

**Lowry Bridge EAW  
City of Minneapolis Comments  
14-Jan-09**

**Name:** Ann Calvert  
**Department/Division:** CPED (Bus Dev & Comm Plnng), and on behalf of Riverfront TAC  
**Phone Number:** 673-5023

Document (EAW Worksheet, Appendix A, B, C, or D)	Page Number	Comment
Entire EAW		The EAW appears to be analyzing the bridge as it would be once both phases of construction are complete, rather than the first phase now being contemplated. The impacts of only the Ph. I Bridge are likely to be different from the impacts of the complete two-phase bridge.
EAW	p. 4	What is the source of the 1% assumed "low growth" increase in annual traffic volume? What has been the actual rate of increase over the last decade?
EAW	p.5, Table 1	It's not clear to what extent decreased future levels of service at the various intersections would be due to traffic on Lowry and to what extent they are caused by the traffic levels on the cross streets and/or deficiencies with the intersection designs. A "No Build" analysis should be examined.
EAW	p. 6	A note that the Above the Falls planning process included the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Hennepin County (and both of those parties provided funding).
EAW, section 17, and Appendix A	EAW p. 21 and Appendix A, Figure 11	The EAW discusses stormwater treatment facilities in locations described in Figure 11, but Figure 11 only shows one location and labels it as "potential." Therefore, it's not clear if the treatment facilities will definitely be included in the project, as we recommend they should.

**Lowry Bridge EAW  
City of Minneapolis Comments  
14-Jan-09**

**Name:** Ann Calvert  
**Department/Division:** CPED (Bus Dev & Comm Plnng), and on behalf of Riverfront TAC  
**Phone Number:** 673-5023

<b>Document (EAW Worksheet, Appendix A, B, C, or D)</b>	<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>EAW, Traffic section and Appendix C</b>	<b>EAW pp. 25 --26</b>	<b>It would be helpful to understand what types of traffic are expected to be carried on the bridge and what areas that traffic is serving. This would assist in considering to what extent the type and level of traffic might change due to implementation of Above the Falls and also to understand what might happen if the bridge were not replaced.</b>
<b>EAW, section 25, and Appendix B</b>	<b>EAW pp. 51 - 52 and Appendix B, correspondence</b>	<b>In addition to documentation, we encourage Hennepin County to include some interpretation (perhaps a sign at an overlook) with information about the bridge being removed and the changes made to it to accommodate barge transportation.</b>
<b>Appendix B</b>	<b>3/7/08 letter from MnDOT/CRU to SHPO</b>	<b>We would note that a 2007 Study of the Upper Mississippi Harbor by Hess Roise also determined that two districts associated with the Upper Harbor are eligible for the National Register and that the current Lowry bridge would be a contributing structure in one of those districts.</b>
<b>Entire EAW</b>		<b>There is no information about the design of the areas under the bridge, thus it is impossible to evaluate the impact the bridge design will have on the aesthetics and functionality of the planned parkway and trails under the bridge.</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Figure 3 is poor; there is no phasing. Additional figures are inadequate; need elevations.</b>

**Lowry Bridge EAW  
City of Minneapolis Comments  
28-Jan-09**

**Name:  
Department/Division:  
Phone Number:**

Becca Farrar / Hilary Dvorak  
CPED / Planning - Development Services  
673-3594 / 673-2639

Document (EAW Worksheet, Appendix A, B, C, or D)	Page Number	Comment
EAW Worksheet	2	<i>6b.</i> The document states "...the bridge will be designed to accommodate transit vehicles of up to 80,000 lbs." Will this result in new/revised truck routes? How will this alter existing truck routes? Does this project assume future rail transit in the corridor?
EAW Worksheet	4	<i>6b.</i> The document states "With half the number of lanes, the bridge does not match the existing capacity of the adjacent roadway." It should be noted that this is due to recent road improvements initiated by Hennepin County on Lowry Avenue. There will continue to be 2 lanes east of University.
EAW Worksheet	9	<i>9.</i> The document states "...it will involve right of way acquisition from eight properties." Do we have a list of those properties and an estimate of land acquisition acreage necessary for the proposed improvements in order to address potential impacts? There is inadequate info in Appendix about this.
EAW Worksheet	13	<i>9.</i> The document states "All potentially contaminated properties identified in the ESA will be evaluated for their likelihood to be impacted by construction and/or acquired as right of way." Shouldn't that information be known and disclosed within this document? This data should be tabulated and included.

