



PRESS RELEASE

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McClugage arch float-in set for Dec. 19

PEORIA – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that the arch section of the new eastbound McClugage Bridge (U.S. 150) over the Illinois River at Peoria will be moved from its assembly area and lowered into place Dec. 19, weather permitting. The process, which involves floating the 652-foot-wide by 130-foot-long high section on barges and using tugboats to move it to the bridge piers, is expected to begin at approximately 7 a.m., depending on wind conditions.

Once near the piers, cables and winches will be used to position the 7-million-pound arch section. When the arch is in the correct position, water will be pumped into the barges to weigh them down and lower the arch into place.

During the work, no vessels will be allowed on the river within a 1.5-mile zone set up by the U.S. Coast Guard and enforced by police from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Fon du Lac Park District. The use of drones over the work area is prohibited.

The entire process of moving the arch into place, lowering it onto the new piers and removing the temporary towers that the arch is supported by will take up to 24 hours.

For the most current traffic pattern changes and other impacts, IDOT has launched a project <u>website</u>. In addition, site visitors can subscribe to receive construction updates and traffic alerts throughout project construction.

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