



TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT

Your Penny, Your Progress

PRESSRELEASE

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Transportation Investment Act (TIA) is Driving Progress in the Central Savannah River Area and across the State of Georgia

AUGUSTA, Ga. – As elected officials across the nation struggle to secure funding for critical transportation infrastructure maintenance and improvements, communities in three of Georgia’s regions are reaping the benefits of the Transportation Investment Act (TIA), which voters passed through a referendum in July 2012. Citizens of these regions, which include River Valley, Heart of Georgia Altamaha, and Central Savannah River Area regions, are funding 871 transportation projects through a one cent sales tax collected over 10 years. The Georgia DOT is overseeing management of the budget, schedule, execution and delivery of all TIA projects, in collaboration with local and state agencies.

“The three regions that approved the Transportation Investment Act are starting to see the results of their investments,” said State TIA Administrator Mike Dover. “By voting to tax themselves and working together to identify and prioritize projects, citizens and public officials in these regions are addressing a variety of local transportation issues, from road maintenance to expansion and enhancement of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. These transportation system improvements will benefit residents and visitors in these regions for many years to come.”

Collections of this one cent sales tax began in January 2013 to fund projects in Band 1 (Jan. 2013 – Dec. 2015), which are scheduled to at least begin construction by the end of 2015. To date, more than \$328 million has been collected of the budgeted \$1.2 billion. This total includes \$151,722,522 collected of \$538,965,884 budgeted for 84 projects in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) region.

The Central Savannah River Area region has seven completed projects, including roadway and intersection improvements, as well as a new bicycle path near Sparta. An additional 14 projects that range from signal and intersection improvements to airport upgrades are under construction. Another 30 projects in Band 1 are

slated to begin construction by the end of the calendar year. “The Augusta area in particular is going to be experiencing a lot of construction in the coming months, so residents and visitors are encouraged to regularly check the Georgia NaviGator website or call 511 for updates on construction and potential travel delays,” Dover added.

One unique project that is nearing completion in the CSRA region is the replacement of 20 hangar doors at Daniel Field, which is just west of the City of Augusta. Construction of this project is budgeted at \$1 million (2011 dollars), with local government covering the cost of planning and engineering for this project. The hangar doors on the Bulk Hangar and Maintenance Hangar at the facility are over 70 years old, so their replacement will provide safety and operational improvements.



Daniel Field Hangar Door Restoration



Resurfacing of Robert Toombs Avenue in downtown Washington, GA

Meanwhile, in Wilkes County, a major road resurfacing project is underway. Robert Toombs Avenue (State Route 10 Business / US 78) within the City of Washington is being milled and repaved by contractor C&H Paving, Inc. at a cost of \$695,000 in TIA funding. The project broke ground on July 7, 2015 and is scheduled for completion by early August. Washington City Administrator, Sherri Bailey, expressed the importance of this project saying, “Robert Toombs Avenue is the main street through our picturesque town. It is also the most traveled road in our City for those that work in and shop local businesses throughout town, making it a priority.” She went on to say that “everyone

who lives, visits, or passes through Washington will benefit from the resurfacing of Robert Toombs Avenue. It will alleviate the many potholes that have developed over time and help with water drainage issues.” Ms. Bailey stated that without TIA the City of Washington would not have had the funds to complete this project.

Forty-six counties and their respective cities comprise the three regional districts that approved the TIA referendum in July 2012. Cumulatively, they are expected to self-generate approximately \$1.5 billion in new revenue dedicated to local transportation improvements. Georgia DOT is responsible for the management of the budget, schedule, execution and delivery of all Projects contained in the Approved Investment Lists, in collaboration with local and state agencies. All projects were selected by regional commission roundtables of

local elected officials after much public input. Seventy-five percent of revenues collected 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. For more information on the Georgia DOT, please visit www.dot.ga.gov. Follow the Transportation Investment Act on Facebook (www.facebook.com/transportationinvestmentact) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/TIAatGDOT>). Also visit www.ga-tia.com for the latest TIA updates.

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