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THE FUTURE IS HERE GATEWAY BRIDGE BREAKS GROUND

On Thursday May 10, 2012, the much-anticipated Gateway Bridge will break ground in Forney. The \$20 Million bridge which spans US Highway 80 and the UP Railroad will connect over 2,000 acres that will develop as prime retail, commercial and residential real estate. The north spine Gateway Boulevard, which began construction last year, will connect FM 548 to the Gateway Bridge and continue to the south, connecting to FM 1641 near Interstate 20. The new intersection sets the stage for a major regional retail and multi-use development which will forever change the face of Forney, Kaufman County and the eastern DFW metroplex.

The \$26 million funding cost to date is provided by a unique public/private partnership between the City of Forney, W. Herbert Hunt family Investment Group and the Regional Transportation Council. Not only will the intersection provide an attractive regional development, it will also provide a much needed thoroughfare to assist the transportation needs for the explosive growth in the Forney area. The entire Gateway Boulevard will be a 2.2 mile, multi-lane thoroughfare and serve the Gateway master planned community and a new regional shopping, dining, and entertainment center for East Texas, as well as the east side of DFW. Retailers have been watching this undertaking of the project unfold over the past few planning years.

"It is a landmark celebration for our region to begin this bridge," states Forney Mayor, Darren Rozell. "This project is a culmination of three years worth of work to address mobility, safety and economic development in our rapidly growing area. This groundbreaking is the beginning of a new era in our region. It's a great day in Forney, Texas."

Mr. Hunt says, "The Gateway Bridge and development will bring business opportunities as well as enhanced quality of life for Forney. This truly will be Forney's Gateway to the future!"

DFW real estate professionals, regional stakeholders and public officials, neighboring cities and the residents of the Forney community are all invited to this historic event which begins at 10:00am on Thursday May 10th. Come join and help by turning some dirt. The event will also feature samplings from some of Forney's newest local cuisine.

For more information about Gateway Bridge groundbreaking, contact Kim Buttram, Forney EDC Director, 972.564.5808, kbuttram@cityofforney.org, or visit the website www.forneytexasedc.org.