

Improved Utility Coordination

(update on SB 19 & Board Rule 672-19)

GDOT Board Administrative Committee

December 14, 2011

Jeff Baker, P.E. - State Utilities Engineer



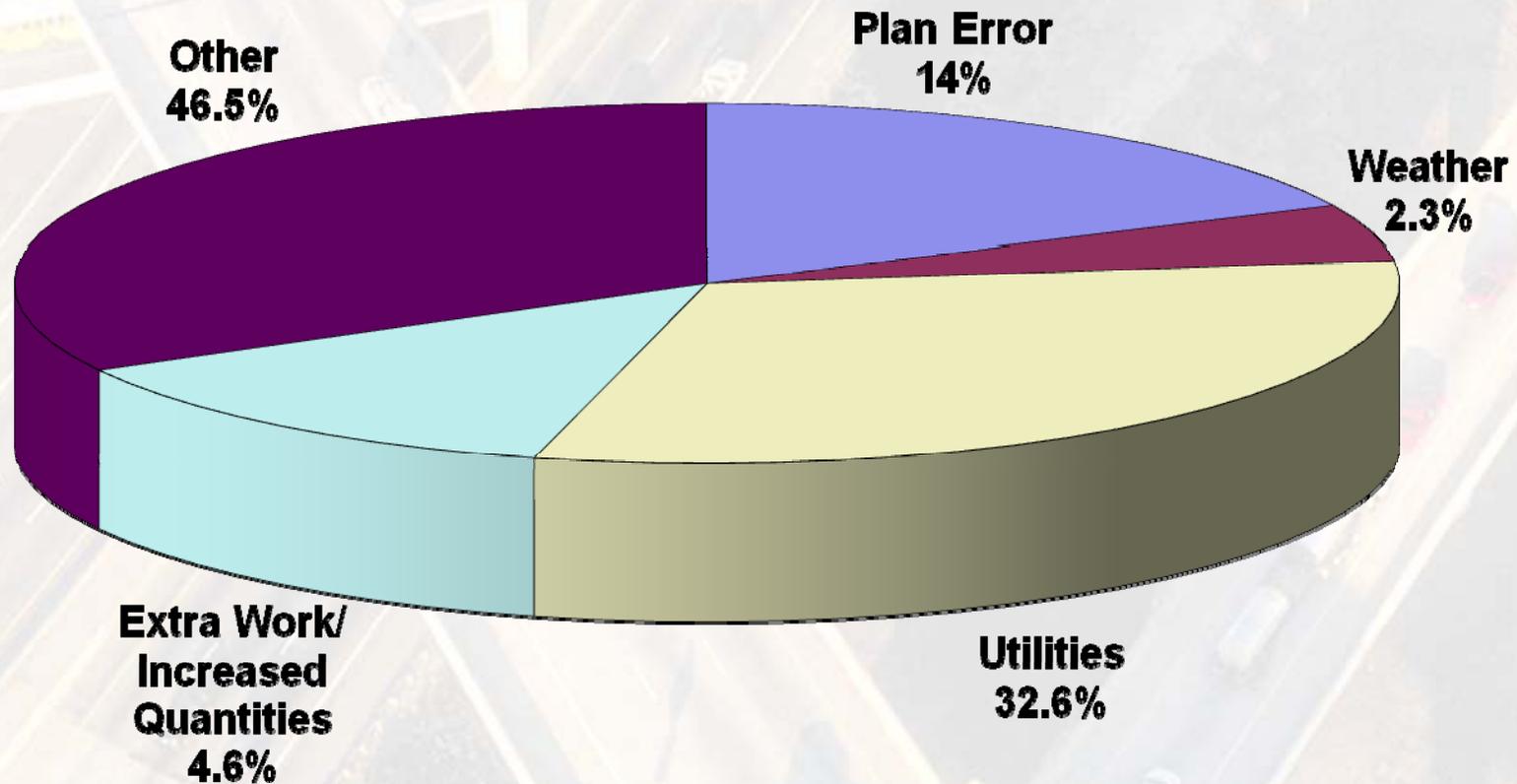
DRIVING FORCES....

