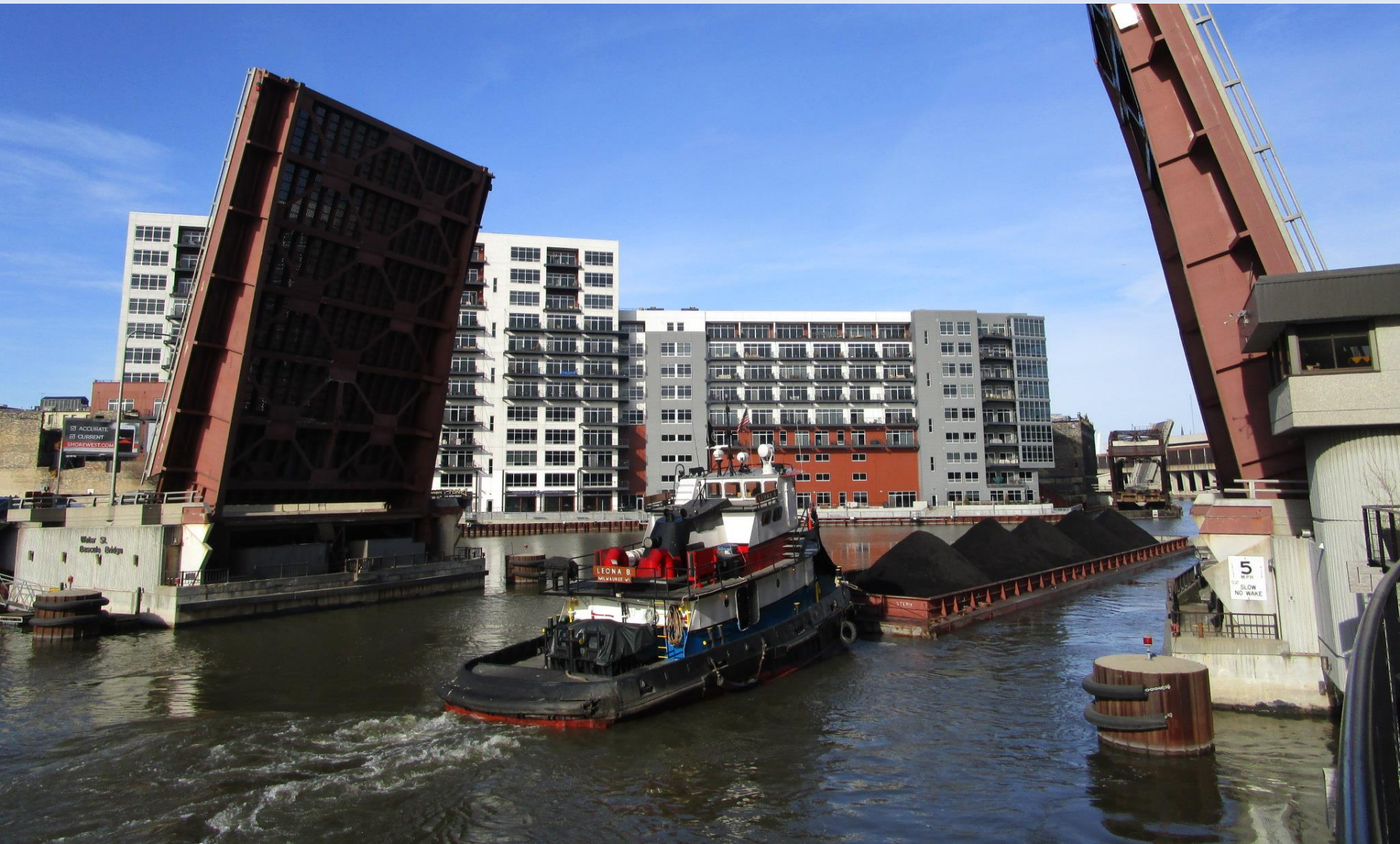


Report to Public Works Committee

Movable Bridge Operations



2014 - 17

Year	Bridge Openings
2014	14,003
2015	21,835
2016	21,904
2017	23,244

Year	Water Level in July (ft. above sea level)
2014	578.9
2015	579.8
2016	580.2
2017	580.7

By Bridge

Bridge	Openings
West Wisconsin Avenue	3,649
West Michigan Street	3,559
West Wells Street	3,305
North Water Street	3,096
North Broadway	3,073
East Clybourn Street	1,876
West St. Paul Avenue	1,712
South Kinnickinnic Avenue	1,043
West Kilbourn Avenue	680
West State Street	635
South 1st Street	276
North Plankinton Avenue	226
South 6th Street	24
East Juneau Avenue	24
East Pleasant Street	19
West Highland Avenue	18
East Knapp Street	12
North 6th Street	9
Emmber Lane	5
East Cherry Street	3
Total Bridge Openings for 2017	23,244

Report to Public Works Committee

Summary of Efforts to Mitigate Sound of Bells

- Prior to 2017, bells were activated through an entire opening.
 - In Summer 2017, bells were turned off after bridge gates were down shortening the time bells were rung.
- In March 2018, different tactics were tested to reduce the sound of the bells and decibel readings were recorded:
 - Used a cover to determine if noise levels could be redirected.
 - Painted bells with mastic to reduce vibration.
 - Operated only two of the four bells.
- Using two of the four bells reduced the sound by the greatest amount.
 - DPW will proceed with only using two bells at the bridges at Broadway, Water and Wells.

Report to Public Works Committee

Bridge Hours

Current regulations restrict bridge openings between the hours of 7:30 am and 8:30 am, and between 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm, excluding vessels licensed to carry 50 or more passengers.

Getting the word out:

- Met with Milwaukee Boat Line and Milwaukee River Cruise Lines (commercial boat owners with larger vessels).
- Called Riverwalk Boat Tours & Rentals and Milwaukee Paddle Tavern
- Addressed during Coast Guard meeting on April 20th.

Report to Public Works Committee

Process of Changing Bridge Regulations

Bridge Regulations for the Milwaukee, Kinnickinnic and Menomonee Rivers are found in Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter I, Subchapter J, § 117.1093

First and foremost, the Coast Guard is about meeting the needs of all modes of transportation.

Report to Public Works Committee

Process of Changing Bridge Regulations

First: Justification for changing the regulations would need to be made to the Coast Guard Admiral.

Criteria used in making a determination:

- Request from municipality (Commissioner of Public Works) to make a change to the regulations
- Traffic counts in 15-minute intervals
- Number of bridge openings

Report to Public Works Committee

Process of Changing Bridge Regulations

Second: After approval by the Admiral to proceed, the Coast Guard would discuss perceived needs with key stakeholders and interested parties via phone and e-mail. After legal review and signature by the Ninth District Admiral, a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is created.

Third: The NPRM is sent to the Federal Register in Washington DC to be published for public input. Comments by the public in support or in protest of the regulation change are submitted via e-mail and phone call.

Fourth: A Final Rule is created and the regulations are updated. Process would take about six months.