



TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT

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For Immediate Release:

July 10, 2013

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Georgia DOT Set To Begin Major \$31 Million Widening And Improvement Project On U.S. 27 In Randolph County

Work Also Set To Begin In Laurens and Wayne Counties...

ATLANTA – The first fully funded Transportation Investment Act (TIA) project managed by the Department of Transportation was awarded for \$31 million to widen a segment of U.S. Highway 27/State Route 1 in south Georgia’s Randolph County. Two resurfacing contracts for roads in Laurens and Wayne Counties were also awarded.

Part of the Governor’s Road Improvement Program (GRIP), U.S. 27 plays an integral role in the system of economic development highways that, when complete, will connect 95 percent of Georgia cities with populations of 2,500 or more to the Interstate Highway System. It will also place 98 percent of Georgia’s population within 20 miles of a four-lane road. GRIP includes 19 corridors (economic development highways) and three truck access routes for a total of 3,273 miles of roadway.

“This project is going to provide that four-lane piece that is vitally needed in this area and on this important route that connects motorists to key locations from Indiana to south Florida,” State Transportation Board Chair Johnny Floyd commented. “Improvements to roadways are a key component to attracting economic development and jobs to rural areas. We have been looking forward to this segment of work to begin, and fortunately, the citizens of the region voted for the TIA program so we can complete this and many other needed projects in the years to come.”

Oxford Construction Company of Albany will construct the project. Initial work is likely to begin later this year and the lanes will be open to traffic by the end of 2016. The project includes the widening of approximately nine miles on U.S. 27 in Randolph County to a four-lane divided highway. The \$31 million project also includes a bridge replacement over the Georgia-Alabama Railroad and a bypass at Cuthbert.

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

Completion of work on S.R. 130 in Toombs County marks the first local let TIA funded project. The safety and road project included the installation of a dedicated turn lane north of Lyons to accommodate traffic needs into a new manufacturing facility providing jobs for local citizens. The

project, on time and on budget, was delivered successfully by Toombs County working with a local certified Small Business contractor McLendon Enterprises.

(Editor's note: Project picture below)

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, like the Toombs project, 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 via:

<http://www.dot.ga.gov/localgovernment/FundingPrograms/transreferendum/Pages/default.aspx>

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](#). You also may follow us on [Facebook](#) (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) and [Twitter](#) (<http://twitter.com/qadepoftrans>).

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New turn lane on S.R. 130 Toombs County