- ❖ Eliminate Delays on Construction
- ❖ Commissioner / Highway Contractors:
"Move Utilities Faster"
- ❖ FHWA *"Avoid Unnecessary Utility Relocations"* or FHWA may not pay

Analysis & Strategies

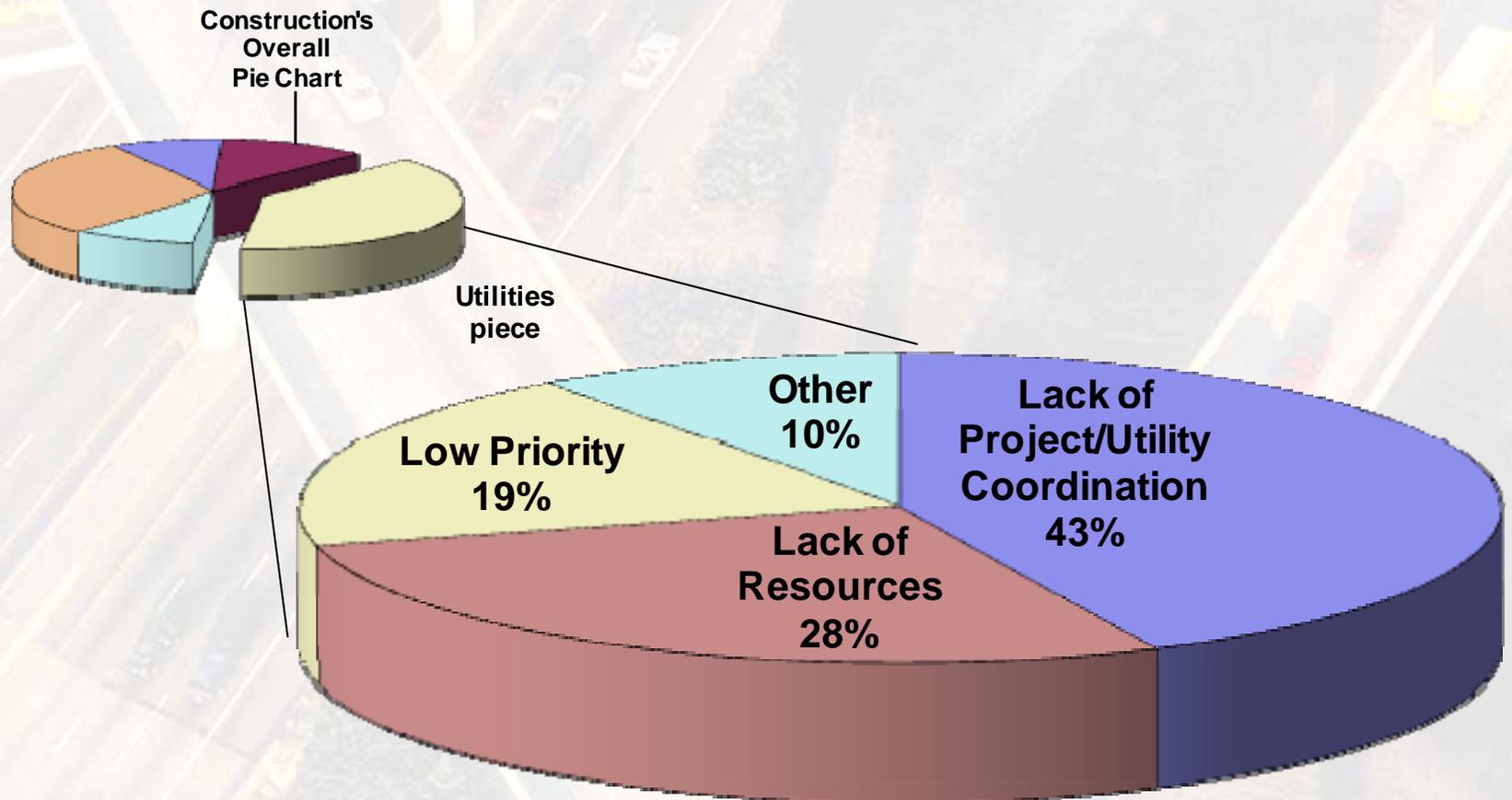
- **3rd Parties – OCGA Review:** *[Amend Legislation]*
- **Utility Accommodation Policy & Stds Manual:**
[Reasonable Rules and Regulations (P&P)]
- **Department Policies & Procedures**
[PFA to PDP to Construction Specs]

