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## Media Advisory

Ground breaking to be held for bridge destroyed during 2005 St. George flood

Funding rollercoaster ends with passage of federal stimulus and start of long overdue project

ST. GEORGE, Utah - Congressman Jim Matheson will join representatives from UDOT and the City of St. George to break ground on the Valley View Bridge, which was destroyed, along with 20 homes, during the devastating floods of 2005.

The \$6.2 million bridge replacement -put on hold several times over the past four years due to budget constraints- is one of 56 federal stimulus projects, which otherwise would not have been funded this year. The new bridge will alleviate a bottleneck on the five-lane road. Currently the now four-year "temporary" structure is only two lanes over a series of box culverts and provides no pedestrian access.

WHO: Rep. Jim Matheson  
St. George Mayor Daniel McArthur  
Transportation Commissioner Jerry Lewis UDOT Executive Director John Njord

WHEN: Friday, May 1, 1:15 p.m.

WHERE: Valley View Bridge 400 South Valley View Drive in St. George (From Interstate 15, take the Bluff St. exit, Exit 6; turn right on S. Bluff Street; turn left on W. Sunset Blvd; turn left on N. Valley View Dr, which turns into S. Valley View Dr)

### PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:

The groundbreaking will take place on the Valley View Bridge construction site, overlooking the riverbed and temporary crossing.

Children of professionals employed by the project contractor and sub-contractors will use child-size construction equipment to break ground on the project. A photographic timeline will be available documenting the devastation caused by the 2005 flood; community members will also be attending to take part in the event.

-UDOT-

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