspection & Operations
- MI-TE Trainees - Operations

### **Upcoming postings**

- Accountant Trainee – Operations/Finance
- Permitting Coordinator Trainee – Public Works and Private Development
- HR Analyst Trainee - Operations
- Leadworker 2 Trainee - Operations
- Maintenance Mechanic 1 Trainee - Facilities