**Lowry Bridge EAW  
City of Minneapolis Comments  
28-Jan-09**

**Name:  
Department/Division:  
Phone Number:**

Becca Farrar / Hilary Dvorak  
CPED / Planning - Development Services  
673-3594 / 673-2639

<b>Document (EAW Worksheet, Appendix A, B, C, or D)</b>	<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>24. The Conclusion states that the cost-effectiveness criteria is being exceeded therefore a noise barrier would not be constructed. Data should be provided that verifies that conclusion.</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>26. The visual impacts section states that there will be impacts as the bridge will be larger and taller. It would seem that those impacts should be addressed in question 29 - Cumulative potential effects and under 31 - Summary of Issues. No graphic has been provided.</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>		<b>There are references to the project being constructed in phases. The phases and subsequent proposed improvements should be clearly described/outlined under question 6.</b>
<b>Appendix A</b>		<b>There are no architectural elevations of the proposed bridge. Elevations should be provided for contextual review.</b>

Lowry Bridge EAW  
 City of Minneapolis Comments  
 28-Jan-09

Name:  
 Department/Division:  
 Phone Number:

Haila Maze  
 CPED / Planning

Document (EAW Worksheet, Appendix A, B, C, or D)	Page Number	Comment
EAW Worksheet	Page 3	The project description includes reference to a 12 foot "sidewalk". Is this more accurately a shared-use path?
EAW Worksheet		<p>The EAW occasionally refers to Phase I and Phase II of the project. However, this is not consistently used, and I can't see where it is clearly defined for those who do not already know.</p> <p>I assume that most of the impacts described in the analysis apply to the project as a whole (not just for Phase 1) but again, that's not clear to me. Since this is a major issue with this project, I think it needs to be as lucid and consistent as possible. If phasing is mentioned, including a graphic that shows Phase 1 vs. Phase 2 would be helpful, along with a definition of each. A specific instance of uncertainty is on page 3, where it talks about interim improvements to Marshall that will be needed prior to Phase 2 - are these part of Phase 2 that need to be prioritized, or something separate?</p>
EAW Worksheet		A historic resources review may be required for this project.
EAW Worksheet		There was some confusion at the last Lowry Ave bridge meeting the consultants hosted regarding what permits were needed from the city.
EAW Worksheet		The project does in general seem in compliance with the applicable plans for the area - such as Above the Falls, the Comprehensive Plan, etc. However, delaying Phase 2 indefinitely is not really consistent with ATF, though the project as a whole may be.

**Lowry Bridge EAW  
City of Minneapolis Comments  
28-Jan-09**

**Name:  
Department/Division:  
Phone Number:**

Lois Eberhart  
Public Works - Surface Water and Sewers  
673-3260

<b>Document (EAW Worksheet, Appendix A, B, C, or D)</b>	<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>On Table 2, Permits and Approvals, Local: For the line "Plan Approval, City of Minneapolis, Approval" change to read "Plan Approval, including submission to Capital Project Task Force, City of Minneapolis Approval", and add a reference to footnote 2.</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Change footnote 2 to read "Approval of the Stormwater Management Plan is a requirement for Plan Approval."</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>For the line "Stormwater Submission Form, City of Minneapolis, Permit" change to read "Stormwater Management Plan, City of Minneapolis, Approval".</b>
<b>EAW Worksheet</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Delete the line "Erosion and Sediment Control, City of Minneapolis, Permit"</b>