

The U.S. House of Representatives, 2 weeks ago, on approved legislation on building a new St. Croix River bridge to connect Minnesota and Wisconsin. The House voted 339 to 80 in favor of legislation that exempts the proposed \$700 million bridge at Stillwater, Minnesota from the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Governor Scott Walker talked about the future of Minnesota/Wisconsin partnerships.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation, the lead agency on the new bridge, will begin soil testing for the span's foundation this summer. Construction is expected to start in 2014 and take three years.