Agency Coordination Plan
SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Prepared for the
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Definitions of Acronyms

Advisory Council for Historic Preservation	ACHP
Agency Coordination Plan	ACP
Atlanta Regional Commission	ARC
Atlanta Strategic Truck Route Master Plan	ASTROMAP
Cherokee Area Transit System	CATS
Citizens Advisory Committee	CAC
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	CERCLA
Council on Environmental Quality	CEQ
Code of Federal Regulations	CFR
Environmental Protection Division (Department of Natural Resources)	EPD
Environmental Impact Statement	EIS
Environmental Justice	EJ
Environmental Protection Agency	EPA
Federal Transit Administration	FTA
Final Environmental Impact Statement	FEIS
Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA
Federal Highway Administration	FHWA
Georgia Department of Transportation	GDOT
Georgia Regional Transportation Authority	GRTA
Interstate	I
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century	MAP-21
Noise Abatement Criteria	NAC
National Environmental Policy Act	NEPA
National Park Service	NPS
Natural Resource Conservation Service	NRCS
Notice of Availability	NOA
Notice of Intent	NOI
Public Information Open House	PIOH
Public Involvement Plan	PIP
Public Hearing Open House	PHOH
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act	RCRA
Record of Decision	ROD
Regional Transportation Plan	RTP
State Route	SR
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users	SAFETEA-LU
Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act	SARA
Technical Advisory Committee	TAC
To Be Determined	TBD
Toxic Substances Control Act	TSCA
United States Army Corps of Engineers	USACE
United States Code	USC
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development	HUC
United States Geological Survey	USGS
United State Fish and Wildlife Service	USFWS
Wildlife Resources Division (Department of Natural Resources)	WRD

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are initiating the environmental review process as required by Section 6002 of Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and amended by Section 1305 of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed State Route (SR) 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming. GDOT, as the project sponsor and non-Federal lead agency, in coordination with the FHWA, the lead Federal agency, prepared this Agency Coordination Plan (ACP) to facilitate and document the plan for interaction between GDOT, FHWA, and agencies.

An EIS, under United States environmental law, is a document required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for certain actions "significantly affecting the quality of the human environment". An EIS is a tool for decision making. It describes the positive and negative environmental effects of a proposed action, and it includes one or more alternative actions that may be chosen to address the transportation needs identified in the EIS. The purpose of NEPA is to promote informed decision-making by Federal agencies by making "detailed information concerning significant environmental impacts" available to both agency leaders and the public.

The FHWA will serve as the Federal Lead Agency for this EIS and it will be prepared in accordance with, but not limited to, the:

- *National Environmental Policy Act* of 1969 [42 U.S.C § 4332(2)(c)];
- *Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966* [49 U.S.C § 303, as amended];
- *Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977* [33 U.S.C. § 1251]; and
- *FHWA's Regulations on Environmental Impact and Related Procedures* [23 CFR § 771].

GDOT is the lead state agency for the SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS. GDOT will be responsible for the preparation, coordination and oversight of appropriate and necessary technical analyses and for the coordination of environmental document preparation, including, but not limited to, agency and public involvement, notifications and coordination with affected agencies, tribal governments, and the public. GDOT will identify the preferred alternative(s) and be responsible for leading the implementation of the selected alternative.

1.1 Purpose of the Agency Coordination Plan

Section 6002 of the SAFETEA-LU created a new Section 139 of Title 23 of the USC that mandates, among other requirements, that the lead agency must establish a plan for coordinating public and agency participation in and comment on the environmental review process for a project. As part of the ACP, and after consulting with each participating agency and with the state in which the project is located, the lead agencies may establish a schedule for completion of the environmental review process for the project.

This ACP will summarize how the agencies and public will be engaged in the process. A Public Involvement Plan (PIP) will also be developed to address techniques for public coordination and stakeholder outreach. Both documents will be publicly available via the project website at www.dot.ga.gov/sr20improvements.

This plan will be submitted to appropriate agencies for comment and acceptance. It will be updated periodically as project development progresses. Included is the following information:

- Introduction to the project;
- Purpose of the coordination plan;
- Project background;
- Identification and roles of lead, cooperating and participating agencies, and tribal governments;
- Public participation;
- Collaborative problem-solving administration; and
- Coordination milestones, review periods and expectations.

1.2 FHWA and GDOT Oversight

The SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS will require extensive coordination among agencies and attentive project oversight. Key to properly managing the project and the EIS is ensuring that all the agencies involved understand one another's roles and responsibilities. A management team for the project, consisting of GDOT and FHWA, has been formalized to manage and review the project under the NEPA and other related Federal laws, rules and regulations. The purpose of this coordinated management effort is to ensure efficiency and coordination between FHWA and GDOT, the cooperating and participating agencies, tribal governments, and the public.

1.3 Project Description

The GDOT, in cooperation with FHWA, is sponsoring the preparation of this EIS to identify potential improvements to a portion of SR 20, from Interstate (I)-575 in Canton to SR 400 in Cumming. SR 20 is a major east-west thoroughfare on the northern edge of Metropolitan Atlanta. Residents and the commuting public experience congestion, limited mobility, and safety issues along this heavily traveled corridor.

The SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming study area extends for approximately 24 miles, between the western terminus of I-575 in Cherokee County and the eastern terminus of SR 400 in Forsyth County. Figure 1.3.1 provides a map of the project vicinity. From west to east, jurisdictions along the corridor include the city of Canton, communities in unincorporated Cherokee County – Buffington, Macedonia, Orange, and Free Home, communities in unincorporated Forsyth County – Free Home and Ducktown, and the city of Cumming.

Figure 1.3.1 Project Area Map

1.4 Project Background

Growth and development along the corridor and in the north Metro Atlanta region in recent decades has contributed to congestion, mobility, and safety issues to the SR 20 Corridor. In addition, the need for improved east-west connectivity in north Metro Atlanta has been explored in previous transportation studies including Atlanta Regional Commission's (ARC) *Strategic Regional Thoroughfare Plan*[1], ARC's *Plan 2040* Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)[2], GDOT's *Georgia Statewide Freight and Logistics Plan, 2010-2050*[3], ARC's *Regional Freight Mobility Plan* and *Atlanta Strategic Truck Route Master Plan*[4] (*ASTRoMaP),* and the comprehensive transportation plans of Cherokee[5] and Forsyth[6] counties.

The area has been the subject of previous planning and environmental studies beginning in the early 1980s with the project known as the "Outer Perimeter" – envisioned to encircle Atlanta about 25 miles outside of I-285. As a result of the analysis, the project evolved into a connection between I-75 and I-85 north of the SR 20 Corridor known as the Northern Arc. In September of 2000, FHWA issued a notice of intent to initiate the preparation of an EIS for the Northern Arc – proposed as a four-lane limited access highway connecting US 411 in Bartow County and SR 400 in Forsyth

[1] http://atlantaregional.com/transportation/studies/strategic-regional-thoroughfare-plan, http://documents.atlantaregional.com/transportation/tp_SRTP_RTN_Classified.pdf

[2] http://atlantaregional.com/plan2040/documents--tools

[3] http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/georgiafreight/logisticsplan/Pages/default.aspx

[4] http://atlantaregional.com/transportation/freight/Truck-Route-Master-Plan

[5] http://www.cherokeega.com/departments/project_page.cfm?projectid=50

[6] http://www.forsythco.com/DeptPage.asp?DeptID=4&PageID=1398

County – a distance of approximately 50 miles. The Northern Arc generated extreme public and political controversy and in turn the EIS was terminated by FHWA in November of 2003.

During the development of the Northern Arc EIS, a number of public comments suggested that improvements to the existing SR 20 corridor should be considered as an alternative to the then-proposed limited access highway. As a result, environmental studies were initiated to explore improvements to the SR 20 corridor in 2006. These studies were discontinued in 2008 due to funding constraints and the need to refine the study corridor limits.

The SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS is an opportunity to start at the beginning – working with agencies and the public to develop appropriate alternatives to address safety, mobility, and congestion projected along the corridor. The project's need and purpose, goals and objectives, and potential solutions will be developed in partnership with the lead, participating, and cooperating agencies, as well as the public, during the scoping phase of the environmental process.

2.0 OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

This ACP includes the identification and involvement of agencies in the SR 20 EIS environmental review process. These agencies include lead, cooperating and participating agencies, tribal governments, and nongovernmental agencies with an interest in the project. The plan also includes a means for public involvement in accordance with SAFETEA-LU, Section 6002. The project's PIP provides additional detail pertaining to opportunities for agency and public involvement.

2.1 Agencies Recognized in this Agency Coordination Plan

2.1.1 Lead Agency

FHWA is the lead Federal agency, and GDOT serves as the non-Federal lead agency as well as project sponsor. Lead agencies bear essential responsibility for preparing the EIS in accordance with Federal statutes and regulations, and provide oversight and involvement in managing the environmental review and issue resolution processes. These agencies are responsible for:

- Participating as part of the project management team;
- Developing and implementing the ACP;
- Identifying, inviting and involving agencies in the environmental review process;
- Providing agency and public involvement opportunities to define the need and purpose of the project, determine the alternatives, and determine methodologies and level of detail for analysis of alternatives; and
- Supervising preparation of the EIS.

FHWA as the lead Federal agency for the SR 20 EIS is responsible for compliance with the following:

- NEPA;
- NEPA-related Federal environmental statutes and regulations;
- FHWA's environmental regulations contained in 23 CFR 771 (Environmental Impact and Related Procedures);
- Section 4(f) of the DOT Act of 1966 and related regulations contained in 23 CFR 774 (Parks, Recreation Areas, Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges, and Historic Sites).

FHWA's environmental regulations, 23 CFR 771 and 23 CFR 774, will serve as the baseline regulation for purposes of ensuring procedural compliance with NEPA and Section 4(f), respectively. The agency's environmental requirements and technical and financial evaluation criteria will be applied as appropriate to ensure statutory responsibilities and concerns are addressed in the environmental document.

FHWA will be responsible for coordinating the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) review of the EIS. The FHWA will also coordinate the project with other non-USDOT Federal agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise. FHWA will review environmental documents as required and outlined in the 2008 Stewardship Agreement between FHWA and GDOT.

