



Tips and FAQs from MAIN STREET MAX



Look for me

Keep an eye out for my paw print throughout the downtown area to find your way through the construction zone.



Look for signs with my construction picture to find parking and locate the correct business entrances.

If you spot me in person inside a downtown business or at a community event and are the first to tag me in a photo on Facebook you could win a prize!

Stay aware, stay safe

Construction on Main Street is happening in part to create a safer downtown but until then, there will be a number of safety hazards to be on the lookout for! If a road or sidewalk is closed or fenced off, it's for good reason; don't put your safety or the safety of others at risk for a shortcut. Pay attention to construction signage and be aware of roadside construction workers and pedestrians while driving around the downtown area—due to road closures and parking changes, they may appear where you are not used to seeing them!

Get that tail wagging

A safer and more attractive downtown is something to get excited about! It improves the already wonderful quality of life in Oshkosh and will show visitors and tourists that Oshkosh is a great place to be and that we take pride in our community. Just think—no more bumps driving down Main Street, wider sidewalks to enjoy Gallery Walk, benches to sit on, trees to mark ... I mean ... look at! I'm so excited I think my tail might fly right off!

Heel

I'm not going to puppy-foot around it, construction can be inconvenient. But we really appreciate your patience. Everyone is working hard to make downtown better for you and trying to inconvenience the people of Oshkosh as little as possible. If you do have concerns about noise, dust, accessibility or safety, please give the BID a call:

Maureen Lasky, OAEDC Downtown BID Manager
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What is going on?

Main Street will close to vehicle traffic in the spring, from the Fox River to Irving Avenue, and reopen late fall. Construction promises more pedestrian-friendly walkways, attractive tree-lined terraces and safer traffic routes. Additionally, this transformation will address storm and sanitary sewer issues, street lighting, and traffic signals to ensure a safe and viable street for the next 40-50 years. The result: A safe and pedestrian-friendly destination that will enhance and beautify the downtown area. I'm excited, are you?!

How will I know what roads are closed and when?

Updates to road closures and re-openings will be posted in real time at www.Facebook.com/DowntownOshkosh and detailed maps of the construction zone will be available at www.DowntownOshkosh.com. Additionally, throughout construction road closures and alternate routes will be clearly marked by traffic signs marked with my paw print: Just remember, where you see me is where you want to be!

Can I still go downtown during construction?

Absolutely! That's where I'll be! During construction it will be business as usual. The use of back or alternate entrances may be required and parking sites may change from time to time.

Where should I park?

Maps with parking information are available at www.Facebook.com/DowntownOshkosh and www.DowntownOshkosh.com. Additionally, throughout construction parking information and signage will be clearly posted on site—just look for my picture!

Where can I find updates and news about construction progress, road closures and parking?

The most up-to-date information and any breaking news relating to construction or the BID can be found at www.Facebook.com/DowntownOshkosh.

What should I expect to see or hear during construction?

While construction crews and the BID will work hard to keep mess contained, you may notice an increase in dust around town—this dust isn't harmful and will be cleaned up as much as possible throughout construction and entirely at the close of construction in the fall. (Which reminds me, I should probably stock up on dog shampoo ...)

Also, throughout construction, expect an increased level of noise from trucks and other construction equipment throughout construction.

Are there any safety concerns I should know about during construction?

I'll be making sure that construction crews and the BID take great measures to ensure the safety of community members, visitors and construction teams throughout the project and that any potential hazards will be clearly marked or fenced off. Pay attention to these warnings and never cross areas that are fenced, marked or taped off. Additionally, be aware of roadside construction workers and pedestrians while driving around the downtown area—due to road closures and parking changes, they may appear where you are not used to seeing them!

What is the Downtown Business Improvement District (BID)?

The Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) is an essential entity to the Central Business District of Oshkosh. The BID, created in 1987, has maintained its initial premise to retain free parking in the downtown, as well as proactively support revitalization efforts. Through the BID the property owners assess themselves to pay for activities to enhance and improve the downtown and to bring customers to the area. The Downtown continues to change as the mix of residential, commercial and professional customers fill the district. The BID welcomes these changes as opportunities to continue economic development in our central city.

What is BID doing to make sure that people still come downtown during construction?

The BID has been working with local businesses to prepare for the construction and communicate construction information to the people of Oshkosh. The BID paid for the production of this tool kit and for Maureen Lasky's help (she's the BID manager and my pal). The BID also maintains the www.DowntownOshkosh.com Web site and the www.Facebook.com/DowntownOshkosh Facebook page. I've been working to rally support from the community—on Main Street and beyond—to turn this construction zone into an opportunity zone for a better Oshkosh!

Will Gallery Walk and Waterfest continue as planned throughout construction?

Yes. Gallery Walk and Waterfest events will take place as scheduled and you can help us get the word out to customers by making sure they know this, too. The BID will post these events and others on <http://www.Facebook.com/DowntownOshkosh>.

Whom should I contact with further questions or concerns?

Chances are, if you have a question so do others. Post it on the Downtown BID's Facebook wall and we'll get back to you as soon as possible. Otherwise, feel free to contact the following:

Steve Gohde, P.E.

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