

**8th Street River Bridge Dedication Ceremony
Manitowoc, Wisconsin
12:00-1:00 pm**

- **MAYOR CRAWFORD, MAYOR HONDA (HUNDA),
HONORED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
GOOD AFTERNOON.**
- **WHAT A GREAT DAY TO BE HERE TO
OFFICIALLY DEDICATE YOUR BRAND NEW,
ALMOST \$15 MILLION WATERFRONT
PROJECT.**
- **WITH THE NEW 8TH STREET AND THE NEW
8TH STREET BRIDGE ... THE MANITOWOC
BUSINESS DISTRICT AND
LAKEFRONT/BUSINESS DISTRICT IS WHOLE
AGAIN.**
- **I WAS HERE IN JANUARY, 1994, FOR THE
CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE OLD
STRUCTURE...WE HAVE MADE REAL
PROGRESS SINCE THEN.**
- **I WOULD LIKE TO THANK TO
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OFFICE IN
GREEN BAY, LES FAFARD AND HIS CREW...
AND ONE OF THE BEST CONTRACTORS IN
THE BUSINESS, ZENITH TECH OF WAUKESHA
... AND MANY SUBCONTRACTORS ... WHO
WORKED TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS PROJECT
POSSIBLE.**

- **IT HAS BEEN A MONUMENTAL CHALLENGE ... BUT WE MET THE CHALLENGES AND BUILT A NEW BRIDGE IN ONLY TWO CONSTRUCTION SEASONS.**
- **IT REPLACES AN OLD BRIDGE THAT DATES BACK TO 1926...BACK TO A TIME WHEN TRAFFIC WAS A FEW MODEL T'S AND SOME VERY LIGHT-WEIGHT TRUCKS.**
- **THIS NEW BRIDGE IS DOUBLE THE WIDTH OF THE OLD BRIDGE ... IT WILL CARRY ALMOST 20,000 VEHICLES A DAY ... AND IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE MUCH MORE TRAFFIC IN THE YEARS AHEAD.**
- **THE NEW BRIDGE AND THE NEW HIGHWAY WILL SERVE THE CITY OF MANITOWOC FOR YEARS TO COME.**
- **THE 8TH STREET BRIDGE ADDS BEAUTY AND IMPORTANT INFRASTRUCTURE TO ONE OF WISCONSIN'S MOST DYNAMIC LAKESHORE COMMUNITIES.**
- **IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS ALONE, THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN HAVE MADE MAJOR INVESTMENTS IN MANITOWOC.**

- **IN ADDITION TO THESE TWO PROJECTS, WE HAVE INVESTED MORE THAN \$30 MILLION TO OTHER PROJECTS LIKE: HIGHWAY 10... HIGHWAY 32 ... HIGHWAY 42 , AND HIGHWAY 151 IN 1992 ... A COUPLE MORE JOBS TO DO THERE AND IT IS COMPLETED.**
- **MANITOWOC COUNTY AND ITS COMMUNITIES HAVE RECEIVED \$16.4 MILLION IN HIGHWAY AIDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS.**
- **MONEY FROM STATE TRANSPORTATION FUNDS THAT GO DIRECTLY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO HELP PAY FOR BUILDING AND MAINTAINING COUNTY AND LOCAL ROADS AND BRIDGES.**
- **TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS GO TO THE HEART OF WHAT WE ARE IN WISCONSIN ... THE LEADERS IN THE MIDWEST.**
- **RECORD NUMBER OF PEOPLE AT WORK IN WISCONSIN TODAY... A 3.1% UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ... LOWEST SINCE MARCH 1970.**

