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Missouri and Illinois Departments of Transportation to Host Groundbreaking Event for the New Mississippi River Bridge

ST. LOUIS – The Missouri and Illinois Departments of Transportation are pleased to announce that they will host a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction activities for the main span of the New Mississippi River Bridge on Friday, February 26, 2010 at 12:30 p.m. on the deck of the Eads Bridge.

This new bridge will be a four-lane, cable-stayed structure across the Mississippi River from East St. Louis, Illinois to St. Louis, Missouri that will improve traffic safety and reduce congestion across the region by providing significant congestion relief for the Poplar Street Bridge, which now carries I-55, I-64, and I-70. This new bridge will also help to sustain economic growth and development in the St. Louis region by creating jobs for residents on both sides of the river.

The public is cordially invited to attend this historic event.

The New Mississippi River Bridge is part of a group of roadway improvement projects that will connect I-70 at the I-55/64/70 interchange in East St. Louis to I-70 near Cass Avenue in Missouri. The entire project will cost a total of \$670 million and is being funded through a combination of federal and state funds. The New Mississippi River Bridge project is expected to be completed over the next four to six years.

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