

DATE XX, XXXX

Adam Arvidson  
Director of Strategic Planning  
2117 West River Road  
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Subject: 2710-47  
3rd Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation Project  
3rd Avenue over the Mississippi River, Minneapolis  
Section 4(f) Temporary Occupancy of the trail adjacent to Main Street and the trail adjacent to West River Parkway

Dear Mr. Arvidson:

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is preparing design plans as part of the 3rd Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation Project, located in the City of Minneapolis, in Hennepin County. See Figure 1 for the general project location. The project area encompasses the Bridge from 2nd Street on the north side to 1st Street on the south side. The proposed project is a major preservation project that will rehabilitate the existing bridge infrastructure in its current location. The bridge is in poor condition with proposed repairs and final activities lasting approximately three years, starting in spring 2020 through summer 2023.

The proposed project will temporarily impact the trails along West River Parkway and the trail and sidewalk along Main Street. Work impacting these trails includes rehabilitating piers 1 and 8, replacing the bridge deck and railings. In addition, two staging areas are necessary adjacent to the bridge outside of MnDOT's permanent easement on park space, see attached overview map Figure 2.

As per the Federal Register Rules and Regulations 23 CFR 774.13(d), the temporary trail impacts and temporary construction easement on park land may be considered a temporary occupancy of Section 4(f) lands. A temporary occupancy may not constitute a Section 4(f) use when all of the conditions listed below are satisfied:

- *The duration of the occupancy will be temporary in nature (i.e., less than the time needed for the construction of the project).*
- *There will be no change in ownership of the land.*
- *The scope of work to be performed will be minor (i.e., both the nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal).*
- *There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts nor there any interference with the activities or purposes of the property, on either a permanent or temporary basis.*
- *The land being used will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the condition that existed prior to the project.*
- *There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.*

Please review the attached pages outlining how each temporary impact meet these conditions and

indicated your concurrence with the work proposed and that the conditions are met by signing below. Please forward the signed original back to me for our records. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at your earliest convenience at (651) 243-7720 or christian.hoberg@state.mn.us. If you do not concur with our assessment of impacts to Minneapolis Parks land and trails, please respond in writing with a reference to this letter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Hoberg  
MnDOT Project Manager  
MnDOT Metro District

I concur with the assessment of proposed impacts to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's parkland areas and trails adjacent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Bridge, Main Street and West River Parkway property as described in the attached pages.

---

Adam Arvidson

---

Date

Attachments:

Temporary Occupancy Conditions for South River Bank Trails  
Temporary Occupancy Conditions for South River Bank Staging Area  
Temporary Occupancy Conditions for North River Bank Trails  
Temporary Occupancy Conditions for North River Bank Staging Area  
Figure 1: 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Bridge Location Map  
Figure 2: Overview of Park Impacts  
Figure3: Southbank Detailed Staging  
Figure3: Southbank Detailed Staging  
Photos 1-5 illustrating vegetation and shoreland impacts.

CC: Deb Moynihan, MnDOT Office of Environmental Stewardship  
Brigid Gombold, Metro District Environmental Coordinator  
April Crocket, Metro District Area Manager  
Steve Barret, Metro District Construction Engineer

## South River Bank:

### Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board trails between Bridge Pier 1 and West River Parkway

Two bituminous trails are located on the north side of West River Parkway which travel under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Bridge. The trail adjacent to the River will be rerouted to join the trail on the south side, see Figure 2. During the bridge deck removal and replacement over West River Parkway these trails will be closed for two, 2-week periods. A staging area will be located adjacent to the trail with truck access crossing the trail. The contractor will provide flaggers and covered shelter for safe passage through the construction area. MnDOT and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will work to develop an agreed upon detour. The detour will be fully signed to assist trail users.

- *The duration of the occupancy will be temporary in nature (i.e., less than the time needed for the construction of the project).*

The proposed joining of the two trails located on the north side of West River Parkway will be less than the three-year duration of the proposed project, see map Figure 2 for trail locations. The proposed duration of the combined trail and adjacent staging area would be from March/April 2021 to November/December 2022.

