



## BACKGROUND

Georgia DOT is initiating a study of Atlanta's Downtown Connector. The Downtown Connector, defined as the common section of I-75/85, is the primary north-south route through the Atlanta Central Business District. The Downtown Connector currently carries over 350,000 vehicles per day and provides critical access into the region's core. In addition to experiencing congestion during the AM and PM peak travel periods, the Downtown Connector experiences high levels of congestion outside of the peak periods during special events.

## STUDY PURPOSE

Recognizing the Downtown Connector's key importance to the City of Atlanta, the Metro Atlanta region, and the entire State of Georgia, the Department is undertaking an evaluation to:

- Explore options for managing congestion and improving safety and operations
- Identify practical, financially feasible solutions with demonstrated effectiveness and stakeholder support
- Evaluate broad possibilities; small-scale operational improvements to large-scale ideas

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

Phase 1: Analyze existing and future conditions to determine the nature, extent, and causes of congestion

Phase 2: Identify possible solutions and determine costs and benefits

Phase 3: Conduct further engineering analysis for some or all solutions to determine which options (if any) are the most practicable

## PROJECT UPDATES

- Planning and engineering study kicked-off in January 2016
- Stakeholder one-on-one interviews underway to help shape guiding principles
- Collection of necessary data and review of previous studies commenced

## STUDY CONTACT

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### LISTEN

*Identify issues  
Review existing conditions*

### CONSIDER

*Identify possible solutions  
Evaluate alternatives*

### ACT

*Prioritize solutions  
Implementation plan*

### CONCEPTUALIZE

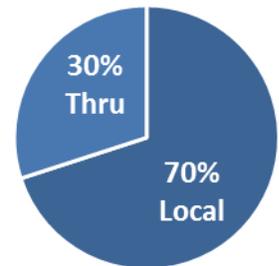
*Additional  
Engineering*

## STUDY AREA MAP



## QUICK FACTS

**350,000**  
VEHICLES PER DAY<sup>1</sup>



MIX OF TRAFFIC<sup>2</sup>

INTERCHANGE DENSITY IS  
**4x**  
THE AVERAGE AASHTO  
SPACING RECOMMENDATION

1. Source: GDOT, GeoCounts, 2014
2. Source: ARC Plan2040 Model

## STUDY AREA

The complete study area may include the approaches to the Connector along I-75, I-85, and I-20 inside I-285; I-285 (east and west walls); and all interchange ramps, cross streets, and potential parallel routes in Metro Atlanta. However, the primary focus will be on the common section of I-75 and I-85 known as the Connector. Different study areas may be used for various needs throughout the process such as data collection, traffic modeling, environmental constraints, and policy implementation.