



Lift bridge operations in Winnebago County

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Mission statement:
To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.

Included in this issue:

- What's new in Menasha remote control
- "Bugs" worked out of camera systems in Oshkosh.
- Wisconsin Street bridge construction is on schedule

What's new in Menasha remote control

The 2007 boating season is upon us, and with it comes a first for Menasha and Winnebago County—remote control operations of movable bridges. Crews have been busy over the winter installing new bridge control equipment to allow the Tayco Street bridge to be remotely operated from the Racine Street bridge.

Both bridges have been outfitted with video cameras and monitors to observe conditions, a public address system to communicate with pedestrians, motorists and boat operators at the Tayco Street Bridge, fiber-optic systems that integrate with Menasha Utilities' network, and upgraded traffic gates. These, along with other modifications to control systems, will allow remote control operation.

Currently, WisDOT is testing the newly installed equipment. Preliminary tests have gone well, and testing for these systems was completed at the end of May.

Over the course of the 2007 boating season, bridge operations will be transitioned from local site control to remote control.

The transition will be in three phases: local control, remote control with supervision, and full remote control operations.

During the first phase, April 26 to July 28, there will be an operator at both the Tayco Street and Racine Street bridges. Each bridge will be operated locally, allowing operators to become familiar with the new bridge operations.

Between July 28 and September 3, the Tayco Street bridge will be remotely operated from the Racine Street bridge. An operator will be stationed at both bridges in order to immediately address any unforeseen situations.

After September 3, plans call for the remote opera-

tions to be fully implemented, with both bridges operated remotely from the Racine Street bridge.

After September 3, 2007, remote operations will be fully implemented.

Lots of hard work and co-operation have gone into implementing the first remote control bridge operations in the region. Special thanks go to the city of Menasha, Menasha Utilities, bridge operators, and recreational boaters in helping with this project. All are looking forward to the completion of this project, providing increased safety and service with reduced operating costs.



Tayco Street bridge in Menasha will be operated from the Racine Street bridge after July 28, 2007.