



TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT

*Your Penny, Your Progress*

## PRESSRELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

July 30, 2015

**Contacts:**

Mike Dover 404.631.1733

Carly Queen 678.596.0187

## **Transportation Investment Act (TIA) is Driving Progress across the State of Georgia**

**ATLANTA, 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 \$108,231,350 collected of \$380,828,512 budgeted for 23 projects in the River Valley region, \$68,737,178 collected of \$255,524,067 budgeted for 764 projects in the Heart of Georgia Altamaha region, and \$151,722,522 collected of \$538,965,884 budgeted for 84 projects in the Central Savannah River Area region.

In the River Valley region, which is in the western portion of the state and contains the City of Columbus, eight projects are underway for Band 1. Four of these projects are currently under construction, while the other four are in the pre-construction phase. These projects include a variety of roadway and bridge improvements, as well as two projects to expand pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in South Columbus.



**Groundbreaking for SR 1 / US 27 Widening**



**Resurfaced Brumby Street in Reidsville, GA**

Further east, the Heart of Georgia Altamaha region has already completed 138 projects in Band 1, with another 46 projects in the construction phase. Most of the approved projects in this region involve roadway enhancements, as well as maintenance and resurfacing. Several bridge projects were also included in this region's approved list. Recently, TIA officials celebrated the completion of a \$1.6 million renovation project for Adams Street (State Route 130) in Vidalia.

The Central Savannah River Area region, which contains the City of Augusta and lies in the eastern portion of the state, 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.



**Daniel Field Hangar Door Restoration**

*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](http://www.dot.ga.gov). Follow the Transportation Investment Act on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/transportationinvestmentact](http://www.facebook.com/transportationinvestmentact)) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/TIAatGDOT>). Also visit [www.ga-tia.com](http://www.ga-tia.com) for the latest TIA updates.*

###