

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

For Immediate Release

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Monday October 26, 2009

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GDOT COMMISSIONER SMITH ANNOUNCES \$102 M FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

ATLANTA – Georgia DOT Commissioner Vance C. Smith, Jr. today announced that \$102 million was awarded in October for safety, resurfacing and bridge replacement projects throughout Georgia.

The October awards include 66 projects, valued at \$26 million, for the Local Assistance Road Program (LARP), a resurfacing program designed to help local governments maintain roadway infrastructure. Funding for LARP projects comes from the State Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax. Each year Georgia DOT reviews the lists of projects received from each local government and makes selections based on need and availability of funds once the level of funding is established. The next group of LARP projects will be awarded in spring 2010.

“The Department recognizes the funding challenges faced by local governments and the need for infrastructure improvements,” Smith said. “Resurfacing county roads and city streets promotes economic development, improves safety and reduces wear and tear on vehicles.”

Georgia DOT also awarded 14 projects, valued at \$56 million, of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) federal stimulus program. The majority of these projects are for resurfacing and intersection improvements.

The Department also awarded a design-build contract totaling \$22.4 million to replace the Diamond Causeway bridge to Skidaway Island in Chatham County. The new State Route 204 Spur bridge over Skidway Narrows will be completed in July 2013.

Information regarding all projects awarded in October may be found at <http://tomcat2.dot.state.ga.us/ContractsAdministration/uploads/A091016S01.pdf>

The Georgia DOT maintains 18,000 state highways and interstates miles or 15.5 percent of the 116,000 miles of public roads in Georgia. These state highways and interstates carry 63 percent of the total vehicle miles travelled statewide. Due to the dedication of Georgia DOT employees, Georgia’s highways have consistently been rated among the nation’s best maintained highways.

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. Additional transportation revenues are imperative to grow and sustain Georgia’s economic vitality and quality of life through the 21st Century. Georgia is the 3rd fastest-growing state in the nation,

yet 49th in per capita spending on transportation. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).