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March 2023 Issue

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## Engineering Staff, Mayor's Office Host Senator Tammy Baldwin for Solar Funding Announcement

Engineering's GreenPower team will be busier than ever thanks to \$1.5 million in federal funding to design, build, install and maintain over 400kW in solar. On Feb. 20, 2023, Senator Tammy Baldwin held a press conference at Fire Station 7 in partnership with the City of Madison Mayor's Office and the Engineering Division. Sen. Baldwin announced the \$1.5 million in funding, which will be used to install a major solar photovoltaic system at the Truax Park Apartments public housing complex (operated by the City of Madison's Community Development Authority "CDA") and East Madison Community Center on the City of Madison's northeast side. After the press conference, City Engineering Staff explained more about the solar installations in person, then hosted a small roundtable discussion where GreenPower staff shared how the program impacted their careers and lives.

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## New Engineering Bike Path Plow Name: Snowbi Wan Kenobi

The Streets and Engineering Division are happy to announce the winners of the snowplow equipment naming election.

The turnout was fantastic! We received well over 3,000 votes for each of the four pieces of equipment.

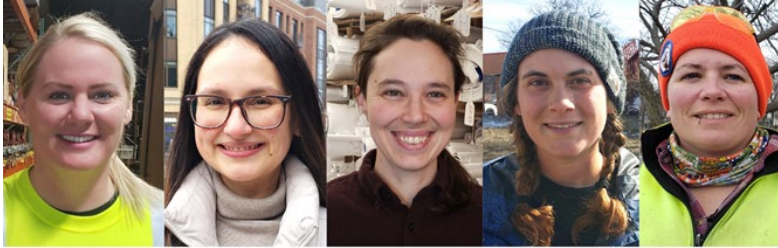
You can [click here](#) to see the full election results along with an animation that shows you how the ranked choice election distributed the votes based on voter preferences during each elimination round. We were one of four City machines getting a name. Snowbi Wan Kenobi earned 1,910 votes.

Thank you Katherine Higgins, Paul Addison, Leah Krawczyk, and the Streets Division operator Dallas Huebner for suggesting Snowbi Wan Kenobi. Read more about the other machines in the Streets Division press release: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/news/snowplow-names-election-results>

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## Meet the 2023 Class: Women in Construction

## Week



**Taylor Voeltz**  
Water Utility

**Gretchen Aviles-Pineiro**  
Traffic Engineering

**Shannon Davis**  
Building Inspection

**Emily Jorgensen**  
Engineering

**Wilke**  
Parks

## Women in Construction Week 2023

March 5-11, 2023

Learn more on the City of Madison Engineering Division Facebook, Twitter and website for videos, written stories and photos of each unique journey and career path.

Each year, the Engineering Division leads Women in Construction Week for the City of Madison, where we highlight the work and journey of five women to raise awareness of careers in the construction industry. This year's recipients are from five agencies at the City of Madison who have a hand in the construction process:

**Taylor Voeltz, Madison Water Utility**

**Gretchen Aviles-Pineiro, Traffic Engineering**

**Shannon Davis, Building Inspection Division, Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development**

**Emily Jorgensen, Engineering Division**

**Anna Wilkie, Parks Division**

The focus of Women in Construction (WIC) Week is to highlight women in the construction industry. WIC Week also provides an occasion for [NAWIC's](#) thousands of members across the country to raise awareness of the careers available for women in the construction industry and to emphasize the growing role of women in the industry. The Engineering Division posts written profiles and [videos](#) on its website and [social media channels](#) to lift the stories and journeys of each year's selected employees. Watch for the new videos, stories and more March 5-11, 2023 posted live on the [Engineering Division website](#).

## Equity Minute: Unconscious Biases

Biases are our brain's way of categorizing all the information we receive about the world around us every day. To handle and categorize vast quantities of incoming information, our brain helpfully tries to sort and recognize patterns. This ability can also have an unhelpful and unintended consequence of creating subconscious biases resulting in negative stereotypes.

[Implicit Association Test](#)<sup>1</sup> (IAT) is one online tool you can use to uncover your biases. The tests measure the strength of links between concepts, like race or sexuality, and whether those concepts are thought of as "good" or "bad".

Are you interested in learning how to recognize and counteract unconscious biases to build a healthy workplace culture? Check out an upcoming [Subtle Acts of Exclusion](#) training offered by Organizational Development, or one of the many other courses to help you make the City a great place to work: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/human-resources/organizational-development/courses>

1. Project Implicit: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

# Media Roundup

## News Releases

- [Snowplow Names Election Results](#) posted February 23, 2023
- [Atwood Avenue Reconstruction Project Begins](#) posted February 20, 2023
- [Final Chance to Vote for Snow Plow Names](#) posted February 2, 2023

## Engineering Division Blog

No new blog posts.

