



FALL 2025: PROJECT NEWSLETTER

WIS 181 IMPROVEMENTS | Wisconsin Ave – Center St



WHY IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED ALONG 181:

The WIS 181 (Glenview Avenue & Wauwatosa Avenue) corridor has served the community for decades. Today, the roadway and infrastructure show their age. Improvements are needed to make the corridor safer, more reliable, and easier to use for everyone. The project will address the following existing conditions:



POOR PAVEMENT CONDITION

Road surface rated fair to very poor in many places.



OUTDATED TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Many signals are more than 60 years old, past their useful life.



ACCESSIBILITY GAPS

Many curb ramps are too steep, missing tactile warning strips, or misaligned. Bus stops lack ADA-compliant boarding areas.



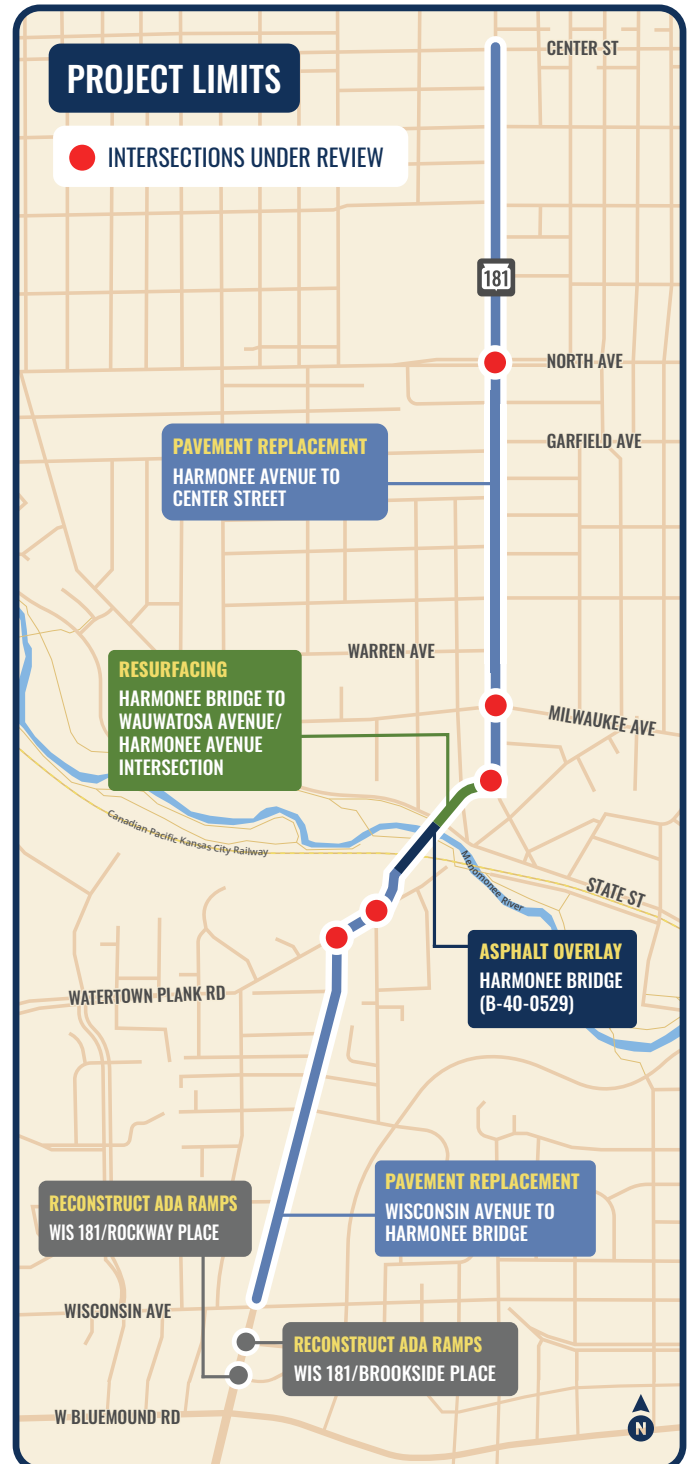
STORM SEWER & DRAINAGE CONCERNS

Aging storm sewers are undersized for today's rainfall, causing standing water at intersections and crosswalks after storms.



SAFETY AT INTERSECTIONS & CROSSWALKS

No continuous bike lanes through the corridor and long pedestrian crossings without refuge islands.



PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Survey/data collection



2025

Environmental review/
preliminary design



2026-2027

Final Design



2028-2029

Construction



2031-2032

INTERSECTIONS UNDER REVIEW



IMPROVING SAFETY & TRAFFIC FLOW AT INTERSECTIONS

Five intersections along WIS 181 are being studied for possible layout changes. These improvements are focused on:



Improving safety for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists



Updating intersections to meet ADA accessibility standards



Improve corridor efficiency

GLENVIEW AVENUE & HARWOOD AVENUE

Alternatives may realign intersection to improve geometry and address sight-distance challenges and crash history.

HARMONEE AVENUE & HARWOOD AVENUE

Intersection with high traffic. Options may simplify layout and improve pedestrian safety.

HARMONEE AVENUE & WAUWATOSA AVENUE

Central Village hub intersection. Improvements could include crosswalk upgrades, curb extensions, modern signals, and lane reassignment to improve traffic flow.

MILWAUKEE AVENUE & WAUWATOSA AVENUE

Narrow intersection with turning and pedestrian conflicts. Updates may include lane reconfiguration and ADA ramp upgrades.

NORTH AVENUE & WAUWATOSA AVENUE

The corridor's busiest intersection. Alternatives are being developed to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

CORRIDOR & INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS



ADA-COMPLIANT RAMPS → reconstructed with tactile warnings and proper slopes.

HIGH-VISIBILITY LADDER CROSSWALKS → easier for drivers to see.

ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS (APS) → push-buttons with audio/tactile feedback.

ON-STREET BIKE LANES, SEPARATED BIKE LANES & CURB EXTENSIONS → safer separation and shorter crossings.

SIGNAL UPGRADES → modern equipment improves timing and reduces crashes.

NEW & EXTENDED TURN LANES → improve traffic operations.