In addition, the combined trail will have a full closure during deck work above the trail. The duration of the full closure would be two to four weeks, during removal (two week maximum) and during replacement (two week maximum). Expected closure for deck removal would be two weeks sometime between April-June 2021. Expected closure for deck replacement would be two weeks sometime between August-September 2021. This is less than the full duration of the project.

- *There will be no change in ownership of the land.*

The proposed work does not require any change in ownership of the property. MnDOT currently has a permanent easement and will not obtain any additional permanent right-of-way from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for the bridge.

- *The scope of work to be performed will be minor (i.e., both the nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal).*

The scope of work is preservation work to maintain the existing bridge structure. The proposed work has a minor impact, combining two trails into one under the bridge; and a total of four week full closure; in both nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) resource. The trail closure is for the safety of users to ensure that falling debris does not hit and injure any users.

- *There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts nor there any interference with the activities or purposes of the property, on either a permanent or temporary basis.*

The trail closure with adjacent construction work is not expected to cause any permanent adverse physical impacts. Flaggers will be provided for when trucks need to cross the trail or materials need to be raised from under the bridge to the bridge top. The trail will have a shelter provided for users to cross the construction area. For the full closures, an agreed upon detour will be developed between the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and MnDOT's construction office. The detour will be signed accordingly for trail users.

- *The land being used will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the condition that existed prior to the project.*  
Any degradation of either trail will be fully restored to a condition of its current state or better.
- *There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.*  
Your signature on this document concurring as outlined above constitute your concurrence with the assessment of impacts to Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board trails located on under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Bridge on the south river bank, in your role as an official with jurisdiction over this resource.

**South River Bank:****Staging area on east side of the Bridge between West River Parkway and River**

The area identified in Figure 3 is necessary to place a crawler crane and other small equipment and/or materials for a portion of the construction. Construction fencing would be erected to secure this space with an access opening for haul trucks. The area is approximately 2,378 square feet. The contractor will provide flaggers and covered shelter for safe passage through the construction area.

- *The duration of the occupancy will be temporary in nature (i.e., less than the time needed for the construction of the project).*

A crawler crane and other staging equipment and materials would be placed in this space. The need for this space would be during the span #1 and pier #1 construction repairs. The crane would load removal debris into trucks to be hauled off site for disposal. If necessary the crane may be used to move material from below the deck to above the deck. The timing of this work is approximately from March 2021 through November 2022. This is less than the full duration of the project.

- *There will be no change in ownership of the land.*

The proposed work does not require any change in ownership of the property. A temporary construction easement would be processed through MnDOT Right of Way office.

- *The scope of work to be performed will be minor (i.e., both the nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal).*

The scope of work is preservation work to maintain the existing bridge structure which is minor. The proposed use of the grass area is minor in both nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) resource. The grass area is necessary for locating a crawler crane next to the Bridge to allow material to be lifted to the top of the deck from the roadside under the Bridge.

- *There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts nor there any interference with the activities or purposes of the property, on either a permanent or temporary basis.*

The park space is open grass space between the trail next to the River and West River Parkway, see Figure 2 and 3. The trail adjacent to the staging area will have flaggers when trucks need to cross the trail or the crane is lifting materials from below the deck to above the deck. There are no permanent or temporary adverse physical impacts to the space that would have interference with any activities or purpose of the space.

- *The land being used will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the condition that existed prior to the project.*

The grass damaged by the equipment will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the current condition or better by grading and reseeding.

- *There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.*

Your signature on this document concurring as outlined above constitute your concurrence with the assessment of impacts to Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board space as shown in Figure 3, in your role as an official with jurisdiction over this resource.

**North River Bank:****Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Trail and Sidewalk on either side of Main Street**

Main Street has two bituminous trails located on the west side of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Bridge. One trail ends under the Bridge and one trail continues to the east of the Bridge. Sidewalk is located on the north side of Main Street, see Figure 2.

The connection of the two trails will be moved west of its current location under the bridge, to a location just outside of the construction area.

During pier 8 and Bridge railing construction, the trail and sidewalk will need to be joined to allow one crossing under the bridge. Dependent on the area of work, this will change to avoid falling debris or pier work, see Figure 2. There is no full closure expected under the Bridge along Main Street. The location of the trail and sidewalk connection on both sides of the Bridge will be in close proximity of the Bridge. The trails and sidewalk will be restored to their existing condition or better.

