

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING HANDOUT



Thank you for attending tonight's meeting!

Tuesday, June 15, 2004
Hudson Senior High School

Monday, June 21, 2004
Stillwater Junior High School

Purpose of Public Information Meeting:

- Promote public understanding of all alternatives;
- Provide an update on the project's progress;
- Share the environmental impact studies completed to date;
- Provide answers to the questions we received from you in response to the project brochures distributed in May; and
- Answer questions presented at this meeting (within the time available).

Official comments on the project and the Supplemental Draft EIS will be received during the EIS comment period and at the Public Hearings for the project (anticipated to be held in September 2004).

Components of the Evening's Activities:

- Sign the attendance sheet;
- Prepared study materials (**described below**) will be displayed throughout the common area before and after the formal presentation;
- The formal presentation will begin in the auditorium at 6:00 p.m.; and
- A facilitated question and answer session with a panel of agency and stakeholder representatives will follow the formal presentation. We ask that you follow the instructions of the Facilitator while in the auditorium, and be respectful of others.

Prepared Study Materials in the Common Area Show:

- Project schedule
- Questions received on the project via the May brochure
- Project alternatives (layouts and cross sections)
- Potential bridge types associated with the build alternatives
- Park impacts
- Related legislation
- Related \$5 Million Lift Bridge project
- Stakeholder Process
- Right-of-Way Process

THE STAKEHOLDER RESOLUTION PROCESS



In June 2003 the **Stakeholder Resolution Group** was convened providing a new approach to addressing environmental, historical and transportation concerns surrounding the project. The RESOLVE facilitation firm is guiding this process on behalf of the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution and FHWA.

According to the Process's Operating Agreement, the purpose is:

1. To facilitate a common understanding of the transportation, environmental and historic preservation issues among the government and non-government stakeholders;
2. To define the various solutions (including transportation alternatives) to these issues by exploring the advantages and disadvantages of each solution;
3. To arrive, if possible, at a consensus; and
4. To reach agreement among permitting/cooperating/core agencies on the components of the supplemental draft environmental impact statement for the long-term bridge project and on the related regulatory conclusions, among them:

Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic River Act
Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act
Section 4(f) of the USDOT Act
Local concurrence

The Stakeholder Group has been instrumental in the development of the alternatives being considered in the Supplemental Draft EIS that is being prepared for this project.

Stakeholder Group members include:

Federal Agencies

- Federal Highway Administration
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Coast Guard
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Environmental Protection Agency
- National Park Service
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

State Agencies

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office

Local Agencies

- City of Stillwater
- City of Oak Park Heights
- St. Joseph Town Board
- St. Croix County Transportation Committee

Non-Governmental Organizations

- Sierra Club
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
- Friends of the St. Croix
- St. Croix River Association
- Stillwater Lift Bridge Association
- New St. Croix Bridge Coalition
- Stillwater Heritage Preservation Commission
- Greater Stillwater Area Chamber of Commerce
- St. Croix Alliance for an Interstate Bridge
- Western WI Realtors Association

