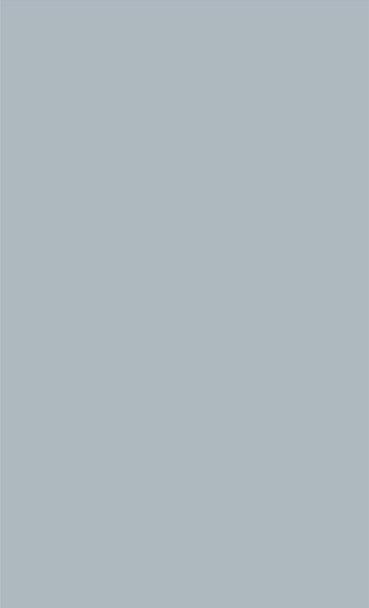


Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties
Transportation Study



Public Workshop #2- Jones County

May 8, 2008



Tonight's
Agenda

- 5:00 to 5:30 - Sign-in and Open House
- 5:30 to 5:45 - Presentation
- 5:45 to 6:00 - Questions and Answers
- 6:00 to 7:00 - Open House



Why Develop a Transportation Plan?

- Ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses.
- Ensure transportation priorities match community priorities.
- Develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects.
- Coordinate with other planning efforts.
- Early identification of funding issues and opportunities.



Planning
Partners

- Georgia Department of Transportation
- Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties
- Middle Georgia Regional Development Center
- City of Gray
- Macon MPO
- Community Leaders
 - Elected Officials
 - Business Community
 - Environmental Justice Communities
- Interested Citizens and Citizen Groups



Jones County
Goals and
Objectives

- Maintain and enhance major transportation thoroughfares
 - Enhance countywide mobility through improved roadway connectivity
 - Protect our Downtown area by removing trucks and other through traffic
 - Ensure that our transportation system is safe for all users and Citizens
 - Improve the range of mobility options for our Citizens
 - Preserve natural resources - parks, lakes, and historic sites
- *Consistent w/local comprehensive plans and local stakeholder input



Study
Update

- Documented comments from stakeholder and public meetings
- Evaluated existing and future conditions
- Developed preliminary improvement recommendations
- Developed prioritization strategy
- Began development of transportation plan documentation



Phase I:

- Public involvement (October 2007)
 - Public involvement process
 - Goals & objectives
- Data collection (June - December 2007)
 - Local comprehensive plans
 - Existing conditions inventory
 - Travel demand model
- Develop evaluation factors (December 2007)
- Existing & future operating conditions assessments (September 2007 - February 2008)

Study
Update

Phase II:

- Identification of potential improvements
– Underway

Next Steps

- Potential project screening and ranking
- Develop cost estimates
- Financial resources and funding
- Development of long-range transportation plan (horizon year of 2035)



Public
Comments
Received

- Remove truck traffic from downtown Gray
- Need for passing lanes on US 129
- Wider shoulders on bicycle routes
- Railroad crossing / signal spacing issues in downtown Gray
- Improved east-west connections to Bass Road area



Improvement
Development
Process

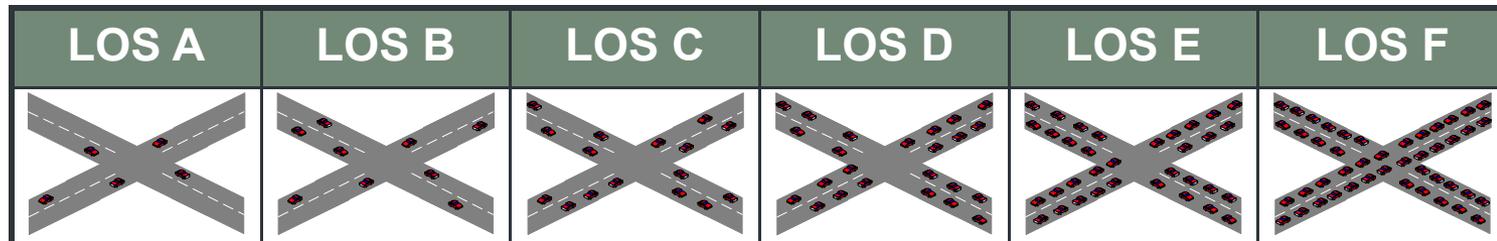
- Identify Deficiencies and Develop Preliminary Improvements
- Complete Initial Screening of Improvements Against Evaluation Criteria
- Review Proposed Improvements with Planning Partners
- Review Improvements with the Public
- Refine Improvements
- Prioritized List of Recommended Improvements

