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City of Duluth Communications Office

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DATE: 03/17/2011

SUBJECT: Aerial Lift Bridge to resume nighttime closure schedule on March 22

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

Aerial Lift Bridge to resume nighttime closure schedule on March 22

[Duluth, MN] - The Aerial Lift Bridge rehabilitation project will resume temporary nighttime closures in order to remove the scaffolding and painting enclosure system around the bridge's south tower. This is part of the city's ongoing efforts to repaint and repair structural steel elements of the bridge which started in winter 2010.

Anticipated duration for the nighttime closure period is from March 22, 2011 through March 23, 2011. The bridge will be closed to vehicular traffic from 1:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. and from 3:30 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. during this closure period. The bridge will be opened to vehicular traffic from 3:00 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. to clear any waiting traffic. There will be changeable message boards located at each end of the bridge to notify the public of the closures as well as to notify if the duration for closure will be altered to allow for completion of the work. Any changes to the scheduled closure will be posted no less than 18 hours prior to the change.

The bridge will occasionally to be restricted to one-lane, one-way traffic for the duration of the project. The signals at each end of the bridge will be used to keep traffic flowing through the work area. The bridge will be opened back up to two-way traffic whenever the contractor is not working on site.

In addition, intermittent day time bridge closures will be required as work crews dismantle the painting enclosure system. These closures should not last longer than 15 minutes per occasion.

The City of Duluth greatly appreciates the patience and cooperation of the public throughout the process of painting and rehabilitating the Aerial Lift Bridge.

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