

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**  
*Office of the Governor*

Timothy M. Kaine  
Governor

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**GOVERNOR KAINE AND CONGRESSMAN PERRIELLO  
ANNOUNCE \$28.9 MILLION OF STIMULUS FUNDS TO  
ADVANCE ROBERTSON BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION**

*~Stimulus funds to create jobs for Southside Virginia, replace functionally  
obsolete bridge~*

**DANVILLE** – Governor Timothy M. Kaine and Congressman Tom Perriello today announced that \$28.9 million from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) will be used to fully fund the construction of a replacement for the functionally obsolete George W. Robertson Bridge in the City of Danville. Construction is expected to begin in spring of 2010. Governor Kaine and Congressman Perriello made the announcement today in Danville, joined by Danville Mayor Sherman Saunders.

“The replacement of the Robertson Bridge is a model project for use of ARRA funds, as it will create jobs in Southside, while producing a valuable and necessary upgrade to our transportation infrastructure,” Governor Kaine said. “Moving forward with our economic recovery, we will continue to seek projects that will stimulate the economy of Virginia while laying the groundwork for future economic success.”

The existing Robertson Bridge, built in 1940, crosses the Dan River as part of Piedmont Drive in the City of Danville and is a congested, functionally obsolete, two-lane structure. The new Robertson Bridge will cost approximately \$39.7 million and will be 936 feet long and 84.5 feet wide. It will be a five-lane structure with a multi-use trail for pedestrians and bicycle traffic.

“I’m thrilled that the long-awaited replacement of the Robertson Bridge will be moving forward thanks to funding from the Recovery Act. This is why I supported the stimulus: to create jobs now, while making smart investments for our economic recovery in the future,” said Congressman Perriello. “We put a ton of energy into making this happen because it can help spark economic advantage in Danville and Southside.”

“The replacement of the Robertson Bridge is the most critical need of the City’s transportation program. Funding for this project would not have been possible without

the support of Governor Kaine and Congressman Tom Perriello,” said Mayor Saunders. “The City of Danville is extremely grateful for their support, and all the wonderful things they do for our region.”

The new bridge will be outside of the 100 year flood plain which will allow emergency responders to use the bridge during floods. The structure is expected to have a useful life of 75 years.

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