



STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
Friday, June 24, 2011

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Safe Routes To Schools...

STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD AWARDS SCHOOL FUNDS

THOMASTON – Georgia’s First Congressional District State Transportation Board Member Jay Shaw today announced \$274,769.60 federal funds for Safe Routes To Schools (SRTS) projects for the Valdosta City School District’s, J.L. Newborn Middle School; also \$196,878.33 for the Lanier County Primary, Elementary and Middle Schools in the Lanier County School District. These awards will allow the 4 schools to enhance walking and bicycling opportunities for its students.

In conjunction with the Georgia DOT, the Valdosta City School System and the Lanier County School System, will construct and improve campus-area facilities such as sidewalks and crosswalks and address safety issues – all designed to make it easier and safer for students to walk or bike to class.

“SRTS is a worthwhile program from many perspectives,” Mr. Shaw commented. “It can reduce those aggravating and pollution-generating waits to drop off or pick up children and at the same time, encourage our children to stay safe, active and physically fit.”

Safe Routes to School is a federally funded, national program to reduce congestion, improve safety and promote the health and well-being of children by enabling and encouraging them to walk and bicycle to school. With the support of parents, schools, community members and government, the program evaluates school area environments; conducts activities; and funds projects that improve safety, and reduce traffic and air pollution in the surrounding community - making walking and bicycling to school a safer and more appealing transportation option.

The State Transportation Board determines policy and exercises general governance of Georgia’s Department of Transportation. The Board’s 13 members, representing each of the state’s congressional districts, serve staggered, five-year terms. Board members are elected by those state senators and representatives whose legislative districts fall within all or part of the relevant congressional district.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia’s economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).

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