

# *Press Release...*

*...from State Representative Suzanne Ness*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

*May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

[info@repsnessil66.com](mailto:info@repsnessil66.com)

## **Ness, Moeller Secure Remaining \$12.5 million for Longmeadow Parkway Bridge**

**SPRINGFIELD, Ill.** – State Rep. Suzanne Ness, D-Crystal Lake, alongside State Rep. Anna Moeller, D-Elgin successfully secured the remaining balance of \$12.5 million to go towards the Longmeadow Parkway Bridge thereby eliminating the need for tolling. Kane County officials were able to secure an additional \$5 million toward the costs of the bridge.

"I made a promise to the people of my district that this bridge would not become a toll bridge. We've needed another way of passage across the Fox River, and it would be wrong to ask working families to pay more than they already do just to go to work, get groceries, or take kids to a sports field," said Ness.

The Longmeadow Parkway Bridge Corridor spans 5.6 miles and covers Algonquin, Carpentersville, East Dundee, and West Dundee. The need for the bridge was first identified in the 1970s to address the needs of an ever-growing population; however, the engineering did not begin until the 1990s. The concept of tolling was developed in 2007 as a means to close the large funding gap that prevented the start of construction.

"I joined Rep. Ness in fighting for funding in the state capital bill for fiscal year 2023 and again this year that will help Kane County retire the bonds and reduce or eliminate the planned toll. This is an important priority that will create jobs and reduce congestion for all Kane County residents," said Moeller.

Upon its completion, the Longmeadow Parkway Bridge is expected to relieve congested traffic corridors on Illinois Route 62 and 72, improve overall road safety, as well as increase accessibility to local businesses.

"As we were told last year, because the bridge is not anticipated to be completed until 2024, we were able to break up the amount needed to complete the bridge and have time to secure funding which fulfills a promise and eliminates the need for a toll. I want to thank in particular Chairwoman Peirog for her efforts in helping us get this done. She has been a great local partner."

###