2.1.2 Cooperating and Participating Agencies, and Tribal Governments

A cooperating agency is defined as "any Federal agency other than a lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment" (40 C.F.R. §1508.5). A state, regional, or local agency of similar qualifications, or a Native American tribal government when the effects are on lands of tribal interest, may, by agreement with the lead agencies, become a cooperating agency. In addition, "a cooperating agency may adopt without re-circulating an EIS of a lead agency when, after an independent review of the statement, the cooperating agency concludes that its comments and suggestions have been satisfied" (40 C.F.R. § 1506.3). This provision is particularly important to permitting agencies, such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who, as a cooperating agency, routinely adopt Federal environmental documents.

A participating agency is an agency with an interest in the project. Designation as a participating agency does not imply that the participating agency has any jurisdiction over or special expertise concerning the proposed project or its potential impacts. A participating agency will be afforded the opportunity, together with the public, to be involved in defining the purpose of and need for the project, as well as in determining the range of alternatives to be considered for the project. In addition, participating agencies will be asked to:

- Provide input on the impact assessment methodologies and level of detail in your agency's area of expertise;
- Participate in coordination meetings, conference calls, and joint field reviews, as appropriate; and
- Review and comment on sections of the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to communicate any concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, the alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

2.1.2.1 Invitations

FHWA will distribute invitations to all agencies, including cooperating and participating agencies, Native American Tribal Governments, state, regional, and local agencies. The draft ACP will be included in the invitation and will be referenced as being available on the website and upon request. Invitations will be sent by mail. A copy of each invitation will be maintained in the project file. Based on the SAFETEA-LU Environmental Review Process Final Guidance dated November 15, 2006, FHWA recommends no more than 30 days for agencies to respond to invitations to be participating/cooperating agencies and to comment on the draft plan. To

consolidate mailings to the agencies, the agency participation letter will include an invitation to the agency scoping meeting. The combined agency participation letter/scoping meeting invitation mail-out or early coordination letter will take place at least 30 days prior to the Agency Scoping Meeting and Public Scoping Meetings. In summary, the agencies will be afforded 30 days notification of the Agency Scoping Meeting; and the agencies will be allowed 30 days after the Agency Scoping Meeting to provide comments on the project and this ACP.

The agencies listed in Table 2.1.2.1 will be invited to serve as cooperating agencies in the environmental review process in accordance with the provisions included in this ACP. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact and the table identifies the agencies and their regulatory role. Cooperating agencies have the responsibilities to provide comment on need and purpose; range of alternatives; ACP; methodologies; level of detail for analysis of alternatives; identification of issues that could substantially delay or prevent granting of permits/approvals; opportunities for collaboration; and mitigation. Appendix A, Agency Coordination, includes the correspondence from agencies in response to the invitation to participate as a Cooperating Agency or as a Participating Agency.

Table 2.1.2.1 Invited Cooperating Agencies

Agency Type	Agency	Regulatory Function	Response Received (Y [date]/N)	Role[1] (Will Serve as Participating Agency or Will not Serve as Participating Agency)
Federal	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (North Area Section – Regulatory Branch)	Section 404 Clean Water Act	Y [11/6/13 email]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	U.S. Department of the Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (Southeast Region)	Section 7 Endangered Species Act; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act; Migratory Bird Treaty Act; Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	No response at this time*	Will serve as Participating Agency

* Documentation pending from USFWS.
[1] If no response was received, the role was assumed per SAFETEA-LU, as outlined in questions 21-31 of the FAQ at http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/section6002/1.htm.

Table 2.1.2.2 details the agencies invited to serve as a participating agency and their response. Participating agencies have the responsibilities to provide comment on need and purpose; range of alternatives; ACP; methodologies; level of detail for analysis of alternatives; identification of issues that could substantially delay or prevent granting of permits/approvals; opportunities for collaboration; and mitigation.

Table 2.1.2.2 Invited Participating Agencies and Tribal Governments

Agency Type	Agency	Response Received (Y [date]/N)	Role[1] (Will Serve as Participating Agency or Will not Serve as Participating Agency)
Federal	U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	Y [5/10/13 postcard]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service (NPS)	Y [5/8/13 letter]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	U.S. Department of Transportation – Federal Transit Administration (FTA) (Region IV)	Y [4/29/13 letter]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Y [5/15/13 letter]	Will serve as Participating Agency

Table 2.1.2.2 Invited Participating Agencies and Tribal Governments

Agency Type	Agency	Response Received (Y [date]/N)	Role[1] (Will Serve as Participating Agency or Will not Serve as Participating Agency)
	(Region IV)		
	Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) – Mitigation Division	N	Will serve as Participating Agency
	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (Regional Office of Community Planning and Development)	Y [5/16/13 email]	Will not serve as Participating Agency
	Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP)	Y [6/28/13 letter]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	N	Will serve as Participating Agency
	Appalachian Regional Commission	Y [5/14/13 email and postcard]	Will not serve as Participating Agency
State	Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Engineering & Construction	Y [5/2/13 postcard]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	Georgia DNR – Environmental Protection Division (EPD)	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Georgia DNR – Wildlife Resources Division (WRD)	N	See DNR- EPD
	Georgia Department of Natural Resources-State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	Y [5/3/13 postcard and 5/30/13 email]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation	Y [5/29/13 telephone call]	Will not Serve as Participating Agency at this time
Municipal / Regional	Georgia Mountains Regional Commission	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Atlanta Regional Commission	Y [5/6/13 postcard]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	Cherokee Area Transit System (CATS)	N/A	See Cherokee County
	Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA)	Y [5/24/13 Participating Agency Response Form]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	Forsyth County	Y [5/9/13 postcard]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	Cherokee County	Y [4/26/13 postcard and 5/21/13 email]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	City of Ball Ground	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	City of Milton	Y [5/8/13 postcard]	Will not serve as Participating Agency
	City of Canton	Y [4/30/13 postcard]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	City of Cumming	Y [5/1/13 postcard and 5/30/13 email]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	City of Holly Springs	Y [5/6/13 letter and 5/8/13 postcard]	Will not serve as Participating Agency
Tribal Govern-ments	Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Y [5/20/13 email]	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Y [5/2/13 and 5/20/13 emails]	Will serve as Participating Agency
	Muscogee (Creek) National Council	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Poarch Band of Creek Indians	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Seminole Tribe of Florida	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Thlopthlocco Tribal Town	Y [5/20/13 email]	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	United Keetoowah Band	Y [5/20/13 email]	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Cherokee Nation	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	Y [5/20/13 email]	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town	Y [5/20/13 email]	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency
	Kialegee Tribal Town	N	Will not Serve as Participating Agency

[1] If no response was received, the role was assumed per SAFETEA-LU, as outlined in questions 21-31 of the FAQ at http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/section6002/1.htm.

2.1.2.2 Responding to an Invitation

An agency may accept or decline the formal invitation to be a cooperating or participating agency by returning a stamped postcard by the deadline provided, which will be included in the invitation. If a Federal agency chooses to decline to be a participating or cooperating agency, the response letter (hard copy, electronic email, or signed postcard) must indicate the following:

- The agency has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;
- The agency has no expertise or information relevant to the project; or
- The agency does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If the response does not state the Federal agency's position in these terms, then the agency will be treated as a participating agency as designated in Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU. A state, regional or local agency or a Native American tribal government must respond affirmatively to the invitation in order to be designated as a participating agency.

2.1.2.3 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be developed to guide the project team on key technical components of the project, ensuring technical proficiency during the process. The TAC will be instrumental in conducting interagency coordination and utilizing the collective expertise of this committee to develop and analyze project alternatives. The TAC will allow planning partners an early opportunity to provide input and weigh in on project issues and solutions. This group will convene at key milestones as required to assist in the plan development process. Meetings will generally be held in coordination with the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings, and will also occur as needed. (See also Appendix B for Public Involvement Plan [PIP] which provides additional information on the CAC). The purpose of the anticipated TAC meetings is summarized below.

- The initial meeting of the TAC will occur during the scoping process and after the Agency Scoping Meeting. Information on existing conditions and project goals and objectives will be presented. Discussion and input about community features, project purpose and need, and potential evaluation criteria will be solicited.

- Interim meetings of the TAC will serve to finalize the project purpose and need, to develop and refine alternatives, to prepare for public information open houses, and to build consensus on proposed alternatives.

- The final TAC meeting(s) will be in preparation for the PHOH.

Though participation has not yet been confirmed, the following agencies and associated staff have been asked to participate as members of the TAC:

- Cherokee County
- City of Canton
- Forsyth County
- City of Cumming
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- Georgia EPD
- US EPA

- US FHWA
- Others

2.2 Public Participation

Public participation in the environmental review process includes a variety of means to engage and inform the public about the project including: media releases, fact sheets and newsletters, general notification mailers, project website updates, individual and group contacts, circulation of draft documents, workshops, and scoping and public meetings. As required by the FHWA and in accordance with Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU legislation and amended by Section 1305 of MAP-21, and based on GDOT's Public Involvement Policy and Guidelines, a PIP has been developed for the project (See Appendix B). The PIP details the activities designed to convey desired project information to audiences, and the opportunities offered to collect input on decisions that affect the public. Public input is vital to the project's success and the project team will be committed to providing meaningful public involvement opportunities throughout the process.

Agencies identified in this ACP will be invited to participate in public outreach activities, asked to provide input at key milestones, and be provided summary results of recent public outreach events. These milestones are discussed in Section 3 below.

The PIP is a working document that can be adapted based on project and public needs. It details various communication techniques, which may be amended, to encourage the public to participate in the transportation decision-making process. It is intended to ensure ongoing public participation using a variety of tools and techniques to invite and encourage the public to learn about and become involved in the project. The PIP describes a comprehensive program that would engage many diverse stakeholders at various milestones in the project development process. Key goals of the public participation efforts are:

- To identify unique and changing conditions and circumstances of the project and the public.
- To engage the public with various outreach techniques early and often throughout the duration of the project.
- To provide flexibility in order to be responsive to the public's request for information and on-going involvement.
- To provide a mechanism through which comments can be incorporated where possible and appropriate during all phases of the project.

The PIP is a "living" document that will be refined during each phase of project development. A detailed PIP, which is enclosed in this document as Appendix B, is publicly available, can be provided upon request, and is accessible via the project website (www.dot.ga.gov/sr20improvements).

