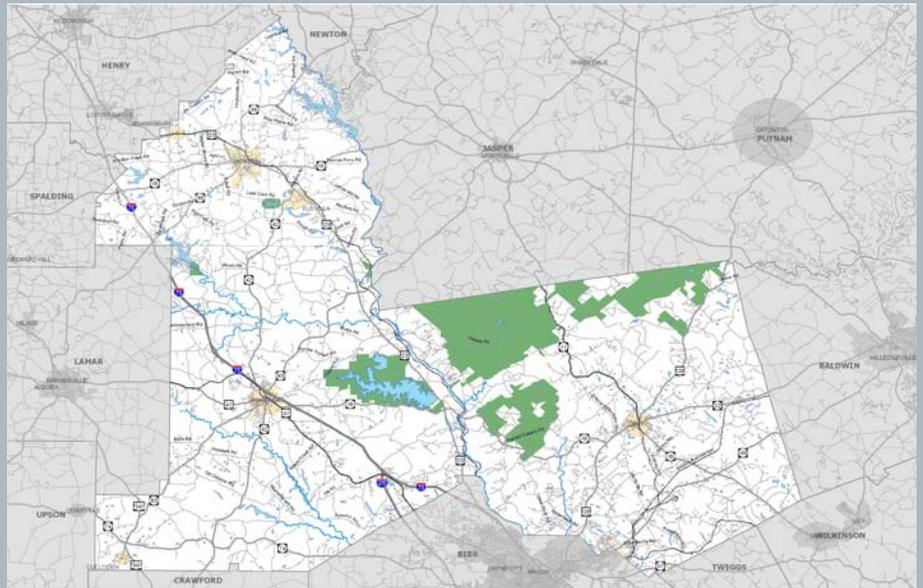


# Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study

## Public Involvement Report

August 2008



**HNTB**

**GDOT**  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
Office of Planning

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## 1.0 Introduction

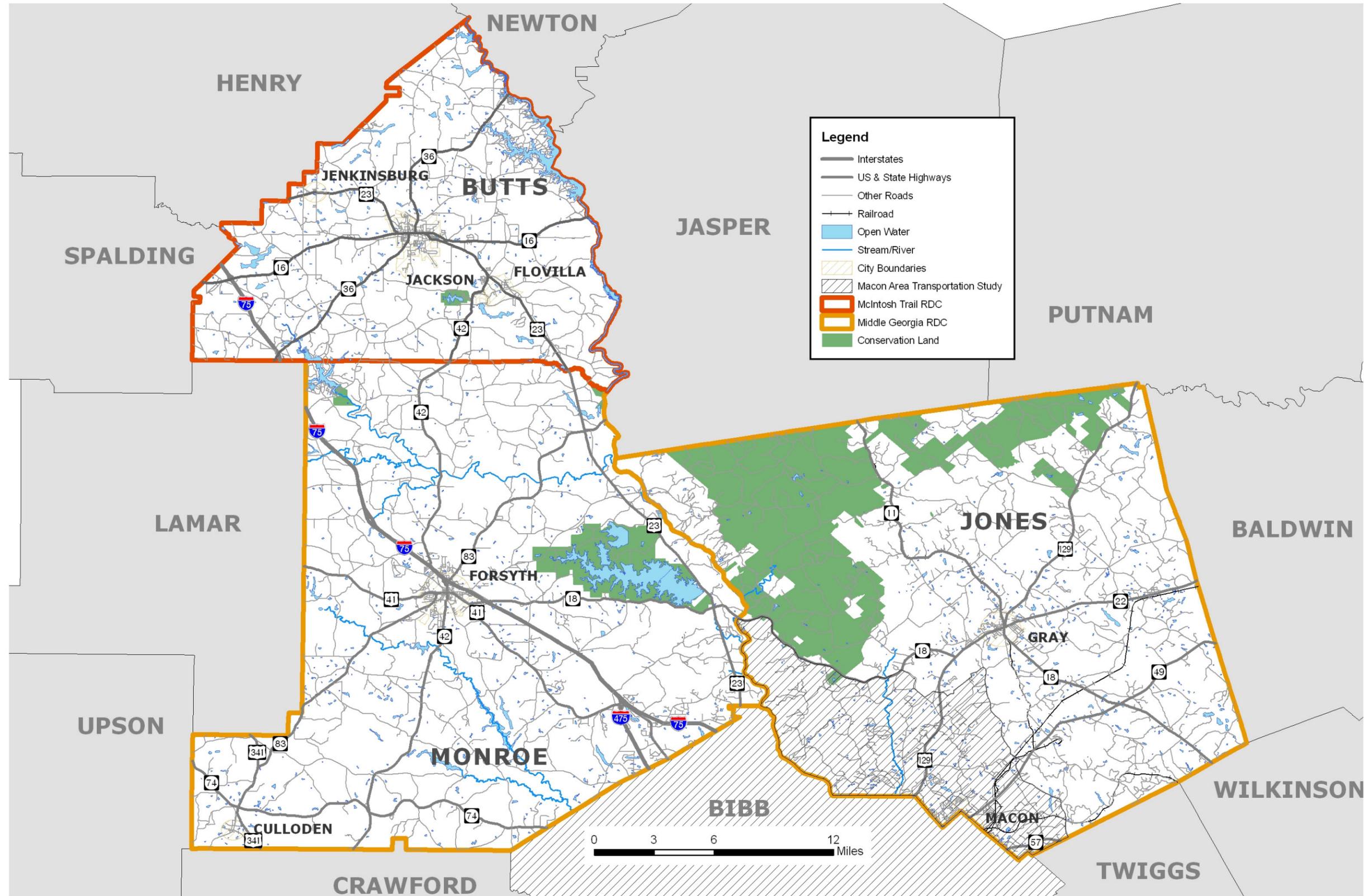
The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Office of Planning, in conjunction with Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties, conducted the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study to develop a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to serve the 3-County Region through 2035.

The Study Team, made up of GDOT Planning Staff and its Consultant Team – HNTB and MPH & Associates – coordinated with the Counties and Cities within the study area, GDOT District 3 staff, the McIntosh Trail and Middle Georgia Regional Development Centers (RDCs), and other local partners in the planning, development, review, and approval of study recommendations. A comprehensive and interactive public involvement program was developed to ensure that potential transportation improvements were coordinated with the the goals stated in the county's current comprehensive plan to afford individual citizens and interested groups the opportunity to provide their input in developing and evaluating planned improvements to the transportation network.

The purpose of the public involvement program was to inform and include the public in the transportation planning process. Public concerns were brought to the forefront so that they could be discussed and addressed in plan documentation. This approach engaged the end users (i.e. the residents and business owners of the three Counties) in the identification, development, evaluation, and selection of transportation improvements. The ultimate goal of the public involvement effort was to build consensus for the recommended near-term, mid-term and long-term improvements identified through the long range transportation planning process.

The end product for this study was an LRTP that provided for the efficient movement of people and goods within and through the study area through the study horizon year (2035). Interim analysis took place for the year 2015. The Public Involvement Plan ensured that residents and citizens of the study area were involved in the planning process from the development of goals and objectives through identification of transportation needs and associated improvements.

The 3-County study area is displayed in Figure 1.0.



**Study Area**

Figure No: 1.0

## 2.0 Public Involvement Program

A public involvement program incorporating active participation and interaction among citizens, the study advisory group, and elected officials throughout the planning process is a proven means to attaining community consensus around proposed transportation solutions. An inclusive, well-planned and organized public involvement program also helps to proactively address potential transportation issues, lessen negative perceptions, and build acceptance of the study results. To that end, the Study Team implemented a public involvement program that utilized consensus-building techniques and facilitated open communication throughout the study process.

Area stakeholders, individual citizens and interested groups were given multiple opportunities to become involved in the planning process. Citizens with an interest in the study were informed of the study's progress and provided various means for input into the decision-making process including: public workshops, study advisory groups, comment forms, and a study web site. Through the public involvement process, the Study Team was able to identify improvements that will help to alleviate the current and future transportation needs of stakeholders and residents of the 3-County Region.

The Study Team disseminated information to stakeholders using proven outreach techniques. Study team representatives also listened to ideas and concerns, responded to comments, and incorporated input into the decision making process.

This document outlines the following:

- The Public Involvement Process;
- The Public Involvement Goals and Objectives;
- The Study Team's use of a Study Advisory Group;
- The Study Team's plan for public participation throughout the study;
- The Study Team's method to inform and involve stakeholders, including those with an interest in the project or who may be directly impacted by potential improvements; and,
- The Study Team's method of informing and involving appropriate State, Regional, and Local agencies and public officials throughout the study process.

The following sections outline the techniques that were used to inform the public of project events and milestones, and the opportunities for the public's involvement in the study process.

### 3.0 Public Involvement Process

The Public Involvement Process developed for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study focused on meetings with stakeholders and the public scheduled at key technical milestones in the study process. This ensured that input and feedback provided by citizens and stakeholders was effectively integrated and considered in the development of the plan and in the conception of project recommendations. The process involved the following major components:

- Ongoing local government coordination;
- A Study Advisory Group convened twice throughout the course of the study;
- Public workshops held twice during the study; and,
- A project website including study background and documentation.

### 4.0 Public Involvement Goals and Objectives

A number of goals and objectives were established to guide the public involvement process. They are outlined below:

- **Goal 1 - Maximize the visibility of the transportation planning process.**

Objectives-

- Identify umbrella organizations that can help distribute information and involve residents in the public involvement process.
- Maintain contact with individuals who have expressed an interest in the project by maintaining a mailing list.
- Employ as many outlets as possible to inform the public such as: local newspapers, local and state web sites, community newsletters, and others.

- **Goal 2 - Maximize and enhance the opportunities for people to be involved in the planning process.**

Objectives-

- Identify appropriate locations and times of day to meet with communities.
- Involve communities in the planning process early and often prior to developing preliminary improvement concepts.
- Determine the most appropriate methods for communicating information to the public through local input and feedback from the Study Advisory Group.

- **Goal 3 - Increase the public's understanding of the long range transportation planning process.**

#### Objectives-

- Provide information documenting the study process at public workshops and on the study web site.
- Provide materials documenting existing and future transportation conditions.
- Provide opportunities for the public to ask questions and provide written replies in a timely manner.
- Utilize graphics, charts, and tables in addition to text on public displays.

## 5.0 Public Involvement Techniques

### 5.1 Local Government Coordination

Staff representatives and elected officials from regional planning agencies, Counties, and Cities within the study area were engaged throughout the study process. A kick-off meeting was held on June 25, 2007 to introduce the study and discuss transportation issues and opportunities with stakeholders from all three counties. Additional one-on-one meetings were conducted with each respective county throughout the course of the study to facilitate communication, gather a deeper understanding of each County's needs, and to assist with the following processes:

- Develop goals and objectives and identify opportunities and constraints for the LRTP;
- Identification of opportunity areas within local jurisdictions;
- Identification of local issues to address during the study process;
- Coordination with ongoing planning efforts;
- Provide guidance on ways to effectively reach out to the local citizens;
- Review of the travel demand model, including the roadway network, socio-economic and land use data; and,
- Review of potential improvements.

### 5.2 Study Advisory Group

A Study Advisory Group (SAG) was established for each individual County. SAG Members were identified with guidance from local staff and represented local jurisdictions and municipalities, planning agencies, business leaders, special interest groups, environmental justice groups, area homeowners, and others suggested by County staff. The role of the SAG was to provide a local perspective and feedback regarding:

- Development of goals and objectives
- Review of existing deficiencies and issues
- Identification of development opportunities

- Recommendation of potential improvements
- Identification of institutional barriers and opportunities

Individuals invited to participate in the SAG are listed in Tables 5.0 – 5.2.

**Table 5.0**  
**Butts County Study Advisory Group Members**

Opal Greene Trucks, Inc.	Steven Lease Butts County Planning	Lynda White Butts County Board of Education
Robert Hiett McIntosh Trail RDC	Lou DuFresne Jackson Lakes Homeowners Association	Joe Blankenship Butts County Board of Education
Christy Taylor Butts County Planning	Christy Anderson Jones Petroleum	Jeannie Brantley McIntosh Trail RDC
Jane Welchel Middle Georgia Community Action Agency	Bart White Industrial Development Authority	Perry Ridgeway City of Jackson
Romela Freeman City of Flovilla	Dr. Van Whaler Butts County Administrator	

**Table 5.1**  
**Jones County Study Advisory Group Members**

Decius Aaron City of Gray Superintendent	Laten Bonoil Jones County Public Works	Pam Christopher Jones County Chamber of Commerce
John Conn Conn Realty	Charlie Cruz Middle Georgia Community Action Agency	Pat Daniel Better Hometown
Wayne Garrett Jones County Schools, Transportation	Cheryl Harrington DHR Region 6 Transportation Office	Steve McClendon Tri County EMC
Candy McMahan Conn Realty	Velma McFadden The Plan Group	Carol Miller Jones County Board of Education
Tim Pitrowski Jones County Planning and Zoning	Greg Mullis Jones County Development Authority	Harry Goff Jones County Schools Transportation
Mike Underwood Jones County Administrator		

**Table 5.2**  
**Monroe County Study Advisory Group Members**

David Clark Department of Corrections	Sid Banks Monroe County Road Superintendent	Bob Rychel Middle Georgia RDC
Phil Clark Middle Georgia RDC	Matt Perry EMA Director	Jeff Turner Monroe County School Board
Larry Evans Monroe County	Jim Peters Monroe County Board of Commissioners	Cindy Crowley Monroe County Clerk
Tiffany Andrews Monroe-Forsyth Chamber of Commerce	Bud Queen High Falls Lake Association	Vicky Smith Bolingbroke Community Club
Robert Williams Juliette River Club	Melvin Lawrence Elderly/Disabled Community	

Each County's SAG met at two key milestones during the plan development effort. The first meeting took place early in the study schedule to finalize goals and objectives that are consistent with the current county comprehensive plan and to gather feedback on issues and opportunities identified during the existing conditions evaluation. The second meeting was an opportunity to share and gather feedback on preliminary project recommendations. Each SAG meeting took place approximately two weeks before each public workshop to provide members with a "preview" of the material and to encourage assistance in getting the word out to other citizens in the area. Study Advisory Group dates and locations are documented in Table 5.3.

**Table 5.3**  
**Study Advisory Group Meetings**

Meeting	Location	Date
Butts County Workshop #1	Butts County Administration Building	October 1, 2007
Jones County Workshop #1	Jones County Government Center	October 2, 2007
Monroe County Workshop #1	Monroe County Clubhouse	October 10, 2007
Butts County Workshop #2	Butts County Administration Building	April 7, 2008
Monroe County Workshop #2	Monroe County Clubhouse	April 8, 2008
Jones County Workshop #2	Jones County Government Center	April 8, 2008

Documentation of each SAG meeting can be found in Appendix A.

### 5.3 Public Notification

The Study Team utilized several methods to inform the public of study activities and to solicit public input for the selection of alternative improvements. The following notification techniques were employed during this study:

*Press Releases, Advertisements and Flyers* The Study Team developed and distributed a press release and flyer for each County's public meetings to promote and encourage public participation. The press releases were used to generate media interest in attending the meetings and writing related news articles. The releases also provided information included in advertisements in local newspapers.

Coordination with the Georgia Department of Transportation District 3 Communications Contact ensured that all information was released to the media at least three weeks prior to the date of the workshops. Study advisory group members and County staff also assisted in the distribution of flyers at key locations within the study area. Email distribution of the flyers was also initiated by the Study Team.

Several Macon local news affiliates also helped to spread the word about the study by providing coverage of the public meetings, and in the case of Jones County, providing lead-up interviews and news promos generating interest in the initial public meeting.

Meeting notification materials are included in Appendix B.

*Web Site* A study webpage was developed as part of GDOT's website at: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/informationcenter/programs/studies/Pages/ButtsJonesMonroe.aspx>

Study details, a calendar of upcoming meetings, a downloadable comment form, and all public meeting materials were made available for download from the website.

### 5.4 Public Workshops

Involving the public in the decision-making process is essential for developing consensus and acceptance within the community it is intended to serve. Throughout the planning process, the public was invited to provide information, offer alternatives, and present their interests and concerns. As stakeholders who live in and travel through the study area, citizens were able to provide insightful input on issues relevant to the plan's development.

Public workshops were held to provide a forum for citizens to voice their opinions, concerns, and ideas. Two rounds of open house workshops, one workshop in each of the three Counties for a total of six workshops, were conducted during the study. These workshops ensured that ample opportunity for public input and education was provided and considered in the evaluation and recommendation of the proposed transportation improvements. Each public workshop encouraged collaboration among citizens, County staff and local leadership in the identification of potential transportation improvements.

A brief presentation was provided at each of the public workshops to support facilitation activities and to educate attendees on the purpose of the study and on the long range planning process. Additionally, the workshops provided opportunity for the informal review of display materials with the public. These materials included maps and graphics designed to convey technical information to non-technical audiences. The Study Team was available for one-on-one discussions at all of the workshops. In addition, public comment forms were available for citizens to officially record their comments and submit them to the Study Team.

Two public workshops took place in each county at key milestones in the study process. These milestones mirrored those identified for the Study Advisory Group meetings. Based on input from local representatives, public workshops were scheduled either from 5PM to 7PM or 6PM to 8PM on a Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday night with an attempt to avoid any conflicts with any other significant community events or meetings. Public workshops dates and locations are provided in Table 5.4.

**Table 5.4**  
**Public Workshops**

Meeting	Location	Date/Time
Butts County Workshop #1	Butts County Administration Building	October 16, 2007, 6PM-8PM
Jones County Workshop #1	Jones County Government Center	October 23, 2007, 5PM-7PM
Monroe County Workshop #1	Monroe County Clubhouse	November 1, 2007, 5PM-7PM
Butts County Workshop #2	Butts County Administration Building	April 29, 2008, 5PM-7PM
Monroe County Workshop #2	Monroe County Clubhouse	May 1, 2008, 5PM-7PM
Jones County Workshop #2	Jones County Government Center	May 8, 2008, 5PM-7PM

*Workshop #1 (Overview of Planning Process and Existing Operating Conditions)*

This workshop provided an overview of the study process; documented data collection activities; and presented the existing conditions of the transportation system. This workshop included a formal presentation, followed by an open house period to solicit public input, identify issues and concerns, and to aid the Study Team in the evaluation of existing and future deficiencies.

*Workshop #2 (Present Preliminary Long Range Transportation Plan)*

This workshop presented preliminary improvement recommendations for major deficiencies and the findings to date, including a preliminary project prioritization methodology for public review and comment. A formal presentation of the study results was followed by an open house period to solicit public input on the draft study recommendations.

In addition to the scheduled public workshops, GDOT District 3 staff, in conjunction with the GDOT Office of Planning, presented study background information to the High Falls Civic Association on April 27, 2008 in response to a citizen request.

Documentation of each public workshop can be found in Appendix C.

## 5.5 Environmental Justice

Environmental justice is intended to involve minority and low-income populations and ensure that these groups are not disproportionately impacted as a result of transportation improvement recommendations. The US DOT Order on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 define environmental justice populations as persons belonging to any of the following groups:

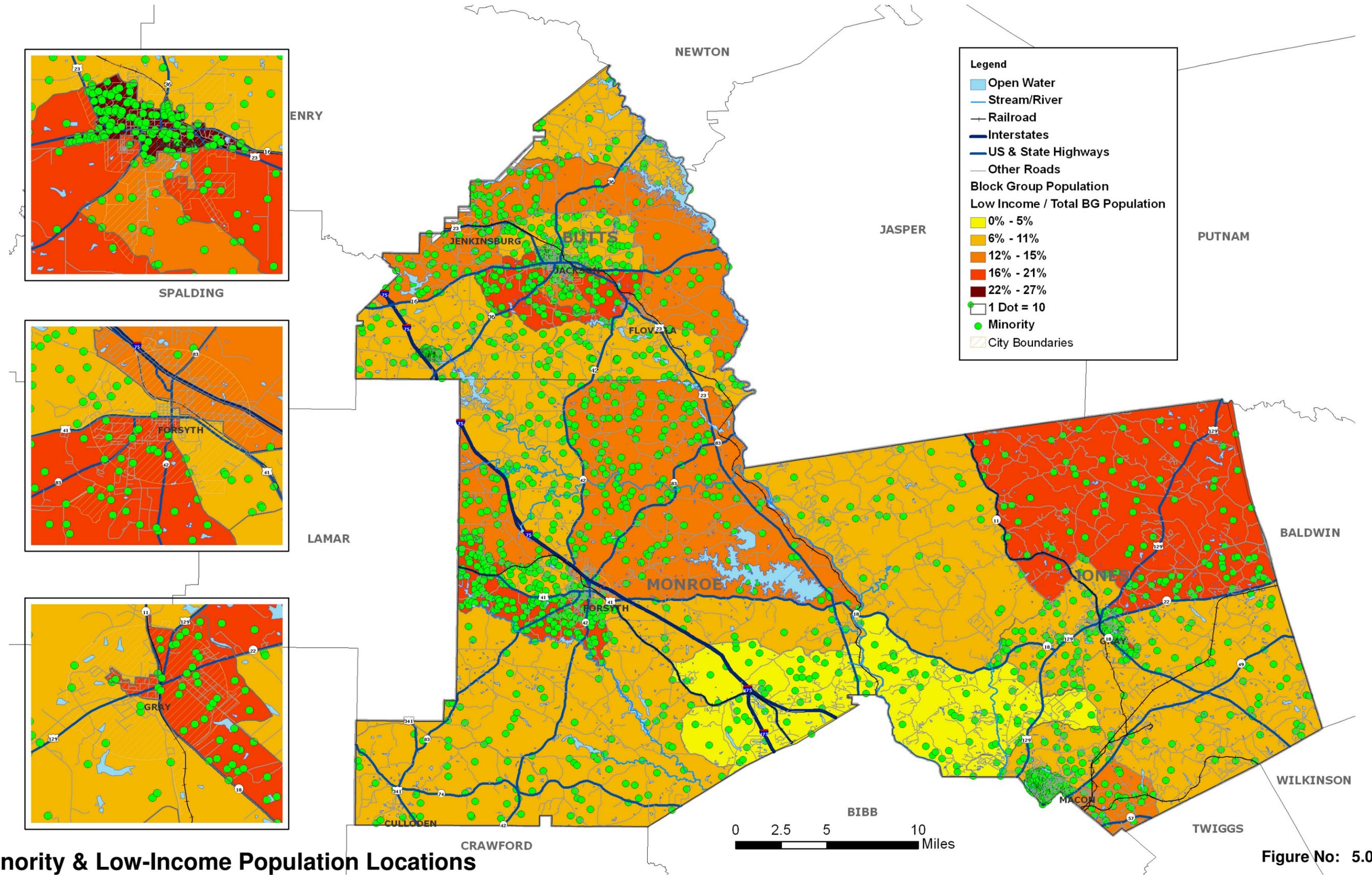
- Black;
- Hispanic;
- Asian American;
- American Indian or Alaskan Native; and,
- Low-Income – a person whose household income (or in the case of a community or group, whose median household income) is at or below the US Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.

Environmental justice (EJ) consideration played a key role in the public involvement and plan development process. It is paramount to look at the distribution and concentration of minority and low-income populations to determine potential EJ impacts. The intent of EJ analysis is locating these populations and involving them early and continuously through the decision making process, as well as using data to analytically assess if there would be a disproportionate impact on traditionally underrepresented communities.

The Study Team utilized 2000 US Census Data, the most current data available, to identify minority and low-income groups at the blockgroup level. Disadvantaged populations were identified as part of this analysis and extra efforts were made to include these groups in the planning process. As illustrated in Figure 5.0, these populations were identified in the vicinity of downtown Jackson, Jenkinsburg, and Forsyth. These areas were given special attention to ensure that transportation improvements would benefit and not disproportionately impact these areas in a negative manner. The following tasks were conducted for the identified low-income and minority populations:

- Coordinated with the Study Advisory Group to identify leaders within these communities;
- Posted notice for workshops in these communities where possible;
- Analyzed recommended projects to ensure that disproportionate impacts did not accrue to these communities; and,
- Analyzed recommended projects to ensure that mobility benefits accrued to these communities – including alternative transportation modes such as bicycle and pedestrian amenities.

Figure 5.0 displays minority and low-income populations through the study area based on Census Block Group Data. This information was used to assist in the identification of potential EJ impacts associated with transportation improvements through the study area.



**Minority & Low-Income Population Locations**

**Figure No: 5.0**

## 5.6 Plan Evaluation

Corresponding to the first goal documented in the Goals and Objectives for the Public Involvement Plan, “Maximize the visibility of the transportation planning process”, the Study Team verified the effectiveness of the public involvement effort by documenting public workshop participation, specifically:

- Number of comment forms received;
- Number of meeting attendees; and
- Participation by local media and public events.

Table 5.5 provides an overview of public workshop participation.

**Table 5.5  
Public Workshop Participation**

Meetings	Date	Local Media Coverage?	# of Attendees	# of Comment Forms
Butts County Workshop #1	October 16, 2007	No	15	3
Jones County Workshop #1	October 23, 2007	Yes – Newspaper and TV	18	4
Monroe County Workshop #1	November 1, 2007	Yes – Newspaper	6	4
Butts County Workshop #2	April 29, 2008	No	8	1
Monroe County Workshop #2	May 1, 2008	Yes – Newspaper and TV	17	4
Jones County Workshop #2	May 8, 2008	Yes - Newspaper	11	3

It is also important to assess what did and did not work well at each public workshop and make recommendations to enhance this and other public involvement programs moving forward. Further evaluation of the effectiveness of the public involvement effort was accomplished by feedback received from GDOT and other Study Advisory Group members. Feedback included additional possibilities for future meeting locations and formats.

Media coverage and public comments received at the public meetings are included in Appendix D.

# APPENDIX A

## STUDY ADVISORY GROUP MATERIALS

## MEETING DOCUMENTATION



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL003

**Meeting Location** Middle Georgia RDC **Meeting Date** 06/25/07

**Subject** Kick-Off Meeting

**Present** Phil Clark, Robert Hiatt, Tom Queen, Sid Banks, Jim Peters, Perry Ridgeway, Sei Kpeyei, Kelly Gwin, Matt Fowler, Radney Simpson, Beth Radke, Mary Huffstetler, Steven Lease, Van Whaler, Bert Liston, Mike Underwood, David Millen, Thomas B. Howell, Tim Pitrowski, Tim Hatton, Andrew Smith, Alvin Randall, Don Tussing, and Claudia Bilotto.

