The Sherman Minton Bridge connects New Albany, Indiana with Louisville, Kentucky

- I 64 crosses the Ohio River
- The bridge opened in 1962
- Double decked tied arch bridge
- Constructed with T1 steel – an innovative material at the time of construction
Governor Daniels Orders Bridge CLOSED

The Sherman Minton Bridge, which was built in 1962, carries approximately 15,000 vehicles a day. Cracks that shut down the bridge indefinitely were found in two main support beams. Structural cracks shut down span indefinitely.
Challenges

- Closing the Bridge on minutes notice
- Finding other routes across the bridge for approximately 80,000 vehicles/day
- Briefing and coordinating closure with local, state and federal officials
- Deploying Statewide INDOT resources on a minutes notice
Closing the Bridge on a Minutes Notice

- Governor Daniels approved the closure
- Communication from Commissioner Cline’s office
- Notified the Indiana State Police to immediately close the bridge
- Maintenance crews called in for support with redirecting traffic safely
Traffic Concerns

- Closure of the Sherman Minton affected the 80,000 vehicles that utilize the bridge daily
- Identified bottlenecks along the detour route
- Identified ways to deal with increased capacity and increased traffic flow to other areas
Establishing Communication

- Established command center – New Albany Fire Station

- Briefings
  - Mayors of Jeffersonville and New Albany, Elected officials
  - Coast Guard and Corp of Engineers
  - Department of Revenue (Oversize/Overweight Permit and restrictions)
  - Homeland Security
  - Bi-State Coordination – LMPD, KYTC, Mayor of Louisville
Coordination Throughout INDOT

- INDOT went into action from the Executive Office to the front line Maintenance staff with swift motion

- Utilized ITS Technicians, Design Engineers, Hoosier Helpers, Traffic Signal Technicians, Sign Crews, Construction and Maintenance personnel

- Project Manager named – Paul Boone
Coordination Throughout INDOT

- Worked with Locals to coordinate Traffic Control – Message boards, signage, etc
- Internal Design Team working on planes to widen ramps to add capacity to existing one lane ramps
- Coordinating materials like concrete barrier walls, delineators, and signs
- Consideration of emergency funding and cost tracking
Media Briefings