3.0 COORDINATION MILESTONES

Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU involves several activities that include agency coordination and public participation. This section highlights the main activities in the environmental review process, which includes coordination points where review and input from the lead agencies, followed by input from coordinating and participating agencies and the public is explicitly requested. These coordination points include the following activities presented in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Coordination Milestones and Timeframes

Step	Coordination Point	Information to Agency/ Public (anticipated date)	Information Received from Agency/Public (anticipated date)	Completion Date	Commenting/Reviewing Parties and General Timeframes
1	Issue Notice of Intent and Scoping Activities	**4/11/13**	Within 30 days of information out	**6/4/13**	Lead Agencies
2	Review and Comment on Need and Purpose	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies, tribal governments, and the public during Scoping.
3	Review and Comment on Range of Alternatives	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies, tribal governments, and the public during Scoping.
4	Collaboration on Methodologies	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies, tribal governments, and the public during Scoping and alternatives screening stages.
5	Identification of Preliminary Preferred Alternative	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	GDOT and FHWA
6	Technical Reports/ Special Studies Circulated (e.g., Ecology, History, Section 4(f), Air, Traffic)	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	GDOT, FHWA and regulatory agencies including, USFWS, SHPO, EPA, as applicable
7	DEIS filed with EPA; Notice of Availability (NOA) published in Federal Register	**TBD**	15 days prior to Public Hearing	**TBD**	EPA filing
8	Circulation of Draft EIS	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out (participating agencies) Within 45 days of information out (public)	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies and the public.
9	Identification of Preferred Alternative (Identified in DEIS)	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies and the public.
10	Completion of Preliminary Final EIS	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	GDOT and FHWA prior to Notice of Availability
11	Circulation of Final EIS	**TBD**	Within 30 days of information out	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies and the public.
12	Issue Record of Decision	**TBD**	Publicly available; however, no comments solicited	**TBD**	All participating and cooperating agencies and the public.

TBD- to be determined as schedule is refined and milestones completed.

A preliminary project schedule has been developed showing the environmental review process, including the coordination milestones for agency input. The schedule will be publicly available on the project website at www.dot.ga.gov/sr20improvements. If the schedule is modified, an update will be made available as soon as possible.

Input from participating agencies during the environmental review process will be formally accepted in writing. An agency may request additional review time in writing. Written responses and comments may be submitted to GDOT in the following manner:

By Mail:

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

For NEPA and environmental subject matter experts, please direct to the attention of Sam Pugh. In the case of tribal consultation, please direct comments to the attention of *GDOT Tribal Government Liaison* at the above address.

3.1 Notice of Intent and Scoping

FHWA has issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to inform agencies and the public that an EIS will be prepared and considered for the project in accordance with NEPA. The NOI includes the information required under Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provision of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and SAFETEA-LU, Section 6002, as amended by MAP-21, including the following information:

- A description of the proposed project and any background information.
- A justification statement for the project.
- A description of the proposed project alternatives.
- A description of the scoping process including the date, place, and time of the public scoping meetings.
- Information on when and how to submit comments during the scoping period.
- Contact information for requesting additional information or to be placed on the Project mailing list.

The NOI was published in the Federal Register on April 11, 2013 and will also be posted on the project website. Scoping announcements will be prepared to inform the general public of the scoping meetings for the proposed project and the scoping process, including scoping meeting information. The scoping announcement will be provided to several media outlets including those provided in Table 3.1.1.

The purpose of this scoping process is to provide early and open opportunity for the public and agencies to provide input to the EIS process as it is initiated and for identifying potential significant issues related to the proposed action. The scoping process also helps focus alternatives and identifies issues to be addressed. One of the objectives of scoping is to identify the important issues associated with alternatives that will be explained in detail in the environmental document, while simultaneously limiting consideration and development of issues that are not critical. Agency and public scoping meetings will be held to review the study scope and approach, and to receive comments and suggestions for consideration from agencies and the public. The public and interest groups will be invited via advertising and outreach efforts, and Federal, state and local agencies will be invited by letter.

Table 3.1.1 Media Outlets

PRINT	Loganville Grayson Patch	Fish Wrap, The	WLJA-AM - 1560
Associated Press	Main Street Newspapers	Gordon Headlines	WLJA-FM - 101.1 (Ellijay)
Atlanta Business Chronicle	Navteq	Haralson Gateway-Beacon	WNCC-FM - 96.7
Atlanta Journal-Constitution	Norcross Patch	Home Town Headlines	WNEG-AM - 630
Access North GA	North GA News & Towns Herald	News Observer, The	WNGC-FM - 106.1
Access North GA Traffic	Northeast Georgian	Paulding Neighbor	WPPL-FM - 103.9
Anderson Ind	Paper of Flowery Branch, The	Paulding County Sentinel	WPPR-FM - 88.3
Athens Banner	Paper, The	Paulding Voice	WPUP-FM - 100.1 (Power 100.1
Barrow Co Journal	Peachtree Corners Patch	Pickens County Progress	WRAF-FM - 90.9 (Toccoa)
Barrow Co News	Red and Black (UGA)	Rockmart Journal	WRBN-FM - 104.1
Barrow Patch	Salem traffic	Rome News Wire	WRGA-AM - 1470 (Rome)
Clayton Tribune	Scan Gwinnett – Gordon	Rome News-Tribune	WRWH-AM - 1350 (News Talk, Cleveland)
Commerce News	Suwanee Patch	Six Mile Post	WSB Radio - 95.5 FM / AM 750
Commuter Dude	Times	Summerville News, The	WSB Traffic / Capt. Herb
Cumming Patch	Times -Courier	Tallapoosa Journal, The	WSGC-FM - 105.3 (GACA radio)
Dacula Patch	Times-Georgian	Times-Courier	WUOG-FM - 90.5
Dahlonega Nugget	Toccoa Record	Times-Georgian	WUSY-FM - 100.7 (US 101, Chattanooga)
Dawson Community News	Villa Rican, The	Villa Rican, The	WYAY-FM - All News 106.7
Dawson News and Advertiser	Walker County Messenger	Walker County Messenger	WYXC-AM - 1270
Discover Dawson	Walton Tribune		WZGA-AM
Duluth Patch	White County News	**RADIO**	WZOT-AM – 1220
Elberton Star	Winder Patch	WBHF-AM - 1450	
Express Lane Traffic	Bartow Headlines	WBLJ-AM - 1230	**TELEVISION**
Flagpole	Bartow Neighbor	WBTR-FM - 92.1	ETC TV3
Forsyth Co News	Bowdon Weekly	WCHM-FM - 96.7, AM 1490	WAGA-TV (Fox 5)
Forsyth Herald	Calhoun Times	WCKS-FM - 102.7	WDEF-TV (Channel 12)
Franklin Citizen & Newsleader	Catoosa County News	WCON-FM - 99.3 (Cornelia)	WDNN-TV (North GA)
Franklin Elbert	Cedartown Standard, The	WEBS-AM - 1030	WDUN-TV
GA News Network	Chatsworth Times	WGHC-AM - 1400 (Rabun)	WGCL-TV (Ch 9)
Gwinnett Business Journal	Chattanooga Times	WGST-AM - 640	WRCB-TV (Ch 3)
Gwinnett Citizen	Cherokee County Herald	WGTA-AM - 950	WRCB-TV (Ch 3)
Gwinnett Daily	Cherokee Ledger News	WGTJ-AM - 1330 (Murrayville)	WSB-TV (Ch 2)
Gwinnett Daily - Barrow focus	Cherokee Tribune	WJJC-AM - 1270 (Commerce)	WSB-TV Gwinnett Bureau
Gwinnett Forum	Coosa Valley News	WJTH-AM - 900	WTCV-TV (Ch 9)
Habersham Radio	Dade County Sentinel	WKLY-AM - 980 (Hartwell)	WTCV-TV (Ch 9)
Hartwell Sun	Daily Citizen-News	WKWN-AM - 1420	WXIA-TV (11 Alive)
Insider Advantage	Daily Tribune News, The	WLBB-AM - 1330	WYFF-TV (Ch 4 Greenville)
Jackson Herald	Dallas News Era	WLHR-FM - 92.1 (Hartwell)	

*These media outlets represent the highest viewers/listeners/readers within the study area and will be the initial focus of media outreach efforts. The list will expand during the outreach process.

The scoping period begins the day the NOI is published in the Federal Register. During the scoping period, the FHWA and GDOT will hold an Agency Scoping Meeting and two Public Scoping Meetings to gather input and comments from agencies and the public that will be used in the development of technical studies and the EIS. The Agency Scoping Meetings will include a presentation that highlights the methodologies anticipated in preparation of the technical studies that will support the EIS. The public scoping meetings will be in an open house format with maps and other displays for viewing, interactive activities to gather feedback, and project team staff and subject matter experts available to address questions and interact with the public one-on-one. The open house will describe the NEPA process and project schedule as well as the known issues impacting the corridor. Preliminary information regarding the project purpose

and need, potential alternatives, and existing environmental conditions in the corridor will be presented for review and comment.

Copies of the materials from the scoping meeting, attendance information, and verbal and written comments received at the meetings and throughout the scoping comment period will be included in a final scoping report to be prepared at the end of the scoping period. Any verbal or written comments received during the scoping period on the draft need and purpose statement, proposed alternatives or analytical methodologies will be considered by FHWA and GDOT in developing the final need and purpose statement and determining the alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS. The scoping process will be considered complete with a response letter to be sent to the members of the public who participated in the meetings in which a summary of the scoping meeting input will be provided and a final scoping report will be distributed and made available.

3.2 Project Need and Purpose Statement

According to 40 CFR 1502.13, an EIS must explain the "underlying purpose and need to which the Lead Agency is responding in proposing the alternatives, including the proposed action." The statement of need and purpose is important because it explains why the FHWA and GDOT are undertaking the proposed Project and what objectives they intend to achieve by the proposed action. The "need" for a proposed action may be to eliminate a broader underlying problem or take advantage of an opportunity. The "purpose" of the proposed action is typically the specific objectives of the activity.

A preliminary need and purpose proposed for the project will be available during the scoping period for review and comment. Following the scoping period and during the subsequent environmental analysis process, portions of the need and purpose statement may be refined based upon technical analysis, agency, stakeholder and public input.