The purpose of this meeting was to kick-off the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. Following the presentation pertaining to the scope and schedule of the study, the discussion shifted to local issues. Information about concerns, opportunities, deficiencies, improvements, and growth areas within the transportation study area were gathered. The following is a summary:

### Butts County:

- Growth and Development
  - Comprehensive plan update in process
  - Regional Airport Site selection - received notification from Governor's office
  - Butts/Monroe County line - Rose Hill development proposes 3680 residential units on 257 acres (Data from DCA DRI application)
  - Transportation infrastructure needed at Rose Hill site
  - Flovilla may annex Rose Hill - University of Georgia Urban Design charettes may be planned
  - Falcon Quarry located off State Route (SR) 36 has truck traffic
  - Henry County considering reservoir, which could bring residential growth around water
- Transportation
  - Interest in use of ARC model along with or as a comparison to the Macon-Bibb model
  - SR 16 interchange could become "Gateway," opportunity provided in conjunction with proposed widening and desires to keep "character" of the road
  - SR 16 improvements to City of Jackson include south loop, but the loop is a low priority
  - SR 36 is planned as a 1-way pair and grade separated over railroad in City of Jackson
  - SR 36 relocation, serves as route to Barnesville and Thomaston from I-75
  - SR 36 has several truck stops
  - Truck Lanes Study on I-75
  - North/south movement on SR 42
  - Bike and Pedestrian projects interests are mixed
  - McIntosh Trail RDC has participated in planned trail from Carroll to Butts County
- Butts County and Indian Springs are Signature Communities

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL003

**Meeting Location** Middle Georgia RDC **Meeting Date** 06/25/07

### Jones County:

- Growth and Development
  - Upper River Road has high growth in area with potentially unsafe existing transportation infrastructure
  - Town Creek Reservoir - water line extension
  - 965 acre industrial park on Highway 57 could lead to increased truck traffic to I-16
  - Public lands funding - National Parks system (Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge)
- Transportation
  - Bike path on Clinton Road is a Rails-to-Trails which would connect Oconee to Heritage Greenway
  - Scenic byway on Highway 11
  - North bypass around City of Gray
  - Rail crossing delay in City of Gray
- Service Delivery between City of Gray and County could become issue

### Monroe County:

- Growth and Development
  - Pressures from north - Butts County and Atlanta regional growth
  - Pressures from south - Macon commercial development on SR 41 and I-75
  - New industrial park on Rumble Road
  - Department of Corrections is locating into Tift College site
  - Bass Road and Bass Pro development - larger employment center than downtown Macon, 20,000 employees with 32,000 employees expected by 2030
- Transportation
  - Cross-county connector using SR 18 to connector to employment center on Bass Road
  - Four-lane from LaGrange to Macon - East-West multi-lane, five counties, pursuing funding
  - Half diamond interchange at Pate Road
  - Truck traffic on SR 41, SR, 83, and SR 42
  - City of Forsyth - rerouting truck traffic
  - Rail delay - re-routing truck traffic through downtown Forsyth
  - Bolingbroke, Maynard Mill, and SR 41 offers area for bikes
- Monroe County and Forsyth are Signature Community

## MEETING DOCUMENTATION



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL-003

**Meeting Location** Jones County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/18/07

**Subject** County Issues Discussion

**Present** Kelly Gwin, Radney Simpson, Mary Huffstetler, , Mike Underwood, Tim Pitrowski, Tim Hatton, Wayne Garrett, Harry Goff, Carol Miller, J. Preston Hawkins, Laten Boniol, and Claudia Bilotto.

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study, a one-on-one meeting was held with Jones County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Local participants included Mike Underwood, Jones County Administrator, as well as representatives from the Jones County School System, the Board of Education, Planning & Zoning, and Public Works. The following summarizes the issues raised by those in attendance.

### Transportation Issues:

- State Route (SR) 129
  - Milledgeville thru traffic from 441 and Macon
  - Four-lane widening planned in Putnam County's Long-range Plan
  - Traffic from SR 129 in City of Gray could be alleviated by North Gray By-Pass, which should be completed by 2012
  - Recent Scenic Byway designation (SR 11 to North Roundoak/Juliette Road)
- SR 49
  - Two rock quarries, two asphalt plants are located on this road, which has traffic traveling at high speed on hilly-terrain
  - Sheriff directs traffic emerging from two schools due to dangerous traffic conditions and limited sight distance
  - Children walk on SR 49 to the County recreational fields
- SR 49 to SR 129 Connector Roads seen as potential for improvement
  - Cumslo Road
  - Lite-n-tie Road - has a rock quarry and a rail road crossing; may need shoulder improvements for safety concerns
  - Joy Cliff Road
- SR 57
  - Industrial park will encompass 1000 acres and access needs to be maintained
- Four roads converge in City of Gray near railroad tracks
  - Leads to congestion
  - Signals are an issues
  - MLK road intersection has traffic back-up; could be widened to help school bus maneuverability

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL-003

**Meeting Location** Jones County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/18/07

- Upper River Road
  - "S" -curve near Bibb County is unsafe
  - high bicycle usage
  - With new, planned water line comes residential growth to the area and on SR 18 towards City of Gray
  - New park and picnic area encompasses about 8 acres
- Huckabee Road - from Graham Road to SR 18 - needs improvement
- Stagecoach Road
- Morton Road
  - Could be used by new schools as a more direct route if improvements are made
- Olive Green road
  - Dirt to paved road
- Haddock Community
  - Reinvesting in community and to slow traffic in the area requested a blinking yellow light to be converted into a red light, but was denied by GDOT district officials
- Cross County Connector - Jones County Connector
  - Community opposition

### **Community Groups:**

- The Plan Group - Pam Christopher of the Chamber of Commerce can help with the contact list
- Civic Center Auditorium
- Cross County Connector
  - Citizens agree on need, exact alignment needs to be re-examined

### **School Information:**

- Earl Colvin - Director of Operations and Maintenance can provide information on property and future school locations. Phone: 214-0687
- New elementary school planned on Turner Woods Road
  - Will likely use Morton Road as direct route to SR 18 east
- New middle and high school planned on Howard Roberts Road
- Harry Goss - reconfiguring school bus routes in southern Jones, near Bibb County and city of Macon. He will provide a map upon completion.
- SR 49
- Congestion in the City of Gray impacts school bus movement

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL-003

**Meeting Location** Jones County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/18/07

### Funding:

- SPLOST Program provided \$2 million and is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year of the 5-year program
  - County used funds for paving of dirt roads and re-pavement of existing
- Renewal vote for SPLOST expected to pass next year
- TE Funds awarded in July 2006
- Congressional earmark pending in 2008

### Transit:

- Jones County participates in 5311 program
- Tony Sack - rural transportation contact
- Middle Georgia Community Action Agency
- OAC - Senior Citizens - contact Ann Carter

### Bike/Pedestrian:

- Don Tussin of the Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning Commission can provide bike route
- Candy McMahon is the bike community contact and can be reached at Conn Realty.
- Middle Georgia RDC has maps on-line
- Potential for new bicycle facilities
  - Bypass connector from 22 to 129/22 has potential to be included in the design, which could eventually connect to SR 11
  - Downtown Civic Center and courthouse to school on Cumslo Road
  - SR 18 east to Gray Station School to recreation park and 500 single-family residential lots nearby
  - Upper River Road to Stagecoach bicycle route planned

### Rail:

- No railroad crossing signals at Otis Redding and Hungerford Roads
- Lite-N-Tie just past rock quarry has sight distance issues
- Train passes through City of Gray approximate 5 times per day, but does not stop

For Jones County	Job No.	Sheet No.
Made by	Checked by	Backchecked by
Date	Date	Date

**HNTB**

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Latea Bonid	JonesCo Public Wks	478-986-3501	

## MEETING DOCUMENTATION



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study      **Job #** 42737-PL-003

**Meeting Location** Monroe County Water Department      **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

**Subject** County Issues Discussion

**Present** Kelly Gwin, Radney Simpson, Mary Huffstetler, Tim Hatton, Claudia Bilotto, Jim Peters, Sid Banks, Mike Bilderback, Cindy Crowley, Anton Sova, and Tom Queen.

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study, a one-on-one meeting was held with Monroe County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Local participants included Sid Banks, Monroe County Roadway Superintendent, as well as the representatives from the Monroe County Board of Commissioners and the County Clerk's Office. The following summarizes the issues raised by those in attendance.

### **Growth:**

- Tift College - Department of Corrections, moving headquarters from Atlanta to Forsyth
- SR 42 and SR 83 by the Hardee's had a new Walmart under construction
- Bass Pro Shop
- Mall in North Bibb County
- High Falls State Park
- Georgia Power Plant - 4000 part time employees, parking lot located off of Luther Smith Road

### **Transportation Issues:**

- State Route (SR) 42
  - High Falls Road
  - New planned development - Rose Hill
  - Trucks exit at Johnstonville Road to avoid weigh station (presumably with illegal loads) and use Smith Road and SR 42, which cuts through downtown Forsyth, to access I-75
- SR 18 and SR 42 - major traffic congestion when I-75 traffic is re-routed
- SR 3
- SR 41
  - State bike route
- SR 83 - interchange reconfigured in 1980s, lack of parking and truck traffic are issues for Forsyth
- SR 83 and SR 87 bad sight distance (E/W)
  - Possible site for a round-about or an overpass, as locals would prefer citing safety issues
- Juliette Road and SR 87 - river development could affect traffic

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL-003

**Meeting Location** Monroe County Water Department **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

- SR 87 will likely to show deficiencies soon, rock quarry on SR 36 will double in size
- 98 miles of unpaved, dirt roads
- Bass Pro, hub of outdoor activities
  - Bass Road highly ranked bike route in state
- Pate Road and Zebulon Road
- Cherry Blossom Festival - locals would prefer an underpass to Bolingbroke for 20K run
- Bad intersections
  - at Meyers Street/SR 42/Indian Springs
  - at Rumble road and SR 41 and railroad - warehouse operations and I-75 access
  - Evan Road (bad skew)
- Four red lights in Forsyth are not synchronized
- New boat ramp at Old Popes Ferry on the Ocmulgee River could have impact on SR 87

### Community Groups:

- The Report - Will Davis is the editor
- River Club in Juliette - Robert Williams 994-2770
- Bolingbroke Community club - Vicky Smith 747-7743
- High Falls Civic Association
- High Falls Lake Association
- Chamber of Commerce - Tiffany Andrews
- School Board - Dr. Jeff Turner
- Georgia Power - Butch Copeland
- EMA Director - Matt Perry
- Exchange Club
- Meeting space
  - Fire Station
  - Old Board Room
  - High school cafeteria

### School Information:

- Currently 2 elementary, 2 middle schools, and 1 high school and 1 private school and Crossroads
- Elementary and Middle School on SR 83 consists of 40 acres
- Longer range plans include 40 acres for elementary and middle school near Bolingbroke, no land purchased as of yet

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL-003

**Meeting Location** Monroe County Water Department **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

### Funding:

- SPLOST Program provided \$8 million over 6 years and expires in December
  - County used funds for paving of dirt roads and re-pavement of existing
- Renewal vote for SPLOST expected to pass, vote is on September 18 Special Election
- TE Grant (Mike Bilderback authored) for SR 42

### Transit:

- No rural transit
- Contact Melvin Lawrence for information on elderly or disabled citizens
- Ingles serves as defacto park-and-ride lot for car pools
- Senior citizens - OAC bus limited to elderly and handicapped - DHR in Macon - OAC council oversees

### Bike/Pedestrian:

- Bike traffic is coming out of north Bibb County
- High Falls State Park - visitors walk/bike to shopping area and restaurants
- Indian Springs
- Dawson Trail
- TE Grant for bicycle funding to connect Zebulon Road and Bass Road (Bass Pro Shop)
- SR 41 is state bike route - TE Grant

### Rail:

- Train passes through City of Forsyth everyday, blocks all intersections
  - North of SR 42 and SR 83 emergency vehicle response time and access becomes an issue
- Bolingbroke - rails not an issue, 2 trains per day estimated
- Railroad crossing as SR 42/Indian Springs and Mize Road is an issue

For	Job No.	Sheet No.
Made by	Checked by	Backchecked by
Date	Date	Date

# Sign In - Monroe County

Name	Organization	Email
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Tim Hutton	HNTB	thutton@hntb.com
TOM QUEEN	GOVT - D-3	tomqueen@dot.state.ga.us

## MEETING DOCUMENTATION



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL003

**Meeting Location** Butts County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

**Subject** County Issues Discussion

**Present** Kelly Gwin, Radney Simpson, Mary Huffstetler, Perry Ridgeway, Lanier Barford, Tim Hatton, Christy Taylor, Van Whaler, Steven Lease, Kathy Mitchell, Tommy Newsome, Tommy Crochet, Sam Woods, David Acree, Daniel Pass, Romela Freeman, and Claudia Bilotto.

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study, a one-on-one meeting was held with Butts County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Local participants included Dr. Van Whaler, Butts County Administrator, as well as representatives from the Butts County Community Development and Road Departments, the City of Jackson, City of Jenkinsburg, and the City of Flovilla.

### Growth:

- Draft Comprehensive Plan will be completed in September or October 2007
- Jerry Weitz is studying growth management techniques - traffic shed concepts being used
- Regional Airport in study phase
- 3000 acres located south of Flovilla and north of the proposed Rose Hill development
- Rose Hill development
  - Water board is suing Board of Commissioners, which is delaying the development process
- Pressures from north and south
- Sewer is provided in Jackson and near I-75
- New Rock Quarry located south of Jackson, east of SR 36
- 1 million square feet of industrial planned near Jackson, along SR 16 and SR 23
- 300 acres off of Wallace Road zoned industrial ripe for development
- American Woodmark is a major employer located east of Jackson between SR 16 and SR 23
- Industrial development coming to I-75 interchange at SR 36 and Short Road
- Collwell Road crosses over I-75 and development is on the horizon; it connects to SR 16
  - Future interchange with I-75 proposed frequently
- Commercial and industrial proposed between Jenkinsburg and Jackson near Wolf Creek Road
- New subdivision proposed along SR 23 near Bunch Road

### Transportation Issues:

- State Route (SR) 42
  - General congestion and high traffic volumes

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL003

**Meeting Location** Butts County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

- TE Grant proposes to connect SR 42 streetscape project with parking area to McIntosh Trail
- England Chapel Road and Burg Road are bad intersections along SR 42
- Shiloh Road has sight distance issues
- SR 42 acts as alternative and alleviator to I-75 when accidents occur
- SR 16
  - High truck traffic interferes with quality of life on downtown
  - Bad intersection at Honeysuckle Lane
  - SR 16 - south bypass has an approved concept but no NEPA approval yet and is considered as a long-range transportation project
  - One-way pair concept in development, viewed as difficult
  - Shiloh Road has sight distance issues and angle intersection
    - School is located on this road
    - Trucks overturn at SR 16 and Shiloh Road intersection
- SR 36
  - Potential one-way pair concept in future in Jackson
  - High truck traffic interferes with quality of life on downtown
- Bridge out at Jackson Maddox Road and at either Jack Smith Road or Lamar S Mill Road, which were damaged during a flood in 1994
- High Falls Road is county maintained and will need improvement in future, has high traffic and serves as a cut through from SR 16 to SR 36
- Roads in southern part of county that connect growth areas south of Flovilla to I-75 will need improvement
- Griffin Tech to Old Bethel Road may be logical location for a north bypass around Jackson
- The airport on Stark Road is active (northeast of Jackson), all others inactive

### **Public Outreach and Community Groups:**

- Jackson Progress-Argus - Steven Lease will provide the reporter's contact info that the county has used in the past
  - Word-of-mouth seen best way to inform public about events and study information
- Meeting location
  - County Commission room
- Jackson Lake Home Owners Association (HOA) - Lou Dufrense
- High Falls Lake HOA - Bud McQueen

### **School Information:**

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL003

**Meeting Location** Butts County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

- School Superintendent - Lynda White
- 3 public elementary school, 1 middle school and 1 high school
  - existing elementary school on Honeysuckle Lane near Kimbeough Road
  - High school and middle school located on Old Griffin Road/S. Harkness Street will covert to an all middle school
  - Middle school on north Mulberry will be closing
  - Stark Road elementary (new school) opening in 2008
  - Exiting elementary schools on Franklin Ave will be convert to High School and will create a campus, anticipated by 2015
  - New elementary school opens in 2007 on Brownlee Road
  - Rose Hill development is setting aside land for 2 schools, along SR 42 and SR 23
- Griffin Tech opening on SR 16 in August

### Funding:

- SPLOST Program will provide \$29 million over 6 years. Road and bridge projects will be funded by \$2 million from the previous SPLOST and about \$3.8 million is anticipated for the upcoming program
  - County used funds for paving of dirt roads and re-pavement of existing
  - Used as local match to GDOT funded projects
  - A jail is being constructed with SPLOST funds
- Impact fees are under consideration and will apply to recreation, libraries, and public safety projects

### Transit:

- 5311 Program is managed by the McIntosh RDC - Robert Hiatt
- Liberty Convalesces provides transit serves - contact Larry O'Neil
- Middle Georgia Community Action Agency
- Churches in area provide transit, van are noticed around town
- Turner/CNN employees have 4 van pools that carries travelers to downtown Atlanta
- Other private companies have inquired and are beginning to emerge
- General sense of increased need in future

### Bike/Pedestrian:

- Indian Springs Bike shop called "Outfitters" could serve as local contact
- Jim Herbert at Parks and Recreation is a contact

## Meeting Documentation (cont'd.)



**Project** Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Transportation Study **Job #** 42737-PL003

**Meeting Location** Butts County Government Center **Meeting Date** 07/25/07

- Dauset Trails is popular mountain biking area, privately-owned, located southwest of Indian Springs near new Rock Quarry
- Indian Springs is working on a master plan to connect to Dauset Trail to High Falls Road area - greenspace committee developed a bike/ped. plan
- In general, county lacks sidewalks and there is mixed opinion about citizen's desire
- Sidewalks needed in subdivision in northeast Butts, near SR 36 and Ocmulgee River
- TE funding to connect pedestrians on SR 42 to historic McIntosh Trail
- Barnetts Bridge - need for improved walking facilities
- Sidewalk expansion is complicated by maintenance responsibility issues
- Need for new recreation facility in area west of Jackson

### Rail:

- Railroad crossing issue at Bibb Station Road - may need warning devices
- No railroad crossing arms located at Strickland Road and Cork Road
- Bunch Road has no railroad crossing arms - may need warning devices
- Jenkinsburg experiences trains stopping that block roads, creates emergency vehicle access problems
  - Overpass is cost prohibitive
- Flovilla has inadequate underpass on Heard Street, cars can fit under railroad bridge, but not trucks or school buses

# Sign In - Butts Co - 7/25/07

Name	Organization	Email / Phone
Perry Ridgeway	City of Jackson	770-775-3198 COJ552@aol.com
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Tim Halton	HNTB	thalton@hntb.com



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Butts County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #1**  
October 1, 2007, 1PM to 3PM  
Butts County Commissioners Meeting Room

**Attendees:**

Opal Greene, Trucks, Inc.	Perry Ridgeway, City of Jackson
Robert Hiatt, McIntosh Trail RDC	Jeannie Brantley, McIntosh Trail RDC
Christy Taylor, Butts County	Mac Collins
Lou DuFresne, Jackson Lakes HOA	David Millen, GDOT District 3
Jane Welchel, Middle GA Community Action Agency	Tom Queen, GDOT District 3
Steven Lease, Butts County	Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning
Christy Anderson, Jones Petroleum	Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning
Bart White, Industrial Development Authority	Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates
Joe Blankenship, Butts County Board of Education	Tim Hatton, HNTB
Lynda White, Butts County Board of Education	Claudia Bilotto, HNTB
	Andrew Smith, HNTB

**Handouts:**

Meeting Agenda  
Study Advisory Committee Packet

**Meeting Summary:**

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study, a Study Advisory Group meeting was held in Butts County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Local participants from the Butts County community represented a diverse range of perspectives including the business and trucking industries, retirees, and local agencies.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and led off self-introductions. She turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, to begin the presentation. Ms. Bilotto began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process and the role in which the study advisory group plays. Members were encouraged to help get the word out regarding upcoming public meetings in the county, scheduled for October 16, from 6PM to 8PM. Following the presentation, Ms. Bilotto led the group through the information packet summarizing existing conditions in the county and explained that one of the goals of the day's meeting was to develop a set of goals and objectives that can be incorporated as part of the study. Specific topics included the following:

- Planned and Programmed Projects
- Safety
- Bridges
- Freight Networks for Rail and Trucks
- Public Transportation
- Aviation
- Travel Demand Model Development
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Existing and Planned Projects
- Local Issues and Opportunities

Ms. Bilotto then led the group through a list of broad transportation needs to generate discussion regarding specific interest areas now and in the future. The following highlights the transportation issues:

### **High level of Importance Today and in 2035**

- Relieving traffic congestion on I-75
- Providing adequate evacuation and emergency routes
  - Issues with rail crossing
- Improving roadway safety
  - Buses and trucks on SR 36
- Addressing truck travel
  - Friday afternoon has heavier truck traffic
- Adding or coordinating traffic signals, building turn lanes, and adding other features to improve traffic flow
  - SR 42 and SR 16 signals needed (Shiloh Road and SR 16)
  - Adding turn lanes along major roads would help improve traffic flow
- Adding new roadway capacity (widened roads) to the transportation system
  - New development to accommodate (Starks Road and Brownlee Road)
- Dealing with problems associated with railroad crossings
  - Wolf Creek/Old Bethel Road and SR 42 is high priority
  - Increased traffic expected
- Providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks, and shopping areas
- Providing adequate resources to operate and maintain our transportation system
  - Property tax issue (under consideration next Legislative session)

### **Medium level of importance today and in 2035**

- Adding new roadway capacity (new roads) to the transportation system
  - Improve existing system
- Improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians
  - Barnett Bridge Road considered dangerous bike and pedestrian environment

### **High level of importance in 2035**

- Developing better public transportation services for seniors and disabled people

### **Topics Discussion:**

The following comments from the group are organized by topic rather than the order in which they were made:

#### **Planned and Programmed Projects**

##### **SR 36**

David Millen of the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) District 3 explained that SR 36 would potentially be built as a one-way pair concept in the future in the downtown Jackson area. The project would not be located entirely on its existing alignment and would include a new bridge over the railroad tracks to accommodate the new alignment and one-way pair concept. Additionally, in a separate effort to upgrade the road's performance, GDOT is examining installing turning lanes on SR 36 and is funding the project using state aid.

##### **SR 16**

David Millen explained that as part of the SR 16 widening project from I-75 to Jackson, preliminary engineering for a by-pass to the south of Jackson was included originating at Bert Road. The study advisory group discussed that SR 16's intersections with English Chapel Road and Burg Road and with the Shiloh Road are areas where crashes have occurred and are considered unsafe. David Millen explained that intersections would be aligned to current standards as part of the widening project, which should correct the sight distance issues related to these intersections.

### **Freight Networks for Rail and Trucks**

The widening of SR 36 to provide a four-lane connection to I-75 is a high priority for Upson County and will potentially increase freight movement along this corridor. Truck traffic is considered heavy in downtown Jackson. The Board of Education representative raised the issue of trucks traveling too close to school buses and the dangerous situation that the behavior creates.

Another study in the area that could potentially affect truck traffic is the I-75 South managed lanes study. The study's limits extend to SR 16 and Steven Lease conveyed his opinion that the managed lanes should be extended further south to SR 36 where several truck parking facilities are located. Claudia Bilotto, Project Manager, explained the scope of the study and clarified that the study will be completed later in the year and may or may not become an actual project.

### **Bicycle and Pedestrian**

Heritage Trail was mentioned as a bicycle and pedestrian project under study although no specific location information was provided. The Barnett Bridge area is dangerous for walking and biking.

### **Local Issues and opportunities**

Railroad crossing points are limited between Macon and Locust Grove, and the study advisory group expressed a need for them, particularly for emergency vehicle access. Additionally, school busses have been delayed when the railroad crossing gates are positioned down prohibiting crossing, although there is no presence of a train. The railroad company has to be called to reset the crossing arms safely.

An underpass in Flovilla only provides a passage for smaller vehicles and does not allow enough clearance for trucks or school buses.

The McIntosh Trail RDC provides 5311 Transit assistance and estimates that 58% of the current ridership is employment based and travels predominately to Spalding County. The program manager Robert Hiatt expressed that the service meets existing demand, but in the future better transit might be needed to the Macon and Atlanta region and for the anticipated growing elderly population. A need for a park and ride lot was proposed and was seen as a way to increase north and south ridership numbers to Atlanta and Macon. The program could also benefit from advertisement of its current service to promote increased ridership. The RDC is planning on conducting a study in 2008 that focuses on Butts County.

Improvement to the existing network could provide increased efficiency. Turn lanes in certain locations may be a quick fix to transportation problems along state routes and heavier traveled roads. Grade separation is need at railroad crossings to reduce bottleneck effects.

Road and sidewalk improvements should accompany new growth areas. Development is anticipated along SR 42 north toward Locust Grove. Frontage roads along I-75 were proposed as a need. State route in the southern part of the county may need widening. New school locations should be accompanied by road improvements to the area, including sidewalks.

Property tax legislation may have an impact on available funding for transportation.

### **Summary of Top Concerns**

- Widen SR 36 and SR 42.
- Identify intersection with SR 16 on the west for the South Jackson Bypass.
- Determine location of SR 36 through Jackson.
- Coordinate with counties to the north of Butts County, who may have more similar needs.
- Anticipate the possibility that Butts County will be absorbed into the ARC regional transportation planning process and plan for a smooth transition by following the ARC model.
- Address railroad crossing congestion.
- Acknowledge east-west and north-south one-way pair concepts proposed to alleviate congestion in downtown Jackson.
- Explore temporary/short-term fixes to help traffic congestion in Jackson, similar to McDonough.

