



**MEDIA ADVISORY** for June 26, 2014 at 9.30 a.m.

## **Steinberg, Leno at Golden Gate Bridge Tomorrow, to Present Final Funding Strategy for Suicide Barrier**

### **Senators and bridge jump survivor to encourage Bridge Directors ahead of key vote**

The leader of California's Senate and author of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Darrell Steinberg will call on the Golden Gate Bridge District to act on the funding for a bridge suicide barrier made available by this year's state budget, at a press conference tomorrow.

The press conference is one day before the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District's Board of Directors will meet to consider approving a funding plan of \$76 million for construction of the Golden Gate Bridge Physical Suicide Deterrent System Project. The project would be funded through combined federal highway funds from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Caltrans, District reserves, and Mental Health Services Act funds.

Senator Steinberg will be joined by San Francisco State Senator and Mark Leno, who chairs the Senate Budget Committee and helped secure the necessary dollars that completes the funding puzzle that has prevented construction.

Also speaking at the press conference is a survivor of a bridge jump, a mental health clinical expert and Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commissioner, and a representative of the Golden Gate Bridge District.

Parking will be reserved for news media. The press conference will be held:

**- WHEN -**

Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 9.30 a.m.

**- WHERE -**

Golden Gate Bridge South End Visitors' Plaza (near the Joseph Strauss statue)

**- WHO -**

California Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg (D – Sacramento)

State Senator Mark Leno (D – San Francisco)

Bridge Jump Survivor, Kevin Hines

Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District Board Member, Janet Reilly

Vice-Chair of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, Dr. David Pating

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