3.2.1 Need for Project

The following current conditions are the basis of the draft need for the project:

- Population and employment growth
- Constrained access to economic activity centers
- Inefficient movement of people and goods
- Constrained east-west travel and mobility
- Local arterial traffic congestion
- High crash rates

3.2.2 Purpose of Project

The draft purpose of the project is to provide transportation system improvements that improve travel mobility and reduce crashes along the SR 20 corridor between I-575 and SR 400. As such, the proposed project would:

- Meet future travel demand generated by projected **population and employment growth**;
- Support economic vitality by providing efficient and convenient **access to economic activity centers** along the SR 20 Corridor;

- Efficiently accommodate the **movement of people and goods**;
- Reduce the frequency and severity of crashes;
- Improve **travel and mobility** through the corridor by reducing travel times and duration of congestion; and
- Reduce **local arterial traffic congestion** along the corridor.

3.3 Range of Potential Alternatives

The development and evaluation of project alternatives is central to the NEPA process. The project team will work with agency stakeholders and the public during the scoping process to identify alternative solutions for evaluation in the DEIS that address the project need and purpose. Various alternative conceptual approaches are available which could be applied in developing potential solutions including:

- **No-Build Alternative** – this concept would make no improvements to SR 20 or include no new roadways.
- **Transportation System Management Concept** – this concept would seek to improve the operations of SR 20 relying upon lower cost roadway improvements such as intersection signalization, turn lanes additions, and shoulder upgrades.
- **Build Alternatives** – these concepts would add roadway capacity to the SR 20 corridor.

For this EIS, the range of potential solutions identified based on technical analysis and the agency and public feedback gathered during the scoping process will become the basis in developing a formal set of project alternatives. The development and evaluation of project alternatives is central to the NEPA process as a means to arrive at the best course of action to address the project's needs. Once defined, all project alternatives will be rigorously explored and objectively evaluated to determine their ability to address the project need and purpose, advantages and disadvantages, and potential environmental impacts.

As required by NEPA, the project alternatives will include a "No-Build" or do nothing alternative, and one or more "Build" alternatives. The No-Build Alternative serves as the baseline condition against which the potential benefits and impacts of the SR 20 "build" alternatives are evaluated.

3.4 Collaboration on Methodologies

FHWA and GDOT will collaborate with agencies and the public, as appropriate, on the methodologies to be used and the level of detail required in the analysis of the proposed alternatives and preparation of the EIS. DEIS methodologies will be discussed at the Agency Scoping Meeting as appropriate. Ongoing collaborative discussion of methodologies will be provided at subsequent agency meetings and input will continue to be received through the TAC process. Input from agencies and the public on the methodologies must be in written format (hard copy, fax, or email) or verbal statements taken by a court reporter at the scoping meetings, and must be received by the end of the 45-day scoping period. Over the course of the EIS development, the project team will consult directly with the appropriate resource agencies if adjustments to the methodologies are required. The final methodologies will be identified and participating agencies will be notified following the end of the scoping period. For the public, the final methodologies will be included in the EIS.

The proposed methodology for ensuring responses to comments is multi-faceted. The project team will catalog comments received throughout the public involvement process and analyze

the content for trends that will help GDOT to draw conclusions regarding public sentiment towards the SR 20 project. In addition to providing project-related feedback for inclusion in the environmental documentation, public comments can be invaluable in directing or re-directing the public involvement approach and determining effective methods of communication with the public. Acknowledgement of each public comment received, regardless of submission method (e.g., mail, email, website, comment form, verbal statement taken by a court reporter, fax) is a goal of the project team. Such acknowledgement reinforces to the public that GDOT is incorporating comments into the project development process. Acknowledgements will include responses to public comments developed in consultation with and approved by GDOT. The project team will respond to comments after the 10-day public comment period. A database of all comments and responses will be maintained.

3.5 Draft Environmental Impact Statement

GDOT will prepare the DEIS with FHWA oversight. Once the draft document is approved, FHWA will issue a Notice of Availability (NOA) to inform agencies and the public that the DEIS is available for review and comment. The NOA will include a description of the EIS and alternatives, an overview of the environmental document, and information on the date, time, and location of the public hearings that provide an opportunity for comment on the document. An English language version of the NOA will be published in the Federal Register and distributed by postal mail to participating agencies along with an electronic copy of the document. An NOA announcement will also be created to include one other language (Spanish) for greater distribution to elected officials, corridor residents, other interested parties in the project area, and the general public. The NOA announcement will also be posted on the project website and will be provided to several media outlets as described in the Public Involvement Plan.

The NOA will also include information on how to obtain a hard or electronic copy of the DEIS. The DEIS will be posted on the project website and mailed to several libraries in the project area.

A round of Public Hearing Open House (PHOH) will be held after the FHWA approval of the Draft EIS. At that time FHWA will evaluate whether to use the Final EIS and ROD structure or the combination Final EIS/ROD structure (per “Interim Guidance on MAP-21 Section 1319 Accelerated Decisionmaking in the Environmental Reviews”). The DEIS review period begins the day the NOA is published in the Federal Register and will last for 45 days for public review. During the formal review period, the FHWA and GDOT will hold a public hearing open house to gather input and comments from agencies and the public on the DEIS. The public meeting format will include an open house where plans, maps, and other displays will be available for viewing and FHWA, GDOT and project staff will be available for questions. Response letters will be sent to all commenters and each comment received will be documented in the project database.

The public will be given the opportunity to have verbal statements taken at the public hearing, which are recorded by a court reporter. Attendees may also fill out comment cards at the meeting site or mail/fax them prior to the end of the review period. The various ways to provide comments are included in the introduction to this section. Substantive comments received will be addressed in the FEIS. In addition, those who provide mailing addresses will be placed on the project mailing list (if not already included).

3.6 Final Environmental Impact Statement

The Final EIS (FEIS) will be prepared after the close of the DEIS review period. All comments received during the review of the DEIS and a response to each comment will be included in the FEIS. Once the final document is approved, FHWA will issue a NOA to inform agencies and the public that the FEIS is available for review and comment. The NOA will include a description of the Project and alternatives and an overview of the environmental document. The NOA will be published in the Federal Register and distributed in the same manner as described for the DEIS. In addition, those who provide mailing addresses with their comments will receive the NOA with an electronic copy of the document.

The FEIS review period begins the day the NOA is published in the Federal Register and ends 30 days later. During the 30-day review period, comments on the FEIS may be sent to GDOT. This is a final opportunity for the public and agencies to comment on the environmental evaluation process. The various ways to provide comments are included in Section 3.0, previously presented. After the FEIS is approved, PHOHs will be conducted. The results of evaluating a combined FEIS/ROD or separate FEIS and ROD structure will be determined after FHWA review of the DEIS (per "Interim Guidance on MAP-21 Section 1319 Accelerated Decisionmaking in Environmental Reviews).

3.7 Record of Decision

At the conclusion of the FEIS circulation, FHWA will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Project indicating the selected alternative. The ROD will indicate that the project has satisfied all requirements of NEPA, will summarize the impacts and mitigation commitments made in the FEIS, and will formalize FHWA's decision regarding the selected alternative. The ROD may not be issued sooner than 30 days after the approved FEIS is distributed, nor 90 days after the DEIS is circulated. The ROD will be distributed to participating agencies and posted on the project website for public access. The ROD will:

- Present the basis for the decision as specified in 40 CFR 1505.2;
- Summarize any mitigation measures that will be incorporated in the project and document any required Section 4(f) approval in accordance with part 774 of 23 CFR;
- Address new substantive comments received during the FEIS comment period.

FHWA's approval of the ROD completes the NEPA process for the proposed project. The results of evaluating a combined FEIS/ROD or separate FEIS and ROD structure will be determined after FHWA review of the DEIS (per "Interim Guidance on MAP-21 Section 1319 Accelerated Decisionmaking in Environmental Reviews).

3.8 Permits and Approvals after the ROD

FHWA and GDOT will prepare a ROD indicating that selected alternative. FHWA's approval of the ROD completes the NEPA process for the proposed project. The results of evaluating a combined FEIS/ROD or separate FEIS and ROD structure will be determined after FHWA review of the DEIS (per "Interim Guidance on MAP-21 Section 1319 Accelerated Decisionmaking in Environmental Reviews).

Table 3.8 indicates anticipated permits and approvals associated with Federal and state regulations, statutes, and guidance that may be required to advance construction of the project. As special studies and the NEPA process continues, the potential for the permits will be further evaluated. The NEPA process will be incompliance with 42 U.S.C 4321-4351, 23 U.S.C. 109

and 23 U.S.C. 128. The NEPA process will be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with applicable Federal state and local laws, regulations and guidance, including but not limited to those listed in Table 3.8 below.

Table 3.8 Anticipated Permits/Approvals

	Resource	Federal Statute/Regulation/Guidance	Approvals/ Coordination/ Permits/ Plans Required
1	**Socioeconomics, Land Use, and Environmental Justice**	• Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (Executive Order 12898, 59 CFR 7629, Feb. 16, 1994) • Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C.2000d-2000d1) • American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C. 1996) • USDOT Order to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (62 CFR 18377, April 15, 1997) • DOT Order 5610.2(a) Final DOT Environmental Justice Order (77 FR 27534 (May 2, 2012)) • FHWA Order 6640.23A (June 14, 2012) FHWA Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations • FHWA Guidance on Environmental Justice and NEPA (2011) • Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Properties Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (49 CFR § 24) • US Executive Order 13166, Limited English Proficiency	• No permits required • Public Outreach to environmental justice communities (see PIP) • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
2	**Parks and Recreational Facilities** (including Section 4(f) publicly owned park and recreational lands)	• Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, as amended (49 USC §303; 23 CFR 771.135)	• Section 4(f) Evaluation Coordination/ Approval with the appropriate entity having jurisdiction (e.g. US Department of Interior (DOI), US Dept. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), State, County park owner) over the facility as well as FHWA • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
3	**Cultural Resources** (including Section 4(f) historic sites)	• National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. §470A; 36 CFR Part 800) • NEPA requirements (Section 101(b)(4)) • Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, as amended (49 U.S.C. 303; 23 CFR 771.135) • National Historic Landmarks Program 36 CFR 65 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act (Public Law 86-523, 16 U.S.C. 469-469c) • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1977 (Public Law 96-95; 16 U.S.C. 470aa-mm) • Preservation of American Antiquities (43 CFR 3) • Protection of Archeological Resources (43 CFR 7)	• Coordination with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO); consulting parties; Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP); and with relevant City and County agencies; tribal governments • Section 4(f) Evaluation Coordination/ Approval with the appropriate entity having jurisdiction (e.g. DOI and HUD) over the Section 4(f) property as well as FHWA