Travel Demand
Model

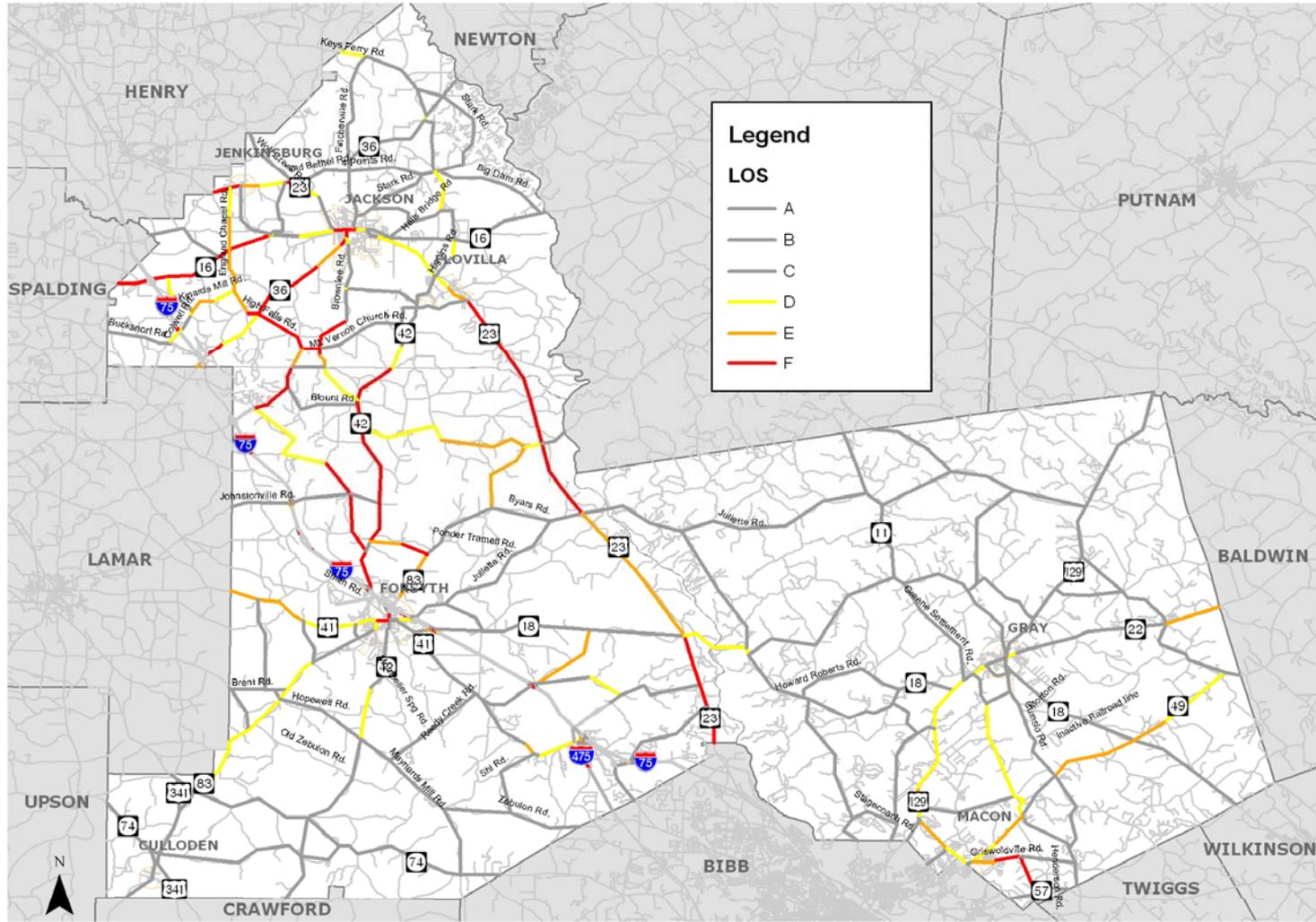
- Developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model
 - Baseline conditions in 2006
 - Census Data
 - Traffic Counts
 - Employment Information - Dept. of Labor
 - School Enrollment
 - Socioeconomic forecasts - 2015 / 2035
 - County Allocation
- Identified potential improvements based on future transportation deficiencies
 - Mid-range - 2015
 - Long-range - 2035

Existing &
Future
Operating
Conditions

- Roadway operating conditions were evaluated using Level of Service (LOS)
- LOS compares volumes along the roadway to the capacity of that roadway
- LOS was derived using the Travel Demand Model
- Existing (2006) and Future (2015 & 2035) Operating Conditions were Evaluated



2035 Level of Service



Butts, Jones, Monroe
Transportation Study



Potential
Roadway
Improvements

- Gray Bypass*
- US 129 Widening from Gray Bypass north to US 441*
- SR 22 Widening from Gray Bypass to Baldwin County line*
- SR 49 Widening from Griswoldville Road to SR 18*
- SR 57 Improvements
- US 129 Widening from south of Gray to SR 49
- Lite-N-Tie Road Widening



Bridge &
Intersection
Improvements

- Bridges
 - Over 20 foot span
 - Sufficiency rating 50 and below
- Intersections
 - Crash analysis
 - Public input

Bicycle &
Pedestrian
Evaluation

- Evaluation Factors
 - Public Involvement
 - Fill Gaps in Existing Network
 - Downtown / Activity Center Areas
 - One-Mile Buffer Around
 - Schools
 - Parks
 - Libraries
 - Public Facilities
 - Middle Georgia RDC Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

Bicycle &
Pedestrian
Potential
Improvements

- Ocmulgee Heritage Shared Use Trail along Ocmulgee River
- Sidewalk improvements
- Rails-to-Trails on inactive rail line from Bibb County line northeast to Baldwin County line
- On-road bicycle routes
- “Share the Road” signs

- Needs
 - Demand will Grow as Population Ages and County Continues to Grow
 - Access to Jobs in Bibb County - Macon Area
- Recommendations
 - Monitor signs of carpooling, vanpooling, etc. to determine if a Park & Ride may be warranted.
 - Work with the GDOT District Office to determine feasibility of expanding the 5311 Rural Transit Program.
 - Coordinate with DHR Region Six to explore additional services for the elderly and disabled.



Freight &
Rail
Evaluation

- Truck Routes
 - Improvements to US 129, SR 22, SR 57, SR 49
 - Gray Bypass
- Rail Lines
 - Safety
 - 5 crossing improvements proposed

Prioritization
Factors

- Identified Need
- Safety
- Connectivity
- Preserve / Enhance Downtowns
- Concept Design in Progress
- Supports Comprehensive Planning Efforts
- Maintains Transportation and Land Use Linkage

Next
Steps

- Document tonight' s comments
- Prioritize projects
- Identify key projects for implementation
- Develop policy recommendations
- Finalize transportation plan documentation (Summer 2008)



Questions or Comments?

Georgia Department of Transportation

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Information

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HNTB