Reasons for TIME EXTENSIONS



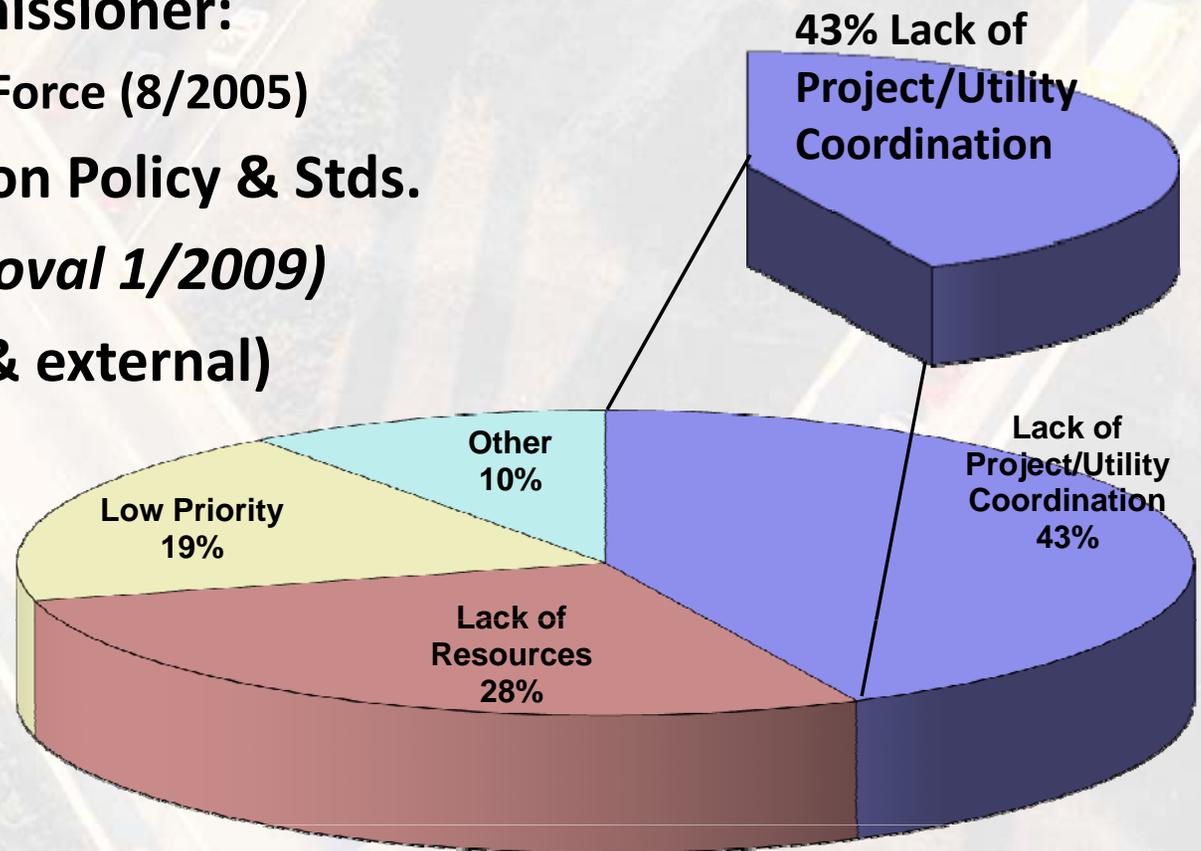
FY 2009 example - Time Extensions were processed on 8.4% of all let projects.

Utility Categories – “causes of delays”



Utility Policies & Procedures

- ❖ **GDOT Board & Commissioner:**
 - Initiated Utility Task Force (8/2005)
- ❖ **Utility Accommodation Policy & Stds. Manual (FHWA approval 1/2009)**
- ❖ **GDOT P&P (internal & external)**
 - PDP, PPG, etc.