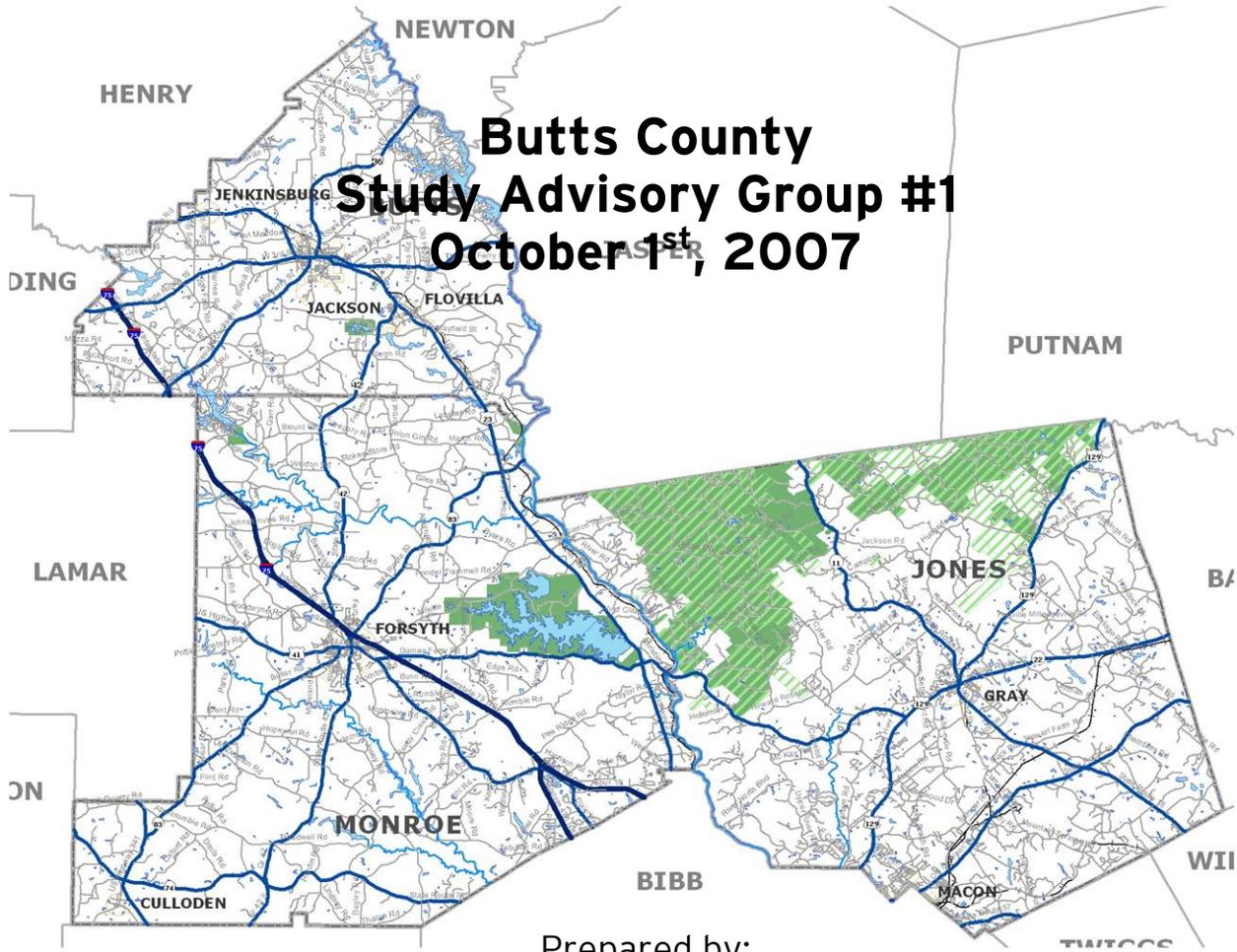


Butts Jones Monroe Transportation Study  
 Butts County Advisory Committee  
 Kick-Off Meeting - October 1, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
 Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
Opal Greene	Trucks, Inc.	770-775-4999	opalg@trucksinc.net
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RAONEY Simpson	GDOT (Planning)	4-677-6689	
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Tom Queen	GDOT Thomton	706-646-6982	tom.queen@ " " "
Jeanie Brantley	MTRDC	770-227-6300	jbrantley@cityofgriffin.com

# Butts, Jones & Monroe Transportation Study



Prepared by:



## HNTB

In Association with:  
MPH & Associates, Inc

# Butts, Jones & Monroe Transportation Study

## Agenda

- 1.0 Study Team Members
- 2.0 Study Overview
- 3.0 Public Involvement Plan
- 4.0 Data Collection
- 5.0 Model Development
- 6.0 Local Issues & Opportunities
- 7.0 Goals & Objectives
- 8.0 Public Workshop #1
- 9.0 Next Steps

### Action Items for Today's Meeting

- Transportation Issues & Needs
- Development Opportunities
- Goals & Objectives

## Study Team Members

Agency	Contact	Phone	Email
GDOT - Planning	Radney Simpson	404-657-6689	<a href="mailto:radney.simpson@dot.state.ga.us">radney.simpson@dot.state.ga.us</a>
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GDOT - District 3	Tom Queen	706-646-6317	<a href="mailto:tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us">tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us</a>
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McIntosh Trail RDC	Robert Hiatt	770-227-6308	<a href="mailto:rhiatt@cityofgriffin.com">rhiatt@cityofgriffin.com</a>
Monroe County Road Superintendent	Sid Banks	478-994-7029	
Butts County Planning Director	Steven Lease	770-775-8210	<a href="mailto:srlease@buttscounty.org">srlease@buttscounty.org</a>
Jones County Administrator	Mike Underwood	478-986-8219	<a href="mailto:mikeunderwood@alltel.net">mikeunderwood@alltel.net</a>

# Study Overview

## PHASE I

1. Data Collection
  - a. Previous Studies
  - b. GIS Data
  - c. Socio-Economic Data

***Existing Conditions Inventory***  
***Travel Demand Model***
2. Public Involvement  
***Public Involvement Process***  
***Goals & Objectives***
3. Develop Evaluation Factors  
***Evaluation Factors***
4. Evaluate Existing Conditions
  - a. Multi-Modal Assessment
  - b. Goals and Objectives
  - c. Safety

***Summary of Existing Operating Conditions***
5. Future Conditions Evaluation
  - a. Travel Demand Model
  - b. Key Points
    - i. Socio-Economic Data
    - ii. Household Data
    - iii. Business Data

***Summary of Future Operating Conditions***

## PHASE II

6. Identify Improvements
  - a. Strategy Screening for Types of Improvements
    - i. Needs
    - ii. Parallel Relief
    - iii. Network Connectivity
    - iv. Access Improvements
    - v. Reconstruction
    - vi. Safety
7. Develop Cost Estimates
8. Financial Resources and Funding  
***Multi-Modal Transportation Plan***

## Public Involvement Process

1. Public Involvement Process
  - a. Detailed
  - b. Flexible
  - c. Measures to Evaluate Performance
2. Study Advisory Group
  - a. Development of Goals and Objectives
  - b. Review Existing Deficiencies and Issues
  - c. Development Opportunities
  - d. Identify and Review Potential Improvements
  - e. Identify Institutional Barriers and Opportunities
  - f. Meet 1-2 Weeks Prior to Public Workshops
    - i. October 2007
    - ii. February/March 2008
3. Public Workshops
  - a. 2 Rounds of Workshops with 1 Workshop in each County (6 total Workshops)
  - b. Public Workshop Structure
    - i. Workshop # 1 - Overview of Existing and Future Operating Conditions (October 2007)
    - ii. Workshop #2 - Preliminary Improvement Recommendations (February/March 2008)
  - c. Identify Specific, Possible Locations for Workshops
  - d. Appropriate Instruments to Post Notices
    - i. Press Release
    - ii. Newsletters
    - iii. Website
  - e. Mailing List/Key Invitees
  - f. Small Group Meetings
4. Coordination with Other Meetings Occurring in the Study Area

## Data Collection

Data Collection Items	Responsible Parties	Data Sources	Status
Background Information and Studies	HNTB	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties/Cities	Completed
RC Data	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
Bridge Inventory	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
Crash Data	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
Land Use Plans	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	In Progress
Rural Transit	MPH	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Freight	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Rail	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Aviation	MPH	GDOT Statewide Aviation System Plan	Completed
Bicycle and Pedestrian	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Socioeconomic Data	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Development Areas	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
GIS Data	HNTB	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties/Cities	In Progress

## Previous/Ongoing Studies and Plans

- Comprehensive Plans
  - Documentation of Existing and Future Land Use
  - Understanding of Development Areas
  - Documentation of Growth Areas
  - Documentation of Infrastructure Expansion
    - Utilities
    - Sewer
    - Schools
    - Parks and Recreation
  - Transportation Plan Coordinates with Comprehensive Plan to ensure Consistency with Community Goals and Objectives
- GDOT Interstate System Plan
  - No improvements are recommended in study area
- GDOT Truck Lanes Needs Identification Study
  - Recommendations late 2007
- GDOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Six Year Construction Work Program (CWP), and Long Range Plan
- Middle Georgia and McIntosh Trail RDC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans

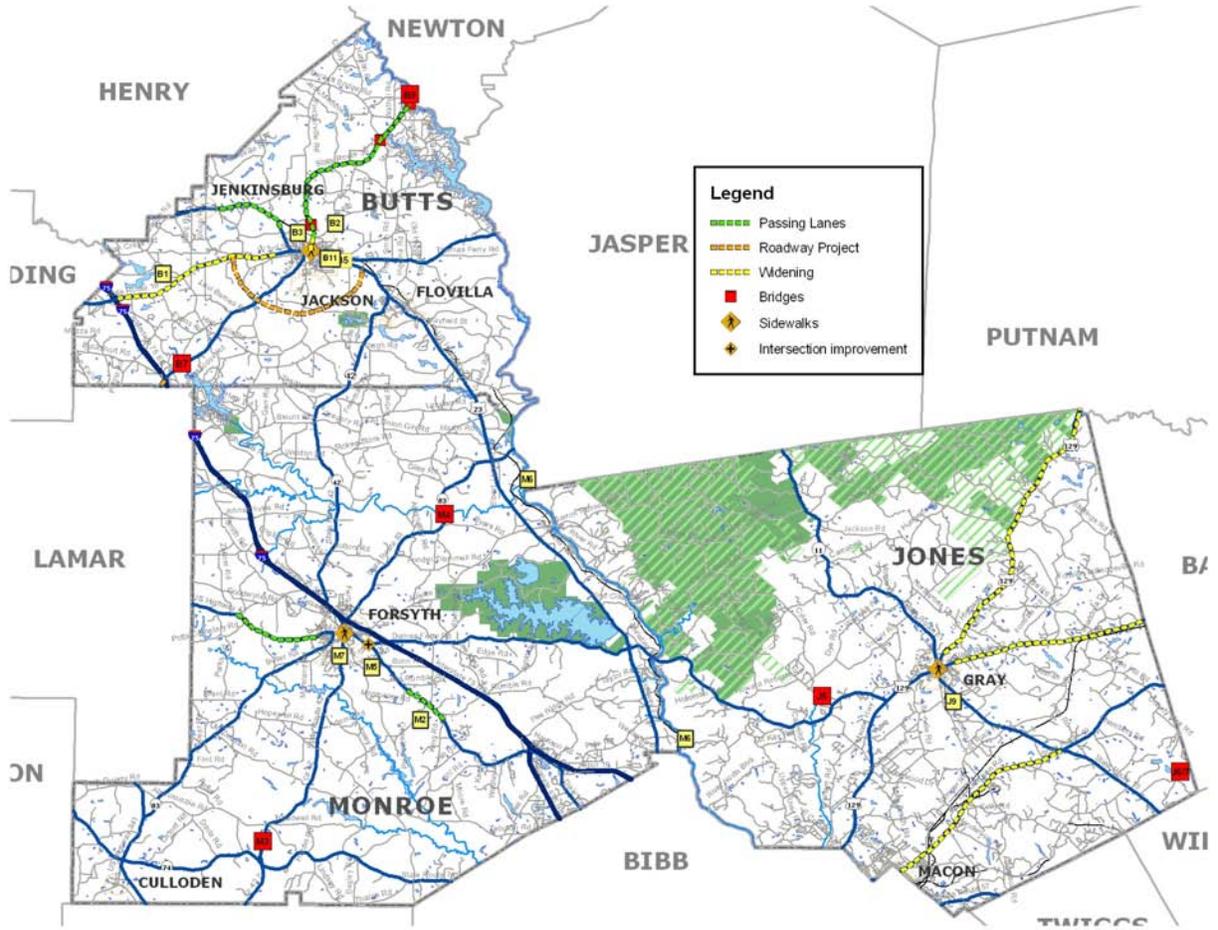
## 2006 - 2008 STIP & 2008-2013 Construction Work Program

### Butts County

Map Id	Project Id	Prime Work Type	Description	Program	Construction Date
B-1	0000760	Widening	SR 16 Widening from I-75 to City of Jackson	STP	2013
B-2	322440	Widening	SR 36 in City of Jackson from SR 16 to CR 289/Stark Road	STP	2014
B-3	0000479	Passing Lanes	SR 36, 2 eastbound & 3 westbound passing lanes north of Jackson	STP	2010
B-4	332360	Passing Lanes	SR 42/US 23 passing lanes at 2 locations between Jackson and Jenkinsburg	STP	LR
B-5	343440	Roadway Project	Jackson South Bypass from SR 16 at Bert Road to SR 16 at Bibb Station	STP	LR
B-6	0006973	Roadway Project	SR 36 from I-75/Butts County to SR 18/Lamar County	STP	2012
B-7	333170	Bridges	SR 36 at Towaliga River 7.5 miles southwest of Jackson	STP	2009
B-8	333171	Bridges	SR 36 at Yellow River Creek, 1 mile north of junction with SR 42	Bridge	2011
B-9	333172	Bridges	SR 36 at South River at Butts-Newton County line	Bridge	2008
B-10	331640	Bridges	CR 290 north of SR 36 at Tussahaw Creek	Bridge	NA
B-11	0007580	Sidewalks	Sidewalks, lighting and landscaping in Jackson	Local	2008

Source: GDOT Office of Planning

# 2006 - 2008 STIP & 2008-2013 Construction Work Program



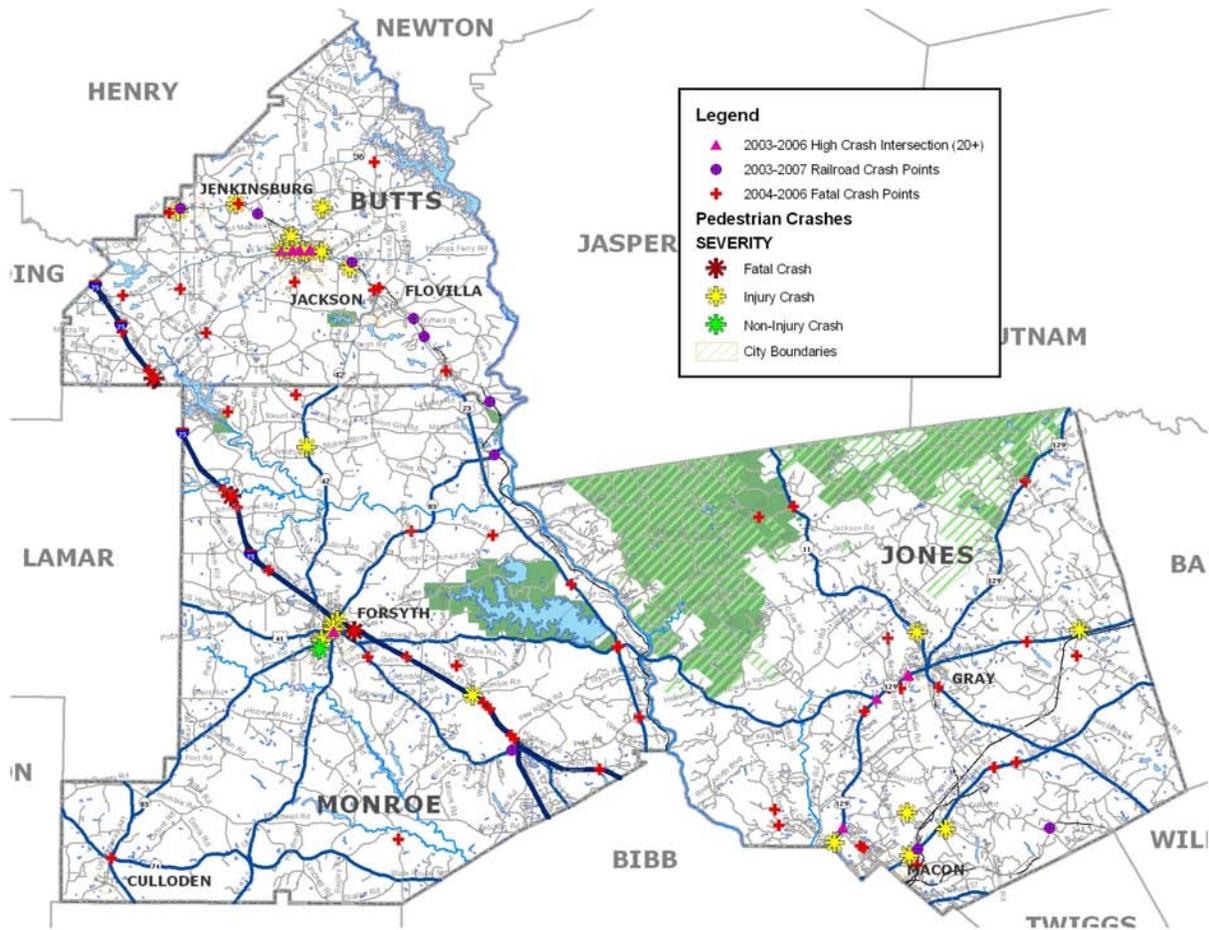
# Crash History

## Butts County Crash Locations

Roadway	Intersection	Crashes	Fatalities	Injuries
SR 16 (west of Jackson)	US 23 (west of Jackson)	17	0	1
SR 16 (east of Jackson)	US 23 (east of Jackson)	20	0	4
SR 16	SR 36	19	0	3

Source: CARE Database

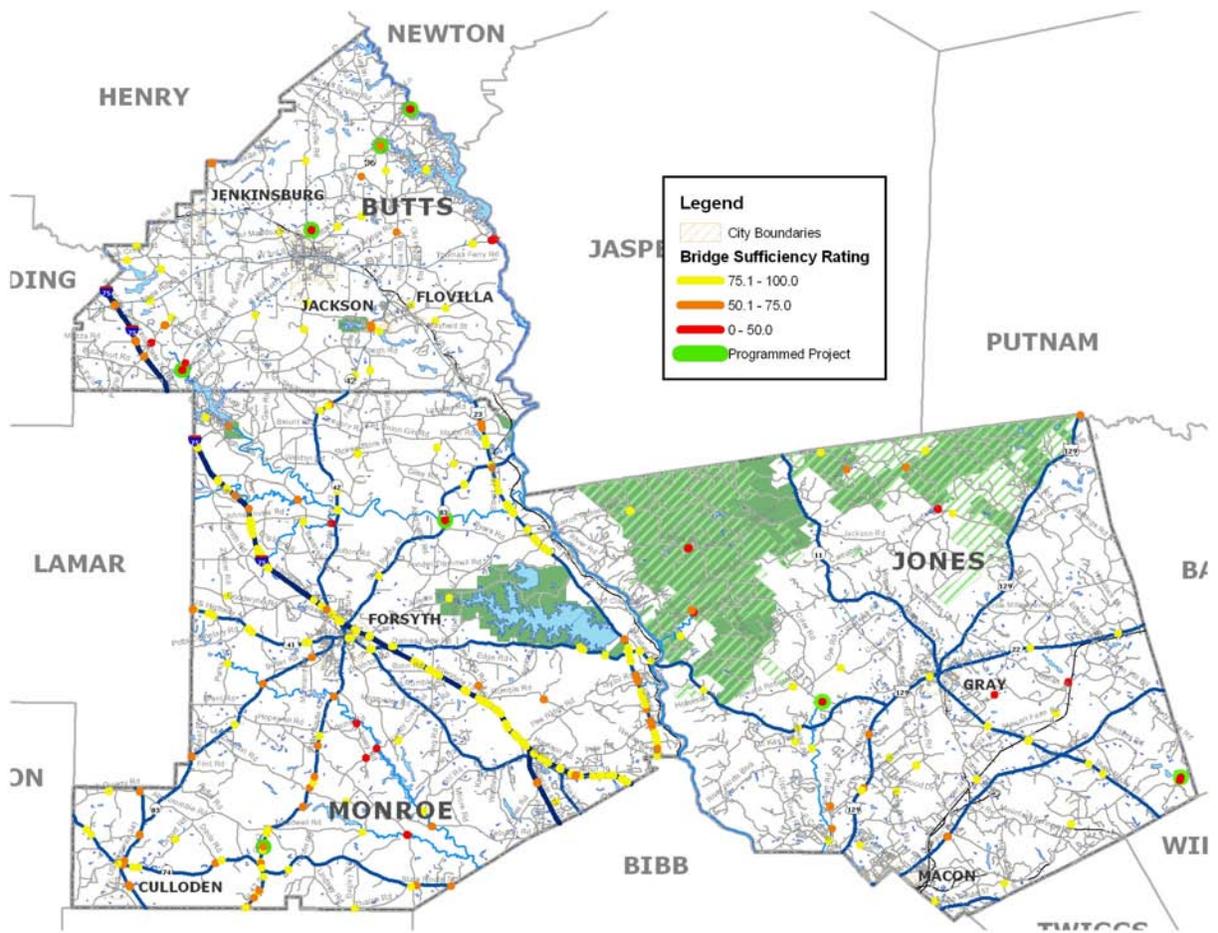
## Crash Locations and Severity



# Bridges

- 40 Bridges in Butts County
  - 6 Bridges in Need of Maintenance or Rehabilitation
  - 10 Bridges in Need of Maintenance or Rehabilitation in the next 20 years
  - 2 Bridges currently in GDOT's Construction Work Program

## Bridge Sufficiency Ratings

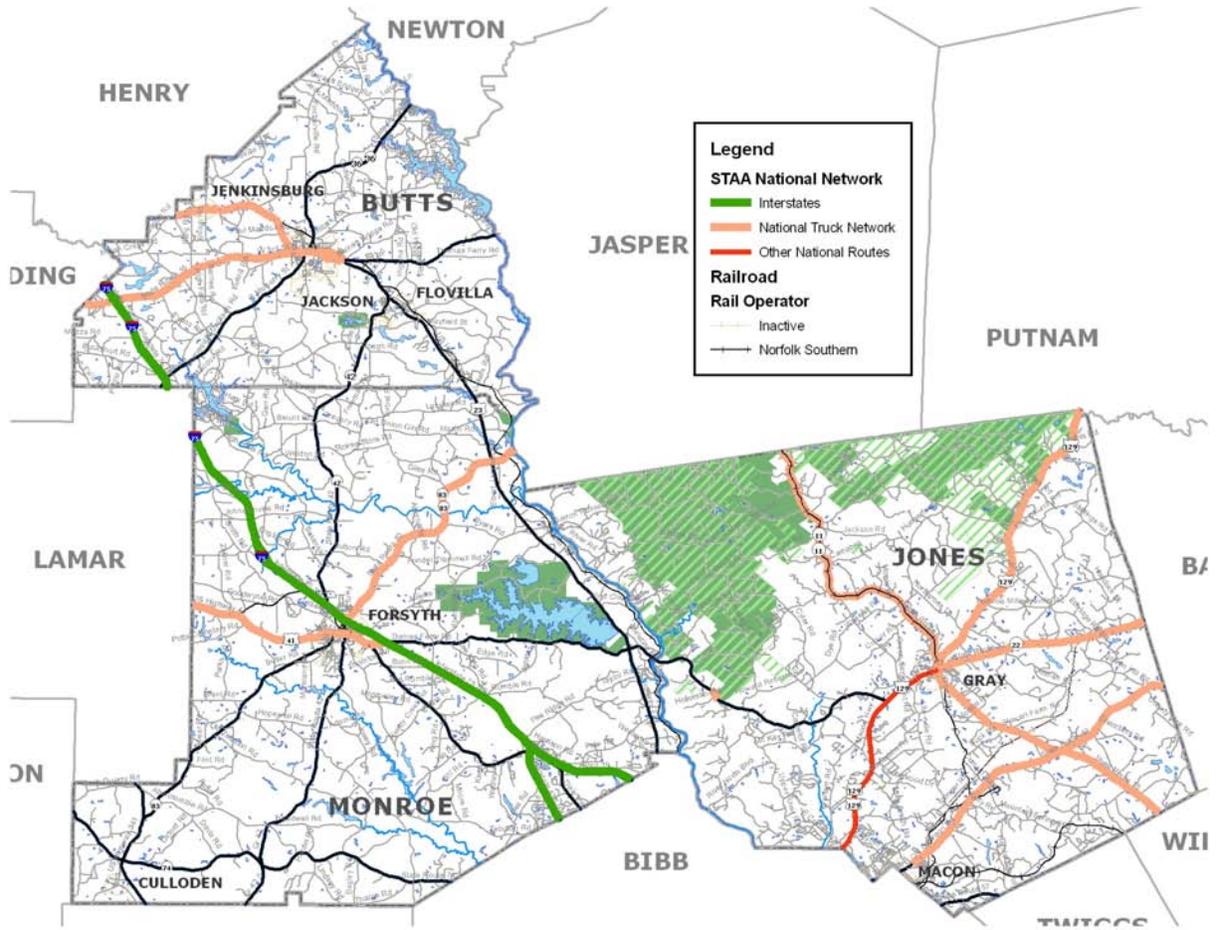


## Freight & Rail

GDOT - Georgia Rail Freight Plan Update, 2000

- Primary Atlanta-Macon Route through Butts County
  - Norfolk Southern -21 miles of Track
  - 50 Trains Per Day
  - 66 Million Gross Ton Miles/Mile (MGTM/M)
- Rail Safety
  - 42 Crossings
    - 41 At-Grade Crossings
    - 1 Overpass
  - 6 Incidents reported to the Federal Railroad Administration (2000-2006).
  - 13 Incidents at rail crossings that don't include trains.
- Commodities/Freight - Originating in the County
  - Lumber and Wood
- Commodities/Freight - Transported Through the County
  - Nonmetallic Minerals
  - Clay, Concrete, Glass and Stone Products
  - Coal
  - Chemicals and Allied Products
  - Hazardous Materials
  - Pulp and Paper
  - Food Products
  - Mixed Shipments

# Rail Locations and Truck Routes



## **Multi-Modal (Bike/Ped, Aviation & Transit)**

### **Butts County Bike/Ped**

#### Locations to examine for walking/biking potential:

##### Existing Schools:

- Dougherty Elementary School  
150 Shiloh Road, Jackson
- Jackson Elementary School (this will be torn down and the highschool will be located on the site)  
218 Woodland Way, Jackson
- North Mulberry Elementary School (Stark Elementary will replace this school - the site will be the future home of a Pre-K and possible Alternative School)  
820 North Mulberry Street, Jackson
- Henderson Middle School  
494 George Tate Drive
- Jackson High School  
717 Harkness Street, Jackson

##### Planned Schools:

- Stark Elementary (has large new subdivision nearby for consideration for bicycle and pedestrian connectivity)  
169 Stark Road, Jackson
- New Jackson Elementary  
Between 1059 and 1265 Brownlee Road, Jackson

##### Other Destinations:

- Jackson-Butts County Public Library  
436 East College Street  
Jackson, GA 30233
- High Falls State Park
- Dauset Trails Nature Center
- Indian Springs State Park
- Downtown Jackson
- Jackson Lake
- Ocmulgee River
- Potential Chief McIntosh Trail from Indian Springs to Carrollton
- Daughtry Park
- Senior Center
- Other Local Parks

##### **Crash Statistics:**

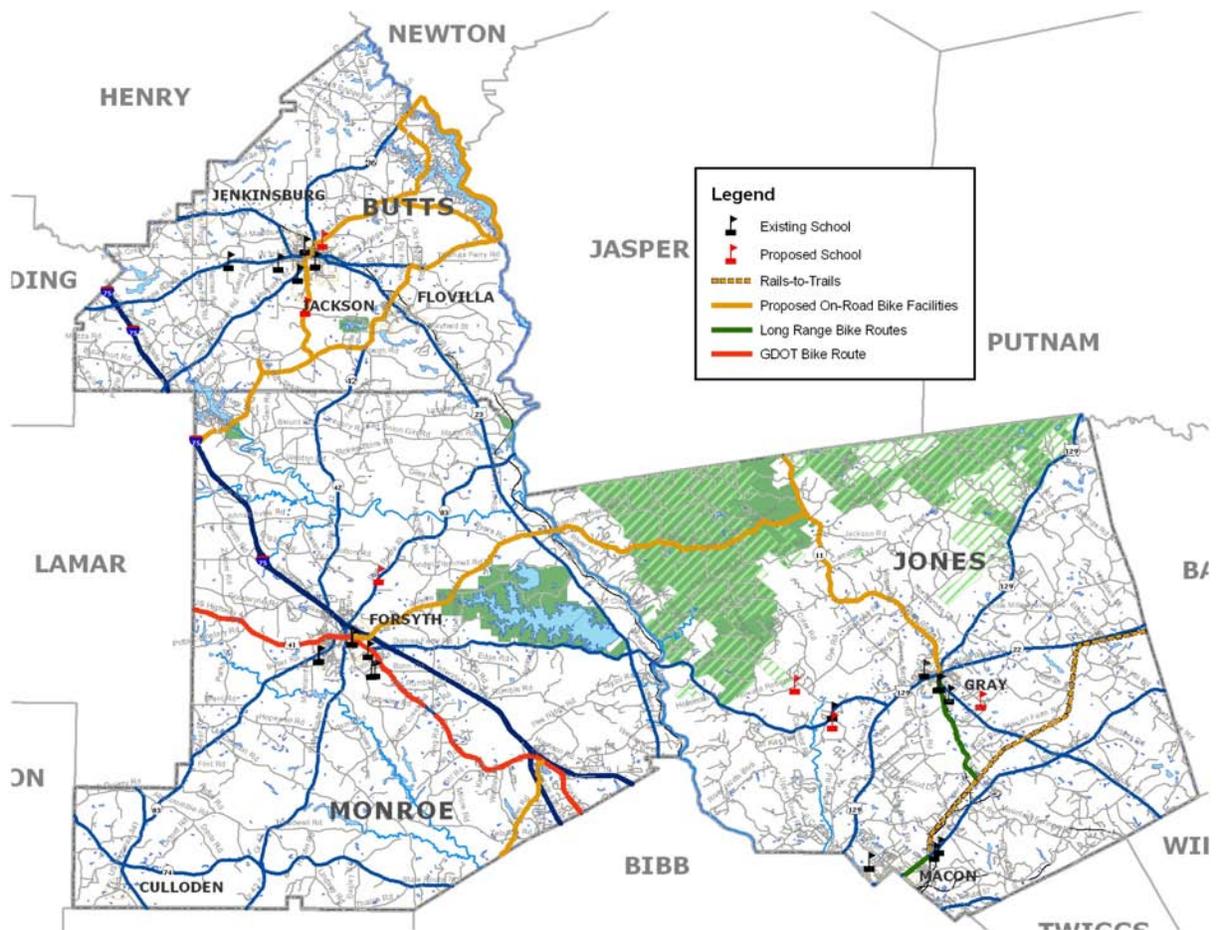
2004-2006: Bicycle-Pedestrian Crashes: 10 injuries, 1 fatality

## Existing Bike/Ped Recommendations from McIntosh Trail RDC:

### Recommendations for On-Road Bicycle Facilities:

- Lake Jackson Loop on SR 16, Big Dam, Barnett Bridge/Stark Road, and SR 36
- Along Stark Road from Jackson Lake south through Jackson and south on Brownlee Road to Mount Vernon Shortcut to Mount Vernon Road
- Along Mount Vernon Road from SR 42 to Monroe County Line connecting to High Falls State Park

## Bicycle/Pedestrian Existing and Planned Facilities



**Aviation:** Butts County currently does not have a local airport. It is currently a potential location under consideration as part of the Governor's regional airport program.

