



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, 4th District

Supervisor Chris Larson, 14th District

Supervisor Patricia Jursik, 8th District

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Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager
414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

STATE ANNOUNCES PLAN TO INSPECT, REPAIR HOAN BRIDGE

Supervisors thank DOT for recognizing the importance of Hoan Bridge to southeastern Wisconsin

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisors Marina Dimitrijevic, Chris Larson and Patricia Jursik released the following joint statement regarding the Department of Transportation's decision to begin repairs on the Hoan Bridge:

“Although somewhat overdue, the State of Wisconsin today announced that it will begin work on some repairs to the deck and structure of the Hoan Bridge. While this action is not a full replacement of the bridge deck, we welcome this move and thank Transportation Secretary Frank Busalacchi for taking a positive first step to preserve this vital link for our communities.

“It's our understanding that an in-depth engineering inspection of the bridge will be completed this year and the deck repairs will be finished in 2011. This engineering study will provide the missing link. Many have stated different costs, but this study will provide the most accurate cost estimates for preserving this bridge over the long-term.

“The Coalition to Save the Hoan, of which we are founding members, developed the grassroots effort to preserve this bridge for future generations. We worked hard to keep this issue at the forefront. It's clear that these efforts allowed more than 8,000 individuals to sign petitions asking Governor Jim Doyle to preserve the Hoan Bridge. These petitions were effective, and we will remain vigilant for the long-term future of this bridge.

“The Hoan Bridge is extremely important to the residents that we represent, as well as the greater south shore area and all of southeastern Wisconsin. The Hoan Bridge is the gateway that connects the Port of Milwaukee and General Mitchell International Airport with downtown and the entire interstate freeway system.

“We still support the pursuit of federal funds, including applying for funds from the TIGER II program, for a long-term solution. We thank Congresswoman Gwen Moore for identifying this federal funding source. We are pleased that the DOT recognizes that this bridge needs to be maintained over the long-term, and we look forward to seeing a full deck replacement in the years to come.”

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