IOWA DOT

IA 9/WI 82 Mississippi River Bridge at Lansing

Historical Timeline

1916
Initially the effort was organized under the Interstate Bridge Company in 1916. The name later changed to the Lansing Bridge Company and ultimately the organization would become the Iowa-Wisconsin Bridge Company.

1930
The bridge design changes from a suspension bridge to a cantilevered through truss design.

1931
The bridge opened as a toll bridge. Historic photos show it had a wooden deck.

1930–1940
Ownership of the bridge is contested and financial difficulties are noted.

1945
In March, *the Fern*, an ice cutter on a mission for the military, creates an ice dam that causes slough bridge damage that cannot be repaired by the Iowa-Wisconsin Bridge Company. The bridge closes until repairs can be made.

1948
Repair costs are estimated at $600,000 and estimates for a bridge replacement come in at $2M. Talks begin for the states of Iowa and Wisconsin to take over ownership of the bridge.

1956
Under the ownership of the states of Iowa and Wisconsin, the bridge is reopened without a toll.

2003-2004
Iowa and Wisconsin Departments of Transportation begin to assess the crossing for improvements.

2017
The first public meeting is held to discuss improvements to the bridge.

2019
The bridge is evaluated for possible rehabilitation.

2021
The preferred option of replacing the bridge is discussed at a public meeting in June.

2023
The project to replace the bridge goes out for bids in August. Initial work on the replacement bridge is set to begin in September.

2026
Anticipated bridge opening.