- **PENNSYLVANIA’S GOVERNOR CREATED A BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE ... TO STUDY WISCONSIN! TO STUDY OUR SUCCESS.**
- **ILLINOIS BUSINESSMAN MOVED HIS COMPANY TO WISCONSIN SAID “IN ILLINOIS, PEOPLE WERE ALWAYS FINDING WHY THINGS COULDN’T WORK. HERE IN WISCONSIN, EVERYTHING WAS GEARED TOWARD ‘HOW DO WE MAKE IT WORK?’”**
- **NORTHWESTERN NATIONAL LIFE RATED WISCONSIN AS ONE OF THE HEALTHIEST STATES IN THE NATION. WE HAVE A GOOD ECONOMY, A LOW CRIME RATE AND A SOLID COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE AND THE FUTURE.**
- **A PENNSYLVANIA EXECUTIVE WHO WAS PART OF THE GOVERNOR’S TASK FORCE SAID HE LEARNED THIS FROM WISCONSIN: “IT’S NOT WHERE YOU ARE ... IT IS WHERE YOU ARE GOING.”**
- **THAT IS THE KEY. WE HAVE OUR EYE ON THE FUTURE.**
- **INVESTMENTS IN TRANSPORTATION ARE AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE...AND THIS**

**PROJECT IS AN INVESTMENT IN
MANITOWOC... A RISING STAR IN
WISCONSIN'S ECONOMY.**

- **I HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE THAT
MANITOWOC AND OTHER WISCONSIN
COMMUNITIES ALONG LAKE MICHIGAN ARE
ACHIEVING NEW HEIGHTS... (AS THE NEW
EAST COAST OF OUR NATION).**
- **I AM ESPECIALLY DELIGHTED THE
HONORABLE MAYOR HONDA (HUNDA)
TRAVELED ALL THE WAY FROM JAPAN TO
ATTEND THIS EVENT. HE AND HIS
DELEGATION HONOR US WITH THEIR
PRESENCE.**

**(PRESENT MAYOR HONDA WITH BRASS
“FORWARD” PLATE)**

- **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED
MAKE THIS PROJECT A REALITY, AND THANK
YOU ALL FOR JOINING US HERE TODAY.**

IMPACTS OF BUDGET DELAY

- “SO WHAT IF WE DON’T PASS A BUDGET OR INCREASE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING?” THE “SO WHAT” IMPACT WILL BE REAL AND IMMEDIATE FOR YEARS TO COME.
- FOR STARTERS ... OUR HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM WILL BE IN REAL TROUBLE.
- WE HAVE LESS THAN \$3 MILLION LEFT IN THE PROGRAM ... THAT WOULD PAY FOR LESS THAN 3 MILES OF HIGHWAYS ... IN RURAL AREAS ... IF NO PROBLEMS CAME UP.
- THAT MEANS WE CAN’T WORK ON HIGHWAYS 10, 29, 41, 51 AND 76 NEXT YEAR IF WE DON’T GET A BUDGET BY THE END OF THE MONTH.
- HAVE TO DELAY REPAIRS ON 20 OTHER STATE HIGHWAYS IN 16 COUNTIES, BECAUSE THERE WON’T BE ENOUGH TIME OR MONEY TO GET THEM FINISHED BY THE END OF 1996.
- THE LONGER WE WAIT TO FIX OUR HIGHWAYS, THE BIGGER OUR PROBLEMS BECOME.
- IT COSTS \$1.5 MILLION PER MILE TO BUILD AND FIX A HIGHWAY THE RIGHT WAY ... BUT IT COSTS \$2.4 MILLION TO BUILD AND FIX THE SAME HIGHWAY IF YOU PUT OFF REPAIRS TO SAVE MONEY ... THAT’S A 50% DIFFERENCE.
- IF WE KEEP PUTTING OFF HIGHWAY REPAIR NEEDS YEAR AFTER YEAR, THERE’S A RIPPLE EFFECT THAT SENDS COSTS SOARING.
- A 20% CUT IN HIGHWAY REPAIR FUNDING THIS YEAR WOULD LEAVE \$40 MILLION OF WORK UNDONE. THAT GROWS TO \$80 MILLION BY 1999 AND \$240 MILLION IN CATCH-UP WORK BY 2003.