



TOLLING ON OHIO RIVER BRIDGES TO BEGIN DECEMBER 30 **Kennedy, Lincoln and East End bridges will be tolled**

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind. (Dec. 13, 2016) – Tolling on the Louisville – Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project is scheduled to begin Friday, December 30. Tolloed bridges include the new I-65 Abraham Lincoln Bridge, the improved I-65 Kennedy Bridge and the new East End bridge.

“Critical system testing is complete,” said Clint Murphy, director of tolling oversight for the Indiana Department of Transportation. “While system preparations are continuing, we’ve cleared the necessary hurdles to set a start date for tolling. The Ohio River Bridges Project will mean faster and safer commutes for drivers. Without tolling, this new and improved transportation system would not be possible.”

Drivers opening their RiverLink accounts online or by phone are encouraged to do so by the end of this week (Dec. 17) to help ensure they get their transponders before the start of tolling. Drivers with transponders will pay the lowest toll rates. Drivers must set up a prepaid account to get a transponder.

All drivers who set up their accounts and have transponders assigned to their vehicles will pay the lowest toll rates on the first day of tolling, even if they haven’t received their transponders. License plates will be scanned and the transponder rate applied until transponders are delivered. Crossings will not count toward the frequent-user discount until transponders are properly mounted in cars.



Drivers who have their RiverLink local transponders are encouraged to mount them now, so they’re prepared for the start of tolling. Mounting instructions are included with transponders. They’re placed on the inside of the windshield, as high and as central as possible. Transponders should be placed three inches away from any metal, tint, antenna or defroster.

“Tens of thousands of drivers have taken the important first step of opening a RiverLink account,” said Megan McLain, innovative finance manager with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. “These drivers, no matter how often they cross our tolled bridges, will be paying the lowest rates. We want everyone to be prepared for the start of tolling, and paying the lowest rates starting with the first day of tolling.”

More than 100,000 RiverLink transponders have been requested to date, including more than 82,000 RiverLink local transponders distributed and more than 18,000 RiverLink E-ZPass transponders ordered. Nearly 45,000 families and more than 1,500 businesses have opened RiverLink accounts.

Just over 110,000 drivers are expected to use the tolled bridges each day.

Opening a RiverLink Account

Drivers can open a personal account online at www.RiverLink.com, by phone at 855-RIV-LINK or in person at one of two RiverLink customer service centers. A personal account can include up to four vehicles, with a minimum balance of \$20 to open the account. The fastest way to open a RiverLink personal account is online. The website is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week with no wait.

The minimum balance to open a commercial account is \$20 per vehicle. Calling a customer service representative (855-RIV-LINK) is the fastest and easiest way for a business to open an account.

Customer service centers are located at 400 E. Main St. in Louisville and 103 Quartermaster Ct. in Jeffersonville. The centers are open 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday – Friday. They are also open 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday.

RiverLink accounts can also be opened and prepaid RiverLink local transponders can be purchased at two temporary sites, the Nia Center at 2900 W. Broadway in Louisville and the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles at 2944 E. 10th St. in Jeffersonville. Hours are posted at each site.

Prepaid RiverLink local transponders, loaded with \$20, are also available at five additional, temporary sites: TARC (Union Station), Louisville Urban League, St. Stephen Church (Louisville and Jeffersonville) and Community Action of Southern Indiana.

Choice of Transponders

A **RiverLink local transponder** is free, one per registered vehicle. The small sticker adheres to the inside of windshield, is non-transferable and works only on the new Lincoln, improved Kennedy and new East End bridges.

A **RiverLink E-ZPass transponder** is \$15 per transponder. It's mounted to the inside of the windshield, is portable from vehicle to vehicle registered to a single account and works in all 16 E-ZPass states (<https://e-zpassiag.com/about-e-zpass/where-can-i-use-it>).

RiverLink E-ZPass transponders will ship by the end of next week, when they're fully operational in all 16 E-ZPass states. Drivers will pay the lowest RiverLink toll rates until transponders are in hand, as long as license plates are registered to the prepaid account with the E-ZPass transponder.

RiverLink E-ZPass transponders may not arrive before Christmas holiday travel.

RiverLink

RiverLink is the new tolling system making the Louisville – Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project possible. RiverLink is all-electronic tolling, with no toll booths, no coin machines, no lines and no stopping. Toll rates range from \$2-\$12.

The new I-65 Abraham Lincoln Bridge, the improved I-65 Kennedy Bridge and the new East End bridge will be tolled. The Sherman Minton Bridge and the Clark Memorial Bridge will not be tolled in connection with the project. Find more information at www.riverlink.com.



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The Louisville – Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project includes two new bridges and their approaches, an improved Kennedy Bridge and reconstruction of the Kennedy Interchange, where I-65, I-64 and I-71 come together in downtown Louisville. The new Abraham Lincoln Bridge carries six lanes of I-65 northbound traffic. The improved Kennedy Bridge carries six lanes of southbound traffic. The new East End bridge will connect the Gene Snyder Freeway in Prospect, Ky. with State Road 265 (Lee Hamilton Highway) in Utica, Ind. Find more details on the Ohio River Bridges Project at www.kyinbridges.com.