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GDOT Outlines TIA Delivery Plan

The Transportation Investment Act (TIA), if passed in all 12 regions, would bring nearly 1,500 new transportation projects to the state. The referendum delegates the responsibility of overseeing the successful completion of approved projects to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

“We are asking the people of Georgia to make a commitment for 10 years and there is a lot of responsibility on our end to deliver those projects,” said Jim Cole, chairman, State Transportation Board (STB) Program Delivery Committee.

Russell McMurry, director, GDOT engineering division, informed STB members of the work the Department is doing to develop a plan for a TIA project delivery process during the Program Delivery Committee meeting held on January 18th.

“Failure to deliver is not an option,” said McMurry. “That has to be our approach to [project delivery]. [TIA] is so monumental that when regions pass it, we have to be successful in delivering this program.”

If all regions vote in favor for TIA, GDOT will have more than twice its current program load. GDOT has reached out to local officials, the engineering community and other organizations to help in developing a sound plan to manage the potential increase.

The Department is also working with local governments to build intergovernmental agreements that will help the process run smoother. GDOT staff members are exploring the possibility of developing an advisory council of regional commission leaders.

GDOT will also develop an office for the sole purpose of overseeing TIA projects. The Department will maintain policy decisions and general oversight while program management responsibilities will be handled by consultants. Project delivery will be carried out by the Department, consultants and/or local governments.

The TIA vote will be held July 31st. However, GDOT is being proactive in making sure all projects will be delivered successfully.

Wellborn Re-elected to State Transportation Board

State Transportation Board (STB) Member Sam Wellborn, of Columbus, was unanimously re-elected to the Board by state legislators today for his fifth five-year term. Beginning his 21st year of service to the board, Wellborn is the dean of its current members.

Chosen again by the caucus of State Representatives and Senators from the Third Congressional District, Wellborn pledged to continue his decades of work for transportation improvements in Middle Georgia and throughout the state.

Wellborn has served in numerous key STB posts during the past 20 years, including Chairman. Wellborn currently is chairing the board’s Equal Access Committee and serving as champion of an exciting new STB “Gateways” program to develop signature landmarks like the recently-dedicated Fort Benning/Interstate Highway 185 Gateway at other interstate locations across Georgia. He is also a member of the Board’s Finance Committee.

MAJOR PROJECTS OPENED TO TRAFFIC

Troup County

South LaGrange Loop Phase II – 5.988 miles of construction on the South LaGrange Loop. The project also included construction of a railroad bridge and approaches over South LaGrange Loop and installation of a closed circuit television system.

This project was opened to traffic on December 19th.

The contractor for the project was C.W. Matthews Contracting Company, Inc.

The cost was \$19,043,358.69.

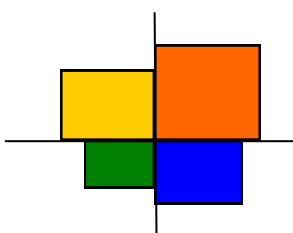


Several Board committees met in advance of the full Board Meeting. Meeting highlights are below:

Program Delivery: Please click [here](#) to view a copy of the minutes for the Program Delivery Committee meeting.

Intermodal: Please click [here](#) to view a copy of the minutes for the Intermodal Committee meeting.

Legislative: Please click [here](#) to view a copy of the minutes for the Legislative Committee meeting.



Did You Know?

STATE FUND COLLECTIONS

Estimated motor fuel collection, fiscal year to date, is 498,928,844.91 and is 0.46% under budget. This represents an increase of 6.06% over last year's collections of \$470,411,036.73 for the same time frame

TOTAL GDOT EMPLOYMENT FIGURE

The total employment figure for the month of December is 4511.

Next Board Meeting: Atlanta, Georgia – February 16th