**Public Transportation:** Butts County is a **5311 Rural Transit Participant**, administered by the McIntosh Trail RDC. The system is a fare-based, demand-response system providing access to shopping, medical, educational, employment, and social activity centers. A van must be reserved 24 hours in advance and operates Monday through Fridays, 8AM to 5PM. The cost is \$2.00 per one way trip. The service is primarily used by the elderly, minorities, and the disabled.

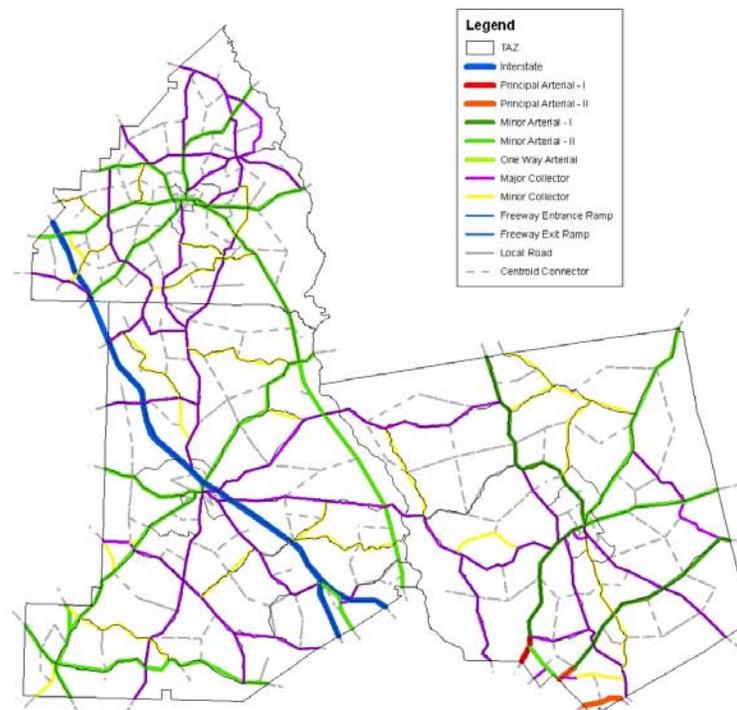
The Council on Aging for McIntosh Trail, Inc. also operates two additional vans in Butts County to transport elderly, disabled, and other residents who qualify for Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) assistance. These residents are clients of the Division of Aging Services (DAS), the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) and the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases (MHDDAD).

The elderly are major users of both the 5311 Program and the **DHR-provided transportation services** in Butts County. Planning for additional future services needs to consider population projections for the elderly in coming years. The Butts County Comprehensive Plan 2005-2025 projects a 327% increase in the elderly population through 2035.

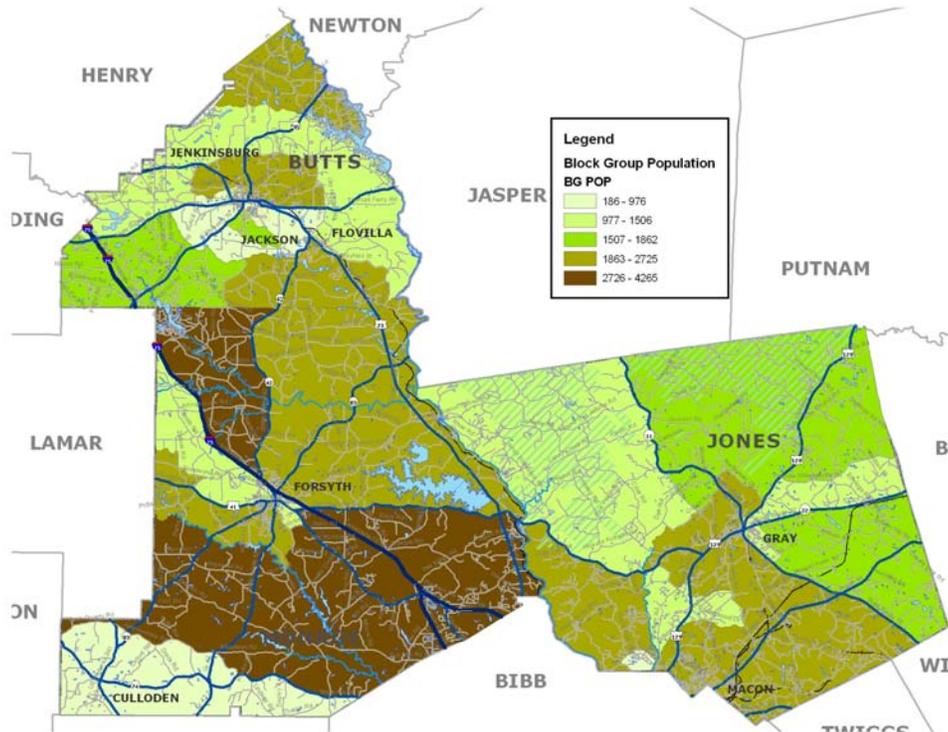
## Model Development

A *Travel Demand Model* is a tool used to project future traffic. It is developed using the following information:

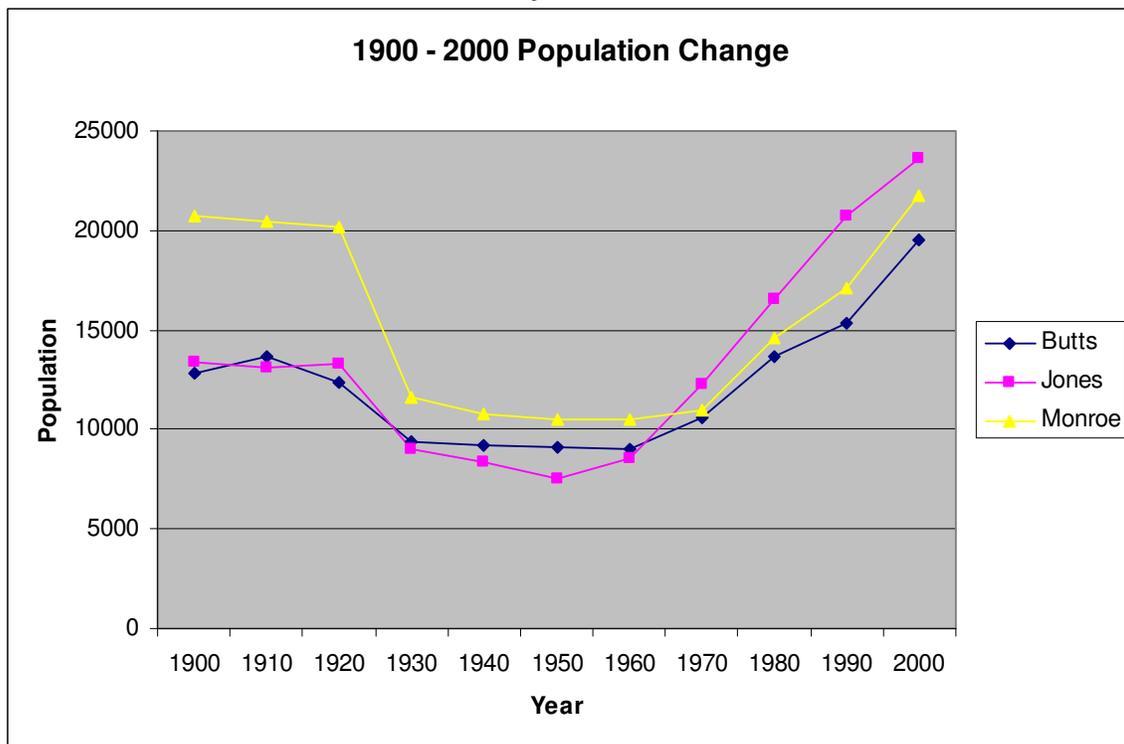
- Network Development
  - Functional Classification of Roadway
    - Capacity
    - Speeds
  - Number of Lanes
  - Traffic Counts
- Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ)
  - Census Blocks
  - Natural Boundaries
  - Socioeconomic data - population and employment



## Population Distribution in 2000



## Population Change from 1990 to 2000



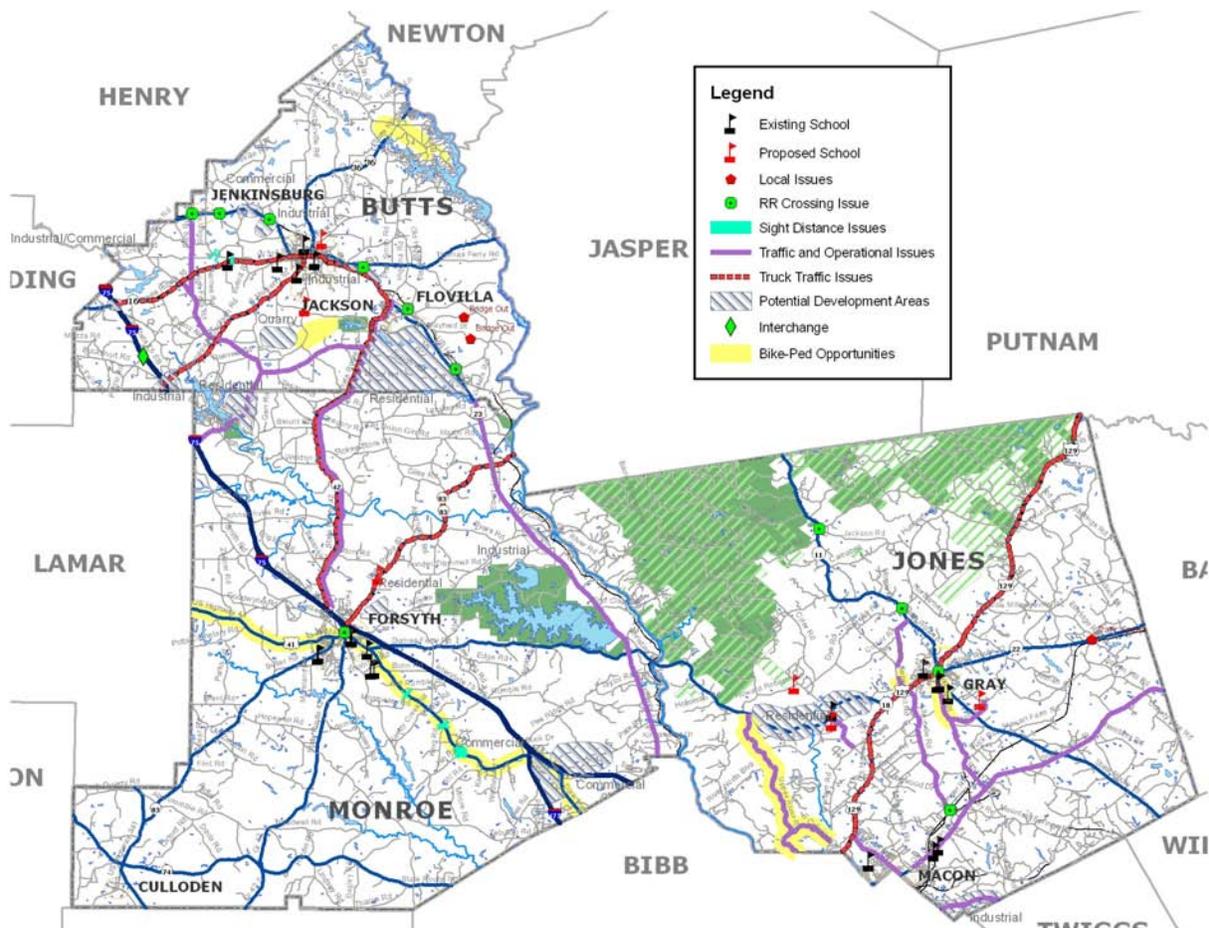
Source: US Census

# Local Issues & Opportunities

Background on Key Transportation Issues in the Study Area

- Safety
- Congestion
- Transit
- Bicycle & Pedestrian
- Desired Projects or Improvements
- Development Areas
- Political Realities

## Local Issues and Opportunities



## Transportation Issues & Needs

- A. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns in your County?
  
- B. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?
  
- C. What do you think is the relationship between transportation and land use in the Study Area?
  
- D. Given this is a Plan that discusses short-range and long-range transportation issues, what is the best way to reach out to citizens and community groups to involve them in the Transportation Study?
  
- E. What funding sources should be used to pay for future transportation improvements in the Study Area? Which sources should not be used?
  
- F. If you could share one major message with the Project Team, what would it be?
  
- G. How engaged do you think Study Area residents want to be in discussing transportation and land use issues and the Transportation Study?
  
- H. What do you see as the transportation “Hot Spot” in the study area?

- I. What aspects of the transportation system are important to you TODAY and what aspects will be important to you in 2035 (25 years from now). Please rank importance of the following transportation strategies as “High”, “Medium” or “Low”.

Transportation Needs	Level of Importance to You Today	Level of Importance to You in 2035
Relieving traffic congestion on I-75		
Providing adequate evacuation and emergency routes		
Improving roadway safety		
Addressing truck travel		
Adding or coordinating traffic signals, building turn lanes, and adding other features to improve traffic flow		
Adding new roadway capacity (widened roads) to the transportation system		
Adding new roadway capacity (new roads) to the transportation system		
Dealing with problems associated with railroad crossings		
Building more north-south roadways to better connect areas within the County		
Building more east-west roadways to better connect areas within the County		
Providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks and shopping areas, etc		
Improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians		
Developing better public transportation services for seniors and disabled people		
Providing public transportation (bus) services to residents		
Providing adequate resources to operate and maintain our existing transportation system		
Coordination between Counties for Transportation		

- J. Do you have any other issues or concerns that you would like to see dealt with in the Transportation Study?

- K. What do you expect as the outcome of this study?

## Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives are components of the long range planning process. They guide the development of the Plan by providing a basis for evaluating Transportation Plan alternatives. Goals and objectives reflect those intentions that the plan is meant to achieve.

### Factors to Consider

- Economics & Development
- Safety
- Accessibility
- Employment
- Environment
- Efficiency
- Preservation

### Developing Goals and Objectives

- What are the County's Mobility Needs?
- What Types of Transportation Improvements?
- Are Multi-Modal Improvements Needed in the County?
- Which Improvements are the Most Important to the County?
- What are Transportation Quality of Life Factors?

### Comprehensive Plan - Transportation Related Goals

- Push for the development of the South Jackson Truck Route.
- Try to resolve problems of congestion and truck traffic in downtown Jackson.
- Possible new access roads and other improvements within the I-75 corridor.
- There is a need for more sidewalks, pedestrian paths, and consideration for alternate modes of transit for Butts County residents.

## **Public Workshop #1**

October 16, 2007, 6PM-8PM

Butts County Administration Building - Commissioners Meeting Room

625 West Third Street

Jackson, GA 30233

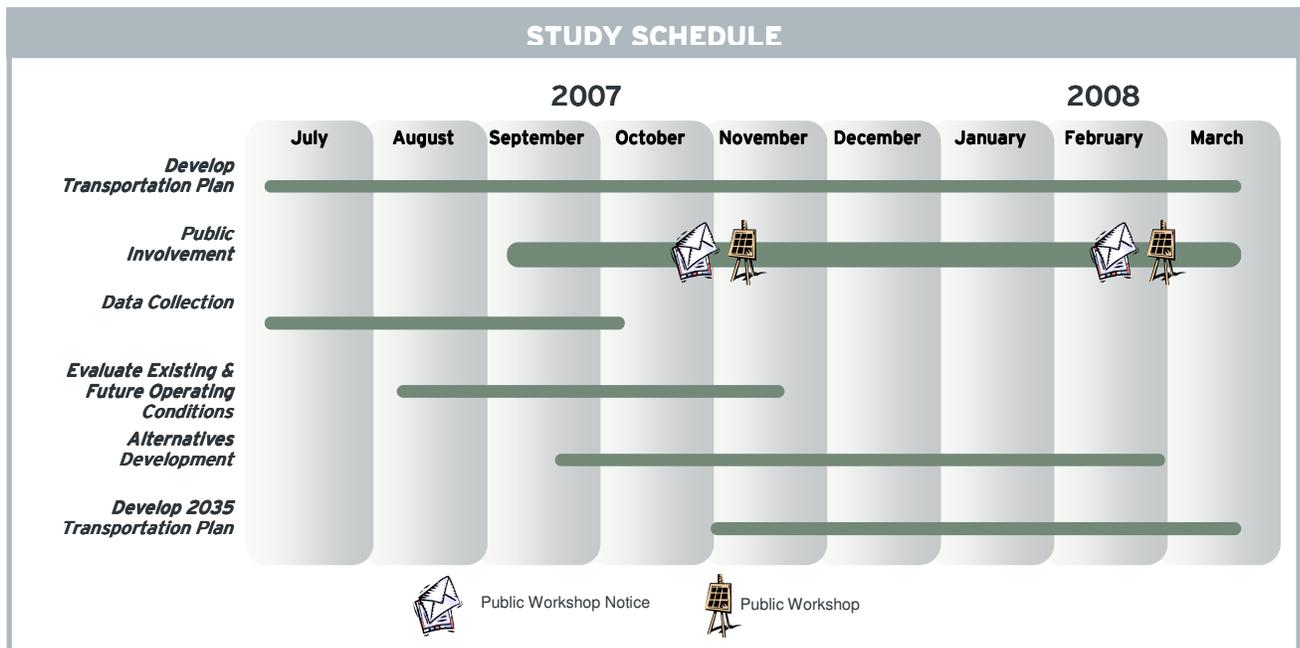
Format - Open House (2 Hours)

- Formal Presentation (15 Minutes)
- Formal Q&A (10-15 Minutes)
- Display Boards
- Comment Sheets

**Help Us Get the Word Out!!**

## Next Steps

- Complete Existing Conditions Report
- Complete Travel Demand Model
- Develop Future Operating Conditions
- Identify Preliminary Existing and Future Deficiencies
- Schedule Next Advisory Group Meeting (February/March)





**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
Monroe County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #1**

October 2, 2007, 10AM to 12PM  
Monroe County Clubhouse

**Attendees:**

David Clark, Department of Corrections  
Sid Banks, Monroe County  
Jim Peters, Monroe County  
Bob Rychel, Middle Georgia RDC  
Phil Clark, Middle Georgia RDC  
Tiffany Andrews, Monroe-Forsyth Chamber of  
Commerce  
Matt Perry, EMA Director  
Jeff Turner, Monroe County School Board  
Cindy Crowley, Monroe County

Larry Evans, Monroe County  
David Millen, GDOT District 3  
Tom Queen, GDOT District 3  
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning  
Matthew Fowler, GDOT Planning  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB  
Garth Lynch, HNTB

**Handouts:**

Meeting Agenda  
Study Advisory Committee Packet

**Meeting Summary:**

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study, a Study Advisory Group meeting was held in Monroe County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Local participants from the Monroe County community represented a diverse range of perspectives including elected officials, the business community, employers, and local agencies.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and led off self-introductions. She turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, to begin the presentation. Ms. Bilotto began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process and the role in which the study advisory group plays. Members were encouraged to help get the word out regarding upcoming public meetings in the county, which was scheduled based on feedback from the group for Thursday, November 1, from 5PM to 7PM. Following the presentation, Ms. Bilotto led the group through the information packet summarizing existing conditions in the county and explained that one of the goals of the day's meeting was to develop a set of goals and objectives that can be incorporated as part of the study. Specific topics included the following:

- Planned and Programmed Projects
- Safety
- Bridges
- Freight Networks for Rail and Trucks
- Public Transportation
- Aviation
- Travel Demand Model Development
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Existing and Planned Projects
- Local Issues and Opportunities

### **Existing and Future Conditions Discussion:**

Ms. Bilotto then led the group through a list of broad transportation needs to generate discussion regarding specific interest areas now and in the future. The group discussed issues by level of importance and considered future priorities as the County experiences change, as listed below:

#### **High Level of Importance Today and in 2035**

- Improving roadway safety
- Addressing truck travel
- Adding new roadway capacity (widened roads) to the transportation system
- Dealing with problems associated with railroad crossings
- Providing adequate resources to operate and maintain our transportation system
- Adding or coordinating traffic signals, building turn lanes, and adding other features to improve traffic flow (In Downtown Forsyth)

Relieving traffic congestion on I-75 was considered important when there was an accident on I-75. When there is an incident, traffic is rerouted on to local routes – SR 18, US 41, and Rumble Road.

#### **Low Level of Importance Today and Medium in 2035**

- Developing better public transportation services for seniors and disabled people
- Providing public transportation (bus) services to residents

#### **Medium Level of Importance in 2035**

- Providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks, and shopping areas
- Improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians

Building more east-west roadways to better connect areas within the County, particularly in the northern areas as growth occurs was proposed by the group. In the southern portion of the County, providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks, and shopping areas was deemed important in the future.

### **General Discussion:**

Comments from the group are organized by topic rather than the order in which they were made.

### **Planned and Programmed Projects**

In downtown Forsyth, another pedestrian improvement project needs to be added to the list, according to Tom Queen from the GDOT.

### **Crash History**

- On I-75 from Mile Post 187 to 185, water flow creates problems for vehicles and results in crashes
- SR 42, SR 83, and SR 18 intersections are high crash areas
- SR 42 and SR 74 are in currently under design
- Interchange modification at Pate Road received public backlash when proposed several years ago
- High Falls Road has the potential to be a high growth area for residential and commercial development
- Rumble Road and US 41 and railroad crossing is concerned to be a dangerous intersection
- At SR 83 and US 41, left turn lanes off of MLK are needed and a traffic signal could be warranted

### **Bridges**

A wooden bridge exists on Higgins Mill Road that allows only one-way, in/out access, and the area is experiencing growth, so this bridge should be examined and considered for an upgrade.

## **Freight Networks for Rail and Trucks**

### **US 41**

Collier Road from US 41 to Smith Road will be repaved; this might result in a shift in truck traffic. In Bolingbroke, trains impede US 41 traffic flow which also causes school busses to back up. Commercial and school traffic, starting at about 3pm until 5pm, cause traffic conflicts on US 41 and SR 18.

Trains move faster than in the past; trains now travel up to 30 mph through downtown whereas they used to travel at about 10 mph. The railroad through downtown is a route from Macon to Barnesville and passes through town about once a day. The "Juliette-line" runs about 40 trains per day, located on the eastern portion of the county. Norfolk Southern and the State have a list of potential railroad crossing closings.

A concern is the hazardous materials coming through town. An analysis of a possible bypass around the center of town for trucks was proposed. A comment was made that Milner propane line was an origin-destination for some of the trucks carrying hazardous material.

### **US 23**

US 23 is fast becoming a major freight route.

### **Emergency Access**

Overall, there is no major concern over emergency vehicle access and conflicts with railroad crossings.

### **Bicycle and Pedestrian**

Thornton Road and US 41 area improvement would benefit school bus operations and have target potential for safe routes to schools.

Recreational biking occurs on SR 18 and US 41, which are considered dangerous roads for this activity given the lack of shoulders and inadequate lane width.

## **Local Issues and opportunities**

### **New Growth**

The Department of Corrections is planning to locate about 500 employees to the Tift College site over the next 2 years and the area could potentially be home to 1000 new employees at various government agencies by 2011. The entrance is on Patrol Road and this road could be widened to three lanes to accommodate turning movements and the guard shack could be moved further away from the road to create vehicle storage space to prevent backups on Patrol Road. Commercial development is increasing and will continue to do so with the new employment arriving to the area. There is a sight distance issue at the Tift College exit over the bridge. A park and ride lot near this area has potential to attract usage.

The northern part of the county could experience high growth and east-west connectivity will need to be addressed to serve future growth.

### **Downtown Forsyth**

SR 42 and Old Indian Springs Road and Ensign Road are four major roads coming together and are a bad intersection.

### **New Freight Routes**

A potential east-west multi-lane corridor from LaGrange to I-75 though Monroe County has a resolution in place. LaGrange is attracting big box distribution centers that use main routes through Monroe County to access middle Georgia.

### **Detour routes**

Detour routes off of I-75 when there is an accident overload local county roads. Portable Message Boards deployed early on to the incident site would greatly increase detour efficiency and relieve congestion faster. State Route 42 and US 41 are parallel routes that function as relievers to I-75. SR 18 and Rumble Road are also detour routes used.

A potential I-16/I-75 bypass through Jones County that could impact Monroe County is currently off the table for consideration.

### **Transit**

5310 currently provides adequate transportation options to employment centers in McDonough and Warner Robbins and Spalding and Bibb counties.

### **SPLOST**

SPLOST was recently approved and will extend for 6 years.

### **Summary of Top Concerns**

- Montpelier Road is seen as a road that would experience traffic congestion in the near term.
- About 500 acres near the High Falls Road exit at I-75 is owned by one person and has the potential to be development once water and sewer capacity reach the area.
- Johnsonville Road also has development potential once utilities are extended to this area.
- Safety on I-75 is important. An analysis of the existing designated detour routes to determine if they are adequate was proposed.
- Tift College Road exit ramp sight distance issue over the bridge is a short-term need.
- All arterials could be widened from 18' to 24' including additional shoulder work and could be considered for bike lanes.

