

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth - Communications Office

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-730-5230 | www.duluthmn.gov | Emily Larson, Mayor

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309

DATE: 6/20/2016 SUBJECT: Minnesota Slip Bridge Back in Service BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

Minnesota Slip Bridge Back in Service

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth reports that the Minnesota Slip Bridge (also referred to as the Blue Bridge) in Canal Park is back in full service after a quick response from the contractor this morning. Yesterday's high winds caused the cables to jump off the spool forcing the temporary closure.

The one-of-a-kind Slip Bridge has been plagued with unexpected repairs and closings for many years but Mayor Emily Larson announced in May that the City is moving forward with a fix to the Slip Bridge. LHB Corp. was selected to start designing a retrofit to the machinery drive and ensure longevity of the Bridge for future use. The designs are expected to be done by December which will provide the City a better sense of the full cost for a retrofit as new parts will likely be custom made. If all goes as planned, the newly retrofitted Blue Bridge will be fully operational in spring 2017.

In the meantime, a contractor has been arranged to be on call during large scale events should issues arise.

###