



ST. ANTHONY FALLS  
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

## Mn/DOT's Initial Public Outreach Public Outreach

The Minnesota Department of Transportation public relations team reached out and communicated proactively to key audiences seeking opinions about issues related to the I-35W bridge replacement design and construction. Mn/DOT provided ample opportunities for public participation and encouraged comments and questions from the public. Here is a list of meeting associated with public involvement.

### Six Open Houses

Thursday, August 16	Roseville Area High School
Tuesday, August 28	McNamara Alumni Center
Thursday, August 30	Humphrey Institute - west bank campus of the U of M
Wednesday, September 5	IDS Center in downtown Minneapolis
Thursday, September 6	IDS Center in downtown Minneapolis
Tuesday, September 11	Bryan Coyle Center (Cedar-Riverside neighborhood – Minneapolis)

Approximately 1325 attendees, over 500 of whom signed up to receive email news alerts, and over 300 of whom submitted written comment cards.

### Legislative Hearings

**August 15** – Joint House and Senate Committee Hearing

**August 22** – Joint House and Senate Committee Hearing

### Community Outreach

Mn/DOT held numerous meetings with various offices of local, county, state and federal government agencies, including the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Metropolitan Council, Federal Highway Administration and others as follows:

### Inter-Governmental Agency Meetings

#### August 2

Project Development Approach & Emergency Relief Funding – Don Elwood

Project Scoping and Preliminary Cost Estimating – Lisa Cerney

#### August 3

Emergency Projects to Relieve Congestion - FHWA

#### August 4

Project Scope and Design – Minneapolis city staff - Steve Kotke, Jon Wertjes, Don Elwood

#### August 6

Discuss DBSB - HNTB

#### August 7

Project Scope & Direction – Governor Pawlenty, Mayor Rybak, et al.

Meeting with Minnesota Commercial Railroad

Update Governor

## UPA/US DOT Conference Call

### **August 8**

RFQ Evaluation – Team Qualifying – Heidi Hamilton

Meeting with FHWA Staff

Meeting with Congressman Oberstar

### **August 9**

Municipal Consent Discussion with Minneapolis city staff – Steve Kotke, Heidi Hamilton, Jon Wertjes

35W Soln's Alliance – UPA

Minneapolis Park Board – 35W Impacts

Legislative Staff Briefing – Waters Edge

Meeting with MPCA to discuss environmental permits

### **August 10**

Project Design – Jon Wertjes

Project Direction – Governor Pawlenty, Mayor Rybak, etal.

Visit from U.S. DOT Secretary Mary Peters

Emergency Relief Program - FHWA

### **August 13**

Project Design – City of Minneapolis Steve Kotke, Jon Wertjes

Bus Tour – Congresswoman Betty McCollum/Hennepin County/City

DBE Discussion with Congressman Keith Ellison's Staff

Traffic Relief - FHWA

### **August 14**

Minneapolis City Council Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Met with U.S. Senator Norm Coleman and staff

Governor Update

### **August 15**

Visual Quality Meeting – Anna Flintoff

Met Council, TAB, Central Corridor Mgmt Committee

Public Official Meeting hosted by Hennepin County

Joint State House and Senate Hearing

### **August 16**

Governor Update

Public Open House – Roseville

### **August 20**

Review Layout – FHWA

Review North/South Project with City of Minneapolis

### **August 21**

U.S. DOT Secretary Mary Peters visit

### **August 22**

Joint State House/Senate Legislative Hearing

### **August 23**

Discuss Dredge Site Issues with City of Minneapolis and Corp. of Engineers

Meeting with City of Minneapolis

**August 30**

Governor Update

**September 4**

Testimony before Congressman Oberstar and Congressional Committee

**September 5**

Briefing with FHWA

Minneapolis Mayor Briefing

**September 6**

Presentation with Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis

Briefing with FHWA

**September 10**

Presentation to Minneapolis Mayor's Council

Meeting with John Wertjes from City of Minneapolis

**September 11**

Governor Update

**Community Meetings**

**August 15**

Neighborhood Meeting hosted by Senator Larry Pogemiller

**August 23**

Presentation to Executive Committee Downtown TMO

Presentation to Carver Economic Development Committee

**September 5**

Open House - Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Community Assoc. Land Use Committee

**September 11**

Urban Currents Presentation

**September 12**

Industry Square Project Committee Presentation

West Bank Neighborhood Assoc. Special Land Use Committee Presentation

**September 13**

Presentation at I35W Solutions Alliance Meeting – Richfield City Hall

Presentation to Marcy Holmes Group

**September 15**

Town Hall Meeting Presentation requested by Senator Ann Rest

**September 17**

Meeting with 7-Corners Apartments tenant group

**I35W Bridge Website w/Online Comment Form and Email Address**

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/i35wbridge/rebuild/comment.html>

[I35WBridge@dot.state.mn.us](mailto:I35WBridge@dot.state.mn.us)

The Mn/DOT website has seen overall traffic more than double since Aug. 2, 2007. Some website statistics include:

- 67,000 unique visitors
- Overall traffic to our Web site doubled
- 991 comments submitted via Web site
- 503 signups for email news on 35W Bridge project

Input could and was also received via the regular Mn/DOT Metro District mailing address.

### **Handouts at Park-and-Ride lots in North, Northeast Metro**

In partnership with Metro Transit, Mn/DOT distributed informational flyers to over 3,000 riders as they boarded buses at 11 Park and Ride Lots in the North and Northwest Metro area. These handouts provided detailed information on proposed replacement bridge features, and pointed people to the official I35W website. It also directly solicited comments about design plans. Readers were offered alternatives that ranged from online comment capability, to an email address, to a direct/U.S. mail address. Readers were also offered the opportunity to signup to receive email updates. Park and Ride distributions occurred at:

Foley Boulevard  
TH610/Noble  
Maplewood Mall  
Hmong Church in Maplewood  
Northtown Shopping Center

65<sup>th</sup>/Brooklyn Boulevard  
County H/I35W  
Regal Cinemas in Brooklyn Center  
Guardian Angels Church in Oakdale  
Grace Church in Roseville

Mn/DOT worked closely with the Minnesota Transportation Management Organization and the Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce to distribute our park-and-ride handouts to their member organizations as well as member of the Minneapolis Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.