

Hwy. 33 work means traffic will move to outer lanes

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Traffic along the Highway 33 reconstruction project will be moving in the next couple of weeks, Port Washington Public Works Director Rob Vanden Noven told the Common Council Tuesday.

The stretch of highway between Tower and Portview drives in the city will be paved within the next two weeks. The road will remain closed while sidewalks are installed and landscaping done, he said, but it should be open by the end of May.

“I want to push them to get it open for Memorial Day,” Vanden Noven said.

Traffic along the bulk of the project will be moving to the outer lanes on either side of the median during the week of May 14, he added.

That will allow crews to work on the medians and the center of the roadabouts, Vanden Noven said.

Roundabouts will be constructed at Highway LL in Port Washington and Northwoods Road and Market Street in Saukville.

Right now, he said, crews are working on the bike paths along Highway 33, the sidewalk along Highway LL and placing the light fixtures atop the poles in the medians.

“We’re in for a traffic shift soon,” Vanden Noven said.

Ald. Dan Becker questioned whether the Highway LL sidewalk north of Highway 33 will end abruptly without being linked to existing walkways.

It is, and Becker said the city should now plan to link the path to an existing walkway so pedestrians aren’t stranded.

“I totally agree,” Vanden Noven said. “It should be done.”

But because of the terrain, the work will require engineering and a retaining wall will have to be built to extend the walkway to Aster Street.

“It’s not going to happen this year,” Vanden Noven said.