



# BONG BRIDGE REHABILITATION PROJECT

2025



## Project Description

To address existing safety and structural conditions on the US 2 bridge over the St. Louis River between Superior and Duluth, the Wisconsin and Minnesota Departments of Transportation are proposing the following improvements:

- # Performing spot painting of the main span on the tied-arch bridge.
- # Making concrete surface repairs to the bridge abutments. Placing a concrete sealer on the bridge deck.
- # Replacing the rubber strip seal membranes on the main span's joints.
- # Replacing light poles and bases on the Minnesota half of the bridge, Minnesota on- and off-ramps and the Wisconsin approach.

## Traffic and Sidewalk Impacts

With the proposed work on the bridge, staged traffic control with lane closures will be required.

- # A minimum of one lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction on US 2 during construction.
- # Various stages will require the bridge's on- and off-ramps on the Minnesota side to be closed and detoured.
- # The existing sidewalk on the bridge will be closed while the outer lanes are closed for the structure work. This closure is anticipated to be in place for two to three weeks.

## Construction

Construction is expected to take approximately two months.

## Real Estate

None; all work will be within the existing US 2 right of way.

## Bridge

- # Construction on the Richard I. Bong Memorial Bridge, the second longest bridge in Wisconsin, began in 1979. The structure opened to traffic in 1985.
- # The Bong Bridge will be used as the detour route for the Blatnik Bridge replacement project; construction on the latter is anticipated to begin in fall 2026.



## PROJECT SCHEDULE

- # November 2024: Complete final design.
- # Summer 2025: Begin and complete construction.

## PROJECT CONTACTS

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