

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GLENDALE DEBUTS STATE'S FIRST CABLE-STAY BRIDGE FOR PEDESTRIANS

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Residents will get the opportunity to be one of the first to cross the state's only cable-stay bridge over Loop 101 at 63rd Avenue on Saturday, May 21 during the Grand Opening celebration at 8 a.m.

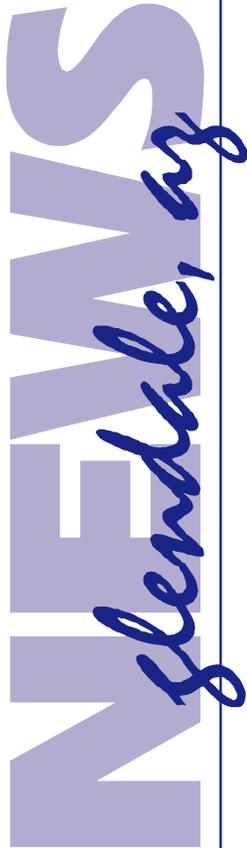
The Grand Opening event will include city officials and those involved in the project as part of a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony. Residents will be invited to cross the bridge, and refreshments will be offered for those in attendance. The ceremony will take place on the south side of Loop 101, with access and parking on eastbound Beardsley Road at 63rd Avenue.

This new pedestrian/bicycle bridge will provide regional connectivity to the Valley's multi-use pathway system from Thunderbird Park in Glendale to Papago Park in Phoenix and beyond. The cable-stay bridge has 20 cables that are each 1 and 3/8-inches thick holding the bridge in place. The bridge is 260 feet across and weighs approximately 198 tons, and is the first bridge of its kind in Arizona.

Another aspect of the project is a pedestrian-friendly crossing signal, called a HAWK (High-intensity Activated crossWalk). Located on the north side of Loop 101 on the westbound Beardsley frontage Road, is specifically designed for pedestrians.

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Bridge Opening



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Unlike a traditional pedestrian crossing signal, a HAWK is dark until a pedestrian pushes the crosswalk button to cross the roadway. The HAWK also has a unique configuration of two side by side red signals on the top and a yellow signal on the bottom, and also features a countdown display so that the pedestrian can see how many seconds remain in the crossing time. Residents will also be able to try out the new HAWK signal during the Bridge Grand Opening event.

For more information about the Grand Opening event, call the Transportation Department at 623-930-2940. For more information about transportation projects and programs, visit www.glendaleaz.com/transportation.

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