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

# 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 tackling a few big things in communications for the division:

- **Recruitment for new engineers:** We wrapped up our tour of UW career fairs: Madison, Platteville, Milwaukee. We hope to gain some new teammates through great work and upcoming interviews.
- **Women in Construction Week:** We have our selections from all the divisions. Videos, written bios and photos will be posted each weekday during March 6-10.
- **Media Training for the Division:** I'm working on recording a training for all. This will include public engagement/working with media should you get tapped for an interview/etc. This link will be sent out when ready.

## Public Works and Private Development

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

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 Sidewalk Dist 12, Sidewalk Dist 18, Bridge Repairs 2022/23, Sidewalk Sawcutting, 2208 University Ave, Lake Mendota Dr, Resurfacing 2023, Halo/Twilight & Resurfacing 2023 had a public information meeting. Plans approved at Board of Public Works were Ohmeda, S Henry/W Wilson/S Broom, Hudson/Miller, Davies/Dempsey. The Board also approved a proposed ordinance change which will delete the Transportation Planning & Policy Board and merge it's authority into the Transportation Commission charge.

## Facilities Management

Bryan Cooper, Deputy City Engineer, Facilities Services and Management

1. GreenPower installing LED lights at Fire Station 05 and Fire Station 12, and solar install at [Fire Station 08](#).
2. Advertising construction bid for CCB remodels (Assessor/Clerk/Treasurer/OIM/Common Council). [Link to project page.](#)
3. Advertising construction bid for Door Creek Shelter. [Link to project page.](#)
4. Completing construction bid docs for Fairchild Building Improvements. [Link to project page.](#)
5. Continue design work for...[Bartillon Shelter](#), [Metro – Satellite Facility](#), [WPCRC Expansion](#), and [Streets – Waste Transfer – Public Drop Off Access and Flatwork Improvements](#)
6. Design starting on [State Street Campus Garage Mixed Use Development](#)

## Operations – Sewer, Storm, Landfill

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

Along with our regularly scheduled work (cleaning, repairs, CCTV, etc.) Operations had a fair amount of snow removal to do in February and lots of training.

The MI-TE team is now in place with Degolyer and Jason Raisbeck being promoted to Leadworker 1s and Lindsey Krey being promoted to Operator 2. Dan, Jason, and Lindsey are working with Jay Pare, MI-TE Supervisor, to get ready for our first class of trainees. Our goal is to expose trainees to career opportunities in Public Works and prepare them to successfully compete for entry-level positions in Engineering, Parks, and Streets.

## **Stormwater**

*Janet Schmidt, Principal Engineer, Section Manager*

Lots of standalone stormwater projects are happening! Hawks Landing North Flood Mitigation is under construction, East Towne Ponds was awarded and Lower Badger Mill Creek Pond is out for bids! Mendota Grassman Greenway is likely going to be bid in March. Sarah, Grant and Maddie have been busy working on the Robin Greenway project, which was a result of last year's wind storm damage, while Matt has been kicking off the very large design project for the reconstruction of the pond and greenways in Old Sauk Trails Business Park. We received a significant FEMA grant for that project since it was one of the most damaged areas in the 2018 flooding.

Phil is still busy with salt training and getting data compiled for our annual MS4 Permit submittal. All the designers are really busy with public works contracts right now with a huge push coming in March. There have been some projects that are delayed but will still be designed this year in hopes for fall/winter bidding. Last but not least, budget will be ramping up soon so lots to do on that in the next few months!

## **Sanitary Sewer**

*Mark Moder, Principal Engineer, Section Manager*

Sewer design work load is now in peak design season with many street projects scheduled for bidding in March. Staff are working extra hours to get projects out to bid on time and it is greatly appreciated. Lift Stations: The Truax Lift Station Replacement Project will be bid early March. The 2 lift stations construction project carryover projects: Harper Lift Station (replacement) and Thurber lift Station (rehabilitation) will both begin construction in March/April. Our two priority 2023 UV- lining projects (21,000 ft of sewer to be lined) were bid in February. Thank you to Eric and Kyle for getting these 2 projects out. We will have 2 more UV lining projects scheduled for bid in May. Private development work (lot redevelopment and plat work) is steady with sewer design staff staying on schedule for sewer extension permitting. Finally, budget planning for 2024 construction starts in March.

