Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) officials announced that the Brownville Bridge over the Missouri River on Highway 136 at Brownville was scheduled to open to two-way traffic the week of Dec. 26, weather permitting. The temporary traffic signals will be removed. The bridge will once again return to two-way traffic.

The work on the Brownville Bridge started in September 2009. Cramer and Associates of Des Moines, Iowa were awarded the contract for this work. The final cost for this project is estimated at just under $8.5 million. The cost of the project was shared between officials of the Nebraska Department of Roads and MoDOT. This project was also a part of President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The contract included a new bridge deck, repairs to the structure and bridge painting. Because the bridge serves as a vital link between Missouri and Nebraska, the improvements were done in staged construction. That process allowed the bridge to remain open to traffic during construction, except for some weekend closures.

The original completion date of the bridge was scheduled for Dec. 1. This year's Missouri River flooding delayed the project when the contractor could not work under the bridge. During the 2012 construction season, the contractor will return to the bridge and work briefly to perform the final repairs. MoDOT crews will also take the opportunity to seal the bridge at that time. The bridge will be narrowed to one-way traffic for a one to two weeks while this work is completed.

For more information about this or other projects being handled by MoDOT, please call our toll-free customer service hotline at: 1-888-275-6636.