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At last, a bridge

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Bicyclists ride under the Folsom Lake Crossing bridge, which is to open Saturday amid festivities. The span, which cost \$139 million, will connect Folsom and El Dorado County to Placer County. It replaces Folsom Dam Road, in the background at upper left, which was closed in 2003 because of security concerns after the Sept. 11 attacks. About 22,000 commuters are expected to use the bridge daily.

IF YOU GO

What: Folsom Lake Crossing ribbon-cutting ceremony, community festival and bridge opening.

When: 10 a.m. Saturday, kickoff ceremony and opening remarks; 11:15 a.m., ribbon cutting; 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., community festival featuring live music, food, exhibits and an opportunity to walk across the bridge to view the lake, dam and river before the bridge opens to vehicle traffic at 4 p.m.

Where: Enter Folsom Lake Crossing from East Natoma Street. Parking will be available along both sides of Folsom Lake Crossing Road, and shuttle service will be provided from more distant parking areas to the bridge. People also may walk to the site along the bike trail.

Note: The Folsom-Auburn Road entrance to the bridge will be closed until 4 p.m., and no public parking will be available in that area. Pedestrians and bicyclists can enter the bike trail at that location at 11:30 a.m, following the ribbon cutting. The public will not be allowed on the bridge until after the ribbon cutting.

- Cathy Locke

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1 of 1 2009-03-26 6:25 PM

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1 of 1 2009-03-26 6:27 PM