



Hennepin County News

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Contact: Jacob Bronder, Transportation Department bridge engineer, 612-596-0372
John Knudsen, Public Affairs, 612-348-6883

Three county bridges over the Mississippi to be inspected

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is conducting statewide inspections on all bridges listed as “fracture critical”, with completion by Dec. 1, 2007. These inspections include three Hennepin County-owned bridges in Minneapolis – the Washington Avenue, Lowry Avenue and Hennepin Avenue bridges over the Mississippi River.

As a result of the inspections, lane and/or bridge closures will be necessary.

- The Washington Avenue Bridge near the University of Minnesota will have partial lane closures during the week of Sept. 10 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Due to its narrow width, the Lowry Avenue Bridge in North Minneapolis will be completely closed the week of Sept. 17 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to accommodate inspection equipment. However, on some occasions, the inspectors may have to work later than 6 p.m.
- The inspection schedule for the Hennepin Avenue Bridge has not yet been determined.

The Hennepin County Transportation Department also has been conducting its own inspections of the three bridges. The Lowry Avenue Bridge has been inspected on a monthly basis since 2005, and the Washington Avenue and Hennepin Avenue bridges have been inspected annually.

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Bridge inspections/2

Transportation Department officials understand the community's need for safe and efficient transportation, and apologize for any inconveniences the inspections may cause.

For more information on the statewide bridge inspection mandate, go to http://www.dot.state.mn.us/i35wbridge/statewide_inspection.html

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Look for more news on the Hennepin County website – www.hennepin.us