	Resource	Federal Statute/Regulation/Guidance	Approvals/ Coordination/ Permits/ Plans Required
		• Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013)	• NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
4	**Section 4(f)** (including wildlife and waterfowl refuges)	• Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, as amended (49 USC §303; 23 CFR 771.135)	• Section 4(f) Evaluation Coordination/ Approval with the appropriate entity having jurisdiction (e.g. DOI and HUD)
5	**Section 6(f) Resources and Land** (lands or facilities acquired with Land and Water Conservation Act funds)	• Section 6(f) of the U.S. Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (16 USC §460l-4604) • Landscaping and Scenic Enhancement (Wildflowers) (23 U.S.C. 319)	• Section 6(f) evaluation to be sent to the officials having jurisdiction over the Section 6(f) property for coordination leading to final Section 6(f) approval and the Department of Interior • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
6	**Water Resources/ Wetlands/ Floodplains/Farmland**	• Clean Water Act ([CWA] 33 USC §§ 1251-1377) • Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-523, 42 U.S.C. 300 et seq.) • Floodplain Management and Protection (Executive Order 11988 of 1977; USDOT Order 5650-2, April 23, 1979) • Preservation of the Nation's Wetlands (Executive Order 11990 of 1977; USDOT Order 5660.1A, August 24, 1978) • National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 USC 4001 et seq.) • Federal-Aid Policy Guide on Storm Drainage Responsibility (23 CFR 650A) • Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. § 401). • Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) (16 U.S.C. § 661 et seq.) • Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201-4209) • Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287) • Emergency Wetlands Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3921, 3931) • Wetlands Mitigation (23 U.S.C. 103(b)(6)(M) and 133(b)(11) • Flood Disaster Protection Act (42 U.S.C. 4001-4128)	• National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit with GDNR • Section 404 Clean Water Act permit with USACE • Section 401 Water Quality Certification with GDNR • Floodplain Evaluation Report with FEMA coordination • FEMA coordination if an encroachment on any regulatory floodway is anticipated • Water Quality Management Plan with GDOT/GDNR coordination • Erosion and Sediment Control Plans coordination with GDOT • FWCA coordination with GDOT Ecology and the USFWS • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
7	**Critical Habitats and Threatened and Endangered Species**	• Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (16 USC §§1531-1544; 50 CFR Part 402) • Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 U.S.C. § 703-712), as amended. • Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 U.S.C. § 668-668d, 54 Stat. 250), as amended. • Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. § 661 -667 (d))	• Section 7 of ESA and Critical Habitat Consultation with GDOT Ecology and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) • ACOE coordination with USFWS under Section 404 CWA permit process • Coordination with GDNR on species occurrences • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
8	**Hazardous Materials and**	• Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (40 CFR Parts 260-281)	• Coordination with GDNR • NEPA coordination/ approval

	Resource	Federal Statute/Regulation/Guidance	Approvals/ Coordination/ Permits/ Plans Required
	Contamination	• Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) • Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) • Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)	with FHWA
9	**Air Quality**	• Clean Air Act (42 USC §7506(c); 40 CFR Part 93) • Final Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93)	• Interagency coordination (e.g., FHWA, EPA, ARC, GDOT) • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
10	**Secondary and Cumulative Effects**	• Considering Cumulative Effects Under the National Environmental Policy Act (CEQ, 1997) • Guidance on the Consideration of Past Actions in Cumulative Effects Analysis (CEQ, 2005) • Interim Guidance: Questions and Answers Regarding Indirect and Cumulative Impact Considerations in the NEPA Process (USDOT 2003) • Consideration of Cumulative Impacts in EPA Review of NEPA Documents (EPA 1999) • Position Paper on Secondary and Cumulative Impact Assessment (FHWA 1992) • Executive Order 13274 Indirect and Cumulative Impacts	• NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA
11	**Noise**	• FHWA Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) • FHWA's Procedures for Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise and Construction Noise	• Local Officials coordination • NEPA coordination/ approval with FHWA

4.0 REVIEW PERIODS AND EXPECTATIONS

4.1 Pre-DEIS Document Reviews

Documents to be provided for review, prior to the DEIS, will include:

A. Agency Coordination Plan
B. Need and Purpose Statement
C. Screening and Evaluation Criteria Technical Memorandum
D. Alternatives Screening Report
E. DEIS Resource Technical Memoranda (for review by appropriate resource agencies)

Participating agencies are strongly encouraged to participate throughout the EIS development process. As coordination milestones are achieved, documentation of the particular items will be submitted to all participating agencies for review and comment. With the exception of the DEIS comment period ranging from 45 to 60 days, agencies should comment within a maximum of 30 calendar days unless a written request for an extension of the review period has been requested by the participating agency from the lead agencies. A different comment period may be arranged through agreement with the agencies; however, it is preferred to agree up front and not to request extensions. Failure of an agency to respond with either comments or a request for a review extension within 30 calendar days shall be considered concurrence with the documentation.

A separate PIP has been developed, which provides for a variety of public participation opportunities during the EIS including Public Information Open Houses, stakeholder meetings, and Public Hearing Open Houses. Project Fact Sheets, newsletters and a website will also provide information to keep the public informed about the project. The lead agencies will review and consider all comments received. The Final EIS/ROD shall discuss substantive comments received on the Draft EIS and responses thereto and summarize public involvement.

Throughout the EIS process potential opportunities for concurrent reviews among agencies will be identified. These options will be discussed at the monthly meetings and implemented as deemed appropriate and applicable by the project team.

4.2 DEIS and FEIS Reviews

The Draft EIS will be made available to the public and transmitted to participating agencies and tribal governments for comment. Beginning with the public NOA on the DEIS, a 45-day period shall be provided for the return of comments from the public, and 30-days for participating agencies and tribal governments. According to 23 CFR 771.123(h) and OCGA 21-2(f)(5)(A), the DEIS will also be available at the DEIS public hearing and for a minimum of 15 days in advance of the public hearing. A minimum 30-day review period for the public, participating agencies, and tribal governments will follow the NOA for the Final EIS. Table 3.1 states the timeframes for reviews of additional NEPA milestones.

MAP-21 includes streamlining provisions that permit the development of a joint FEIS and ROD that are developed and circulated simultaneously as one document. This approach will be considered during project development. If all parties concur on this approach, it will be disclosed in the DEIS document and a revision to the circulation procedures for the FEIS and ROD will be made available to agencies and the public.

4.3 Issue Resolution

The Lead Agencies, Cooperating and Participating Agencies will work cooperatively to identify and resolve *issues* that could delay completion of the environmental review process or that could result in denial of any approvals required for the project under applicable laws. Lead Agencies, Cooperating and Participating Agencies shall identify as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental, cultural, or socioeconomic impacts.

Dispute resolution will be implemented when there is failure to reach concurrence at a coordination point (See Table 3.1), or there is substantial disagreement at a critical decision point. The resolution process will first consist of an informal attempt to reach concurrence/agreement among agencies. Participants would include a representative of each lead agency and appropriate additional agency. Each agency shall make its best effort to resolve disputes. Within 15 days of an agency identifying non-concurrence at a critical decision point, a "dispute resolution" meeting of agency representatives would be convened.

Dispute resolution meetings will be convened at an agreed upon location and time. At this meeting, an attempt will be made to resolve the concerns of any agency through consensus. This may include providing information or detail not previously provided. If the concerns are resolved at this meeting, the process is ended and the concurrence is formalized in the agreed-upon manner.

If a resolution cannot be achieved within 15 days following the dispute resolution meeting, and the lead agencies determined that all information necessary to resolve the issue has been obtained and distributed, the lead agencies shall notify the heads of all participating parties.

The environmental review process and document may continue whether or not attempts to reach concurrence are successful. However, if the dispute remains unresolved, any agency in non-concurrence retains its options to elevate its concerns through existing formalized dispute elevation procedures at the appropriate point in the environmental review or permitting process.

5.0 REVISION HISTORY

Agency Coordination Plan changes are identified in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 Revision History

Version	Date	Document Name	Revision description and why it was completed
2	10/9/13	Agency Coordination Plan	Address USEPA comments from 06/20/2013 regarding the ACP, updated participating and cooperating agency tables from Scoping responses, and updated document date.

Appendix A: Agency Coordination

Dawood, Laura

From: Freas, Kathrine M SAS <Kathrine.M.Freas@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, November 06, 2013 3:01 PM
To: Dawood, Laura
Cc: Chetna.Dixon@dot.gov; Kelly.Wade@dot.gov; cynthia.burney@dot.ga.gov; Samuel Pugh; Gero, Scott
Subject: RE: SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS, Cherokee/Forsyth Counties, PIs 0002862/0003681/0003682 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Laura,

I just spoke with my supervisor, who coordinated our response with our Division Chief as well. We will not serve as a cooperating agency for this project. However, we will do our best to participate in meetings and such as they arise if requested. I'm sorry for the delay in getting this response to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,
Katie Freas
US Army Corps of Engineers
Project Manager, Piedmont Branch

1025 Buford Dam Road, Buford, Georgia 30518 (Physical) Post Office Box 528, Buford, Georgia 30515 (Mailing) Phone (678) 804-5226 Fax (770) 904-2342

Thank you in advance for completing our Customer Survey Form. This can be accomplished by visiting our website at http://per2.nwp.usace.army.mil/survey.html, and completing the survey online. We value your comments and appreciate your taking time to complete a survey each time you interact with our office.

Please see our Avatar website for additional information concerning the Savannah District's Regulatory Program: http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx

-----Original Message-----
From: Dawood, Laura [mailto:Laura.Dawood@aecom.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 05, 2013 7:55 AM
To: Freas, Kathrine M SAS
Cc: Chetna.Dixon@dot.gov; Kelly.Wade@dot.gov; cynthia.burney@dot.ga.gov; Samuel Pugh; Gero, Scott
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS, Cherokee/Forsyth Counties, PIs 0002862/0003681/0003682 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Katie,
Thanks for your follow up on this item. The project team is anticipating posting to the website an updated Agency Coordination Plan outlining the roles each agency will serve on this project. If responses are not received by agencies, the project team is assuming roles as based on SAFETEA-LU. Details are provided at this website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/section6002/1.htm . Please direct your attention to questions 21-31, specifically regarding cooperating/participating agencies.

