

CASE STUDY



PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name:

Gateway to Wisconsin

Location:

Janesville, WI

Owner:

WisDOT

General Contractor:

Rock Road & Hoffman

Product Manufacturer:

County Materials
Corporation

Date:

2018-2021

Key Products:

Reinforced Concrete Pipe

County Materials Manufactures 10 Miles of Reinforced Concrete Pipe for the Gateway of Wisconsin

Solutions: Large-scale stormwater management system expansion, several staging areas, prolonged service life of RCP achievable with low life cycle costs

Known as one of the most well-traveled passages in the state of Wisconsin and the greater Midwest region, I-39/90 has been suitably nicknamed, "The Gateway to Wisconsin". This vital corridor connects many of the region's urban areas from Chicago to Minneapolis through an established system of interstates and highways. In 2019, a 45-mile stretch of roadway, spanning from Wisconsin's southern border to Madison, underwent construction to improve safety and address increasing traffic demands.

The project outlined the expansion of the four-lane interstate to accommodate up to six and eight lanes of traffic in highly congested areas. These upgrades warranted the reconfiguration of 11 interchanges and the addition of over 10 miles of stormwater infrastructure. Due to the project's substantial size, Hoffman Construction of Black River Falls, WI and Rock Road Companies of Janesville, WI were brought on-site to work on separate sections of the road simultaneously.

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Rock Road Companies handled construction between Beloit and Janesville, WI, where the existing stormwater management system was to undergo massive upgrades. The contractor relied on County Materials to supply large quantities of reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) and precast components within the project's schedule. In total, County Materials manufactured and delivered over 51,180 LF of RCP, 3,285 LF of horizontal elliptical pipe, and over 1,040 precast components, including apron end walls, round, and square manholes.

Reinforced concrete pipe is a rigid material that is designed and manufactured to optimize water flow through its smooth surface and soil-tight, water-tight joints. Its precast fabrication offers enhanced durability that continues to strengthen over time, promoting a service life up to 100 years. The low life cycle costs and longevity of RCP made it a viable option for this large-scale project.

The project was completed in separate stages to keep lanes open and reduce the impact on traffic. With several staging areas, communication between County Materials and the on-site crews was critical. County Materials coordinated with the crews to determine the demands of each site and deliver products accordingly. These efforts were essential in keeping the project on schedule for its 2021 completion.



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