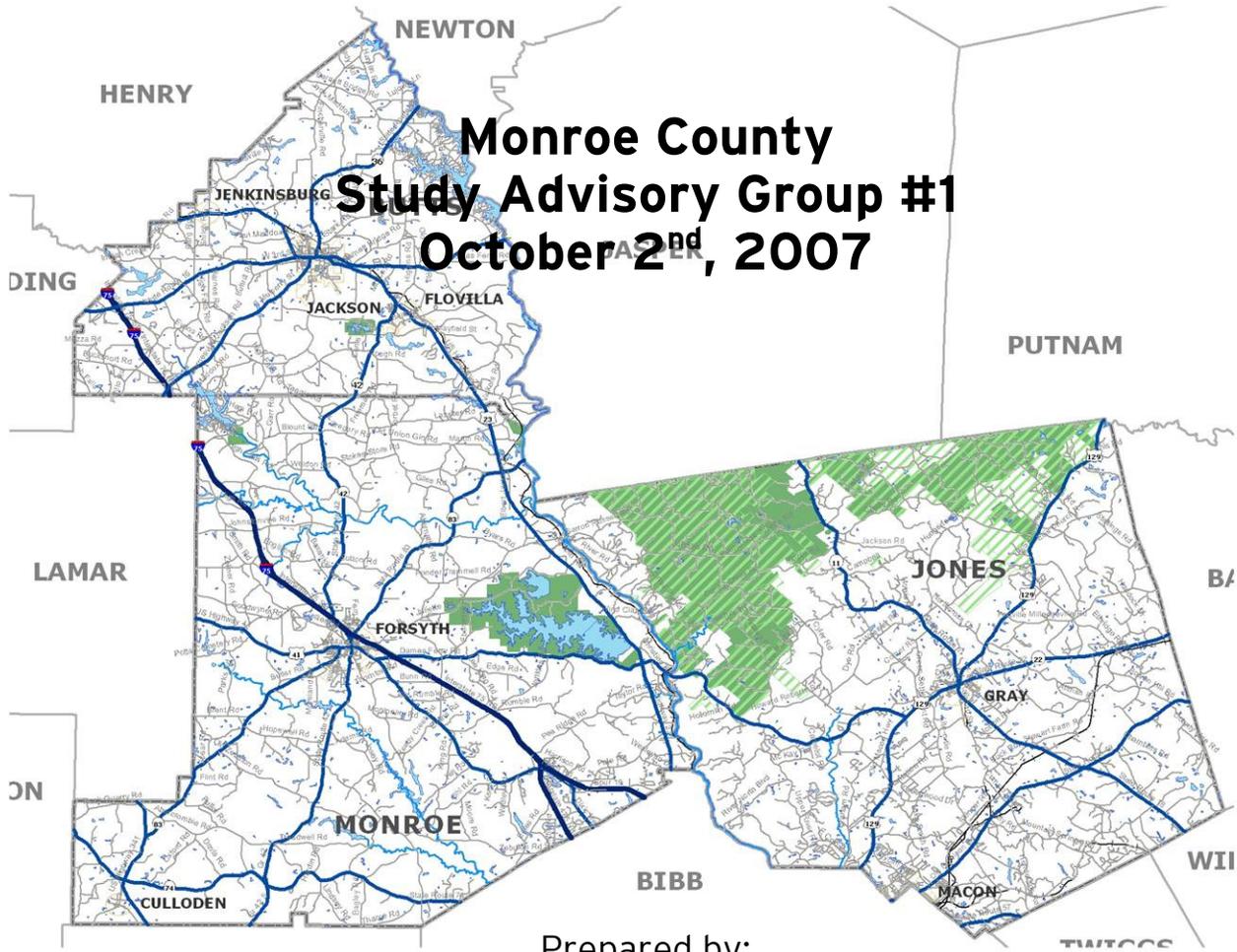


Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study  
 Monroe County Advisory Committee  
 Kick-Off Meeting - October 2, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
 Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
DAVID CLARK	GA. Dept of CORRECTIONS	404-635-4622	dclarkd@dcor.state.ga.us
Sid BANKS	Monroe Co.	478-994-7029	
Kelly Gwin	GDOT-Planning	404-651-5330	kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us
Dian Peters	MC	478-332-1840	<del>jpeters@monroe.k12.ga.us</del>
Bob Rychel	MERDC	478-751-6160	brychel@mgadc.org
Phil Clark	MGRPC	478-751-6160	pcclark@mgadc.org
Tiffany Andrews	Chamber	478-994-9239	tiffany@forsyth-monroechamber.com
Matt Perry	EMA	478-256-9506	truperry239@yahoo.com
RAINEY SIMPSON	GDOT	404-657-6689	
Jeff Turner	Monroe Co. BOE	478-994-2031	turner@monroe.k12.ga.us
Tom Queen	GDOT	706-646-6982	tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us
Cindy Crowley	Monroe County	478-994-7000	ccrowley@monroecountygeorgia.com
David Millen	GDOT	706-646-6987	david.millen@dot.state.ga.us
Jay Evans	M.C.	478-994-9791	Larry Evans, Sou Bell, com
MATTHEW FOWLER	GDOT	404-657-6916	matthew.fowler@dot.state.ga.us

# Butts, Jones & Monroe Transportation Study



Prepared by:



## HNTB

In Association with:  
MPH & Associates, Inc

# Butts, Jones & Monroe Transportation Study

## Agenda

- 1.0 Study Team Members
- 2.0 Study Overview
- 3.0 Public Involvement Plan
- 4.0 Data Collection
- 5.0 Model Development
- 6.0 Local Issues & Opportunities
- 7.0 Goals & Objectives
- 8.0 Public Workshop #1
- 9.0 Next Steps

### Action Items for Today's Meeting

- Transportation Issues & Needs
- Development Opportunities
- Goals & Objectives

## Study Team Members

Agency	Contact	Phone	Email
GDOT - Planning	Radney Simpson	404-657-6689	<a href="mailto:radney.simpson@dot.state.ga.us">radney.simpson@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - Planning	Kelly Gwin	404-651-5330	<a href="mailto:Kelly.Gwin@dot.state.ga.us">Kelly.Gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - Planning	Matthew Fowler	404-657-6916	<a href="mailto:Matthew.fowler@dot.state.ga.us">Matthew.fowler@dot.state.ga.us</a>
HNTB - Project Manager	Claudia Bilotto	404-946-5747	<a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
HNTB - Senior Planner	Tim Hatton	404-946-5755	<a href="mailto:thatton@hntb.com">thatton@hntb.com</a>
MPH & Associates	Mary Huffstetler	404-210-6123	<a href="mailto:maryhuffstetler@bellsouth.net">maryhuffstetler@bellsouth.net</a>
GDOT - District 3	Thomas Howell	706-646-6900	<a href="mailto:thomas.howell@dot.state.ga.us">thomas.howell@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - District 3	David Millen	706-646-6987	<a href="mailto:david.millen@dot.state.ga.us">david.millen@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - District 3	Tom Queen	706-646-6317	<a href="mailto:tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us">tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us</a>
Middle Georgia RDC	Phil Clark	478-751-6160	<a href="mailto:pclark@mgrdc.org">pclark@mgrdc.org</a>
McIntosh Trail RDC	Robert Hiatt	770-227-6308	<a href="mailto:rhiatt@cityofgriffin.com">rhiatt@cityofgriffin.com</a>
Monroe County Road Superintendent	Sid Banks	478-994-7029	
Butts County Planning Director	Steven Lease	770-775-8210	<a href="mailto:srlease@buttscounty.org">srlease@buttscounty.org</a>
Jones County Administrator	Mike Underwood	478-986-8219	<a href="mailto:mikeunderwood@alltel.net">mikeunderwood@alltel.net</a>

## Study Advisory Group Members (Monroe County)

Contact	Organization	Phone	Email
Robert Williams	Juliette River Club	478-994-2770	
Vicky Smith	Bolingbroke Community Club	478-747-7743	b.smith@remax.net
Dennis Smith	High Falls Civic Association	770-504-1703	
Bud Queen	High Falls Lake Association	478-992-9063	bud4monroe@yahoo.com
Tiffany Andrews	Monroe-Forsyth Chamber of Commerce	478-994-9239	
Jeff Turner	Monroe County School Board	478-994-2031	
Butch Copeland	Georgia Power	478-994-0022	
Matt Perry	EMA Director	478-994-2040	
Melvin Lawrence	Elderly/Disabled	478-994-1701	
Larry Lattimer	Department of Corrections	404-735-5659	latiml00@dcor.state.ga.us
Charlie Cruz	Middle Georgia Community Action Agency	478-922-4464	ccruze@mgcaa.org

# Study Overview

## PHASE I

1. Data Collection
  - a. Previous Studies
  - b. GIS Data
  - c. Socio-Economic Data

***Existing Conditions Inventory***  
***Travel Demand Model***
2. Public Involvement  
***Public Involvement Process***  
***Goals & Objectives***
3. Develop Evaluation Factors  
***Evaluation Factors***
4. Evaluate Existing Conditions
  - a. Multi-Modal Assessment
  - b. Goals and Objectives
  - c. Safety

***Summary of Existing Operating Conditions***
5. Future Conditions Evaluation
  - a. Travel Demand Model
  - b. Key Points
    - i. Socio-Economic Data
    - ii. Household Data
    - iii. Business Data

***Summary of Future Operating Conditions***

## PHASE II

6. Identify Improvements
  - a. Strategy Screening for Types of Improvements
    - i. Needs
    - ii. Parallel Relief
    - iii. Network Connectivity
    - iv. Access Improvements
    - v. Reconstruction
    - vi. Safety
7. Develop Cost Estimates
8. Financial Resources and Funding  
***Multi-Modal Transportation Plan***

## Public Involvement Process

1. Public Involvement Process
  - a. Detailed
  - b. Flexible
  - c. Measures to Evaluate Performance
2. Study Advisory Group
  - a. Development of Goals and Objectives
  - b. Review Existing Deficiencies and Issues
  - c. Development Opportunities
  - d. Identify and Review Potential Improvements
  - e. Identify Institutional Barriers and Opportunities
  - f. Meet 1-2 Weeks Prior to Public Workshops
    - i. October 2007
    - ii. February/March 2008
3. Public Workshops
  - a. 2 Rounds of Workshops with 1 Workshop in each County (6 total Workshops)
  - b. Public Workshop Structure
    - i. Workshop # 1 - Overview of Existing and Future Operating Conditions (October 2007)
    - ii. Workshop #2 - Preliminary Improvement Recommendations (February/March 2008)
  - c. Identify Specific, Possible Locations for Workshops
  - d. Appropriate Instruments to Post Notices
    - i. Press Release
    - ii. Newsletters
    - iii. Website
  - e. Mailing List/Key Invitees
  - f. Small Group Meetings
4. Coordination with Other Meetings Occurring in the Study Area

## Data Collection

Data Collection Items	Responsible Parties	Data Sources	Status
Background Information and Studies	HNTB	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties/Cities	Completed
RC Data	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
Bridge Inventory	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
Crash Data	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
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Rural Transit	MPH	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Freight	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Rail	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Aviation	MPH	GDOT Statewide Aviation System Plan	Completed
Bicycle and Pedestrian	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Socioeconomic Data	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Development Areas	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
GIS Data	HNTB	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties/Cities	In Progress

## Previous/Ongoing Studies and Plans

- Comprehensive Plans
  - Documentation of Existing and Future Land Use
  - Understanding of Development Areas
  - Documentation of Growth Areas
  - Documentation of Infrastructure Expansion
    - Utilities
    - Sewer
    - Schools
    - Parks and Recreation
  - Transportation Plan Coordinates with Comprehensive Plan to ensure Consistency with Community Goals and Objectives
- GDOT Interstate System Plan
  - No improvements are recommended in study area
- GDOT Truck Lanes Needs Identification Study
  - Recommendations late 2007
- GDOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Six Year Construction Work Program (CWP), and Long Range Plan
- Middle Georgia and McIntosh Trail RDC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans

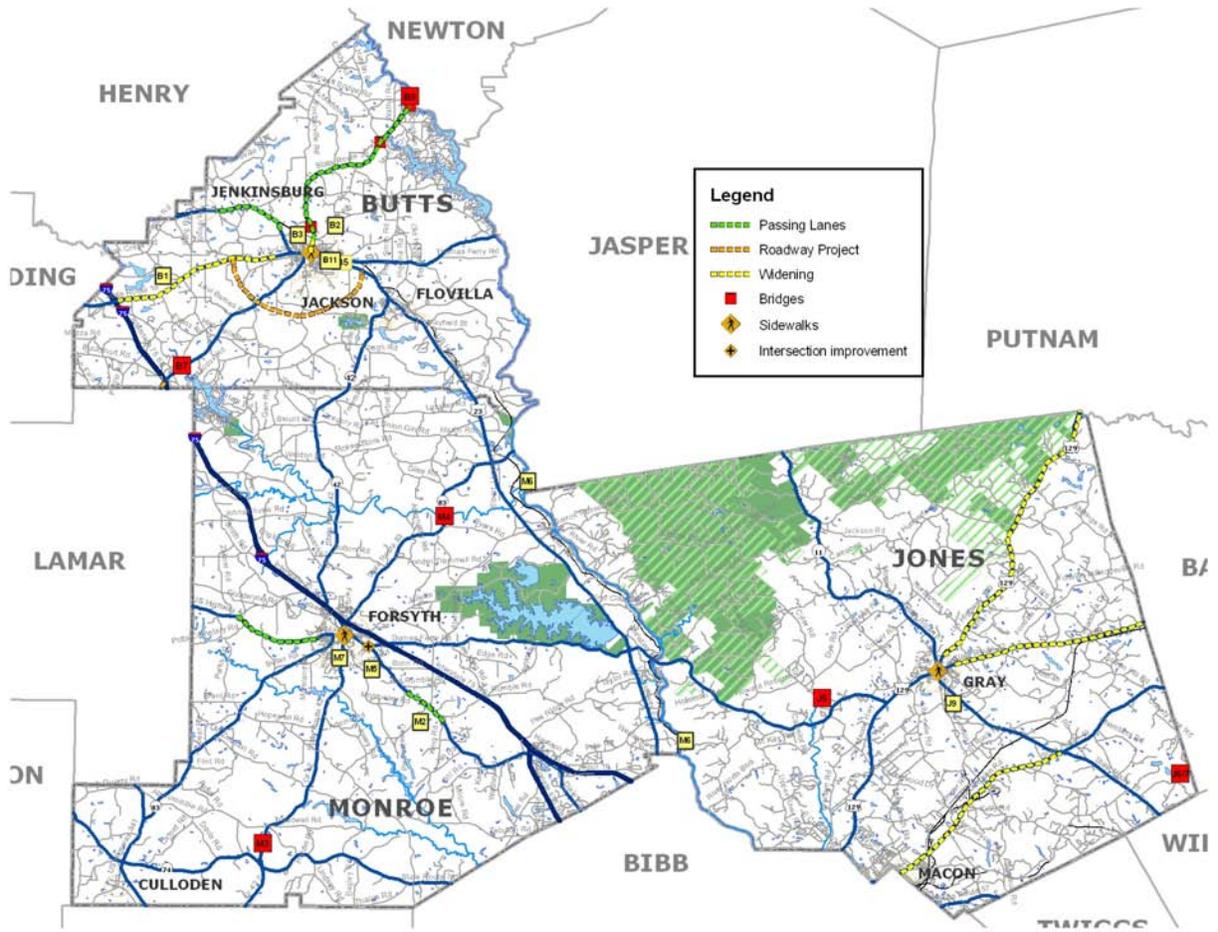
**2006 - 2008 STIP &  
2008-2013 Construction Work Program**

**Monroe County**

Map Id	Project Id	Prime Work Type	Description	Program	Construction Date
M-1	321370	Passing Lanes	SR 18 southbound 13.7-15.2/Monroe/eastbound 2.3-3.6/westbound 3.38-5.1/TL 5.10-5.6	STP	LR
M-2	342920	Passing Lanes	SR 19 from CR 73/King Road to 0.5 mile east of CR 74/Hill Road	STP	LR
M-3	0007045	Bridges	SR 42 at Tobesofkee Creek 2 mile south of Forsyth	Bridge	2008
M-4	0007046	Bridges	SR 83 at Towaliga River	Bridge	2009
M-5	0007219	Intersection Improvement	SR 19/US 41 at SR 18	STP	NA
M-6	371800	Rail Projects	Commuter Rail Griffin to Macon/Bibb – Houston County – Phase 4	HPP	NA
M-7	0007599	Sidewalk	Sidewalk & Streetscape in Downtown Forsyth	NHS	NA

Source: GDOT Office of Planning

# 2006 - 2008 STIP & 2008-2013 Construction Work Program



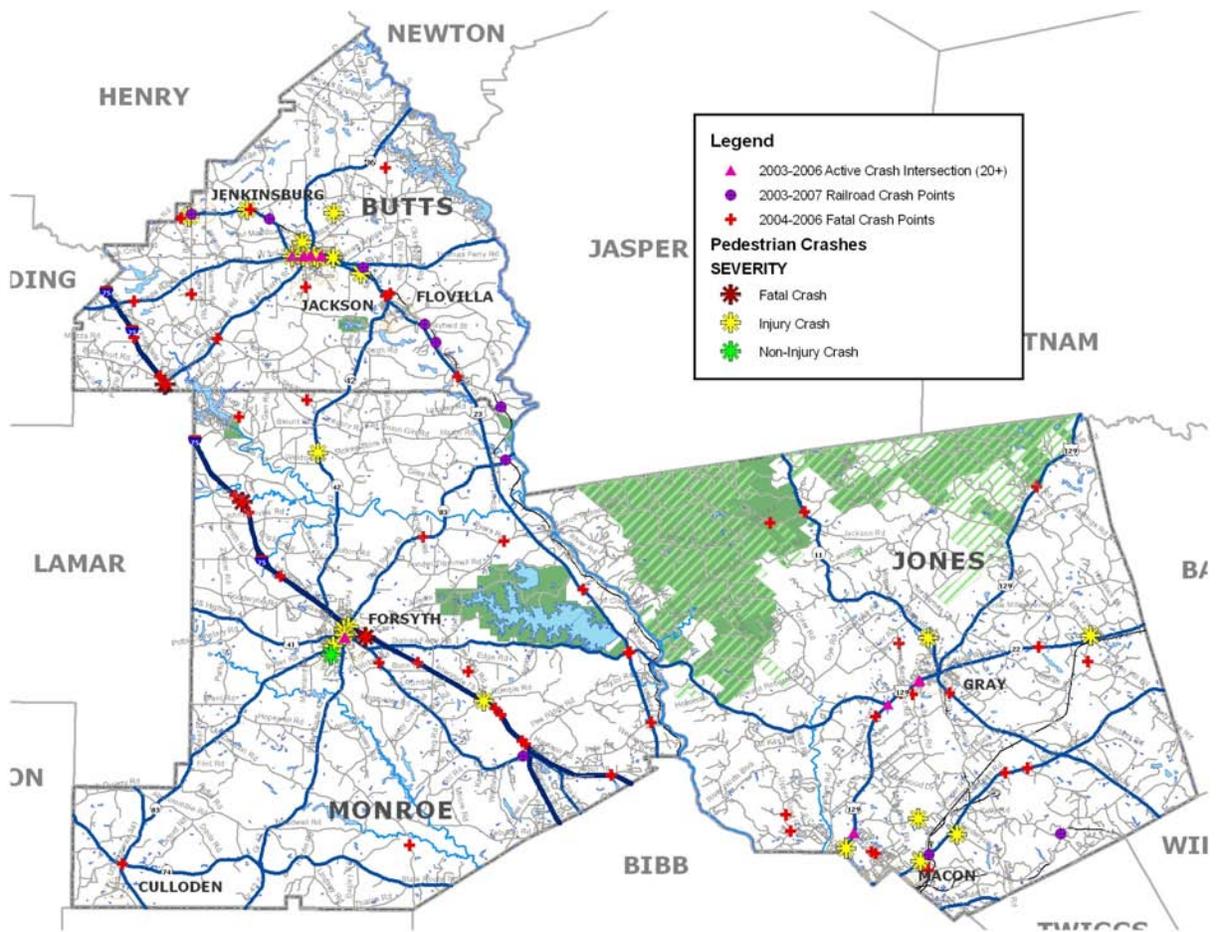
# Crash History

## Monroe County Crash Locations

Roadway	Intersection	Crashes	Fatalities	Injuries
SR83/Lee Street	US 41/Main Street	30	0	10

Source: CARE Database

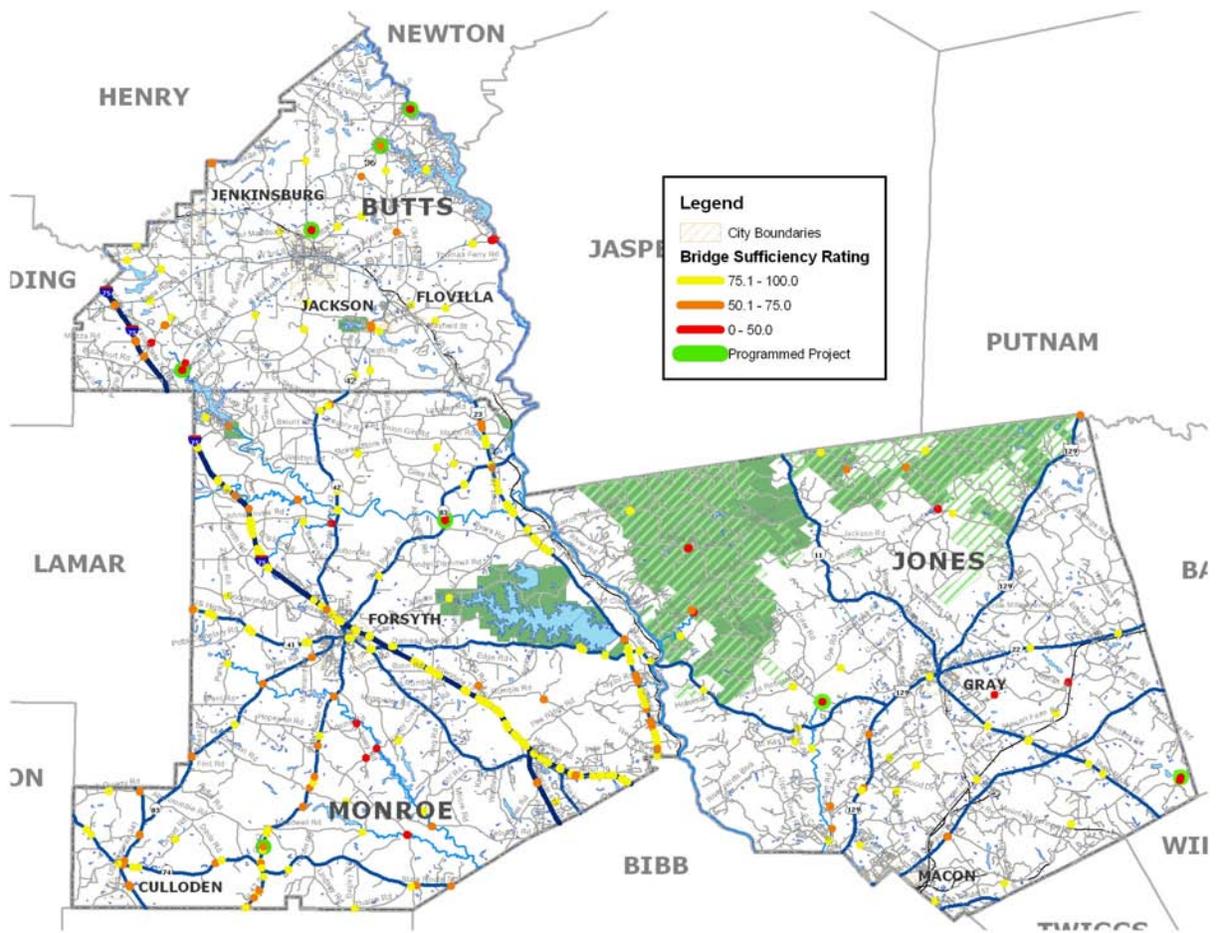
## Crash Locations and Severity



# Bridges

- 46 Bridges in Monroe County
  - 7 Bridges in Need of Maintenance or Rehabilitation
  - 9 Bridges in Need of Maintenance or Rehabilitation in the next 20 years
  - 2 Bridges currently in GDOT's Construction Work Program

## Bridge Sufficiency Ratings

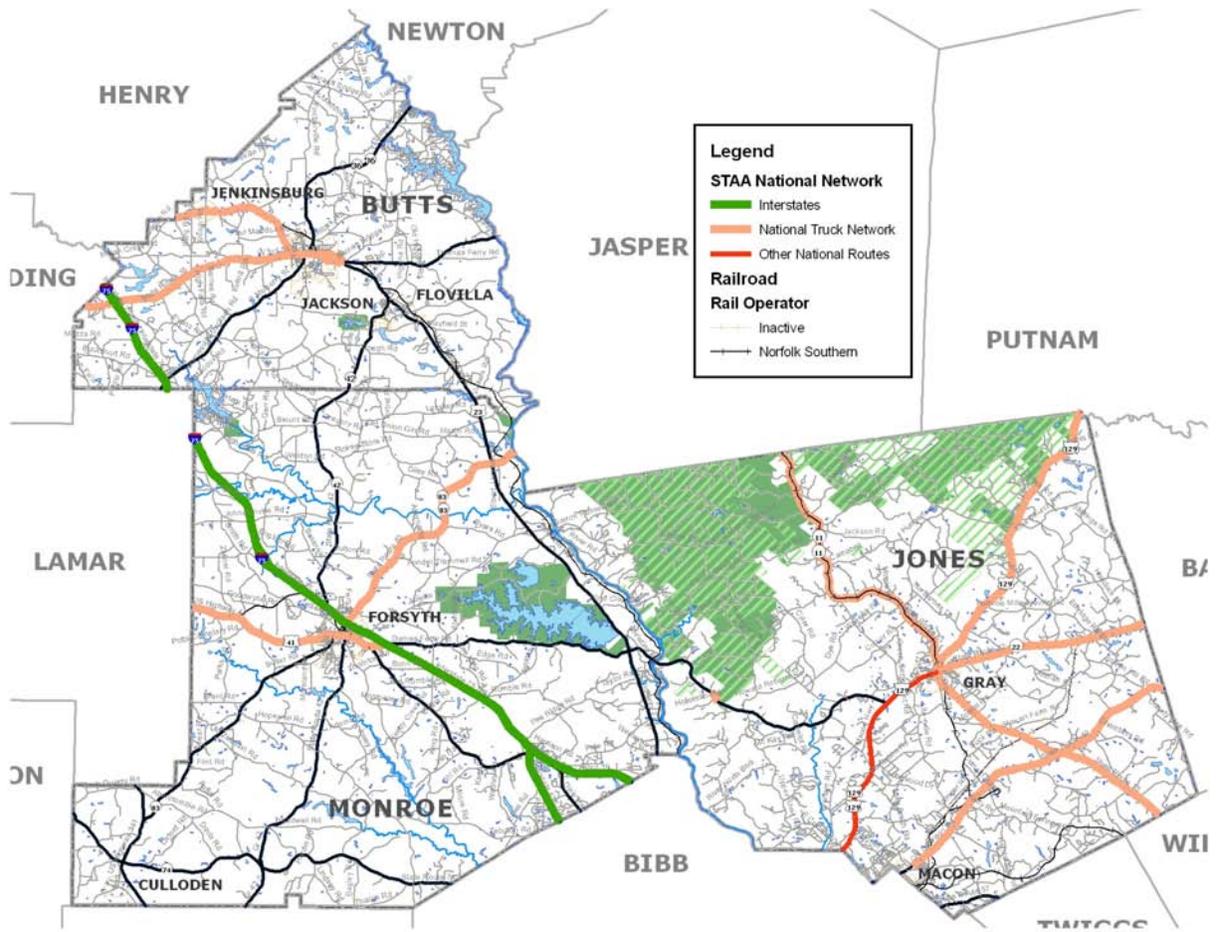


## Freight & Rail

GDOT - Georgia Rail Freight Plan Update, 2000

- 2 Lines Operated in Monroe County
  - Norfolk Southern -22 miles of Track
  - Up to 45 Trains /Up to 47 Trains
  - 52 Million Gross Ton Miles/Mile (MGTM/M)
- Rail Safety
  - 78 Crossings
    - 76 At-Grade Crossings
    - 2 Underpasses
  - 3 Incidents reported to the Federal Railroad Administration (2000-2006).
  - 10 Incidents at rail crossings that don't include trains.
- Commodities/Freight - Originating/Terminating in the County
  - Non-metallic Mineral Products
  - Coal
- Commodities/Freight - Transported Through the County
  - Clay, Concrete, Glass and Stone Products
  - Lumber and Wood Products
  - Chemicals and Allied Products
  - Hazardous Materials
  - Pulp and Paper
  - Food Products
  - Mixed Shipments

# Rail Locations and Truck Routes



## Multi-Modal (Bike/Ped, Aviation & Transit)

### Monroe County Bike/Ped

#### Locations to examine for walking/biking potential:

##### Existing Schools:

- Hubbard Elementary School (*adjacent site to Hubbard Middle School*)  
558 Hwy 83 South, Forsyth
- Hubbard Middle School  
500 Hwy 83 South, Forsyth
- T.G. Scott Elementary School (*adjacent site to Banks Stephens Middle School*)  
70 Thornton Road, Forsyth
- Banks Stephens Middle School  
66 Thornton Road, Forsyth
- 9th Grade Campus (*adjacent to Mary Persons High School, Monroe County Achievement Center, and Board of Education Building*)  
25 Brooklyn Avenue, Forsyth
- Mary Persons High School  
300 Montpelier Avenue, Forsyth
- Monroe County Achievement Center  
25A Brooklyn Avenue, Forsyth
- Monroe Academy  
433 Hwy 41 South, Forsyth

##### Planned Schools:

- New Pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> grade (*open to students in Fall 2009 with grades 6-8 open 3-5 years out*)(*large housing development adjacent - Denrick Development - Grand Point*)  
1289 Hwy 83 North, Forsyth (near Bunn Road)

##### Other Destinations:

- Monroe County Library  
62 West Main Street  
Forsyth, GA 31029
- High Falls State Park
- County Recreation Centers
- Rum Creek Wildlife Management Area
- Lake Juliette
- Local Parks

##### **Crash Statistics:**

2004-2006: Bicycle Pedestrian Crashes: 1 property damage only, 7 injuries, 2 fatalities

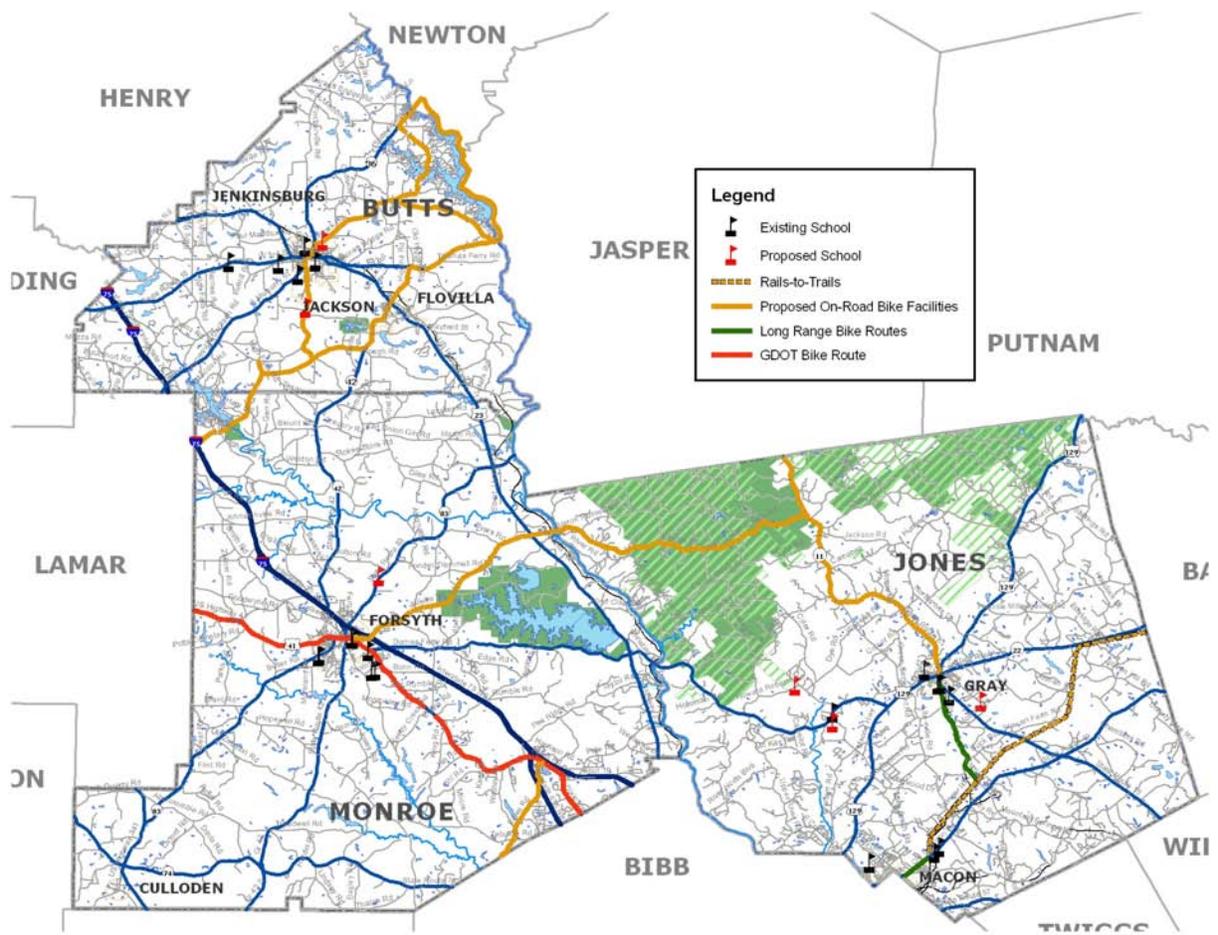
##### **Existing Bike/Ped Details:**

State Bicycle Route - Central Route Corridor Route #15 enters Monroe County on US 41/SR 18 at Lamar Count Line southeast to Forsyth continuing on US 41 to the Bibb County Line.

