



One Page Summary  
January 3, 2011

Until Congressional approval of the project is granted, MnDOT will suspend certain activities such as right-of-way acquisition, the relocation of the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse buildings, a load testing program for the new river bridge, water quality permitting, and final roadway design activities. Work will continue on some project activities that are close to being completed; such as, the Scenic Overlook Management Plan, the Stillwater Cultural District Illustrative Study, project animations, the preliminary design of the new river bridge and project communication efforts.

For complete St. Croix River Crossing Project details, go to  
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/index.html>

A Lift Bridge Maintenance Project for the fall of 2012 is being planned to repair a number of existing problems with the lift bridge. The Stillwater Lift Bridge will potentially need to be closed for a portion of the project timeframe during the fall of 2012 to complete this work.

#### Recent Project History:

- 1) Stakeholder and public involvement processes yielded a 2006 Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS) which contained; the Preferred Alternative Package of a new river crossing location, an extradosed bridge design, roadway approach designs in MN and WI, a mitigation package and the future use of the Lift Bridge as a bicycle/pedestrian facility. The SFEIS can be found at  
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/docs/sfeis.html>
- 2) Sierra Club sued National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2007 – for details of the complaint, see  
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/status.html>
- 3) Federal District Judge Davis ruled in March 2010 – FHWA complaints were dismissed. Judge vacated NPS's Section 7(a) in the SFEIS and NPS was to re-evaluate their Section 7(a).
- 4) NPS's re-evaluated Section 7(a) was issued 10-15-10 and can be found at  
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/documents.html> Due to direct and adverse effects to the scenic and recreational qualities of the Riverway, the NPS will not approve the project (this is a reversal of the NPS position since 2000). None of the other federal agencies can approve or assist in the project either because of the NPS determination. Congressional approval is needed for the project to move forward.