- *The duration of the occupancy will be temporary in nature (i.e., less than the time needed for the construction of the project).*

The proposed joining of the trail and sidewalk located on both sides will be less than the three-year duration of the proposed project, see Figure 2 for trail locations. The proposed duration of the combined trail would be from May/June 2020 to October/November 2022. This is less than the full duration of the project. Both sides of Main Street will be used as work moves from pier work to railing work. There will be no full closure under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Bridge on Main Street.

- *There will be no change in ownership of the land.*

The proposed work does not require any change in ownership of the property. MnDOT currently has a permanent easement and will not obtain any additional permanent right-of-way from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for the bridge.

- *The scope of work to be performed will be minor (i.e., both the nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal).*

The scope of work is preservation work to maintain the existing bridge structure. The proposed work has a minor impact, combining a trail and sidewalk into one crossing under the bridge.

- *There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts nor there any interference with the activities or purposes of the property, on either a permanent or temporary basis.*

Joining the trails and sidewalk, as necessary, is not expected to cause any permanent adverse physical impacts to the trail and will allow continued use of the crossing under the bridge.

- *The land being used will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the condition that existed prior to the project.*

Any degradation of either the trail or sidewalk will be fully restored to a condition of its current state or better.

- *There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.*

Your signature on this document concurring as outlined above constitute your concurrence with the assessment of impacts to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board trails in your role as an official with jurisdiction over this resource.

**North River Bank:****Staging area on east side of the Bridge between the trail adjacent to Main Street and River**

The approximately 1,602 square feet staging area identified in Figure 4 is necessary to place a crawler crane and other small equipment and/or materials for a portion of the construction. Construction fencing would be erected to secure this space. Because street access is limited with Pier 8, this would also serve as minimal light truck access from Main Street. The area adjacent to the river shoreline is in poor condition with broken concrete from the bridge and overgrown vegetation. The area will need clearing and grubbing to place the crawler crane as far from the street and trail as possible. The cottonwood tree adjacent to the staging area needs trimming. The rip rap on the slope will be replaced. Photos 1-5 illustrates the proposed vegetation removal and rip rap repair. At the proposed access to Main Street, the existing granite curb and pavers will be removed and salvaged. Bituminous will be temporarily placed at the access where the curb and pavers were removed. The curb and pavers will be fully restored when the staging area is no longer needed. Vegetation will be restored in the staging area.

- *The duration of the occupancy will be temporary in nature (i.e., less than the time needed for the construction of the project).*  
A crawler crane and other staging equipment and materials would be placed in this space. The need for this space would be during the pier 8 rehabilitation. The timing of this work is approximately from March 2021 through November 2022. This is less than the full duration of the project.
- *There will be no change in ownership of the land.*  
The proposed work does not require any change in ownership of the property. A temporary construction easement would be processed through MnDOT Right of Way office.
- *The scope of work to be performed will be minor (i.e., both the nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal).*  
The scope of work is preservation work to maintain the existing bridge structure. The proposed use of the grass area is minor in both nature and magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) resource. The area is necessary for locating a crawler crane next to the Bridge to allow material to be lifted to the top of the deck from the roadside under the Bridge. In addition access for small trucks from Main Street to Pier 8 would be necessary for painting or other minor work.
- *There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts nor there any interference with the activities or purposes of the property, on either a permanent or temporary basis.*  
The park space is open grass space between the River and Main Street with some shrub trees along the river bank, see Figure 4. There are no permanent or temporary adverse physical impacts to the space that would have interference with any activities or purpose of the space. A flagger will be present at the proposed Main Street access that crosses the trail along Main Street when vehicles need to access the staging area.
- *The land being used will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the condition that existed prior to the project.*  
The grass area will be fully restored to a condition that is at least as good as the current condition or better by grading and reseeding. The shoreland will have new rip rap installed. Shoreland vegetation will be replanted with plants selected by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The access to Main Street will be fully restored with the granite curb and cobblestone pavers.

- *There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.*

Your signature on this document concurring as outlined above constitute your concurrence with the assessment of impacts to Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board park land in your role as an official with jurisdiction over this resource.