RDC Plan Recommendations:

- 4 foot bike lane on US 41 from lamar County Line to Bibb County Line
- 2 foot bike lane on Estes Road from Bibb County Line northeast to Red Oak Drive
- 2 foot bike lane on Red Oak Drive from Estes Road east to US 41
- 2 foot bike lane on Juliette Road from US 41 northeast to Jones County Line

### Bicycle/Pedestrian Existing and Planned Facilities

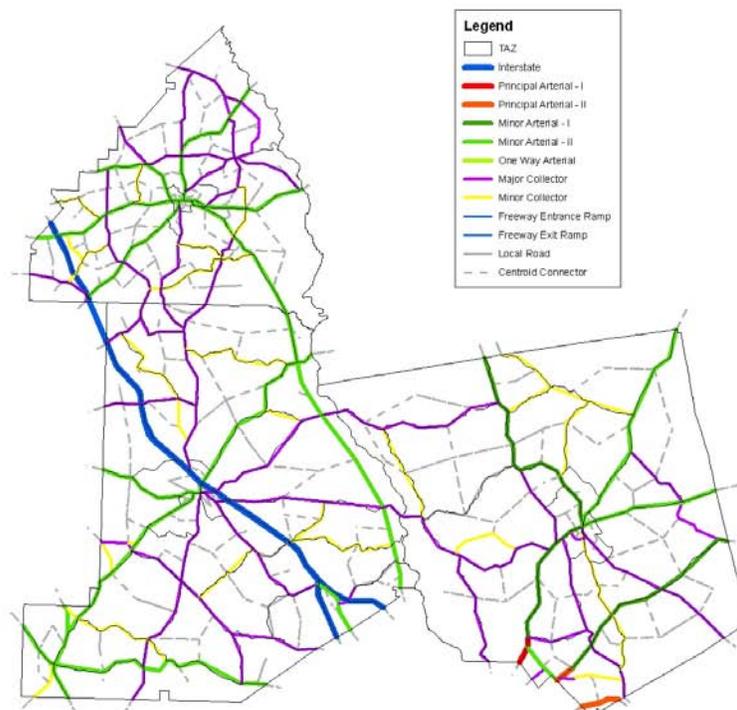


**Aviation:** No local airport- Comprehensive plan calls for consideration in the future

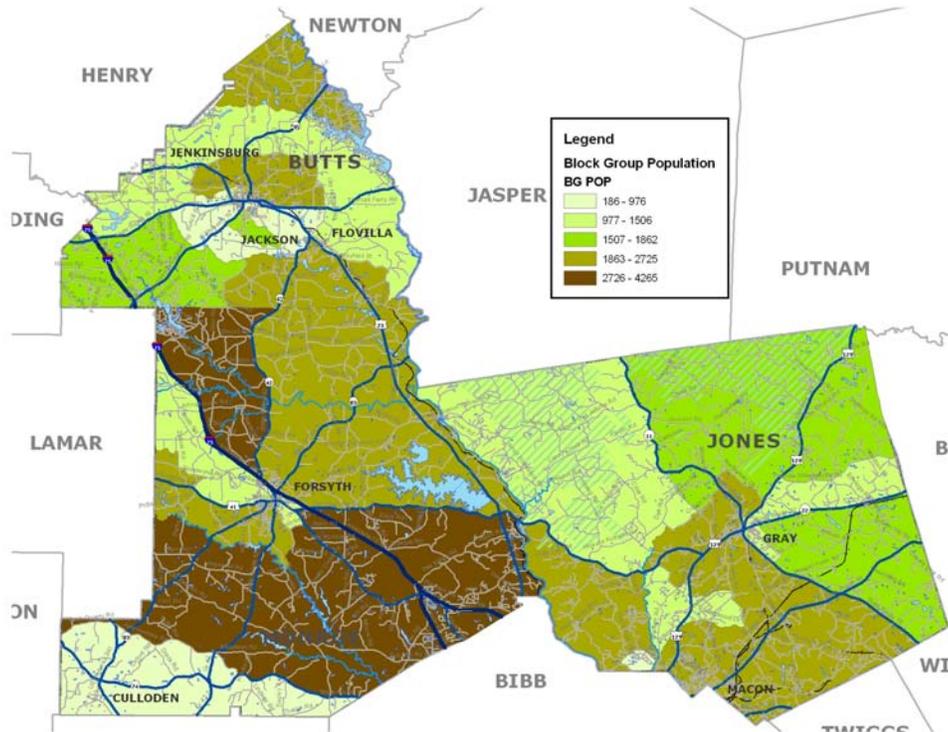
**Public Transportation:** Assistance is provided for those who qualify for Department of Human Resources Assistance (elderly, disabled, and other qualified participants). Planning efforts will determine how the program may be enhanced and if a rural transit program should be implemented.

# Model Development

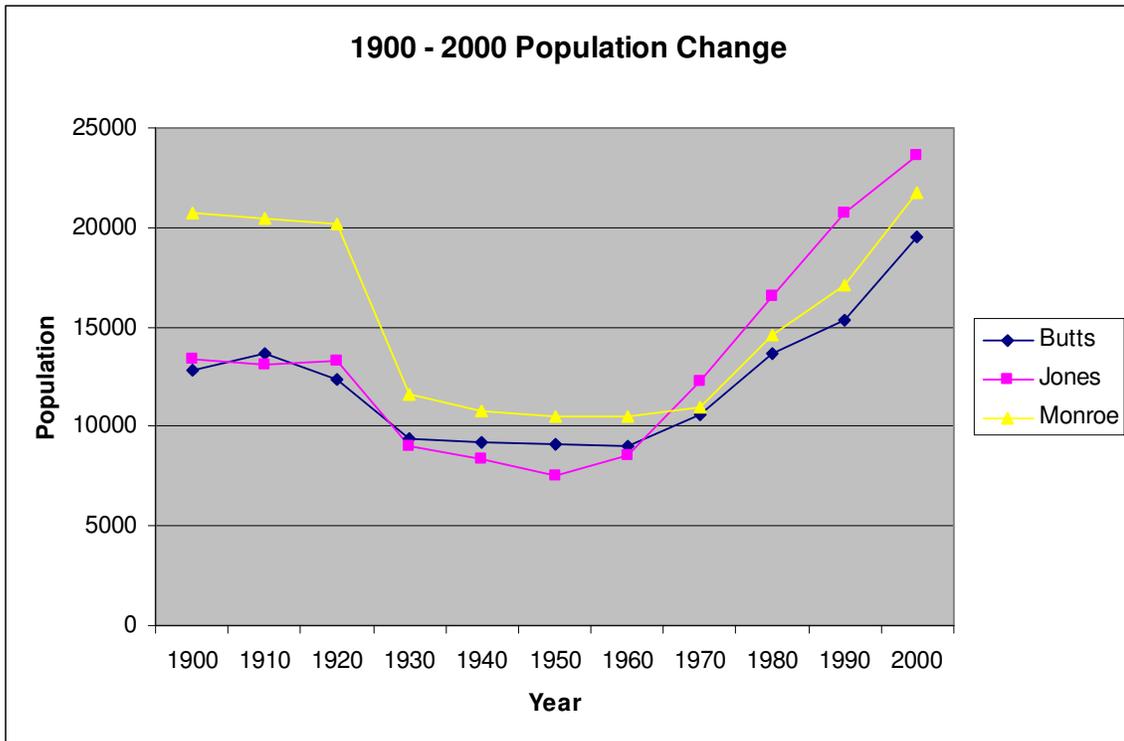
- Network Development
  - Functional Class
    - Capacity
    - Speeds
  - Number of Lanes
  - Traffic Counts
- Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ)
  - Census Blocks
  - Natural Boundaries



## Population Distribution in 2000



## Population Change from 1900 to 2000



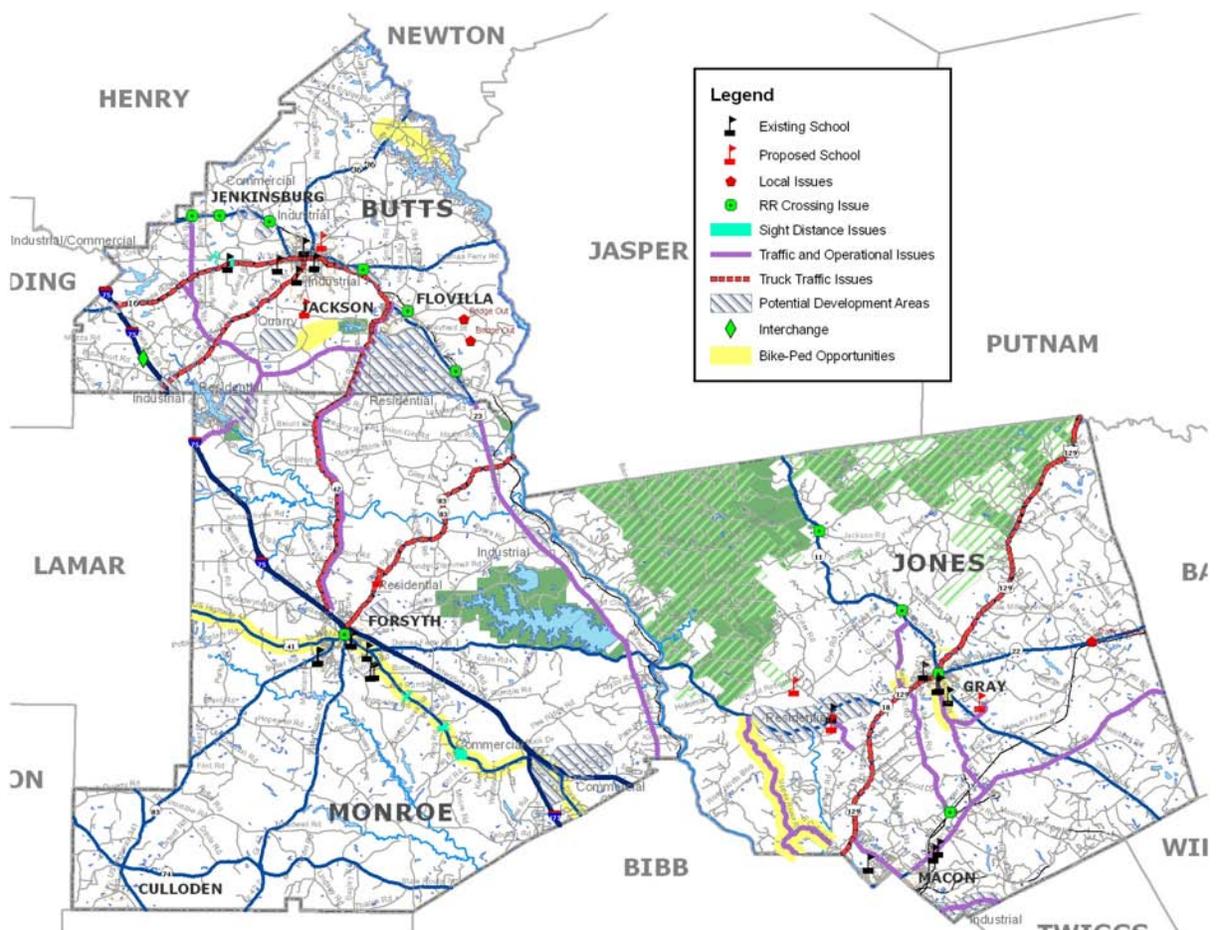
Source: US Census

# Local Issues & Opportunities

Background on Key Transportation Issues in the Study Area

- Safety
- Congestion
- Transit
- Bicycle & Pedestrian
- Desired Projects or Improvements
- Development Areas
- Political Realities

## Local Issues and Opportunities



## Transportation Issues & Needs

- A. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns in your County?
  
- B. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?
  
- C. What do you think is the relationship between transportation and land use in the Study Area?
  
- D. Given this is a Plan that discusses short-range and long-range transportation issues, what is the best way to reach out to citizens and community groups to involve them in the Transportation Study?
  
- E. What funding sources should be used to pay for future transportation improvements in the Study Area? Which sources should not be used?
  
- F. If you could share one major message with the Project Team, what would it be?
  
- G. How engaged do you think Study Area residents want to be in discussing transportation and land use issues and the Transportation Study?
  
- H. What do you see as the transportation “Hot Spot” in the study area?

- I. What aspects of the transportation system are important to you TODAY and what aspects will be important to you in 2035 (25 years from now). Please rank importance of the following transportation strategies as “High”, “Medium” or “Low”.

Transportation Needs	Level of Importance to You Today	Level of Importance to You in 2035
Relieving traffic congestion on I-75		
Providing adequate evacuation and emergency routes		
Improving roadway safety		
Addressing truck travel		
Adding or coordinating traffic signals, building turn lanes, and adding other features to improve traffic flow		
Adding new roadway capacity (widened roads) to the transportation system		
Adding new roadway capacity (new roads) to the transportation system		
Dealing with problems associated with railroad crossings		
Building more north-south roadways to better connect areas within the County		
Building more east-west roadways to better connect areas within the County		
Providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks and shopping areas, etc		
Improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians		
Developing better public transportation services for seniors and disabled people		
Providing public transportation (bus) services to residents		
Providing adequate resources to operate and maintain our existing transportation system		
Coordination between Counties for Transportation		

- J. Do you have any other issues or concerns that you would like to see dealt with in the Transportation Study?

- K. What do you expect as the outcome of this study?

## Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives are components of the long range planning process. They guide the development of the Plan by providing a basis for evaluating Transportation Plan alternatives. Goals and objectives reflect those intentions that the plan is meant to achieve.

### Factors to Consider

- Economics & Development
- Safety
- Accessibility
- Employment
- Environment
- Efficiency
- Preservation

### Developing Goals and Objectives

- What are the County's Mobility Needs?
- What Types of Transportation Improvements?
- Are Multi-Modal Improvements Needed in the County?
- Which Improvements are the Most Important to the County?
- What are Transportation Quality of Life Factors?

### Comprehensive Plan Goals

- Improve local road network to accommodate growth in northern and southern Monroe County.
- Develop an interconnected Network of bikeways and walkways.
- Develop a countywide transit development plan.
- Develop a road classification system that IDs arterial and collector roads
- Establish a pedestrian friendly atmosphere in downtown Forsyth.

## **Public Workshop #1**

Week of October 22 or 29- TBD  
Forsyth, GA

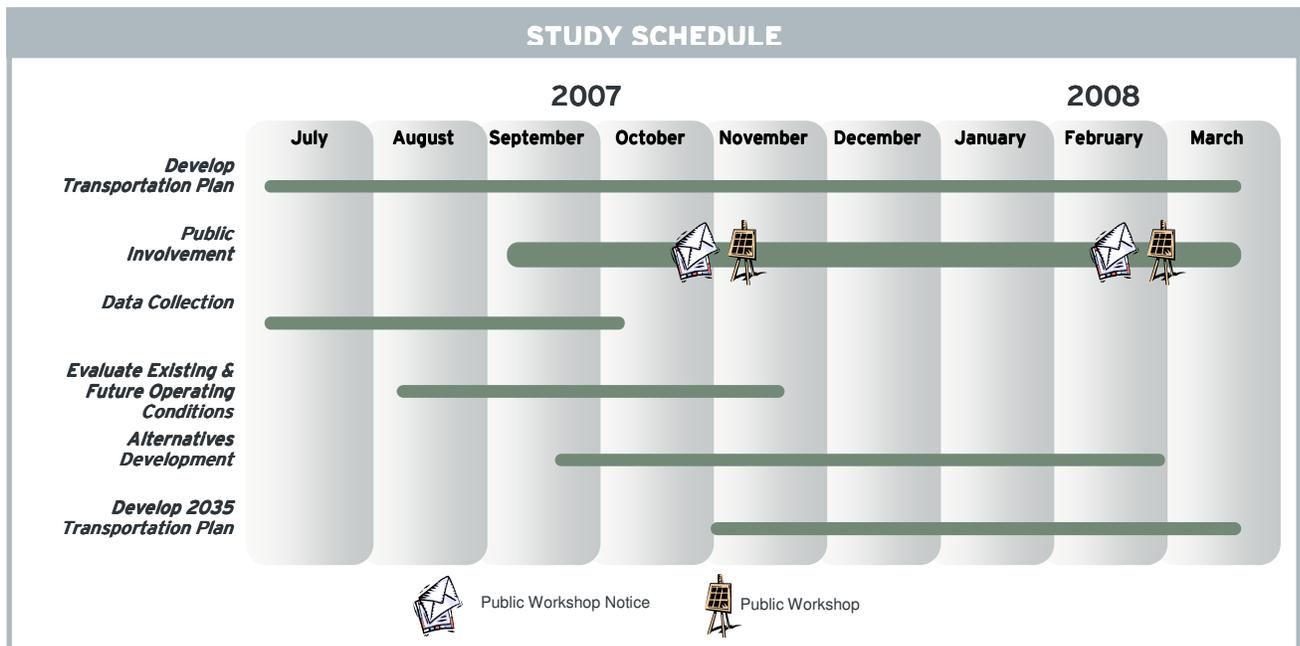
Format - Open House (2 Hours)

- Formal Presentation (15 Minutes)
- Formal Q&A (10-15 Minutes)
- Display Boards
- Comment Sheets

**Get the News Out!!**

## Next Steps

- Complete Existing Conditions Report
- Complete Travel Demand Model
- Develop Future Operating Conditions
- Identify Preliminary Existing and Future Deficiencies
- Schedule Next Advisory Group Meeting (February/March)





**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
Jones County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #1**

October 10, 2007, 10AM to 12PM  
Jones County Government Center

**Attendees:**

Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning  
Pam Christopher, Jones County Chamber and  
Development Authority  
Harry Goff, Jones County Board of Education  
Phil Clark, Middle Georgia RDC  
Tom Queen, GDOT District 3  
John Conn, Conn Realty, Inc.  
Larry Beck, Jones County (Safety)

Laten Boniol, Jones County, Public Works  
Mike Underwood, Jones County, Administrator  
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB  
Johnny Han, HNTB

**Handouts:**

Meeting Agenda  
Study Advisory Committee Packet

**Meeting Summary:**

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study, a Study Advisory Group meeting was held in Jones County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Local participants from the Jones County community represented a diverse range of perspectives including the business community and local agencies.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and led off self-introductions. She turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, to begin the presentation. Ms. Bilotto began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process and the role in which the study advisory group plays. Members were encouraged to help get the word out regarding upcoming public meetings in the county, scheduled for October 23, from 5PM to 7PM. Additionally, Ms. Bilotto provided flyers to the attendees for distribution in the community to advertise the meeting.

Following the presentation, Ms. Bilotto led the group through the information packet summarizing existing conditions in the county and explained that one of the goals of the day's meeting was to develop a set of goals and objectives that can be incorporated as part of the study. Specific topics included the following:

- Planned and Programmed Projects
- Safety
- Bridges
- Freight Networks for Rail and Trucks
- Public Transportation
- Aviation
- Travel Demand Model Development
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Existing and Planned Projects
- Local Issues and Opportunities

**Existing and Future Conditions Discussion:**

Ms. Bilotto then led the group through a list of broad transportation needs to generate discussion regarding specific interest areas now and in the future. The following table illustrates the level of importance now and in year 2035.

Transportation Needs	Level of Importance Today	Level of Importance in 2035
Relieving traffic congestion on I-75	Medium	High
Providing adequate evacuation and emergency routes	Low	Medium
Improving roadway safety	High	High
Addressing truck travel	High	High
Adding or coordinating traffic signals, building turn lanes, and adding other features to improve traffic flow	High	High
Adding new roadway capacity (widened roads) to the transportation system	High	High
Adding new roadway capacity (new roads) to the transportation system	High	Low
Dealing with problems associated with railroad crossings	Low-Medium	Low-Medium
Improving more north-south roadways to better connect areas within the County	High	High
Improving more east-west roadways to better connect areas within the County	Medium-High	Medium-High
Providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks, and shopping areas	High	High
Improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians	High	High
Developing better public transportation services for seniors and disabled people	Low	Medium-High
Providing public transportation (bus) services to residents	Low	Medium-High
Providing adequate resources to operate and maintain our transportation system	High	High
Coordination between Counties for transportation	High	High

**General Discussion:** Comments from the group are summarized below:

- Series of dirt roads that connect SR 44 and SR 11 need paving
- Green Settlement Road/ Hwy 129
  - A safety study for traffic signal concluded a signal was not warranted
  - As an alternative, a suggestion was made to improve warning devices on approaches
- Haddock citizens have requested reduced speeds through town
  - Current the speed limit is 45 mph
  - Other measures should also be considered
  - Trish Ann Antiques shop should be included as Haddock representative
  - Mike England GDOT District 3 representative can provide guidance
  - GDOT Commissioner was approached about this issue in June 2007
- Upper River Road
  - 2 fatalities in the “S-curve”
  - Local project, with some GDOT support funding, is addressing this issue
- Industrial park with access to southern rail line
  - 10 trains per day, currently, but should increase to 15-20 in future
  - Warehouse distribution likely occupiers of the site
- Train increases will increase safety issues
  - Design of main rail crossing at US 129 in Gray needs evaluation; truck trailers have issue crossing it
- Four-lane road from Gray Bypass north to Putnam County needs to be scheduled sooner than long-range as Bypass construction will generate need for 4-lane road
- Better access to I-16 needed
  - Hwy 57 to I-16 may realize increased truck traffic with new industrial park
  - Jeffersonville Road/Emery Hwy/Ocmulgee East Blvd
- East-West / Cross County connector
  - Study was completed; Jones County does not have an interest (public opposition)
  - Projects in this area need to be in the Macon MPO
- Connect Gray to proposed Rails-to-Trails facility
  - Safe Routes to Schools program needs to be used
  - Clifton Ridge Development of Regional Impact – new subdivision could be designed to have a connection to Clifton Middle School
- Funding for bike and pedestrian projects

- National Scenic Byway Funding
- Safe Routes to Schools Program
  - area needs to be identified in a plan to receive funds
- Transportation Enhancement
- Rails-to-Trails
- State funding in conjunction with widening
- Bus traffic from elementary and high school and Gray Station Middle School could be connected with new road to avoid Hwy 18, Railroad Street, Bill Conn Parkway
  - Would have ancillary benefit to Cumslo Road and Hwy 18
- SR 96 proposed to be four-lane road (Fall line Freeway put on shelf in this area)
- SPLOST will end in 2009 (\$12 million total, with about \$2million for transportation)

**Summary of Top Concerns:**

- Roads connecting to I-75 likely to see more traffic in future
- Bottleneck around high school on Hwy 18 could be issue in an emergency situation
- Issues at peak traffic times and Saturday college football games
- Downtown Gray operational improvements needed
- Gray Bypass and Cross-County connector are two high priority projects
- Railroad crossings could be issues with increased train traffic
- Hwy 57 to I-16 is a needed north-south connection
- More alternatives route to Macon needed
- Need 4-lane road between Milledgeville and Gray
- Shoulders and wider lanes on the following:
  - Lite-N-Tie Road
  - Cumslo Road
  - Green Settlement Road
  - Stagecoach Road
  - Joycliff Road
  - Upper River Road
  - Morton Road
  - Turner Woods Road

