Cordele Intermodal Center

To improve shipping services and reduce cost to and from firms in southwest Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, & the panhandle of Florida, an intermodal center or inland port has been proposed for Cordele and linked to the Savannah port by rail using the Heart of Georgia and Georgia Central railroads.
INLAND INTERMODAL CENTER ROUTE MAP

Heart of Georgia RR (85 Miles)

Georgia Central RR (85 Miles)

Garden City Terminal (SAPT)

Vidalia

Cordele

CSX Savannah Southover Yard (6 Miles)

*Closed loop Short line Railroad is the key to the success of the CIC.*
Why is this intermodal center important?

- Improves shipping services in Southwest Georgia, panhandle of Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi.
- A large percentage of GPA’s TEUs originate or terminate in these areas.
- Reduces truck traffic congestion at the port and on the highways.
- Will aid in the reduction of harmful air emissions.
The Environmental Benefit

- **The Problem:**
  Port area residents carry unfair environmental burdens, especially increased road congestion and reduced air quality

- **One Solution:**
  Use rail to rapidly move containers from marine terminals to remote intermodal yards & adopt rail as the most efficient & environmentally responsive way to move marine freight to its final inland destination

“In fiscal year 2007 alone, 235,000 TEUs were moved by rail on this terminal (Savannah). We estimate that this traffic reduced emissions by more than 90,000 tons of harmful particulate matter. And, we expect to move even more containers by rail in the months and years to come.”

– Wilson Tillotson, GPA’s Director of Engineering and Maintenance, Anchor Age 2008
How will this benefit Georgia?

- Full access to the new facility for intermodal use
- New rail capacity in Cordele and Savannah for interchange and operations
- Provide companies in GA, AL, MS, & FL with a competitive advantage using Savannah versus Mobile, Charleston, Jacksonville and Pensacola
- A regional effort to remove thousands of trucks off the highway
- Creation of jobs in South & Southwest Georgia
- Potential to attract large distribution & warehousing projects
How will this benefit surrounding Counties?

- Direct access via Hwy 300, 280, I-75, CSX, NS and HOG Railroad
- Creates regional opportunities to recruit new industries and expand existing industries
- Allows Counties to use existing industrial assets
- Funding through joint development to improve infrastructure in Crisp and surrounding Counties
- True Regional job growth
- Joint Development Stimulus Grants
- Establish a Foreign Trade Zone
- GDEcD supports an additional $1,250 Job Tax Credit for companies using the Inland Port
“The map clearly suggests that the inland port in Cordele may be most competitive in the southwestern region of Georgia.”

– GA Tech Cordele Inland Port Feasibility Study
Opportunity exists to exploit traffic (TEU’s) currently going to the Port of Mobile, New Orleans and Houston and re-route to the Port of Savannah.

“Containers not shipped through the Port of Savannah but through other ports offer additional markets for the CIP and therefore the Port of Savannah”
– GA Tech Cordele Inland Port Feasibility Study
CIC Supporters

- Georgia Legislature
- Governor of Georgia
- Georgia Ports Authority
- Georgia Department of Economic Development
- Georgia Department of Transportation
- Heart of Georgia Railroad, Georgia Central Railroad, NS & CSX Railroad
- Georgia Motor Trucking Association
- Cordele, Crisp County and surrounding central, south and SW Ga counties
- Prospective Customers, Shippers, & Steamship Lines
CIS Business Development

- To date CIS has commitments for 6000 export containers for its first fiscal year between two shippers
- Numerous rate quotes requests have been received and are being processed
- GPA is assisting CIS in developing additional marketing analysis to focus future efforts
- CIS estimates that by year two it will handle between 10-20k containers
Capturing Opportunity

- Each county and city within our region has an opportunity to benefit from the Inland Port.

- In seeking new industry, communities must:
  - Identify/catalogue industrial sites
  - Identify/catalogue transportation lanes
  - Solidify respective relationships with GDEcD
  - Identify knowledgeable individuals to discuss sites, incentives and the community
  - Silence the NIMBY crowd by developing strong community advocacy for growth.
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