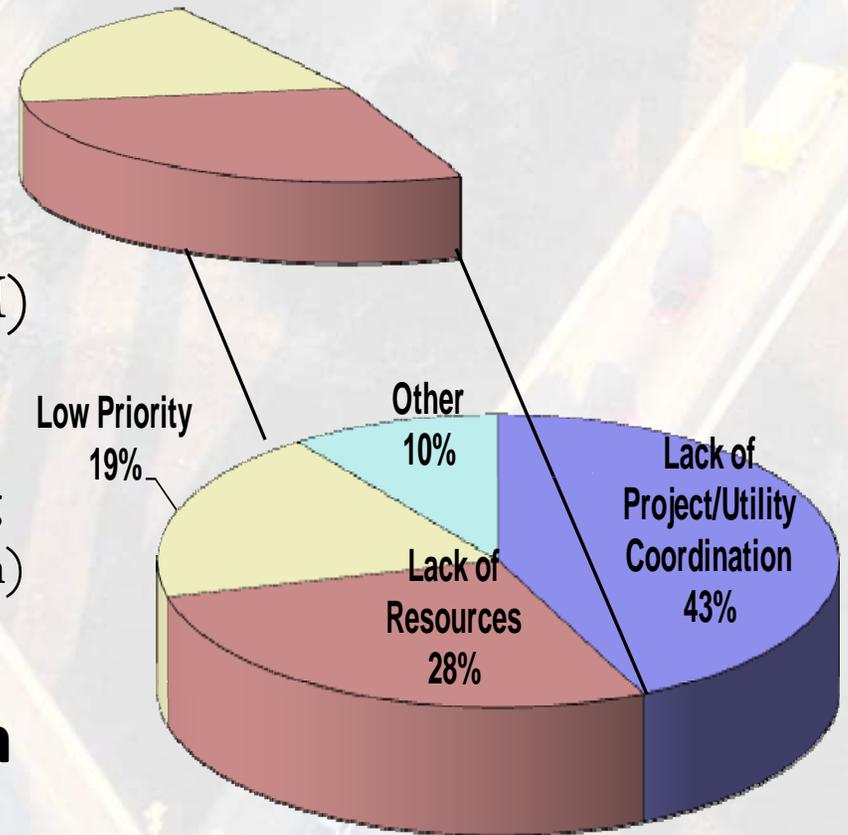


Task Force Members

- Georgia DOT (GDOT)
 - Preconstruction
 - Construction
 - Operations
 - Field Districts
- Georgia Highway Contractors Assoc. (GHCA)
- Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council (GUCC)

