

# Thomas Roads Improvement Program

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## Media Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 21, 2009

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### **Groundbreaking ceremony set for Westside Parkway Phase 1 (Mohawk Street Extension Project)**

The City of Bakersfield and the Thomas Roads Improvement Program (TRIP) invite the media and the public to attend a groundbreaking ceremony for the Mohawk Street Extension Project on April 23, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. The ceremony will be held just north of the Truxtun Avenue and Mohawk Street intersection.

California Transportation Commission Chairman Bob Alvarado will join other elected officials and local dignitaries in the ceremonial groundbreaking.

The project is the first phase of the Westside Parkway and will extend Mohawk Street from Rosedale Highway to Truxtun Avenue. The new 1.2 mile, six-lane road will provide motorists with another north-south crossing over the Kern River. The project also includes bridge structures over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway and the future east-west section of the Westside Parkway.

The Bakersfield City Council awarded the construction contract to Security Paving Company in November 2008. In December, the State froze \$138 million for seven City projects, including \$131 million for Westside Parkway Phases 1 and 2, which forced the City to suspend construction. The State released funding for Westside Parkway Phase 1 in late February, allowing the City to move forward with the project. Construction is expected to get underway in mid-May. Completion is anticipated in spring 2012.

For additional information, call Janet Wheeler at (661) 326-3491 or visit the TRIP website at [bakersfieldfreeways.us](http://bakersfieldfreeways.us).

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