



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Press Release

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Contact: Cissy McNure//Kimberly Larson
478 552-4656//706 646-6938

\$5.5 MILLION IN GA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8 TRANSPORTATION STIMULUS PROJECTS AWARDED

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Transportation today awarded three American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) federal stimulus program contracts, valued at nearly \$5.5 million, in the state’s 8th Congressional District in central Georgia. The projects are among hundreds to be awarded in coming months to create and sustain jobs throughout the state, according to Transportation Board Vice Chairman Larry Walker and Georgia DOT Commissioner Gerald Ross.

Construction should begin next month on the projects, all three resurfacings of state roads in Jasper and Dodge counties. (Details on individual projects can be found on the Department’s ARRA Web page at www.dot.ga.gov/gastimulus.)

“These projects will make much needed highway repairs, but even more importantly, get \$5 million into the economy of middle Georgia; produce many new jobs; and save some existing ones,” Walker said. “That’s what this stimulus package is about and these projects in Jasper and Dodge counties are a good beginning for this program in the 8th District.”

The district’s ARRA projects are among 36 awarded today throughout Georgia. Cumulatively, they are valued at some \$50 million. Another 41 projects worth an additional \$138 million are expected to be awarded in late June. Combined, they represent much of Georgia DOT’s Phase One highway and intermodal stimulus program. In addition, by December the Board is expected to select projects for another \$350+ million in Phase Two ARRA funding.

Projects awarded today in CD 8 are:

- Dodge County - Resurfacing 13.6 miles of State Route (S.R.) 117 between Eastman and Rhine (Project No. M003938) – Awarded to Ross Construction Co., Inc., Tifton, for \$2,166,804;
- Jasper County – Resurfacing 13 miles of S.R. 83 from S.R. 11 to the Morgan County line (Project No. M003972) – Awarded to Georgia Asphalt, Inc., Macon, for \$1,866,869;
- Jasper County – Resurfacing 9.5 miles of S.R. 16 from the Butts County line to S.R. 11 South (Project No. M003974) – Awarded to Georgia Asphalt, Inc., for \$1, 459,638.

“Our goal throughout this process has been to carefully evaluate and select those ‘most-needed’ projects throughout Georgia and then award projects that will create and sustain as many jobs in as many parts of the state as possible, especially those area considered economically depressed,” Ross said.

The Department is responsible for 70 percent of Georgia's \$932 million in highway system stimulus funds. The remaining 30 percent goes to the state's 15 metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), which are funding projects directly from their respective allocations. The state also is receiving \$144 million in stimulus funds for public transit and is eligible for additional highway, rail and aviation grants from funds totaling \$12.1 billion.

The ARRA is a national effort to create jobs and transform America's economy to compete in the 21st century. Nationwide, some \$48 billion in stimulus investments are being made in transportation infrastructure, including highways, public transit, high speed rail and aviation. As noted previously, Georgia DOT has created a Web page (www.dot.ga.gov/gastimulus) devoted to stimulus activities to provide specific program information and promote transparency of the process.

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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