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Major US 41 Project construction resumes in Winnebago County
9th Avenue closed, US 45 and Breezewood Lane interchanges not far behind

(Green Bay) Motorists traveling on US 41 in the Oshkosh-Neenah area will experience major highway construction activity this year in Winnebago County. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Northeast Region office in Green Bay is announcing the 2011 US 41 Project construction season began Feb. 28 with the closing of the 9th Avenue interchange and continues with the closures of the Breezewood Lane interchange on Monday, March 28 and the US 45 interchange on Monday, April 4.

The 2011 season will be the busiest year of construction activity for the US 41 Project in Winnebago County with about \$100 million worth of individual construction projects getting underway. Motorists can expect significant traffic impacts. The US 41 Project began in 2009 and construction is scheduled for completion in Winnebago County in 2014.

- At the 9th Avenue interchange, WisDOT will reconstruct the interchange with multi-lane roundabouts on 9th Avenue and at the ramp ends; build multi-lane roundabouts at Koeller Street/9th Avenue and Washburn Street/9th Avenue intersections; reconstruct the 9th Avenue bridge over US 41; slightly relocate Koeller Street to accommodate the new northbound on-ramp; and lengthen on-ramps.
- At the Breezewood Lane interchange, WisDOT will reconstruct the interchange and build multi-lane roundabouts on Breezewood Lane and ramp ends; reconstruct the existing Breezewood Lane bridge over US 41, including bicycle and pedestrian accommodations; and lengthen on-ramps.
- At the US 45 interchange, WisDOT will reconstruct the interchange to provide free-flow movements between US 41 and US 45.

- Paving operations on mainline US 41 will also take place this season. Beginning approximately mid-March, construction of the northbound lanes between WIS 26 and Witzel Avenue starts, and in July, work switches to the southbound lanes. Completion of this section of US 41 is scheduled for November 2011. Beginning in April, contractors will be working on southbound lanes between US 45 and Breezewood Lane. This work continues through November 2011. Northbound lanes on this stretch from US 45 to Breezewood will be constructed in 2012.
- Construction begins this August building new bridges on the Lake Butte des Morts Causeway. The WIS 21 interchange will close in 2012.

While WisDOT will maintain two lanes of traffic in both directions on US 41—with the exception of intermittent nighttime lane closures—the speed limit will be reduced to 55 and the roadway will be constricted. There will be 11-foot travel lanes and limited shoulders, with barriers for approximately 13 miles in both directions.

The Wisconsin State Patrol has added extra enforcement in the construction zone throughout the construction season. The State Patrol urges motorists to obey the reduced speed limit and remain alert in the construction zone.

Additionally, a special service to assist stranded motorists started March 5. WisDOT has a Freeway Service Team vehicle patrolling the construction zone during the busiest hours of travel. The purpose of the Freeway Service Team is to expedite relocation of disabled and crashed vehicles from the construction zone to prevent or alleviate congestion and backups. The Freeway Service Team vehicle looks like a standard flatbed tow truck, painted bright yellow green for increased visibility and easy recognition. It is equipped with small amounts of fuel and equipment to handle minor repairs such as changing flat tires and repairing hoses. If the stalled or damaged vehicle cannot be started in a short amount of time, it will be moved to a pre-arranged safe drop zone. All assistance and relocation services are provided free of charge to the motorist.

ABOUT THE US 41 PROJECT

Construction work on the US 41 Project will span over 17 miles of highway in Winnebago County from 2009-2014, and 14 miles in Brown County from 2010-2017.

The project will include road expansion to accommodate increased traffic volume, up to 44 new roundabouts, improved interchanges and expansion of the Lake Butte des Morts Causeway. Current construction information and details about the project found at www.US41wisconsin.gov or by calling the project hotline: (920) 492-4120.

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