



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DATE: May 13, 2015

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BRIDGE CLOSURE MAY 13, 2015 **1ST STREET BRIDGE OVER UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

Rockford - Effective May 13, 2015, the 1st Street Bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad, located approximately one (1) block north of the Winnebago County Health Department will be closed indefinitely. The Union Pacific Railroad, which owns the bridge that carries the City's 1st St. access across the UP rail line, performed repairs to the bridge in the fall of 2014. The work was reviewed by the Illinois Department of Transportation and found the repairs to be unacceptable. Therefore, the Illinois Department of Transportation ordered the bridge to be closed until the Union Pacific Railroad can make acceptable repairs, and provide documentation.

The City of Rockford has been working with the Illinois Department of Transportation to contact the Illinois Commerce Commission to help encourage the Union Pacific Railroad to repair the bridge to IDOT acceptable standards.

Therefore, the 1st St. railroad Bridge will be closed an undetermined amount of time to motor vehicle traffic and possibly remain closed indefinitely. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic will still be allowed.

Questions regarding the bridge closure should be directed to Matthew Vitner, City Engineer, Deputy Director of Public Works Department.