



*For more information, contact
Andrew Gates at 314-453-1808 or 314-223-8003.*

**Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NewMississippiRiverBridge
Follow us on Twitter: @MissRiverBridge**

December 12, 2013 – For immediate release

Missouri, Illinois announce opening date for I-70 Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge

ST. LOUIS – The new I-70 Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge across the Mississippi River will be open to traffic just in time to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the City of St. Louis.

The new I-70 bridge over the river is set to open to traffic on Sunday, February 9, 2014. The public is invited to an event to help both Illinois and Missouri celebrate the completion of the bridge on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

Details of the event are still being working out, but include a period where the public will get an opportunity to walk on the new bridge and see it up close before it opens to traffic. Specific details will be announced when they are finalized.

"This historic project will not only improve safety and reduce congestion but will create an entirely new corridor for economic development between two great states," Illinois Governor Pat Quinn said. "I'm looking forward to opening this much-needed bridge, which has created thousands of jobs here in Illinois and addresses the demands of our growing economy."

"One-hundred and forty years after the Eads Bridge first linked Missouri and Illinois, the I-70 Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge is the latest span to bring commerce and travelers across the Mississippi River at this nexus of our country," Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon added. "This is a milestone for trade and transportation that will help this region continue to grow."

The \$229.5 million Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge is one of 37 projects that make up the \$700 million New Mississippi River Bridge project which moves I-70 off the Congressman William L. Clay Sr. Bridge/Poplar Street Bridge. Construction on the project started in February 2010. The project will help improve safety and reduce congestion on the Congressman Clay Sr. Bridge.