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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.

Cole Re-elected to State Transportation Board

State Transportation Board (STB) Member Jim Cole, of Forsyth, was unanimously re-elected to a full Board term by a caucus of state representatives and senators from the Eighth Congressional District.

Cole, Athletics Director at Mercer University in Macon, was first elected to the body in 2010 to fill the remaining term of a member who had retired. The full term of a STB member is five years.

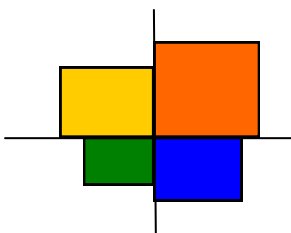
Cole, who earned his undergraduate degree and MBA at Mercer, previously served as the university’s Assistant Athletic Director. An active community leader, he serves on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of Forsyth United Methodist Church, a Director for the Georgia Industrial Children’s Home and the Executive Director of the Mercer University Athletic Foundation.

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