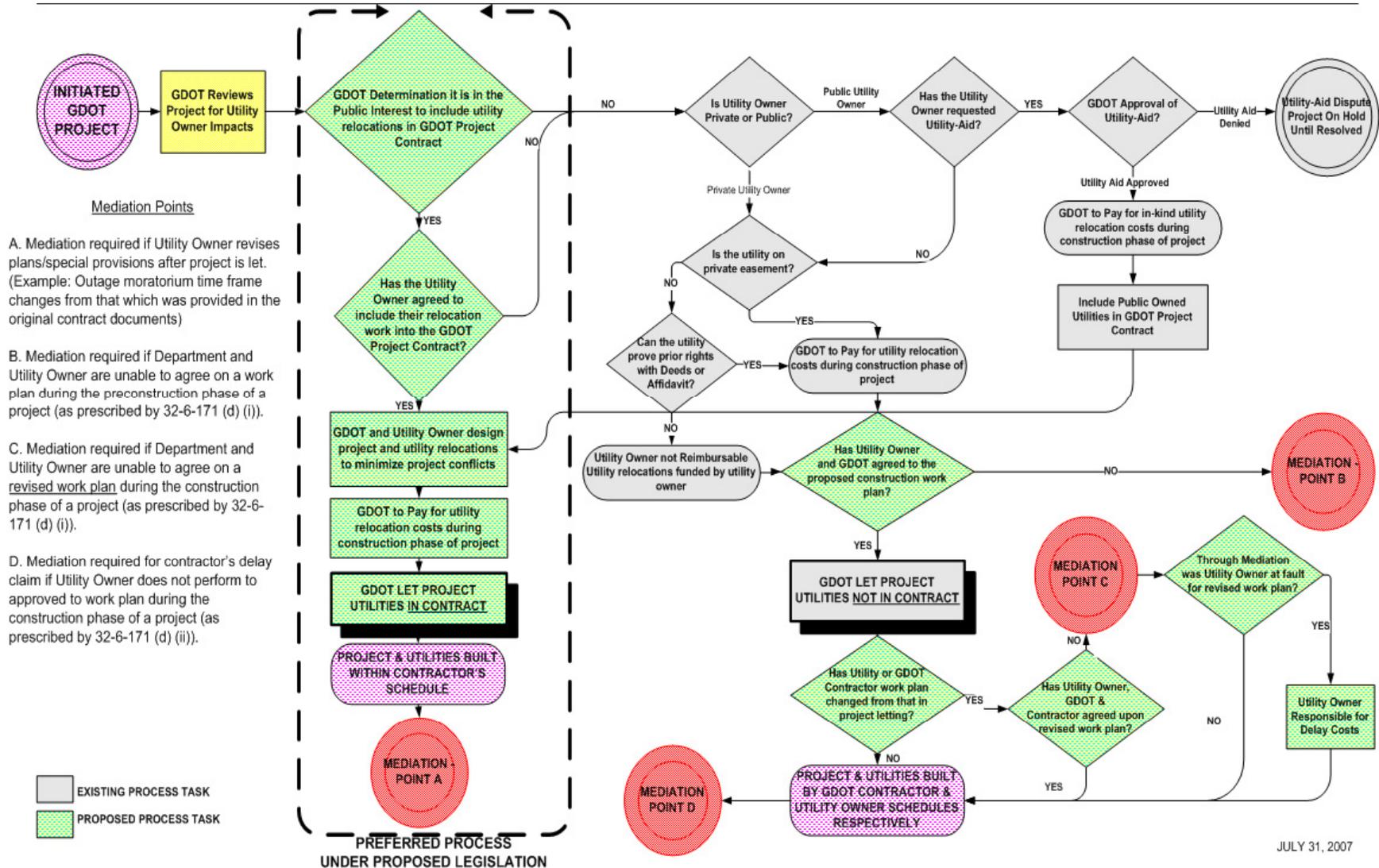
2007: SENATE BILL 19

- 1) **Accountability** (work plan/UAS)
- 2) **PDP Deadlines** (utility relocation procedures - UAM)
- 3) **Mediation Rule** (process for handling utility delays on construction)
- 4) **Public Interest Determination** (Contract Items – GDOT fund \$\$)



