



## Road Centerline Mileage and Local Government Funding Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are the responsibilities of local governments concerning their local public roads?**

According to Georgia State Code §32-4-41 and §32-4-91 each County and City government will:

- Plan, designate, improve, manage, control, construct, and maintain an adequate road system.
- Control, administer, and account for funds received for their road systems and other activities relating to local roads from any source whatsoever.
- Notify GDOT within 90 days of adding or abandoning a local public road.

### **In addition, County governments must also:**

- Keep a copy of the GDOT-prepared transportation map of the county available for public inspection.

### **What happens to local government road mileage information?**

- GDOT uses the public road mileage information and other road data collected by GDOT and local governments to publish transportation maps for each of Georgia's 159 counties.
- The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) uses the public road mileage information to calculate federal funding levels for the State transportation programs.
- Georgia's Department of Finance uses road mileage information to calculate funding for the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) program.

### **Why is road centerline mileage important for local public road funding?**

Local public road mileages are used to determine funding allocations for Georgia's Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) program and also for Transportation Investment Act of 2010 (TIA) regional funding levels. Each program allocates state funds to local governments based on a formula that uses the Department's official public road centerline mileage data and U.S. Census Bureau population counts in the calculation.

### **How does local road mileage figure into the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) of 2010?**

GDOT's Office of Planning is working with the 12 TIA Tax Districts to develop a "Strategic Investment List" for each of 12 Planning Districts in the state. Funding for each district will be determined through a formula that uses the Department's certified total public road centerline mileage within each of the 159 counties and 535 municipalities in Georgia. This mileage is one factor used to determine the funding received from the TIA and LMIG programs.

### **Where can I find more information on the LMIG and TIA programs?**

- ▶ LMIG: <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/localgovernment/FundingPrograms/LMIG/Pages/default.aspx>
- ▶ Transportation Investment Act of 2010 (TIA): <http://www.it3.ga.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

**When should local governments report their local road activity to GDOT?**

Local governments are required by state law\* to notify the Department of Transportation within 90 days whenever:

- A new route is constructed by the local government
- A route is abandoned by the local government
- Ownership transferred to or from the local government

*\* Georgia State Code §32-4-41(4) and §32-4-91(b)*

**What exactly is a “public road” for purposes of reporting mileage?**

Federal regulation 23 C.F.R. § 460.2 (c) defines a public road as:

“A road will be open to public travel; a road section must be available, except during scheduled periods, extreme weather or emergency conditions, passable by four-wheel standard passenger cars, and open to the general public for use without restrictive gates, prohibitive signs, or regulation other than restrictions based on size, weight or class of registration. Toll plaza of public toll roads are not considered restrictive gates.”

**What is the process for reporting local road activity?**

- Within 90 days of modifying a local public road, the local government contacts the Road Inventory supervisor at the GDOT Field District for their area.
- The local government completes the GDOT Notification of Local Road Activity (LRA) form and submits the form to GDOT. All required documentation and a sketch, plat, or map of the local public road are attached to the LRA form. (A GIS Shape file, sent electronically, can be used in lieu of paper documentation.)
- GDOT places the route in its inventory and records the changes in its Road Characteristics database.
- GDOT sends a copy of the road data (route type, route number, route length) back to local government officials for their files.

**Can local governments have GDOT GIS staff work with their GIS staff?**

Yes! GDOT GIS staff can work with the GIS staff of local governments to incorporate the local road centerline data into GDOT’s GIS files.

**Can local governments get copies of GDOT collected data?**

Absolutely! GDOT considers all the local governments as partners in the public’s business. GDOT believes that the sharing of road data is an essential practice that fosters regional relationships and helps GDOT build the best transportation solutions in the nation for the people and businesses of Georgia.