

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Utah Valley Holds Convention Center Groundbreaking

Utah Valley Convention Center Becomes Reality After Years of Planning and Preparation

PROVO, Utah – June 16, 2010 – The Utah County Commission, in conjunction with the Utah Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau (UVCVB), held a groundbreaking ceremony yesterday for the Utah Valley Convention Center, the first venue of its kind in the area.

This significant addition to the community comes after years of research and careful planning by community leaders, represented by the attendance of regional public officials and the Lieutenant Governor, Greg Bell. Bell attended on behalf of Governor Gary Herbert, who was a part of the initial discussions for the Utah Valley Convention Center.

"In his prior role as a Utah County Commissioner, Governor Gary Herbert, along with Commissioner Jerry Grover and I initiated the first study of the Utah Valley Convention Center in 2004." said Steve White, Commission Chair for Utah County. "We researched every detail from the location of this building to the wide variety of economic benefits. Convention centers around the state have boosted their surrounding economies and we look forward to such growth in Utah Valley."

With 62,000 square feet of meeting space, including an 18,000 square-foot ballroom, the Convention Center will draw and accommodate large groups, which will also increase spending in Utah Valley. Furthermore, the Convention Center will be a LEED Silver-certified building, which means that its design, construction, operation and maintenance will be environmentally friendly and economically sensible.

Funding for the Utah Valley Convention Center was secured through a government bond with a historic low interest rate of 3.87 percent. Additional funds from tourism taxes will be placed toward the upkeep and further development of the building.

"This is an exciting time for Utah Valley," said Joel Racker, President and CEO of the UVCVB. "Our elected officials have shown a dynamic, visionary attitude by moving forward now on the building plans for the Utah Valley Convention Center. It will be a critical piece of the business and tourism infrastructure that will help us accommodate future economic growth."

The UVCVB projects total economic impact of up to \$18 million, generated by group activities and events held at the Utah Valley Convention Center.

The Utah Valley Convention Center is slated to open in 2012, and will be located on the corner of Freedom Boulevard and Center Street in Provo, Utah. To learn more about the Convention Center and other community information, call 1-800- 222-UTAH (8824) or visit the UVCVB website at UtahValley.com.



Utah Valley
Convention and Visitors Bureau

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