GDOT Project Development

Utility Relocation Funding & Mediation Process



Milestones

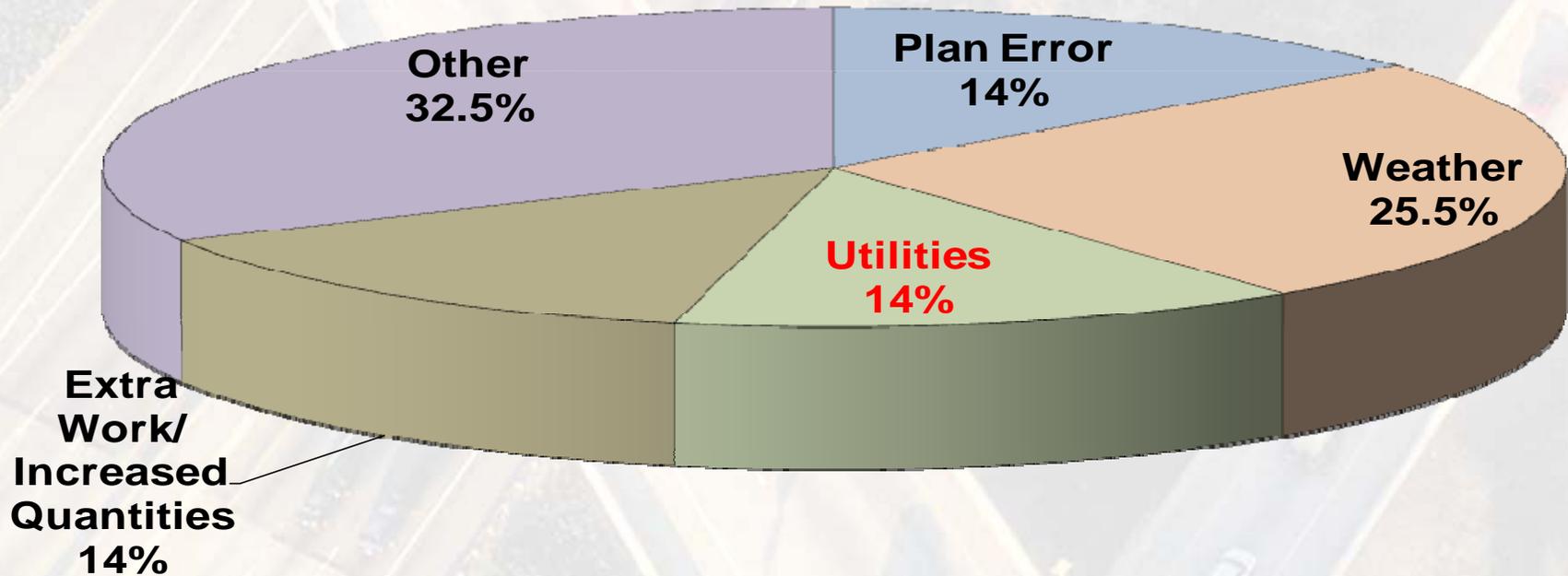
- Jan. 2005 – SUE Program Enhancement – Utility Impact Analysis
- Sept. 2005 – First Utility Task Force meeting
- May 2006 – Special Provision 107 – WUCS
- Feb. 2007 – Gas Distribution Spec.
- *July 2007 – Senate Bill 19 becomes law*
- *May 2008 – UAS provided at Notice to Bidders*
- *Jan. 2009 – Utility Accommodation Policy & Stds. Manual*

Milestones

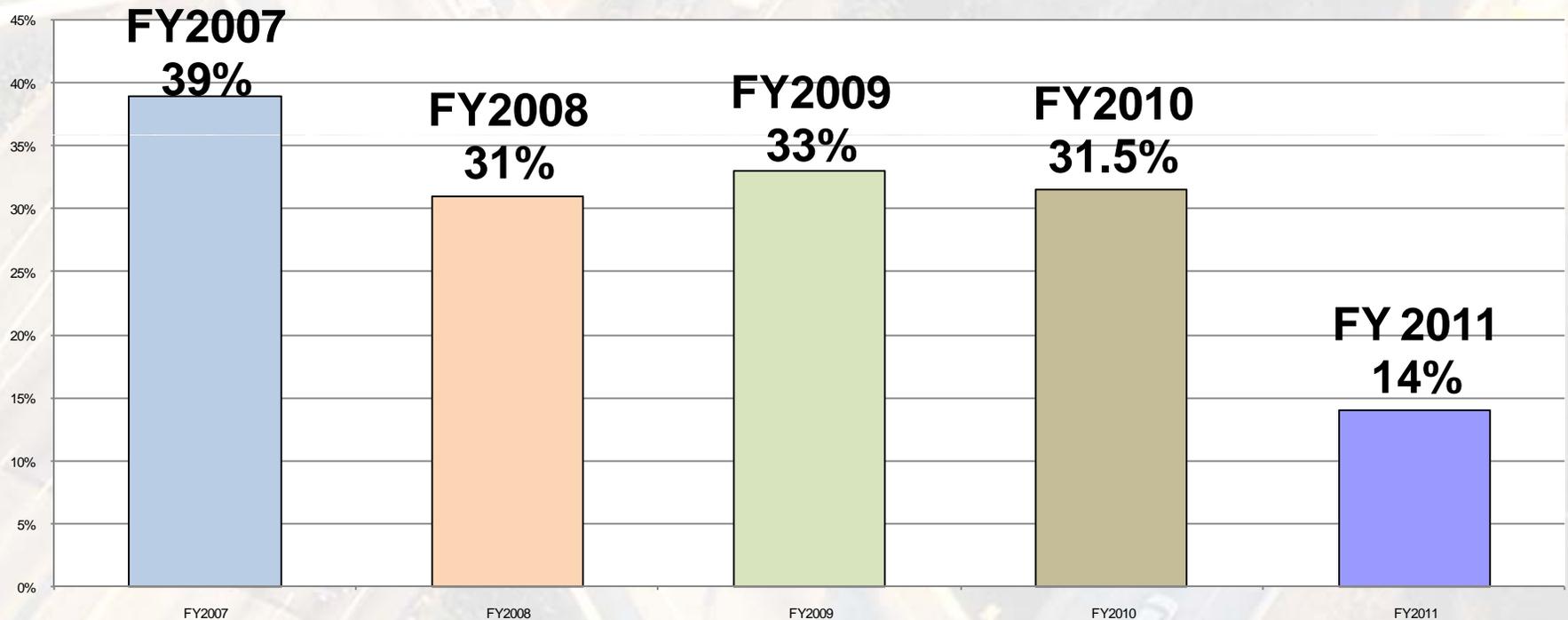
- *Sept. 2009 – Utility Conflicts Special Provision*
- Dec. 2009 – Electric Distribution Spec.
- 2009 – 2010 – Statewide training on Managing Utilities on Construction (*32 sessions / 591 attendees*)
- May 2010 – 3.10 Utility Coordination Consultant Services
- *Jan. 2011 – Public Interest Determination P&P*
- 2012... Cable TV, Telecom, & Electric Transmission Specs