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20
IMPROVEMENTS
CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the_____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

RECEIVED
MAY 10 2013
Office of
Environmental Services

ATLANTA ME 30029
09 MAY 2013

Freedom
FOREVER

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: " "
Copies: OH____ Asst. OH____
NEPA____ A/N____ Arch____
Eco____ Hist____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 000286^ 0003681, 0003682

30306@3621 C026

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

IN REPLY REFER TO:
ER-13-0220

MAY 08 2013

Mr. Rodney N. Barry
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
61 Forsyth Street, SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Barry:

The National Park Service (NPS) welcomes and accepts the April 18, 2013, invitation from the Federal Highway Administration and the Georgia Department of Transportation to serve in the role of a Participating Agency in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed State Route (SR) 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming, Georgia, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §1500.6 and as further defined under Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users. The NPS offers the following comments and recommendations for your consideration based on the preliminary information provided to date:

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

The NPS/Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CRNRA) notes that the proposed route crosses a number of streams that are tributaries to the Chattahoochee River. We encourage the FHWA and GDOT to be proactive and to use the best management practices available to prevent soil erosion caused by storm water runoff at all stream crossings. Excess sedimentation deposited into the Chattahoochee River by tributaries is a significant contributor to poor water quality.

The NPS would also encourage the FHWA and GDOT to use native grass seed or native vegetation for stabilizing road shoulders and streambanks at all stream crossings. Non-native species are easily transported downstream in the tributaries and can start new colonies of invasive species in the CRNRA.

Lastly, we would encourage the FHWA and GDOT to avoid using storm water control devices that contain plastic mesh or matting near the stream crossings. The mesh material is harmful to waterfowl and other bird species that inhabit the CRNRA and congregate and feed at the stream

edges of the tributaries.

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

The proposed project area includes a three-plus mile stretch of SR 20 running east out of Canton, Georgia, to the Buffington, Georgia, area that is located on, or along, the congressionally designated route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (NHT). Widening SR 20 in this area may impact portions of the trail and affect the visual quality of the trail experience in this area. Moreover, an important trail-related site, Fort Buffington, lies just to the south of the road near Buffington, Georgia. The NPS recommends that impacts to the Trail of Tears NHT, and its associated sites and viewshed, be taken into account during future planning for this project.

We appreciate your request to become a Participating Agency and partner in developing the Draft EIS. Please contact Steven Wright, NPS, Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta Federal Center, 1924 Building, 100 Alabama Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia, 30303, telephone (404) 507-5710 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

for Gordon Wissinger
Acting Regional Director
Southeast Region

cc:
GDOT - Karyn Matthews

U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IV
Alabama, Florida, Georgia,
Kentucky, Mississippi,
North Carolina, Puerto
Rico, South Carolina,
Tennessee, Virgin Islands

230 Peachtree St., N.W.,
Suite 800
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-865-5600
404-865-5605 (fax)

April 29, 2013

Georgia Department of Transportation
Mr. Glenn Bowman, State Environmental
Administrator
ATTN: Sam Pugh
600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Re: Invitation to Become a Participating Agency in the Environmental Review Process for SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS, Cherokee and Forsyth Counties, GDOT Project Numbers: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682) P.I. Nos.: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682.

Dear Mr. Pugh:

The Federal Transit Administration has received an invitation to become a participating agency in the subject Environmental Impact Statement. The FTA hereby accepts the invitation and we look forward to working with you on your projects. If we can be of any further assistance, please contact Mr. Stan Mitchell of my staff at 404-865-5643.

Sincerely,

Yvette G. Taylor

Yvette G. Taylor, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

May 15, 2013

Rodney N. Barry, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
61 Forsyth Street S.W., Suite 17T100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

SUBJECT: Participating Agency Request for the Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed State Route 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming, Cherokee and Forsyth Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Barry:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received your letter dated April 18, 2013, inviting EPA to become a "participating agency" with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed improvements of State Route (SR) 20 from Canton to Cummings in Cherokee and Forsyth counties. In accordance with this request, we accept your invitation to become a participating agency for this project and will endeavor to participate in project activities in the manner suggested in your letter, subject to resource limitations. EPA's participating agency status and level of involvement does not, however, preclude our independent review and comment responsibilities under Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, or our authorities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Similarly, our being a participating agency should not imply that EPA will necessarily concur with all aspects of GDOT's EIS.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with GDOT and the FHWA as a participating agency on this project. Please contact Jamie Higgins, as our primary agency representative for this project, at (404) 562-9681 or higgins.jamie@epa.gov to discuss this letter or if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
NEPA Program Office
Office of Environmental Accountability

Hart, Bruce

From: Roman, Juan <juan.roman@hud.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2013 2:27 PM
To: Hart, Bruce
Cc: Rivera, Nelson A; Roman, Juan
Subject: Improvement to State Rd 20 Project

Hello Bruce:

Thank You for inviting us to the May 20, 2012 subject project coordination meeting.

Please reference our morning telephone conversation. It is my understanding that:

a) The project is in a preliminary planning phase leading to evaluation of alternatives.
b) There is no HUD funding involved.
c) At this stage no impact to a specific HUD Assisted Project can be identified.

After consulting with the Regional Environmental Officer, it was concluded that there is no statutory authority or special expertise that would warrant our participation in this meeting.

We do recommend consultation as early as possible with any local entity in which their properties show up in the inventory of properties which will be or might be affected by your project.

HUD assist many cities, public housing authorities, counties and the State of Georgia DCA in their housing projects/programs. If a HUD assisted project show-up in the inventory of properties been affected by your project, please contact the local HUD assisted entity and copy me in that correspondence.

Thank You again for contacting us.

Juan

Juan H. Román, P.E.

FIELD ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
REGION IV - ATLANTA REGIONAL OFFICE
FIVE POINTS PLAZA
40 MARIETTA STREET
ATLANTA, GA 30303-2806

OFFICE: 678.732.2543 / FACSIMILE: 404. -331-4020
EMAIL: juan.roman@hud.gov

REGION IV ENVIRONMENTAL WEBSITE
http://www.hud.gov/local/shared/working/r4/environmental/index.cfm?state=ga

HUD's Environmental Representative in the States of Georgia , and Tennessee

Region IV Environmental Website: http://www.hud.gov/local/shared/working/r4/environment/index.cfm?state=ga

Assessment Tools for Environmental Compliance Website: http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/environment/atec.cfm

Listserver sign up: http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/localmailinglist.cfm#nc

To register on Region IV Environmental Training:

http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEventSearch&year=2011&month=10&sortBy=event_start_datetime&sortOrder=

2(862)

Preserving America's Heritage

June 28, 2013

Mr. Rodney N. Barry, P.E.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Georgia Division
61 Forsyth Street S.W., Suite 17T100
Atlanta, GA 30303

Ref: *Invitation to Become a Participating Agency in the Environmental Review Process for State Route 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming Cherokee and Forsyth Counties, Georgia*

Dear Mr. Barry:

On April 24, 2013, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received your invitation to participate in the environmental review process for the referenced undertaking pursuant to Section 6005 of the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users* (SAFETEA-LU codified at 23 U.S.C. 327(a)(2)(A). The ACHP accepts your invitation to become a participating agency. However, we do not at this time anticipate attending meetings or providing formal comments at environmental review milestones. We would appreciate your keeping us informed of progress, as we may decide to become more actively involved in the future, as warranted. We would also be pleased to provide FHWA with technical assistance related to historic preservation and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as you fulfill your compliance responsibilities.

In addition, the ACHP encourages your agency to coordinate the Section 106 process with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance by notifying, at your earliest convenience, the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), Indian tribes, and other consulting parties pursuant to our regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Through early consultation, your agency will be able to determine the appropriate strategy to ensure Section 106 compliance is completed in a timely manner for this undertaking.

Likewise, FHWA should continue consultation with the appropriate SHPO/THPO, Indian tribes, and other consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties and to assess any potential adverse effects on those historic properties. If your agency determines through consultation with the consulting parties that the undertaking will adversely affect historic properties, or that the development of a programmatic agreement is necessary, the agency must notify the ACHP and provide the documentation detailed at 36 CFR §800.11(e).

Thank you for inviting our participation in the development of this project. Should you have any questions as to how your agency should comply with the requirements of Section 106, please contact Najah Duvall-Gabriel at (202) 606-8585 or via e-mail at ngabriel@achp.gov

Sincerely,

Charlene Dwin Vaughn, AICP
Assistant Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Federal Permitting, Licensing and Assistance Section

Hart, Bruce

From: Segesvary, Louis <lsegesvary@arc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 3:08 PM
To: Hart, Bruce
Subject: RE: GDOT SR 20 Improvements

Bruce: Thanks for sending me all the information. I discussed it with our highway program manager, and he informed me that he had already responded to FHWA and that ARC would not be a participating agency. Again, thanks for taking all the time to lay this out to me. Regards, Louis

---

From: Hart, Bruce [mailto:Bruce.Hart@aecom.com]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 1:57 PM
To: Segesvary, Louis
Subject: GDOT SR 20 Improvements -- Request for Determination as Participating Agency and Invitation to Agency Scoping Meeting

Lewis,

It was a pleasure speaking with you this morning. As I indicated over the phone, as the lead federal agency for this project, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) distributed invitation letters to federal, state, and local entities which may desire to be participating agencies under the project's Environmental Impact Statement process. The letter also invited these agencies to attend an Agency Scoping Meeting to be held at the Georgia Department of Transportation General Office in Atlanta, Georgia on Monday, May 20, 2013. The Appalachian Regional Commission may be interested in this project due it's potential for economic and social impacts to areas under the Commission's land area of interest.

Below is the text of the invitation letter; we are coordinating with FHWA to obtain copies of the final signed letters, and I will forward this to you as it becomes available.

