



## **GDOT STATEWIDE TRUCK LANES NEEDS IDENTIFICATION STUDY**

### **Project Fact Sheet**

#### **How common are Truck Only Lanes?**

Truck only lanes are relatively rare in the U.S.; however, with the rapid increase in truck travel in key locations in the U.S., especially near major ports and intermodal centers, truck only lanes are being considered in more locations to facilitate traffic flow and reduce the potential for truck-auto crashes.

#### **What is the purpose of this study?**

The purpose of the study is to **explore the need for truck only lanes** in Georgia. The study will also identify where they may be feasible in terms of overall transportation system planning, lane usage (truck volumes on the roadway), available funding, community impact and land use considerations, and engineering considerations. A special focus area included in the study is the Savannah-Chatham County area.

#### **What is the final product of the study?**

The project will result in identifying specific locations (roadway corridors) in Georgia where truck lanes are needed and can improve travel conditions for trucks as well as for the entire state highway network. The study will also examine where truck only lanes can improve safety conditions. The study will result in a set of recommendations and action steps for implementing truck only lanes where feasible.

#### **Who is leading the study?**

The GDOT Office of Planning is managing the study. Ms. Michelle Caldwell is GDOT's Project Manager. GDOT has a consulting team providing technical and public involvement support for the project. HNTB Corporation is the lead consultant for the project. Mr. Andrew Smith, AICP is the Consultant Project Manager.

#### **Why is GDOT conducting the study?**

GDOT recognizes that efficient and safe truck travel is essential to the economic competitiveness of the entire State. This study will help GDOT manage the state-owned transportation facilities in a manner that optimizes the travel benefits for all users of its facilities.

#### **How will organizations and businesses potentially impacted by truck only lanes be included in the study?**

Two Project Advisory Committees are being formed to help GDOT explore the policy implications of truck lanes in Georgia. The Statewide Advisory Committee will focus on the State of Georgia as a whole. The

second group will focus on the Savannah-Chatham County area. Four regional task forces will be formed to give potential truck lane users, such as owners of manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, and other businesses; independent truckers and trucking companies; freight shippers and carriers, and others, an opportunity to weigh in on the topic of truck only lanes.

**How will the study be coordinated with local governments and regional planning organizations?**

The project team will hold sessions for local governments, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and regional development centers (RDCs) to learn more about truck lanes and obtain feedback. Public meetings for citizens at key locations around the State will also be held.

**Will citizens have an opportunity to participate?**

Citizens can access information about the study at any time through the project website, **[www.gatrucklanestudy.com](http://www.gatrucklanestudy.com)**. Additionally, in April 2007, public meetings will be held at key locations in Georgia to present information to citizens about the needs for truck only lanes. In August, 2007, public meetings will also be held to discuss the findings of the study and the proposed recommendations.

**Who should I contact if I need more information?**

Kelly Burnes at HNTB Corporation is the Public Involvement Coordinator for the project. You can reach her at (404) 946-5707 or by e-mail at [kburnes@hntb.com](mailto:kburnes@hntb.com).