



# PRESS RELEASE

11-102

**Date:** Friday, June 10, 2011  
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## Big Bear Bridge Opening Celebration

**Big Bear** – Caltrans and Flatiron, Inc. will be celebrating the opening of the new \$39 million bridge over the Big Bear Dam on State Route 18 (SR-18) at State Route 38 (SR-38). The celebration will take place on the new bridge deck, June 24th from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Construction began in early 2009 and has survived two harsh winters. The new structure is located on the south side of the dam. The project realigned the roadway, constructed three 12-foot travel lanes (one westbound lane and has a right turn option), 10-foot shoulders, and a 5-foot American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk on one side of the bridge. The intersection of SR-18 and SR-38 will be signalized upon final completion.

Guests included will be Caltrans District Director; Dr. Ray Wolfe, Senator Bob Dutton, Assemblyman Paul Cook, San Bernardino County Supervisor Neil Derry, and The City of Big Bear Mayor Bill Jahn.

"After many, many years in development, the much anticipated new bridge is finally a reality, eliminating a choke point leading into the Big Bear Valley." said Caltrans District Director Dr. Ray Wolfe.

"The people of the Big Bear Valley and all those who visit this community are happy to see this bridge open after two years of construction," Senate Republican Leader Bob Dutton (R-Rancho Cucamonga), said. "The opening of this bridge should relieve some of the traffic congestion the project has created and will make travel through this area of the mountain communities much easier and efficient. I'd like to thank Caltrans and Flatiron, Inc., for their hard work in getting this project completed for the residents who live in this area and all those who visit the Big Bear Valley."

"The opening of the Big Bear Dam bridge road, along with the repairs made to SR-330, will have a lasting and real impact on the San Bernardino Mountain communities I represent. Without these vital projects, these local economies would certainly face a longer road to recovery." said Assemblyman Paul Cook.





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"These improvements will allow people and goods to travel more efficiently and in a safer manner. Caltrans and Flatiron are to be commended for their hard work and success in completing this project before the holiday weekend." said San Bernardino County Supervisor Neil Derry.

"We are very excited to know that residents and tourists will enjoy the beauty of our mountaintop for generations to come, as they drive across the new signature bridge into the Big Bear Valley." said City of Big Bear Mayor Bill Jahn.

The Department wants to thank the community for their ongoing support throughout projects entirety.

**Slow for the cone zone!**

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