

### Rock Port Welcome Center Nearly Complete

Travelers entering Missouri on southbound Interstate 29 will soon have a new facility to welcome them to the state. The Rock Port Welcome Center will be opened to the public during a formal dedication ceremony at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 27.

The theme of the new Welcome Center is “Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy: Past and Present.” Missouri Department of Transportation spokesperson Melissa Black says environmental sustainability was included in the facility’s design. (play audio :23 oc: things we’ve done.)

Sustainability elements that Black says are included in the design include L-E-D technology as well as other water and energy conservation measures. Informational panels throughout the building educate visitors about energy use and production. MoDOT is seeking Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design certification for the center.

In addition to environmental sustainability, Black says the welcome center will offer expanded parking and other amenities for travelers. (play audio :40 oc: and check out.)

Construction of the new welcome center began last August. The center is located just south of Rock Port and Black says the City of Rock Port will be recognized during the dedication ceremony. (play audio :27 oc: rededicating as well.)

Between the expanded parking at the Rock Port Welcome Center, and a new truck parking area at the former Mound City rest areas, Black says there will be more places for truckers to stop and rest as they travel Interstate 29 through northwest Missouri. MoDOT has recently demolished the buildings at the Mound City rest areas to make way for expanded truck parking. (play audio :38 oc: offer those.)

The public is invited to the dedication ceremony for the new Rock Port Welcome Center, at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 27.

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