Rehabilitation of the South 1st Street Bascule Bridge over the Kinnickinnic River

Construction Start Date: July 10, 2017
Anticipated Completion Date: November 2018

Project Overview
The rehabilitation of the South 1st Street Bascule Bridge over the Kinnickinnic River will begin on July 10, 2017 with an anticipated completion date in November 2018. The bridge spans the Kinnickinnic River on South 1st Street between Maple and Becher Streets. The work includes the demolition of the bridge and related components. Improvements to the bridge will be made to the existing structural, electrical, and mechanical components. The work will address the City’s safety and operational concerns, meet all state and federal requirements, and maintain the unique, historically-significant aspect of the structure, which was built in 1957. The project also includes improvements to the roadway approach to the bridge and the bridge house, and aesthetic enhancements such as lighting on the bridge. Two solid surface lanes will be added to accommodate bicyclists. A navigable waterway will be maintained for the duration of the project.

Project History
The City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works (DPW) contracted with engineering firm AECOM to evaluate the bridge and create the project plans for the rehab project. Once the evaluation was completed, a public information meeting was held in December 2015 at the Lincoln Warehouse on South 1st Street. Residents and businesses in the adjoining neighborhood were provided an opportunity to review the plans and submit comments. Staff from DPW and AECOM attended to answer questions from participants.

Detour Route
The bridge will be closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic during the construction project. Southbound traffic will be directed west on West Maple Street to South 5th Street, south on South 5th Street to West Becher Street, and east on West Becher Street. Northbound traffic will be directed West on West Becher Street to South 4th Street, north on South 4th Street to West Maple Street and east on West Maple Street.

South 1st Street Bascule Bridge Navigation Information
Navigation and river traffic on the Kinnickinnic River will be open during the navigational season. Work will be conducted with one (1) leaf up and one (1) leaf down for the duration of the project. Boaters should proceed with extra caution and be aware of any temporary signing or navigational traffic control as crews demolish, remove and replace bridge components, paint the steel, and stain the concrete.

In coordination with the US Coast Guard, the bridge will be inoperable with both leaves in the down position during the non-navigational season – Winter 2017-2018.

For bridge opening inquiries, please contact the 24-hr. Milwaukee Bridge Opening Hot Line at (414) 286-2575 or Marine Radio Channel 16-KW4448.

For additional information, contact:
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