



City of San Marcos

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For Immediate Release

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Yarrington Bridge at Blanco Vista Dedicated

The City of San Marcos, Hays County and Carma Developers dedicated the Yarrington Bridge at Blanco Vista on Saturday, March 29, 2008 in a ceremony that opened the new bridge to the public.

The Yarrington Bridge was built through a hallmark public-private partnership that enabled San Marcos to gain its second railroad overpass in as many years.

The bridge spans the Union Pacific railroad tracks and Post Road and extends Yarrington Road to the new 575-acre Blanco Vista residential community being built in the northern San Marcos city limits.

Carma Developers coordinated the construction of the bridge and has contributed \$1 million toward the cost. The City of San Marcos and Hays County established a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone, and will use property tax revenues generated by the Blanco Vista development to reimburse the public portion of the estimated \$8.1 million project. Now that construction is completed, final project costs will be taken to the TIRZ board for approval.

Speakers at the event included Mayor Susan Narvaiz, Hays County Judge Liz Sumter, County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe,



PARTNERSHIP: Hays County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Carma General Manager Shaun Cranston, and San Marcos Mayor Susan Narvaiz celebrate the successful construction of the Yarrington Railroad Overpass at Blanco Vista. (Photo by Don Anders)

Hays CISD Superintendent Dr. Kirk London, and Shaun Cranston, General Manager of Carma Developers. The 11 a.m. dedication included presentation of a plaque for the bridge, a ribbon cutting, and the first ceremonial crossing by San Marcos Fire Rescue, San Marcos Police and EMS vehicles.

“The Yarrington Overpass represents an outstanding partnership by the public and private sectors creating direct access to a beautiful new residential community that has become an important part



of San Marcos,” said Mayor Susan Narvaiz.

“The fact that we were able to build a second overpass so quickly—when it took us decades to get our first overpass built—offers great testimony to the importance of government and business working together,” she added.

SAFER TRAVEL--A train passes under the new Yarrington Bridge under the watchful eyes of Carma General Manager Shaun Cranston, Mayor Susan Narvaiz and Hays County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe. (Photo by Don Anders)

“This project will be paid for by the property taxes generated by a beautiful new master-planned community,” said Mayor

Narvaiz. “We are thrilled to have Blanco Vista in San Marcos offering a whole new concept of neighborhood amenities in our city.”

The partnership also includes Hays County, a participant in the TIRZ.

“This is another example of what a great and successful partnership can accomplish,” said Precinct 1 County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe. “Not only do we have our second bridge over the railroad tracks in San Marcos, but we have a very needed piece of infrastructure providing better mobility, an economic tool and more importantly a much needed safety measure for our residents that does not currently exist in this area.

“I would like to extend a special thank you to Shaun Cranston of Carma Developers for his investment and selection of Hays County for such wonderful projects in the Yarrington Overpass and the Blanco Vista Development and to Mayor Narvaiz for her foresight and continued efforts in partnering with Hays County,” Ingalsbe said.

The Blanco Vista residential community is the first major subdivision to lie both within the San Marcos city limits and the Hays CISD boundaries. The new Blanco Vista Elementary School has been constructed on land donated by Carma Developers.

“We are excited about this new addition to our school system and look forward to opening Blanco Vista Elementary School,” said Dr. Kirk London, Superintendent of Hays CISD. “We are proud of the school and community and are appreciative of the work by the City of San Marcos in providing infrastructure here. This overpass is an excellent example of that.”

“We at Carma are so proud of Blanco Vista and all it offers the City of San Marcos,” said General Manager Shaun Cranston. “From the Yarrington Bridge to Blanco Vista Elementary School -- we hope these contributions demonstrate our pride in the community and all that we would like to give to San Marcos. We feel the cooperation between Carma and the city is the key to achieving wonderful success, not only for Blanco Vista but for the entire town as well.”

The Yarrington Bridge at Blanco Vista spans approximately 475 feet. Extending over Post Road and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), the bridge provides four lanes of two way access over the railroad tracks.



NEW SCHOOL for Hays CISD—Blanco Vista Elementary School under construction by the Hays District will open for students in fall 2008. (Photo by Don Anders)

The Yarrington Bridge is the only grade-separated roadway expanding over the UPRR between FM 1626 and Wonder World Drive. The bridge is 70 feet wide and constructed of 40 pre-stressed concrete beams each 125 feet long, 54 inches deep.

During construction of the new bridge 1,100 cubic yards of concrete; 4,925 feet of concrete beams; 1,476 drilled shafts; 22,250 square feet of retaining wall; and 132,260 cubic yards of new embankment were used.

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