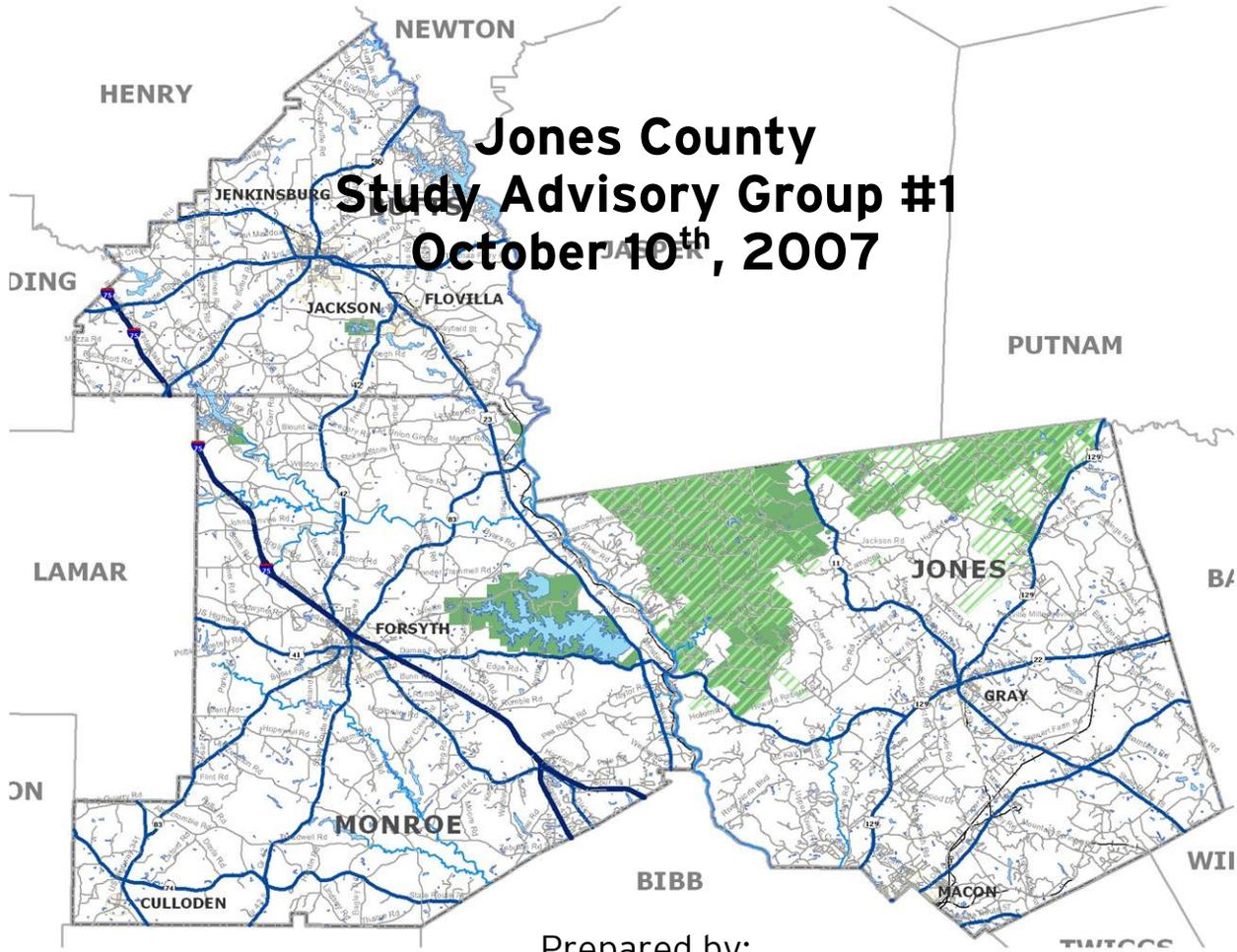


Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study  
 Jones County Advisory Committee  
 Kick-Off Meeting - October 10, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
 Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
RADNEY SIMPSON	GDOT - Planning Office	409-657-6699	
Pam Christopher	Jones County Chamber of Development Authority	478-986-1123	pam@jonescounty.org
Harry Goss	Jones county 130 E	478-986 6373	hgoss@jones.1912.ga.us
Phil Clark	Middle GA RDC	478-781-6160	pclark@mgardc.org
Tom Queen	GDOT - Thonaston	706 646 6982	tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us
John Cowh	Cowh Realty, Inc.	478-746-1421	john@cowhrealty.com
LARRY BECK	<del>Butts County</del> JONES CO.	478 984 6672	
A Lateu Boniol	Jones Co. Plw Dept.	478-338-2276	lateu boniol @ Atter.net
Mikell Underwood	Jones County	478-986-8219	*correct packet

# Butts, Jones & Monroe Transportation Study



Prepared by:



## HNTB

In Association with:  
MPH & Associates, Inc

# Butts, Jones & Monroe Transportation Study

## Agenda

- 1.0 Study Team Members
- 2.0 Study Overview
- 3.0 Public Involvement Plan
- 4.0 Data Collection
- 5.0 Model Development
- 6.0 Local Issues & Opportunities
- 7.0 Goals & Objectives
- 8.0 Public Workshop #1
- 9.0 Next Steps

### Action Items for Today's Meeting

- Transportation Issues & Needs
- Development Opportunities
- Goals & Objectives

## Study Team Members

Agency	Contact	Phone	Email
GDOT - Planning	Radney Simpson	404-657-6689	<a href="mailto:radney.simpson@dot.state.ga.us">radney.simpson@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - Planning	Kelly Gwin	404-651-5330	<a href="mailto:Kelly.Gwin@dot.state.ga.us">Kelly.Gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - Planning	Matthew Fowler	404-657-6916	<a href="mailto:Matthew.fowler@dot.state.ga.us">Matthew.fowler@dot.state.ga.us</a>
HNTB - Project Manager	Claudia Bilotto	404-946-5747	<a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
HNTB - Senior Planner	Tim Hatton	404-946-5755	<a href="mailto:thatton@hntb.com">thatton@hntb.com</a>
MPH & Associates	Mary Huffstetler	404-210-6123	<a href="mailto:maryhuffstetler@bellsouth.net">maryhuffstetler@bellsouth.net</a>
GDOT - District 3	Thomas Howell	706-646-6900	<a href="mailto:thomas.howell@dot.state.ga.us">thomas.howell@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - District 3	David Millen	706-646-6987	<a href="mailto:david.millen@dot.state.ga.us">david.millen@dot.state.ga.us</a>
GDOT - District 3	Tom Queen	706-646-6317	<a href="mailto:tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us">tom.queen@dot.state.ga.us</a>
Middle Georgia RDC	Phil Clark	478-751-6160	<a href="mailto:pclark@mgrdc.org">pclark@mgrdc.org</a>
McIntosh Trail RDC	Robert Hiatt	770-227-6308	<a href="mailto:rhiatt@cityofgriffin.com">rhiatt@cityofgriffin.com</a>
Monroe County Road Superintendent	Sid Banks	478-994-7029	
Butts County Planning Director	Steven Lease	770-775-8210	<a href="mailto:srlease@buttscounty.org">srlease@buttscounty.org</a>
Jones County Administrator	Mike Underwood	478-986-8219	<a href="mailto:mikeunderwood@alltel.net">mikeunderwood@alltel.net</a>

## Study Advisory Group Members (Jones County)

Contact	Organization	Phone	Email
Pam Christopher	Jones County Chamber of Commerce		
Velma McFadden	The Plan Group	478-932-5773	
Candy McMahan	Conn Realty	478-318-6759	
Carol Miller	Jones County Board of Education	478-986-6373	<a href="mailto:camiller@jones.k12.ga.us">camiller@jones.k12.ga.us</a>
Wayne Garrett	Jones County School System	478-986-3032	<a href="mailto:wgarrett@jones.k12.ga.us">wgarrett@jones.k12.ga.us</a>
Harry Goff	Jones County Schools - Transportation	478-986-6373	<a href="mailto:hgooff@jones.k12.ga.us">hgooff@jones.k12.ga.us</a>
Tim Pitrowski	Jones County Planning & Zoning	478-986-5117	<a href="mailto:timpitrowski@alltel.net">timpitrowski@alltel.net</a>
Cheryl Harrington	DHR Region 6 Transportation Office	478-757-2530	
Charlie Cruz	Middle Georgia Community Action Agency	478-922-4464	<a href="mailto:ccruze@mgcaa.org">ccruze@mgcaa.org</a>
Decius Aaron	City of Gray Superintendent	478-986-5433	
Pat Daniel	Better Hometown	478-986-5199	<a href="mailto:daniels244@alltel.net">daniels244@alltel.net</a>
Steve McClendon	Tri County EMC		
Laten Bonoil	Jones County Public Works	478-986-8112	
John Conn	Conn Realty	478-461-1421	
Greg Mullis	Jones County Development Authority		

# Study Overview

## PHASE I

1. Data Collection
  - a. Previous Studies
  - b. GIS Data
  - c. Socio-Economic Data

***Existing Conditions Inventory***  
***Travel Demand Model***
2. Public Involvement  
***Public Involvement Process***  
***Goals & Objectives***
3. Develop Evaluation Factors  
***Evaluation Factors***
4. Evaluate Existing Conditions
  - a. Multi-Modal Assessment
  - b. Goals and Objectives
  - c. Safety

***Summary of Existing Operating Conditions***
5. Future Conditions Evaluation
  - a. Travel Demand Model
  - b. Key Points
    - i. Socio-Economic Data
    - ii. Household Data
    - iii. Business Data

***Summary of Future Operating Conditions***

## PHASE II

6. Identify Improvements
  - a. Strategy Screening for Types of Improvements
    - i. Needs
    - ii. Parallel Relief
    - iii. Network Connectivity
    - iv. Access Improvements
    - v. Reconstruction
    - vi. Safety
7. Develop Cost Estimates
8. Financial Resources and Funding  
***Multi-Modal Transportation Plan***

## Public Involvement Process

1. Public Involvement Process
  - a. Detailed
  - b. Flexible
  - c. Measures to Evaluate Performance
2. Study Advisory Group
  - a. Development of Goals and Objectives
  - b. Review Existing Deficiencies and Issues
  - c. Development Opportunities
  - d. Identify and Review Potential Improvements
  - e. Identify Institutional Barriers and Opportunities
  - f. Meet 1-2 Weeks Prior to Public Workshops
    - i. October 2007
    - ii. February/March 2008
3. Public Workshops
  - a. 2 Rounds of Workshops with 1 Workshop in each County (6 total Workshops)
  - b. Public Workshop Structure
    - i. Workshop # 1 - Overview of Existing and Future Operating Conditions (October 2007)
    - ii. Workshop #2 - Preliminary Improvement Recommendations (February/March 2008)
  - c. Identify Specific, Possible Locations for Workshops
  - d. Appropriate Instruments to Post Notices
    - i. Press Release
    - ii. Newsletters
    - iii. Website
  - e. Mailing List/Key Invitees
  - f. Small Group Meetings
4. Coordination with Other Meetings Occurring in the Study Area

## Data Collection

Data Collection Items	Responsible Parties	Data Sources	Status
Background Information and Studies	HNTB	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties/Cities	Completed
RC Data	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
Bridge Inventory	HNTB /GDOT	GDOT	Completed
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Bicycle and Pedestrian	MPH	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Socioeconomic Data	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
Development Areas	HNTB	Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties	Completed
GIS Data	HNTB	GDOT Middle Georgia RDC McIntosh Trail RDC Counties/Cities	In Progress

## Previous/Ongoing Studies and Plans

- Comprehensive Plans
  - Documentation of Existing and Future Land Use
  - Understanding of Development Areas
  - Documentation of Growth Areas
  - Documentation of Infrastructure Expansion
    - Utilities
    - Sewer
    - Schools
    - Parks and Recreation
  - Transportation Plan Coordinates with Comprehensive Plan to ensure Consistency with Community Goals and Objectives
- GDOT Interstate System Plan
  - No improvements are recommended in study area
- GDOT Truck Lanes Needs Identification Study
  - Recommendations late 2007
- GDOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Six Year Construction Work Program (CWP), and Long Range Plan
- Middle Georgia and McIntosh Trail RDC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans

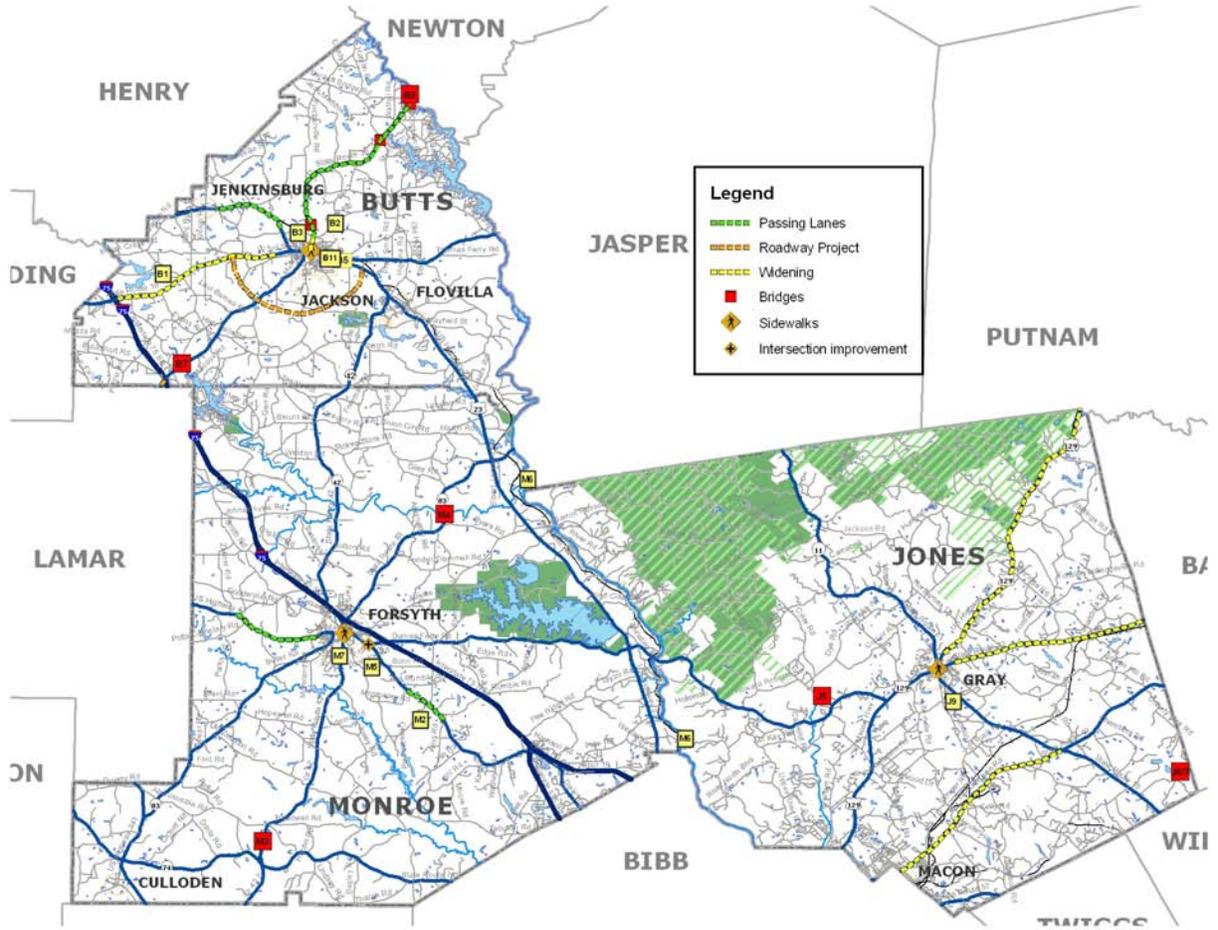
## 2006 - 2008 STIP & 2008-2013 Construction Work Program

### Jones County

Map Id	Project Id	Prime Work Type	Description	Program	Construction Date
J-1	0001040	Widening	SR 44 from Gray Bypass to CR 104/Mathis Road	STP	LR
J-2	231620	Widening	SR 44 from Mathis Road/Jones County to US 441/Putnam County	STP	LR
J-3	232350	Widening	SR 22 from Gray Bypass/Jones County to SR 29 near Milledgeville Baldwin County	STP	LR
J-4	332450	Widening	SR 49 widening from Griswoldville Road to SR 18	STP	LR
J-5	370860	Bridges	CR 28 west of Clinton at Chehaw Creek	Bridge	LR
J-6	371180	Bridges	CR 133/County Line Road at Commissioner Creek west of Baldwin County line	Bridge	LR
J-7	371181	Bridges	CR 133/County Line Road at Commissioner Creek west of Baldwin County line	Bridge	LR
J-8	322540	Roadway Project	SR 899/Gray North Bypass from SR 18 northeast to SR 22	STP	2012
J-9	0007603	Streetscape	Sidewalks and bike trails in Gray	HPP	2008

Source: GDOT Office of Planning

# 2006 - 2008 STIP & 2008-2013 Construction Work Program



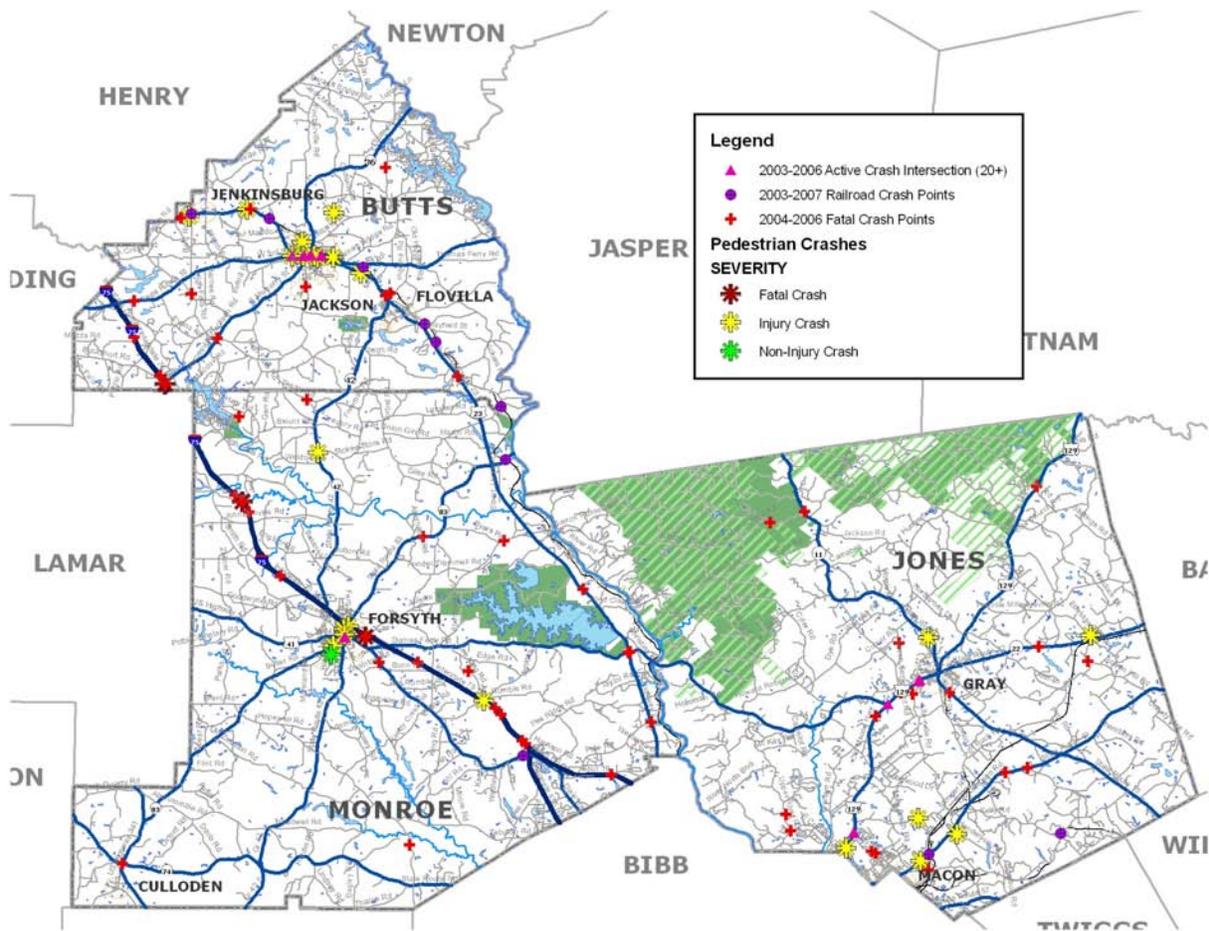
# Crash History

## Jones County Crash Locations

Roadway	Intersection	Crashes	Fatalities	Injuries
SR 11 at SR 18	Antebellum Trail at Forsyth Highway	34	0	10
SR 11 at CR 3	Antebellum Trail at Old Macon Gray Highway	35	0	10
SR 11 at CR 19	Antebellum Trail at Greene Settlement Road	22	0	12
SR 49 at CR 182	SR 49 at Joycliff Road	23	0	10
SR 11 at CR 179	Antebellum Trail at RL Wheeler Road	21	0	5

Source: CARE Database

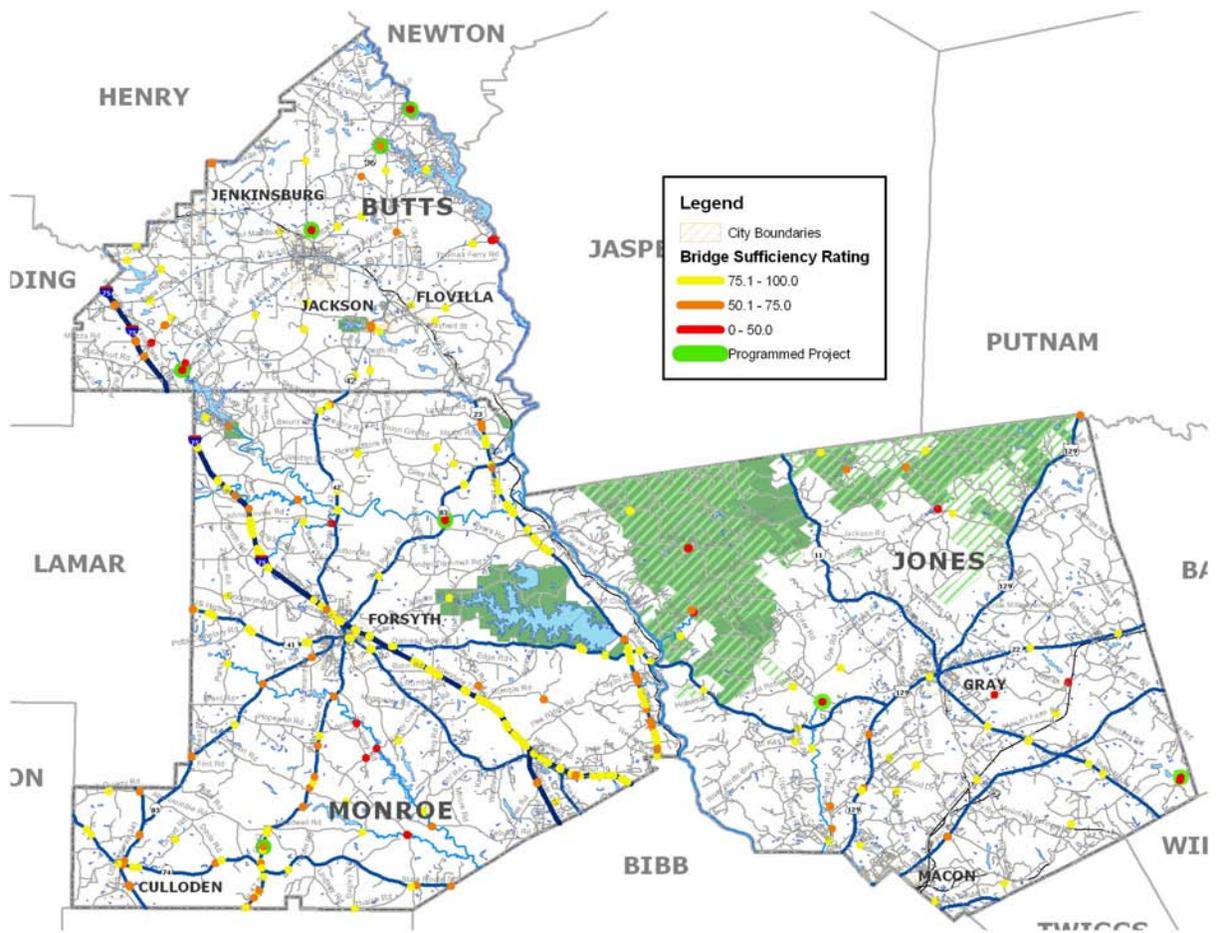
## Crash Locations and Severity



# Bridges

- 72 Bridges in Jones County
  - 6 Bridges in Need of Maintenance or Rehabilitation
  - 21 Bridges in Need of Maintenance or Rehabilitation in the next 20 years
  - 2 Bridges are currently in GDOT's Construct Work Program

## Bridge Sufficiency Ratings

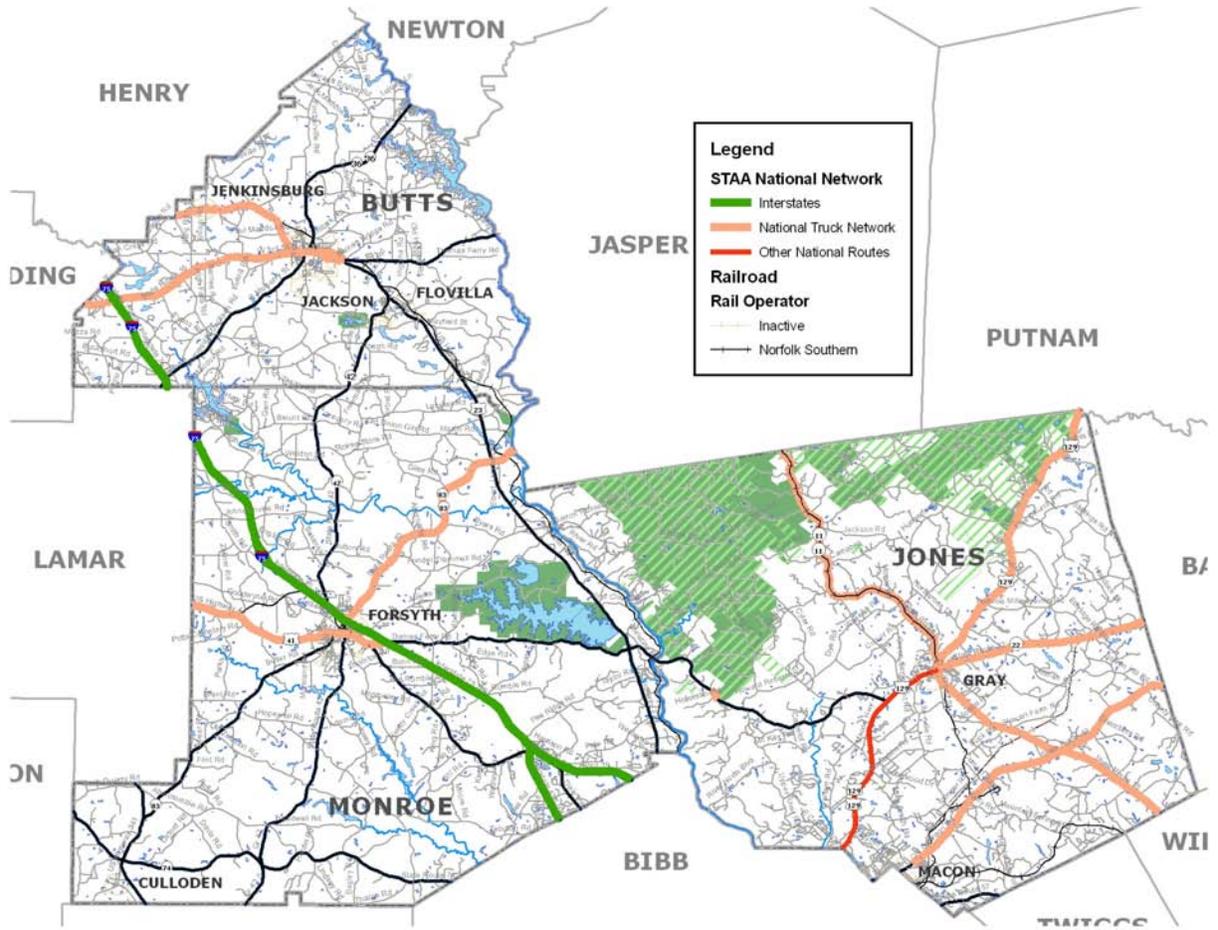


## Freight & Rail

GDOT - Georgia Rail Freight Plan Update, 2000

- 2 Lines Operated in Jones County by Norfolk Southern (36 miles of track)
  - Madison-Macon Line along Highway 11 (5 trains per day)
    - 3 Million Gross Ton Miles/Mile (MGTM/M)
  - Southern portion of the County in Macon vicinity (10 trains per day)
    - 29 Million Gross Ton Miles/Mile (MGTM/M)
- Inactive CSX Rail Line from Central Jones to Milledgeville (17 Miles)
- Rail Safety
  - 49 Crossings
    - 48 At-Grade Crossings
    - 1 Underpasses
  - 2 Incidents reported to the Federal Railroad Administration (2000-2006).
  - 15 Incidents at rail crossings that don't include trains.
- Commodities/Freight - Originating/Terminating in the County
  - Non-metallic Mineral Products
- Commodities/Freight - Transported Through the County
  - Clay, Concrete, Glass and Stone Products
  - Lumber and Wood Products
  - Coal
  - Chemicals and Allied Products
  - Hazardous Materials
  - Pulp and Paper
  - Food Products
  - Mixed Shipments

