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Mayor

MEDIA ADVISORY

Department of Public Works

Providing a clean, safe and healthy environment

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Bellemeade Pedestrian Trail and Bridge *~ Ribbon Cutting Ceremony December 20 ~*

Richmond, VA – A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held for the opening of the Bellemeade Pedestrian Trail and Bridge on Tuesday, December 20th at 11:30 a.m. at the intersection of Minefee and Gunn streets. The new bridge connects Oak Grove/Bellemeade Elementary School and the Bellemeade Community Center with the local neighborhood.

Councilwoman Ellen Robertson, as well as representatives from the City Administration, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities will be on hand for the event.

In addition to providing safe connectivity for area residents and students, it is expected the bridge will encourage increased physical fitness through biking and walking to the school and community center. The Bellemeade Pedestrian Trail and Bridge is also part of the Bellemeade Park Revitalization Project, which provides children with hands-on, real world science and outdoor learning where they live, learn and play.

The project cost is estimated at \$350,000 with eighty percent of the funding coming from a Federal Transportation Alternatives grant.

Parking is available in the neighborhood and at the Bellemeade Community Center located at 1800 Lynhaven Avenue.

To encourage physical fitness, Tuesday's event will also feature mountain biking fun for all ages. Bikes and helmets will be available and safe bike skills instruction will be provided.

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