Also, I've attached the documents that were distributed with the invitation letter.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you,

Bruce Hart
AECOM Environment
Phone: 404-965-7071

> The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is initiating an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed State Route (SR) 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming. The project limits are Interstate (I)-575 in Canton to SR 400 in Cumming. The proposed project consists of evaluating transportation alternatives for this SR 20 corridor in Cherokee and Forsyth Counties (see Project Location Map included in the enclosed Scoping Booklet). The purpose of the project, as currently defined, is to address congestion, limited mobility, and safety issues.
> Your agency has been identified as an agency that may have an interest in the project due to potential environmental resource involvement. With this letter, we extend your agency an invitation to become a participating agency with the FHWA in the development of the EIS for the subject project. This

designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, participating agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

1. Provide meaningful and early input on defining the purpose and need, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the alternatives analysis.
2. Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
3. Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation prior to X, 2013. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining the invitation. Pursuant to SAFETEA-LU Sec. 6002, any Federal agency that chooses to decline the invitation to be a participating agency must specifically state in its response that it:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

The Agency Scoping Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2013 from 1:30 to 3:30 at 600 West Peachtree Street N.W., Rooms 403-404, Atlanta, Georgia 30308. An RSVP from you or a representative is requested by X, 2013 to attend the agency scoping meeting. Please respond using the enclosed self addressed postcard.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact Mr. Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator, ATTN: Sam Pugh, GDOT, Office of Environmental Services, by telephone at 404-631-1167 or by email at spugh@dot.ga.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Rodney Barry
Division Administrator

Enclosures: Scoping Booklet
Agency Participation/Scoping Meeting Postcard

cc: Chetna Dixon, FHWA
Kelly Wade, FHWA
Karyn Matthews, GDOT OPD
Sam Pugh, GDOT OES

Bruce Hart
AECOM Environment
D 404.965.7071
bruce.hart@aecom.com

1360 Peachtree Street, Suite 500, Atlanta GA 30309
F 404.965.9605
www.aecom.com

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20
IMPROVEMENTS
CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:
NOT APPLICABLE TO OUR ADHS PROGRAM

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

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SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

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Office of Environmental Services

Primary PI #: 0002862
Add'l PI Nos: 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst: S. Pugh
Recipient:
Copies: OH ____ Asst. OH ____
NEPA ____ A/N ____ Arch ____
Eco ____ Hist ____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the DNR, Engineering & Construction, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email/U.S. Mail/in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the _____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

30308362120

Bell, Caitlan

From: Stephanie Jordan <Stephanie.Jordan@dnr.state.ga.us>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2013 1:53 PM
To: Dawood, Laura
Cc: Dean Baker
Subject: RE: SR 20 Agency Scoping Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Laura,

The SHPO will serve as a participating agency for this project, but we do not wish to serve on the TAC. I received the aforementioned documents and will review and comment by 6/20/13. If I have any questions, I will not hesitate to contact you. I look forward to working with you on this project.

Best,
Stephanie

-----Original Message-----
From: Dawood, Laura [mailto:Laura.Dawood@aecom.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2013 5:53 PM
To: Dean Baker; Stephanie Jordan
Subject: Re: SR 20 Agency Scoping Meeting

Thanks Dean.

Stephanie,
Can you please let me know if you need additional documents or if you would like to discuss.

Thanks,
Laura

----- Original Message -----
From: Dean Baker [mailto:Dean.Baker@dnr.state.ga.us]
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2013 02:44 PM
To: Dawood, Laura; Stephanie Jordan <Stephanie.Jordan@dnr.state.ga.us>
Subject: RE: SR 20 Agency Scoping Meeting

Laura,

I am not sure who you might have spoken with at HPD, but unless this is a project that is using Transportation Enhancement funding, Stephanie Jordan, our transportation projects coordinator is probably the contact you seek. I have copied her on this message.

Thanks,

-Dean

From: Dawood, Laura [Laura.Dawood@aecom.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2013 2:54 PM
To: Dean Baker
Subject: SR 20 Agency Scoping Meeting

Good Afternoon Mr. Baker,

Based on a conversation I had with the SHPO office yesterday, it is my understanding that you may be serving as the point of contact for SHPO. Can you please confirm that is the case and if not, please provide me the appropriate contact?

The first meeting, the Agency Scoping Meeting, was held last Monday, 5/20/13 (pdf of the powerpoint attached). As follow up to the meeting, we'd like to confirm several items with the SHPO.

First, we would like to solicit your written comment on the following items by 6/20/13.

1. Scoping Booklet

2. Agency Coordination Plan

3. Public Involvement Plan

4. Draft Need and Purpose Statement (attached)

5. Draft Environmental Studies Methodology Memo (attached)

6. Agency-specific considerations relating to resources and/or the upcoming alternatives evaluation process

Second, by 5/31/13 could you please:

1) Confirm your agency will serve as a participating or cooperating agency (based on our information, SHPO has agreed to serve as a participating agency)

2) Indicate if you would like to serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for this project

In a follow up email I am attaching the Scoping Booklet, Agency Coordination Plan, or Public Involvement Plan (which is an Appendix to the Agency Coordination Plan). Draft meeting minutes and the sign-in sheet were sent under a separate email.

Please let us know if there are concerns with the timeframes proposed herein. We appreciate your continued involvement in this project.

Regards,
Laura

Laura Dawood
NEPA Project Manager
D 404.965.7074 C 404.769.1528
laura.dawood@aecom.com<mailto:laura.dawood@aecom.com>

AECOM
1360 Peachtree Street, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30309 F 404.965.9605 www.aecom.com<http://www.aecom.com/>

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the GA SHPO, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the _____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

Our involvement and comments will pertain to historic and archaeological resources and coordination in our role as a consulting party in the Section 106 process is expected.

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
Office of
Environmental Services

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: " "
Copies: OH____ **Asst. OH**____
NEPA____ **A/N**____ **Arch**____
Eco____ **Hist**____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

AECOM
1360 Peachtree Street NE,
One Midtown Plaza, Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30309
www.aecom.com

PI 0002862

404 965 9600 tel
404 965 9605 fax

SR 20 Improvements from I-575 to SR 400

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

AECOM Proj.: 60267130

Telephone Call Summary

By:	Laura Dawood	Date:	5/29/13
Talked with:	Mark McDonald	Project number:	0002862, 0003681, 0003682
From (company):	GCA	Project name:	SR 20
Phone number:	404-881-9980	Subject:	Participating Agency Request

Laura called Mr. McDonald to follow up on the participating agency request:

1. Yes, Mr. McDonald did recall seeing the invitation to serve as a participating agency. He asked about the issues in the area. I responded that there were congestion, safety, and east-west mobility concerns.
2. I shared with him the status of Scoping and asked if he would like the materials sent to him.
3. Given his workload commitments across the state, and his current understanding that there are no previously identified imperiled structures in that area, he would like to become notified of potential structures and adverse effects as we get further along in the process.
4. I told him we would.

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the Atlanta Regional Commission, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the_____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

RECEIVED
MAY 06 2013
Office of
Environmental Services

06 MAY 2013 PM 1 1

Equality
FOREVER

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: _____
Copies: OH_____ **Asst. OH**_____
NEPA_____ **A/N**_____ **Arch**_____
Eco_____ **Hist**_____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

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Georgia Regional Transportation Authority

Participating Agency Response Form

I CONCUR in our agency's role as a participating agency, under 23 U.S.C. 139, on the SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming EIS:

Kirk Fjelstul _____ **Deputy Executive Director** _____

Print or Type Name **Title**

_____ **May 24, 2013** _____

Signature **Date**

I DECLINE for the following reasons (check all that are appropriate):

_____ **Have no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project**
_____ **Have no expertise or information relevant to the project**
_____ **Do not intend to submit comments on the project**
_____ **Other** _____
_____

_____ _____

Print or Type Name **Title**

_____ _____

Signature **Date**

Please mail response by May 11, 2013 to:

Mail:
Mr. Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
ATTN: Sam Pugh
600 West Peachtree Street N.W.
16th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30308

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the FORSYTH COUNTY GOVERNMENT, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the _____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following: 2 STAFF WILL ATTEND THE 5/20/13 MEETING.

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

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2012

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: "
Copies: OH____ **Asst. OH**____
NEPA____ **A/N**____ **Arch**____
Eco____ **Hist**____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

30308$9607 C026

Bell, Caitlan

From: Dawood, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2013 8:54 AM
To: Gero, Scott
Subject: FW: SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS, Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

fyi

Laura Dawood
D 404.965.7074 C 404.769.1528
laura.dawood@aecom.com

From: Geoff Morton [mailto:gmorton@cherokeega.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 2:00 PM
To: Dawood, Laura
Subject: RE: SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS, Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

Laura:

Cherokee County will serve as a participating agency and I would like to serve on the TAC for the project.

Thanks

Geoff

Geoffrey E. Morton, P.E.
Public Works Agency Director
Cherokee County
1130 Bluffs Parkway
Canton, Georgia 30114
(678)493-6077

From: Dawood, Laura [mailto:Laura.Dawood@aecom.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 1:41 PM
To: pete_pattavina@fws.gov; Kathrine.M.Freas@usace.army.mil; steve.lawrence@ga.usda.gov; Higgins.Jamie@epa.gov; ahazell@gmrc.ga.gov; mkray@atlantaregional.com; tlallen@forsythco.com; Geoff Morton; joby.west@canton-georgia.com
Cc: sthomas@edwards-pitman.com; Gero, Scott; Karyn Matthews (KMatthews@dot.ga.gov); Samuel Pugh; Chetna.Dixon@dot.gov; Kelly.Wade@dot.gov
Subject: FW: SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS, Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

To Agency Scoping Meeting Participants,

Thank you for attending the Agency Scoping Meeting yesterday and for your interest in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS project. Please find the presentation from the Agency Scoping Meeting (attached) for your reference.

As follow up to the meeting, we'd like to confirm several items.

First, as mentioned in the presentation, we would like to solicit your written comment on the following items by 6/20/13.

1. Scoping Booklet
2. Agency Coordination Plan
3. Public Involvement Plan
4. Draft Need and Purpose Statement (attached)
5. Draft Environmental Studies Methodology Memo (attached)
6. Agency-specific considerations relating to resources and/or the upcoming alternatives evaluation process

Second, by 5/31/13 could you please:

1) Confirm your agency will serve as a participating or cooperating agency (applicable only if the agency has not yet responded).
2) Indicate if you would like to serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for this project.

Lastly, please confirm receipt of the Scoping Booklet, Agency Coordination Plan, or Public Involvement Plan (which is an Appendix to the Agency Coordination Plan). If additional copies are needed, please indicate if electronic copies are satisfactory or copies in the US mail are preferred.

