



TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT

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PRESSRELEASE

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Georgia DOT Breaks Ground on Old Petersburg Road Widening Project

Columbia and Richmond Counties to benefit from the Transportation Investment Act

EVANS, Ga. – State Transportation Board (STB) Vice Chair Don Grantham led the official groundbreaking ceremony for the anticipated Old Petersburg Road/Old Evans Road project. The Georgia Department of



Transportation's Office of TIA awarded the \$34 million widening project in Columbia County to E. R. Snell Contractor, Inc., with a completion date of April 2017.

"We are excited to get started on this project the citizens of this region moved forward by approving the transportation referendum," STB Vice Chair Don Grantham commented. "The extra transportation dollars are being put to good use throughout the region, and especially right here on Old Petersburg Road. This widening will make the communities of Richmond and Columbia Counties more accessible for the citizens, and provide needed mobility for today and the future."

STB Vice Chair Don Grantham speaks with media after the groundbreaking ceremony

Augusta Mayor Deke Copenhaver, Columbia County Commission Chair Ron Cross, Columbia County Chamber

President Tammy Shepherd and Citizen's Review Panel Chair Phil Wahl also joined Vice Chair Grantham at the groundbreaking.

GDOT's State TIA Administrator Mike Dover noted the quick mobilization time from contractor E. R. Snell receiving a notice to proceed on the project to the groundbreaking this week. The project widens the roadway to four lanes, adds sidewalks and bicycle lanes, and includes a bridge over the existing CSX railroad crossing. The new design will improve safety, efficiency and traffic flow in the area.

Construction details and lane closure schedules will be forthcoming before work begins.

Forty-six counties and their respective cities comprise the three regional districts that approved the TIA referendum last July. Cumulatively, they are expected to self-generate approximately \$1.8 billion in new revenue dedicated to local transportation improvements. Georgia DOT will coordinate work for cities and counties on some smaller jobs,

and also assist in the engineering and construction management of larger projects. All of the projects were selected by regional commission roundtables of local elected officials after much public input. Seventy-five percent of the revenues will be utilized for the construction of these roundtable pre-selected projects while the remaining 25 percent will be disbursed to the regions' governments each month on a predetermined formula basis for discretionary use on local transportation-related efforts.

Committed to full disclosure of its TIA-related activities, Georgia DOT maintains a webpage devoted to the program and featuring current updates on all project activities; it may be accessed by visiting: <http://www.ga-tia.com/>

The Georgia Department of Transportation continues its construction program this summer. Dozens of important roadway improvement projects are ongoing throughout the state as we work to deliver projects on time and on budget while keeping our transportation network the nation's finest. Pardon the necessary inconvenience and please drive cautiously and safely at all times, especially in work zones. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit www.dot.ga.gov or subscribe to our Press Release [RSS feed](#).

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