Reasons for Time Extensions

(FY 2011 data)



% Time Extensions Related to Utility Delays



Vision & Philosophies

Vision – *efficient and effective project delivery*
(i.e. – no more excuses & pay now or pay later)

Philosophies – “Cradle to Grave” [*Concept thru
Final Acceptance*]

&

– “The 4 C’s” [*Communication,
Cooperation, Coordination
& **Commitment***]

“You either pay now or pay later - Pick your poison”

PAY NOW...

Avoid unnecessary relocations

Resolve all foreseeable
conflicts *(prelim eng phase)*

OR PAY LATER...

Delays

Damages

Claims

Increased costs

Awards & Recognition (2004 – 2011)

❖ 5 - AASHTO/FHWA Utility Excellence

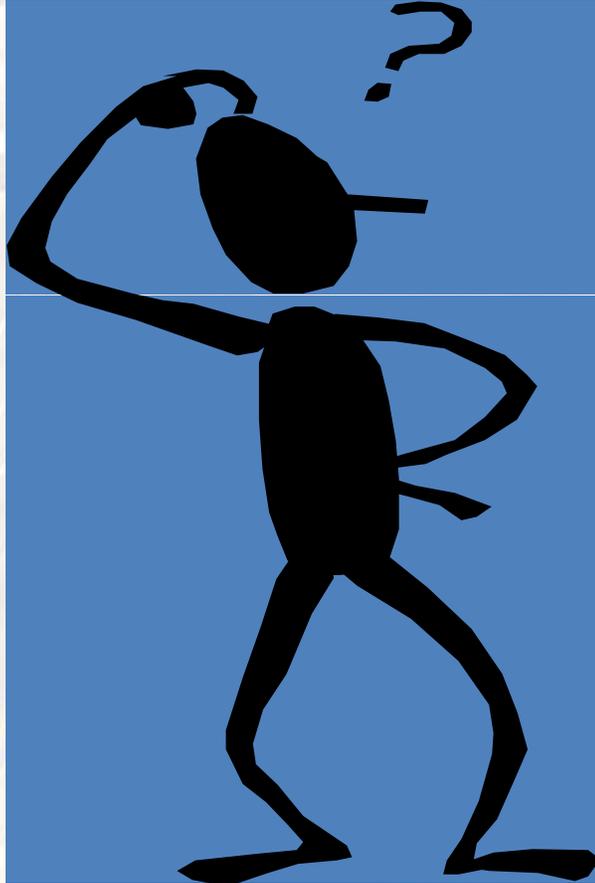
- Leadership (2)
- Innovation (2)
- Project Management

❖ Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council

- Leadership

❖ 3 – FHWA James F. Condron

Questions?



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“Doing Business” → “Utilities”