Please let us know if there are concerns with the timeframes proposed herein. We appreciate your continued involvement in this project. Meeting minutes will be sent out shortly for your review and records.

Regards,
Laura

Laura Dawood
NEPA Project Manager
D 404.965.7074 C 404.769.1528
laura.dawood@aecom.com

AECOM
1360 Peachtree Street, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30309
F 404.965.9605
www.aecom.com

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SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the_____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

GEORGE MORTON, CHEROKEE COUNTY ENGINEER, WILL ATTEND.

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

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Office of
Environmental Services

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: "
Copies: OH____ Asst. OH____
NEPA____ A/N____ Arch____
Eco____ Hist____
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Justice
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Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

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Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: _____
Copies: OH ____ Asst. OH ____
NEPA ____ A/N ____ Arch ____
Eco ____ Hist ____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

30308362120

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the City of Milton, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

we have no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the City of Canton, GA, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the _____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

_____

_____

_____

Please change the contact information to: Joby A. West, P.E., City Engineer

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

ATLANTA METRO 300

26 APR 2013 PM 8 L

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Environmental Services

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

30308362120

Bell, Caitlan

From: Scott Morgan <s.morgan@cityofcumming.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2013 10:26 AM
To: Dawood, Laura; jon.heard@cityofcumming.net
Subject: RE: SR 20 Agency Scoping Meeting

Laura,

The City of Cumming will be happy to serve as a participating agency. I understand Jon Heard has spoken with you and we would both be willing to serve on the TAC for this project.

I will review the items as requested and submit any comments I have by June 20.

Please feel free to contact me regarding these matters.

The City looks forward to working with on this project.

Regards,
Scott

Scott H. Morgan, Director
Cumming Department of Planning & Zoning
100 Main Street
Cumming, Georgia 30040
(O) 770-781-2024
(F) 770-781-2029
s.morgan@cityofcumming.net

From: Dawood, Laura [mailto:Laura.Dawood@aecom.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2013 1:21 PM
To: jon.heard@cityofcumming.net; s.morgan@cityofcumming.net
Subject: SR 20 Agency Scoping Meeting

Good Afternoon Mr. Heard and Mr. Morgan,

Thank you Jon for taking the time to discuss this project with me today. It is our understanding that you will both be serving as the points of contacts to coordinate agency scoping for the City of Cumming. I have included the City of Cumming as a participating agency and as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The first meeting, the Agency Scoping Meeting, was held last Monday, 5/20/13. As follow up to the meeting, we'd like to confirm several items.

First, we would like to solicit your written comment on the following items by 6/20/13.

1. Scoping Booklet
2. Agency Coordination Plan
3. Public Involvement Plan
4. Draft Need and Purpose Statement (attached)

5. Draft Environmental Studies Methodology Memo (attached)
6. Agency-specific considerations relating to resources and/or the upcoming alternatives evaluation process

Second, by 5/31/13 could you please:

1) Confirm your agency will serve as a participating or cooperating agency (applicable only if the agency has not yet responded), which we confirmed on the phone call today.
2) Indicate if you would like to serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for this project, which we confirmed on the phone call today.

In a follow up email I am attaching the Scoping Booklet, Agency Coordination Plan, or Public Involvement Plan (which is an Appendix to the Agency Coordination Plan).

Please let us know if there are concerns with the timeframes proposed herein. We appreciate your continued involvement in this project. Draft meeting minutes and the sign-in sheet are also attached.

Regards,
Laura

Laura Dawood
NEPA Project Manager
D 404.965.7074 C 404.769.1528
laura.dawood@aecom.com

AECOM
1360 Peachtree Street, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30309
F 404.965.9605
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SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the City of Cumming, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the _____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the _____, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

GDOT
Georgia Department of Transportation

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Environmental Services

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: _____
Copies: OH ____ **Asst. OH** ____
NEPA ____ **A/N** ____ **Arch** ____
Eco ____ **Hist** ____
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Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

30308362120

Mayor
Timothy B. Downing

Council Members
Karen Barnett
Dee Phillips
Jeremy Smith
Kyle Whitaker
Michael Roy Zenchuk II

City of Holly Springs

Post Office Box 990
Holly Springs, GA 30142
www.hollyspringsga.us
Office: 770-345-5536 - Fax: 770-345-0209

City Attorney
Robert M. Dyer

City Manager
Robert H. Logan

City Clerk
Karen Norred

May 6, 2013

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
600 West Peachtree Street, N.W.
16th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30308

Dear Mr. Bowman,

The City of Holly Springs has no jurisdiction or authority regarding the proposed SR 20 Improvement Project (GDOT Project Numbers: STP00-0002-00 (862), STP00-0003-00 (682), PI Numbers 0002862, 0003681 and 0003682). Therefore, the City of Holly Springs will not be sending any representatives to the agency scoping meeting scheduled for May 20, 2013.

If you have any questions, or if you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at City Hall at 770-345-5536.

Sincerely,

Robert H Logan

Robert H. Logan,

cc: Mayor Tim Downing

SR 20 Improvements from Canton to Cumming

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
PI Numbers: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682
Cherokee and Forsyth Counties

SR20 IMPROVEMENTS CANTON TO CUMMING

Response to Invitation to Participate in the NEPA Process

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency and will attend the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013.

Yes, our agency, the_____, accepts the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency but we are **unable to attend** the Agency Scoping Meeting on May 20, 2013. We'd like to receive the meeting materials via email /U.S. Mail /in-person follow up **(please circle one).**

No, our agency, the City of Holly Springs, respectfully declines the invitation to serve in the role as a cooperating/participating (please circle one) agency in the SR 20 Improvements Canton to Cumming EIS. The agency declines due to the following:

No jurisdiction

Please submit additional documentation if needed.

Georgia Department of Transportation

ATLANTA METRO 300

06 MAY 2013 PM 10 L

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MAY 0 8 2013
Office of
Environmental Services

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FOREVER

Glenn Bowman, State Environmental Administrator
Attn: Sam Pugh
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
One Georgia Center, 16th Floor
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Primary P1 # 0002862
Add'l P1 Nos. 0003681, 0003682
NEPA analyst S. Pugh
Recipient: " "
Copies: OH____ **Asst. OH**____
NEPA____ **A/N**____ **Arch**____
Eco____ **Hist**____
ORIGINAL TO GEN. FILES

Project No's: STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681), STP00-0003-00(682)
PI No's: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682

30308362120

Bell, Caitlan

From: Pomfret, Jim <jpomfret@dot.ga.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2013 2:53 PM
To: 'Katy.Allen@dot.gov' (Katy.Allen@dot.gov); 'Chetna.Dixon@dot.gov' (Chetna.Dixon@dot.gov); 'Kelly.Wade@dot.gov' (Kelly.Wade@dot.gov)
Cc: Dawood, Laura; Pugh, Samuel; Baughman, Pamela
Subject: Tribes - Scoping Meeting

Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
Ms. Augustine Asbury, Second Chief and NAGPRA Coordinator
- RSVP'd but did not participate in the scoping meeting webinar

Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Bryant Celestine, THPO
- RSVP'd that he probably couldn't make the scoping meeting webinar. Did not participate in the webinar.

Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Mr. Michael Tarpley, Deputy THPO
- Called in for today's scoping meeting webinar. No comments during meeting.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Emman Spain, Deputy THPO
- Accepted invitation to be a Participating Agency via email (5.3.2013) but did not attend scoping meeting webinar.

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Mr. Charles Coleman, THPO/NAGPRA
- Particiapted in the scoping meeting webinar. Asked what would happen to any pre-contact artifacts found during survey. Jim Pomfret explained that all artifacts found would be cataloged, analyzed and curated at the University of West Georgia. The tribes would have an opportunity through the archaeological report to see what was found during survey.

United Keetoowah Band
Ms. Lisa Larue-Baker, THPO
- Expressed via email her tribe's interest in the project. Does not wish to be a Particiapting Agency, but does wish to be a Consulting Party per Section 106 of the NHPA.

Jim Pomfret
Archaeology Team Leader
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
Phone: 404.631.1256
Cell: 404.314.0669
Fax: 404.631.1916

Georgia DOT provides funding and technical assistance to Georgia's airport system which contributes an economic value of $62.6 billion and more than 471,100 jobs to the state's transportation and economic infrastructure. Georgia's airport system is made up of 104 publicly-owned, public-use airports.

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Pugh, Samuel

From: Bowman, Glenn
Sent: Friday, May 03, 2013 1:21 PM
To: Pugh, Samuel
Subject: FW: GDOT Project #s STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681),STDP00-0003-00(682) P.I. Nos.: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682.

fyi

Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW - 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Office: 404-631-1101 Mobile: 404-326-5871

From: Terry Cole [mailto:tdcole@mcn-nsn.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 03, 2013 10:01 AM
To: Pomfret, Jim
Cc: Bowman, Glenn
Subject: FW: GDOT Project #s STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681),STDP00-0003-00(682) P.I. Nos.: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682.

Terry Cole

From: Terry Cole
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 4:11 PM
To: Emman Spain
Subject: GDOT Project #s STP00-0002-00(862), STP00-0003-00(681),STDP00-0003-00(682) P.I. Nos.: 0002862, 0003681, 0003682.

Mr. Glenn Bowman
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street N.W., 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
ATTN: Sam Pugh

Dear Mr. Bowman:

In reference to your request for invitation to become a participating agency in the Environmental Review Process for the above mentioned project, the Muscogee(Creek)Nation accepts your invitation. The project area is within the areas of interest for the Muscogee(Creek)Nation and our office is requesting to participate in the preparation of the Draft EIS and

Final EIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provision of the National Environmental Policy Act. We understand that as a participating party, the Muscogee(Creek)Nation agrees to participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate and we agree to a timely review and comment on the pre-draft and pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation. Please direct any comments of questions to: Mr. Emman Spain, THPO espain@mcn-nsn.gov or Mr. Terry Cole, Deputy THPO tdcole@mcn-nsn.gov . Thank you

Sincerely,

Terry Cole

Terry D. Cole, Deputy THPO
Muscogee(Creek)Nation
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Work Zone Safety Awareness is a year-round priority at Georgia DOT. Be alert and pay attention when driving through highway construction work zones. Slow down, save lives! We're all in this together.

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Appendix B: Public Involvement Plan