

	AERIAL LIFT BRIDGE RIDES
Approved: 	Supersedes: Effective: April 13, 2007 <div style="text-align: right;">Page 1 of 2</div>

POLICY STATEMENT

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines as to persons authorized to be present on the Aerial Lift Bridge (“Bridge”) during operation.¹ It is the policy of the City that visitors should be allowed to ride on the Bridge for only public purposes. This policy recognizes that the Bridge is industrial machinery and is not designed or maintained for general public use during operation. Therefore, the purpose of this policy is to limit Bridge use to those persons whose presence is necessary for Bridge operation, or those whose presence serves an important public purpose. Such public purpose includes recognition of groups or individuals who are being recognized for having undertaken efforts of civic betterment or community interest, or advertising and promoting the City and promoting tourism. This policy is specifically intended to confirm that the Bridge is not open to the general public during operation.

PERMITTED VISITORS

The following persons may be granted permission to visit the Bridge:

1. News media involved in producing stories involving the governmental functions of the City of Duluth.
2. Visiting state, national, foreign dignitaries or elected officials.
3. Other governmental officials whose purpose involves the performance of their official functions and those persons whose presence is necessary to facilitate the visit.
4. Technical and engineering personnel inspecting or evaluating Bridge mechanical and structural conditions.
5. Contractors making repairs to the Bridge whose access and presence is necessary to perform contracted services or repairs.
6. Utility personnel performing maintenance or repairs of the Bridge or other utility facilities.
7. Groups or individuals who have undertaken efforts of civic betterment or community interest, or whose presence is a reward for public service, or helps advertising or promotes the City and its economy, but only if operation of the Bridge is not impaired.

¹ Pursuant to Duluth City Code Section 26.53

PROHIBITED VISITORS

The following individuals are prohibited from visiting the Bridge:

1. Persons under the age of 10 years.
2. Persons under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs.
3. Persons under the influence of prescription drugs if they appear to be in an impaired condition.
4. Persons who are unable to independently negotiate the stairs to the pilot house or other Bridge structures with or without reasonable accommodation.
5. Persons who have not been granted permission to visit the Bridge during operation.

PROCEDURES

1. The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or designee must approve all non-maintenance related Bridge visits. The CAO may use a token, form, or pass to signify approval. All maintenance related visits shall be approved by the Director of Public Works and Utilities.
2. All visits must be confirmed with the Bridge Supervisor prior to the visit. This confirmation allows the Bridge Supervisor to update visitors on Bridge conditions.
3. All Bridge visits shall be coordinated with marine traffic.
4. Except for maintenance work related visitors, and others covered by Workers' Compensation while on the Bridge, each visitor must sign the "Aerial Lift Bridge Release of Liability" form, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A and made a part of this policy. No visitor will be allowed on the Bridge unless the signed waiver is in the possession of the City prior to the scheduled visit.
5. Any visitor must be escorted by at least one (1) City employee who is not assigned to Bridge operations.
6. Visitors must follow all directions of Bridge personnel.
7. Bridge personnel are in charge of the Bridge at all times and have the ultimate and final authority to cancel any visit that has been authorized and are further authorized to cancel visits without notice.
8. No Bridge visit is guaranteed.