## **Land Information/Official Map**

*Jeff Quamme, Section Manager*

Land Information

- Land right acquisition services and coordination for several different engineering projects.
- Working with Dane County on partial road vacation within the Alliant Energy Center
- Possible disposal of land projects along Broom St
- Official Map reservation project services.
- Addressing is continuing working with data to be used by Dane County 911. Working with the Wisconsin Dept of Health on a couple of sites to improve wayfinding within the facilities.
- 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, Engineering Technology Manager*

As many of you know, I am now the Manager of the Engineering Technology Group. I am looking forward to working with the different groups to understand and help improve their processes and workflows where appropriate. Our group will be managing our enterprise systems (CityWorks, Autodesk Construction & Build, GIS database system, and GIS/CAD management), as well as process and workflow development/enhancement. Feel free to reach out with any questions, issues or problems.

- 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
- Finalizing data conversion from Pipeloxig 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. Planning on a pilot project in Q2
- Start work with Construction Inspection to configure Autodesk Construction Cloud early 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

- Getting warning sirens converted to GIS (another Access database bites the dust)
- Set up MITE (in-house Sidewalk construction) program in Cityworks

#### **Administration Staff**

*Johanna Johnson, Heidi Fleegel, Lesley Parker*

- Timesheets are due at 9 AM on March 6 & 20. Early submissions are appreciated.
- Please submit postcard mailing requests at least a week before the mailing deadline (aim to request your mailing 20 days before the PIM date).
- CC resolution due dates are: 10 a.m., March 1 (3/7 CC), 10 a.m., March 15 (3/21 CC).
- BPW resolution due dates are: 12 p.m., March 1 (3/8 BPW), 12 p.m., March 15 (3/22 BPW).

#### **Finance**

*Steve Danner-Rivers, Financial Manager*

Finance staff are hard at work closing out 2022's book while also trying to also keep 2023 moving along. There may be a delay in responding to requests for information given that the focus is on closing out 2022. We appreciate your understanding.

#### **Construction Inspection**

John Fahrney, Principal Engineer, Section Manager

There are permits, private development projects and WISDOT projects in progress. Inspectors are working on final quantities and as-builts. Resurfacing contracts are out for bid. Sidewalk contracts are out for bid and/or being worked on. Surveyors are working on preliminary surveys for 2023. We are having winter meetings. Inspection of greenways. Assisting with address updates.

## **Comings & Goings**

#### **New Hire**

Rachel Dudley, Engineer 1- Public Works and Private Development

Amy Kemp, Program Assistant 1- Public Works and Private Development

#### **Promotions**

Matt Allie, Engineer 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

Daniel Degolyer, Leadworker 1s – Operations

Maddie Dumas, Native Vegetation Supervisor - Sewer & Stormwater

Kyle Frank, Engineer 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

Phil Gaebler, Engineer 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

Candice Kasprzak, Engineering Technology Manager - Operations

Lindsey Krey, Operations 2 – Operations

Sarah Lerner, Landscape Architect 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

Jojo O'Brien, Engineer 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

Grant Pokos, Engineer 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

Jason Raisbeck, Leadworker 1s – Operations

Jason Zander, Maintenance Mechanic 2 - Operations

#### **Departures**

Christy Bachmann, Principal Engineer – Public Works & Private Development

Dylan Bongard, Operator 2 - Operations

#### **Interview/Offer Process**

Conservation Ecology Restoration Intern - Sewer & Stormwater

Custodial Worker 1 - Facilities

Engineer 1s - Public Works and Private Development

Engineer 3 - Sewer & Stormwater Utilities

GreenPower Trainees - Facilities

MI-TE Trainees - Operations  
Operator 2 – Operations  
Public Works Foreperson 1 - Operations  
SSMW1/SSMO1 – Operations  
Stormwater Quality Engineer 4 - Sewer & Stormwater

**Posted**

Construction Inspectors (including 1 locator), Seasonal - Construction Inspection & Operations  
Engineer 1s -Public Works and Private Development  
GIS Specialist 1 – Engineering Technology  
Principal Engineer 1 - Public Works and Private Development  
MI-TE Trainees - Operations

**Upcoming postings**

Accountant Trainee – Operations/Finance  
Architect 2- Facilities  
Construction Inspector 1 – Construction Inspection  
HR Analyst Trainee - Operations  
Leadworker 2 Trainee- Operations  
Maintenance Mechanic 1 Trainee - Facilities

**Our Madison – Inclusive, Innovative & Thriving**

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