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News Release

For Immediate Release

Groundbreaking for Kearney Street Pedestrian Bridge

A short groundbreaking ceremony for a new pedestrian foot bridge spanning Kearney Street will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, June 2 at Ed V. Williams Elementary School, 2205 W. Kearney St.

The ceremony will involve students from Williams Elementary and will take place on the grounds in front of the school building. Department of Public Works engineers have been working with officials at the school to educate students about what engineers do and the importance of math and science to the profession. The students have also helped choose a name for the new bridge and the final name will be unveiled for the first time at the ceremony.

The bridge is likely to be in place by this fall at an estimated construction cost of approximately $1 million. Funding comes from the 1/8-cent Sales Tax for Transportation. Hartman & Company is the contractor for the project. The new bridge will be compliant with ADA requirements, and several new parking spaces for parents to pick up students will be installed along Roosevelt Avenue on the south side of the structure.

The new bridge will replace one that was removed from this location in November 2010 after the bridge deck shifted. A subsequent engineering analysis revealed that long-term exposure to moisture had weakened a wooden beam supporting the 30-year-old bridge. The bridge's design prevented engineers from fully viewing and inspecting the structure while the bridge was in place.

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