# Rail Locations and Truck Routes



## Multi-Modal (Bike/Ped, Aviation & Transit)

### Jones County Bike/Ped

Locations to examine for walking/biking potential:

#### Existing Schools:

- Mattie Wells Primary School  
101 Mattie Wells Drive, Macon
- Wells Elementary School  
512 Hwy 49, Macon
- Dames Ferry Elementary School  
545 Hwy 18 West, Gray
- Gray Elementary School  
272 Railroad Street, Gray
- Califf Middle School  
110 Maggie Califf Street, Gray
- Clifton Ridge Middle School  
169 Dusty Lane, Macon
- Gray Station Middle School  
324 Hwy 18 East, Gray
- Jones County High School  
339 Railroad Street, Gray

#### Planned Schools:

- New Elementary School (open to students in 2010)  
On Turner Woods Road near Morton - traffic will access site via SR 22 and Altman  
- this site is planned to also have a Middle school in Long Range
- New High School (accepting students 8-10 years away)  
On Howard Roberts Road (which makes a horseshoe and intersects SR 18 twice).  
The site will be one mile from the eastern intersection of Howard Roberts Road  
and SR 18 and also one mile from Dames Ferry Elementary.
- New Primary or Middle School (on hold - Long Range)  
On Huckabee Road within one quarter mile of SR 18 West

#### Other Destinations:

- Jones County Library  
146 Railroad Street  
Gray, GA 31032
- County Recreation Centers
- Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge
- Jarrell Plantation
- Hillsboro Lake
- Downtown Gray
- Local Parks

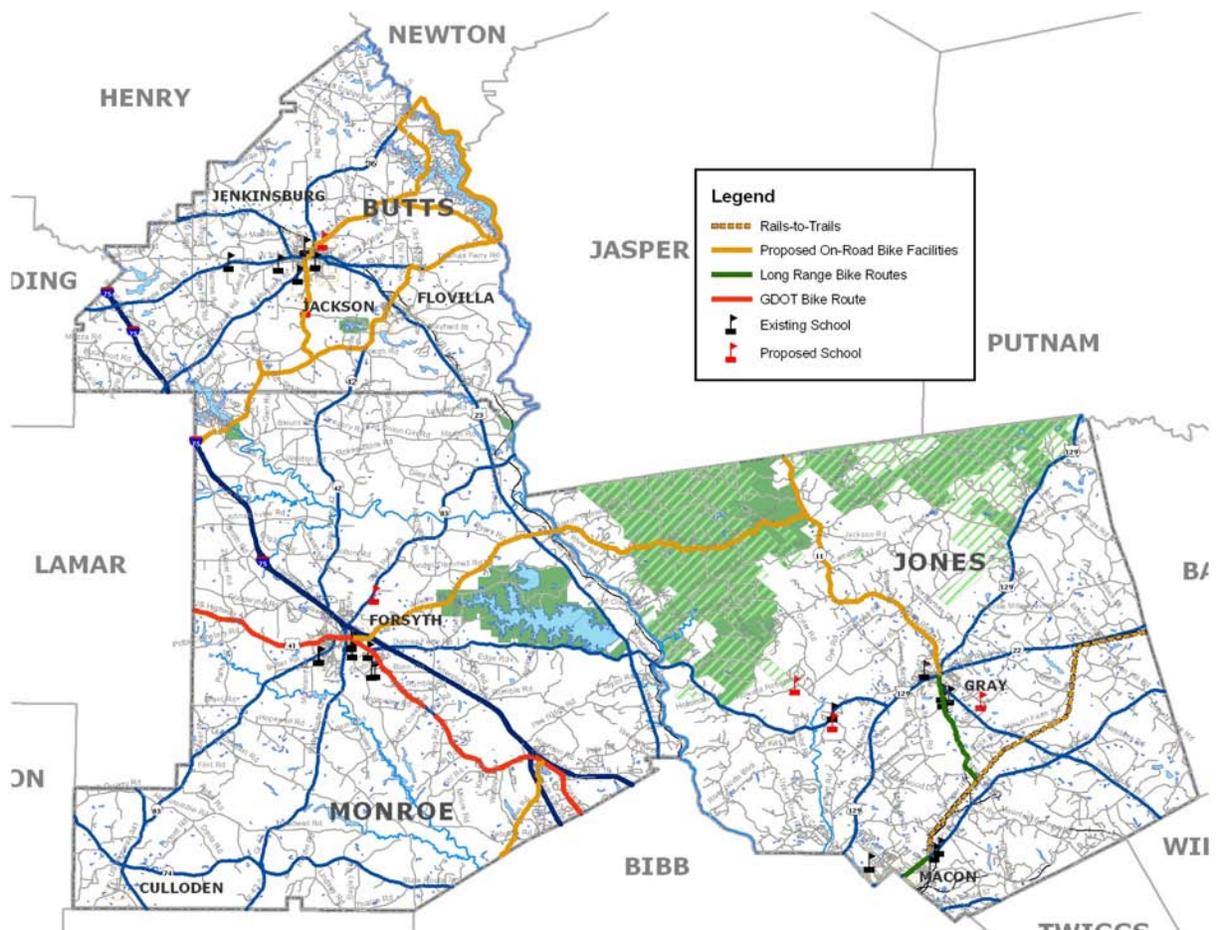
#### Crash Statistics:

2004-2006: Bicycle Pedestrian Crashes: 6 injuries

### Existing Bike/Ped Recommendations from RDC Plan:

- Ocmulgee Heritage Shared Use Trail from Juliette Road south to Bibb County Line
- 2 foot bike lane on Juliette Road from Monroe County Line east to SR 11
- 4 foot bike lane from Jasper County Line south to SR 22 in Gray
- 2 foot bike lane on Railroad Street/Cumslo Road form SR 22 south to inactive Norfolk Southern Line
- 10 foot Rails to Trails path on inactive Norfolk Southern Line from Bibb County Line northeast to Baldwin County Line

### Bicycle/Pedestrian Existing and Planned Facilities



**Aviation:** No local airport.

**Public Transportation:** 5311 Rural Transit Program operated by the Middle Georgia Community Action Agency (MGCAA). The system is a fare-based, demand-response system providing access to shopping, medical, educational, employment, and social activity centers. A van must be reserved 24 hours in advance and operates Monday

through Fridays, 8AM to 5PM. The cost is \$2.00 per trip. Vans will provide service up to a 50-mile radius for \$4.00 per round trip. Three vans are currently operated.

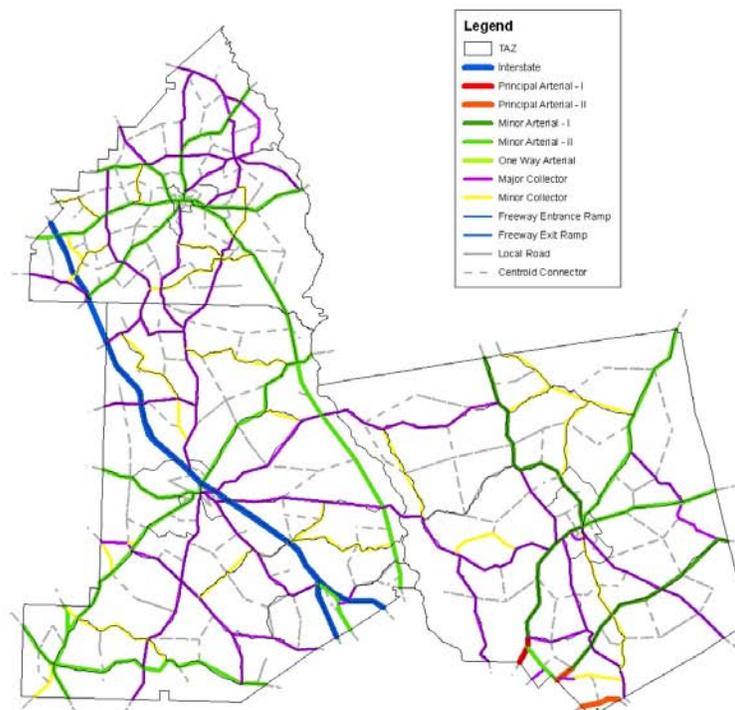
A fourth van is operated for those who qualify for Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) assistance.

The transit system's current number of trips is significant when compared to counties of similar size. When considering future needs, it should be noted that the Jones County Comprehensive Plan projects a 111% increase in senior citizens by 2025, and this population is likely to place additional demands on the system based on current ridership statistics.

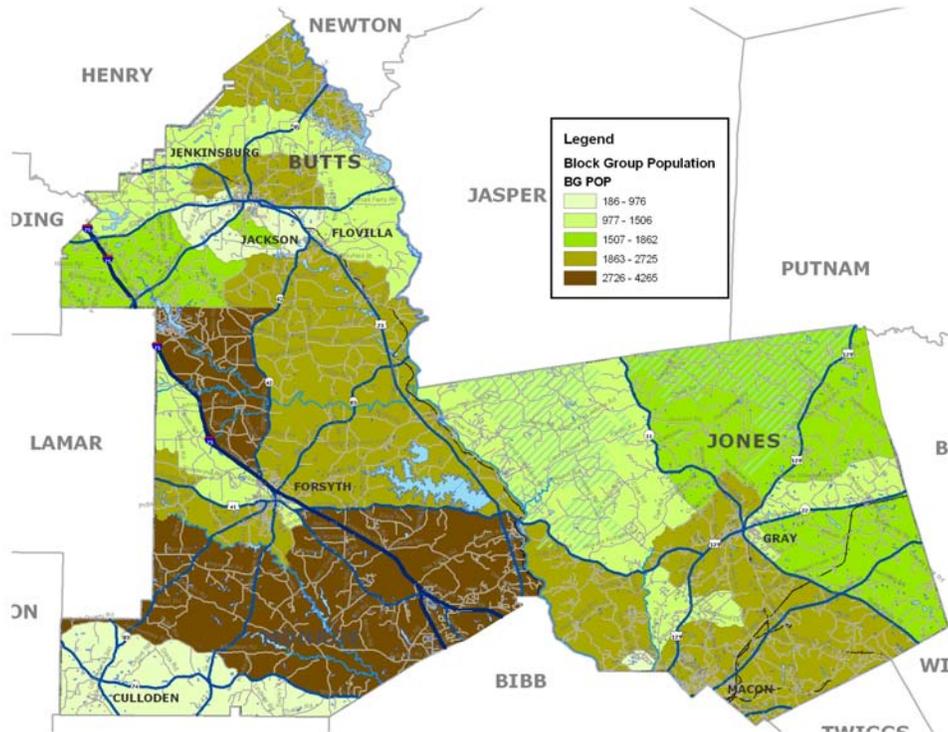
A recent planning initiative by DHR Region 6 - The Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan - documents the need for additional services in the future.

# Model Development

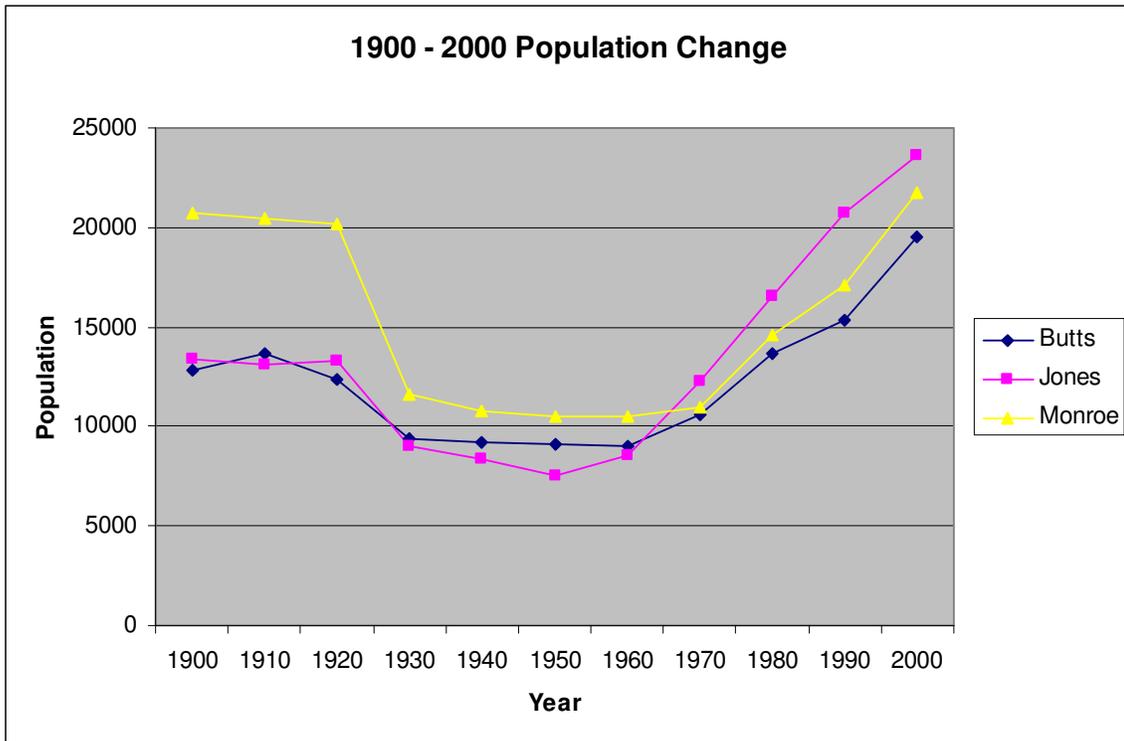
- Network Development
  - Functional Class
    - Capacity
    - Speeds
  - Number of Lanes
  - Traffic Counts
- Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ)
  - Census Blocks
  - Natural Boundaries



## Population Distribution in 2000



## Population Change from 1900 to 2000



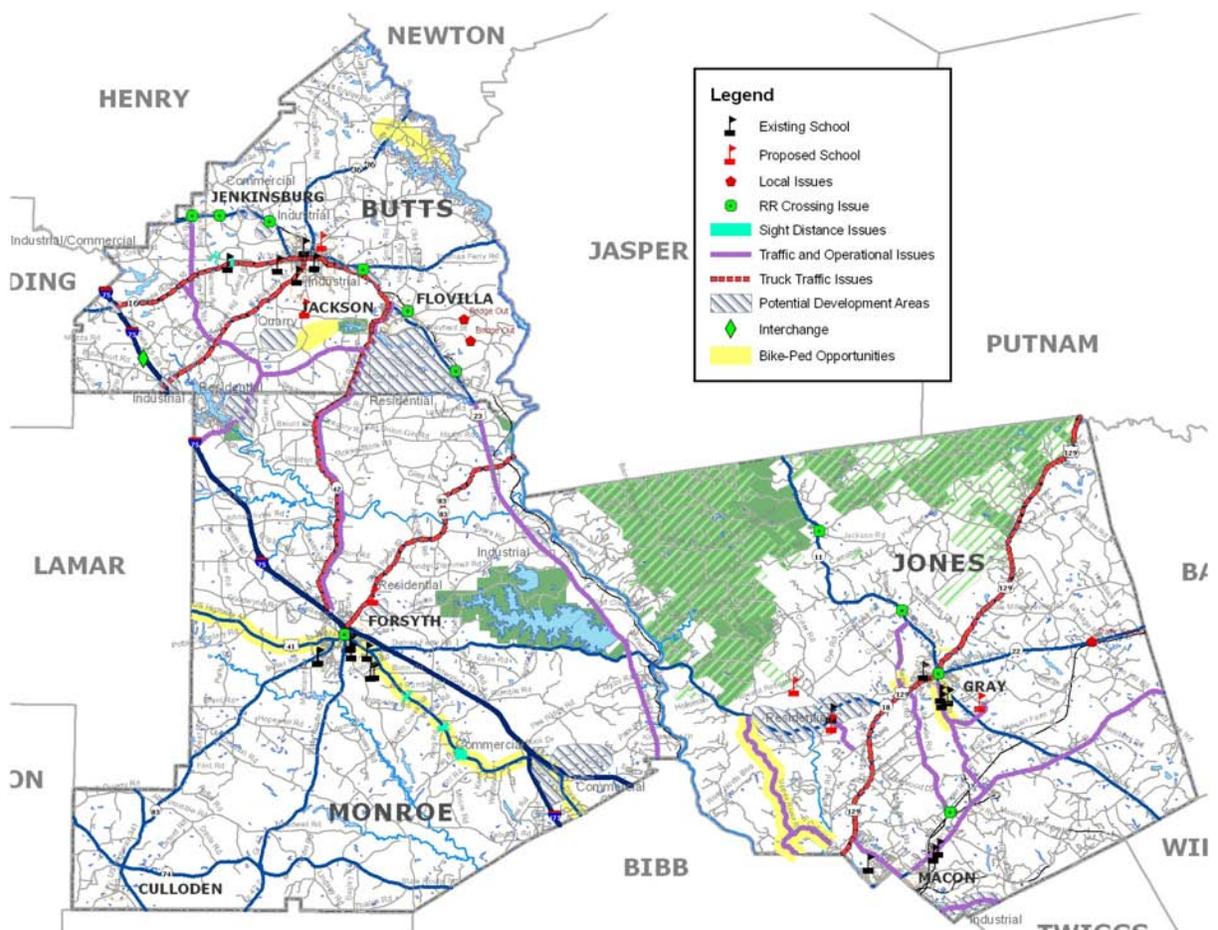
Source: US Census

# Local Issues & Opportunities

Background on Key Transportation Issues in the Study Area

- Safety
- Congestion
- Transit
- Bicycle & Pedestrian
- Desired Projects or Improvements
- Development Areas
- Political Realities

## Local Issues and Opportunities



## Transportation Issues & Needs

- A. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns in your County?
  
- B. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?
  
- C. What do you think is the relationship between transportation and land use in the Study Area?
  
- D. Given this is a Plan that discusses short-range and long-range transportation issues, what is the best way to reach out to citizens and community groups to involve them in the Transportation Study?
  
- E. What funding sources should be used to pay for future transportation improvements in the Study Area? Which sources should not be used?
  
- F. If you could share one major message with the Project Team, what would it be?
  
- G. How engaged do you think Study Area residents want to be in discussing transportation and land use issues and the Transportation Study?
  
- H. What do you see as the transportation “Hot Spot” in the study area?

- I. What aspects of the transportation system are important to you TODAY and what aspects will be important to you in 2035 (25 years from now). Please rank importance of the following transportation strategies as “High”, “Medium” or “Low”.

Transportation Needs	Level of Importance to You Today	Level of Importance to You in 2035
Relieving traffic congestion on I-75		
Providing adequate evacuation and emergency routes		
Improving roadway safety		
Addressing truck travel		
Adding or coordinating traffic signals, building turn lanes, and adding other features to improve traffic flow		
Adding new roadway capacity (widened roads) to the transportation system		
Adding new roadway capacity (new roads) to the transportation system		
Dealing with problems associated with railroad crossings		
Building more north-south roadways to better connect areas within the County		
Building more east-west roadways to better connect areas within the County		
Providing good walking and bicycling paths near schools, libraries, parks and shopping areas, etc		
Improving safety for bicyclists and pedestrians		
Developing better public transportation services for seniors and disabled people		
Providing public transportation (bus) services to residents		
Providing adequate resources to operate and maintain our existing transportation system		
Coordination between Counties for Transportation		

- J. Do you have any other issues or concerns that you would like to see dealt with in the Transportation Study?

- K. What do you expect as the outcome of this study?

## Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives are components of the long range planning process. They guide the development of the Plan by providing a basis for evaluating Transportation Plan alternatives. Goals and objectives reflect those intentions that the plan is meant to achieve.

### Factors to Consider

- Economics & Development
- Safety
- Accessibility
- Employment
- Environment
- Efficiency
- Preservation

### Developing Goals and Objectives

- What are the County's Mobility Needs?
- What Types of Transportation Improvements?
- Are Multi-Modal Improvements Needed in the County?
- Which Improvements are the Most Important to the County?
- What are Transportation Quality of Life Factors?

### Comprehensive Plan Goals

- Reduce traffic congestion along Gray Highway corridor.
- Reduce traffic in the Gray downtown area.
- Establish attractive entranceways along major thoroughfares in Jones County.
- Commuter strategies including car and vanpooling to help reduce traffic between Jones County and the employment centers in Baldwin, Bibb, and Houston Counties.
- Provide satisfactory alternative forms of transportation including transit and bicycle/pedestrian facilities in Gray and Jones County.

## **Public Workshop #1**

October 23, 2007, 5pm - 7pm

Jones County Government Center

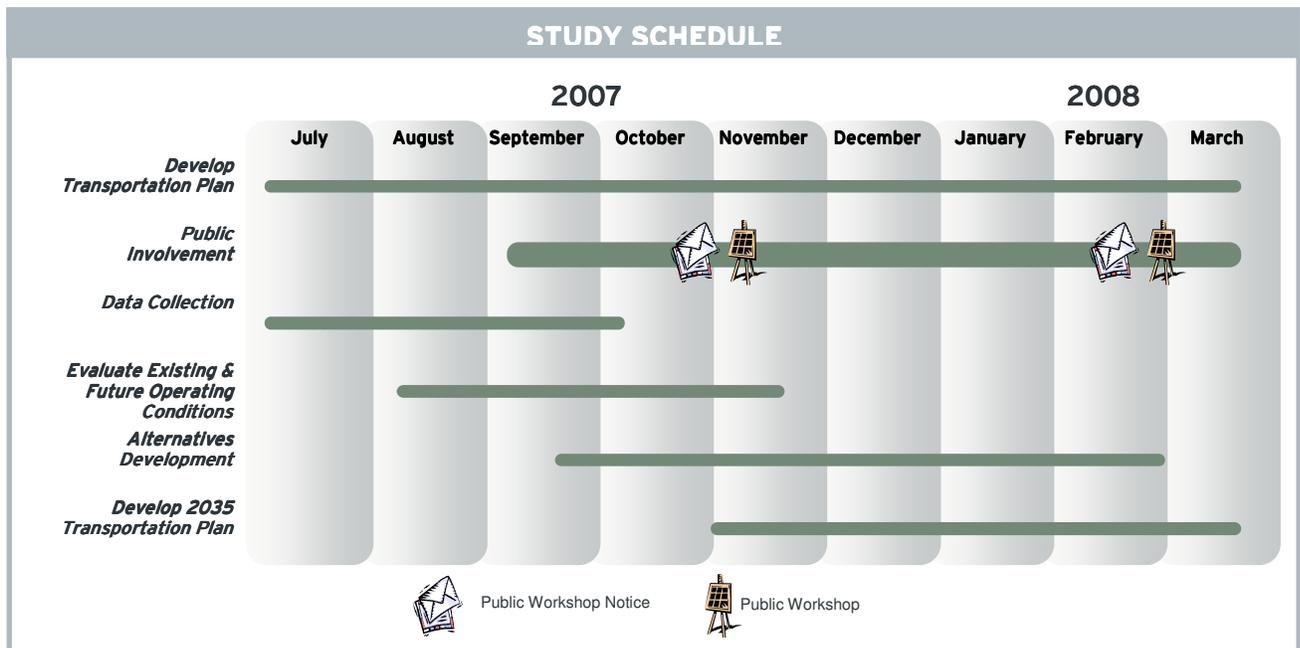
Format - Open House (2 Hours)

- Formal Presentation (15 Minutes)
- Formal Q&A (10-15 Minutes)
- Display Boards
- Comment Sheets

**Get the Word Out!!**

## Next Steps

- Complete Existing Conditions Report
- Complete Travel Demand Model
- Develop Future Operating Conditions
- Identify Preliminary Existing and Future Deficiencies
- Schedule Next Advisory Group Meeting (February/March)





**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
Jones County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #2**

April 7, 2008, 1PM to 3PM  
Jones County Administration Building

**Attendees:**

Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning  
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Wayne Garrett, Jones County Board of Education  
Mike Underwood, Jones County  
Phil Clark, Middle GA RDC

Tim Pitrowski, Jones County  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB  
Tim Hatton, HNTB

**Handouts:**

Meeting Agenda  
Jones County Suggested Improvements  
Jones County Potential Improvement Maps and ID key  
Qualitative and Quantitative Criteria and Scoring  
Public Meeting Announcement

**Meeting Summary:**

This meeting was the second meeting of the Jones County Study Advisory Group for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study. The meeting was held to provide an update of the status of the project tasks completed to date and to discuss the initial list of potential multi-modal transportation improvements.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group, thanked them for coming, and presented the study's findings since the first round of public meetings. She explained to the group that the reason for the plan is to ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses and make sure transportation priorities match community priorities. The study will develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects that coordinate with other planning efforts which will allow for early identification of funding issues and opportunities.

She then provided an update of the study's efforts so far. The HNTB team has documented comments from stakeholder and public meetings which were provided to the group in a hand out. HNTB evaluated the existing and future conditions, developed preliminary improvement recommendations, and developed a prioritization strategy. Work has begun on the development of transportation plan documentation.

She turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, who reviewed the process for identifying deficiencies and developing preliminary improvements. The HNTB team developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model with baseline conditions in 2006 that used Census data, traffic counts, employment information from the Department of Labor, School enrollment, and socioeconomic forecasts for 2015 and 2035, which were allocated by the County's local knowledge about expected growth in population and employment. The HNTB team identified potential improvements based on future transportation deficiencies for a mid-range of year 2015 and a long-range year of 2035.

The potential improvements considered included the following:

- Capacity Enhancement – Widen existing roads or build new facilities
- Parallel Relief – Improve a Corridor Parallel to a Congested Facility
- Network Connectivity – Enhance Connectivity of the Highway Network
- Access Improvement – Improve Access to a Site or Area
- Reconstruction – Improve an Existing Deficient Facility
- Safety – Correct a Potential Safety Deficiency
- Alternative Modes – Bicycle/Pedestrian, Transit and Rail

The HNTB team has completed the initial screening of improvements against evaluation criteria.

Ms. Bilotto reviewed the potential projects to get feedback from the group. The Study Advisory Group was provided maps and an identification key that provided information about the projects limits and locations. Also, the qualitative and quantitative criteria were given to the group for review and comment. The group approved the criteria used to prioritize the potential improvements. The group reviewed the potential improvements, which included:

- GDOT's Work Program Projects
- Potential roadway widening and operational improvements
- Potential intersection safety improvements
- Potential bridge replacements
- Potential improvements to railroad crossings
- Potential bicycle and pedestrian projects

The Study Advisory Group reviewed proposed improvements and provided local knowledge that helped refine the list of projects.

The public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the potential improvement during a public meeting scheduled for May 8, 2008. After the public meeting comments are received the improvements will be refined as needed and the final prioritized list of recommended improvements will be completed.

The next steps are to complete potential project screening and ranking, develop cost estimates, provide recommendations for financial resources and funding, and finalize the development of long-range transportation plan (horizon year of 2035).

Members were encouraged to help get the word out regarding upcoming public meetings in the county, scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2008 from 5PM to 7PM at the Jones County Government Center.





**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
Monroe County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #2**

April 8, 2007, 10AM to 12PM  
Monroe County Clubhouse

**Attendees:**

Bud Queen, Monroe resident  
Jim Peters, Monroe County  
Anita Buice, Monroe County  
Sid Banks, Monroe County  
Bob Rychel, Middle Georgia RDC  
David Clark, Georgia Department of Corrections

Larry Evans, Monroe County  
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Garth Lynch, HNTB  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB

**Handouts:**

Meeting Agenda  
Monroe County Suggested Improvements  
Monroe County Potential Improvement Maps and ID key  
Qualitative and Quantitative Criteria and Scoring  
Public Meeting Announcement

**Meeting Summary:**

This meeting was the second meeting of the Monroe County Study Advisory Group for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study. The meeting was held to provide an update of the status of the project tasks completed to date and to discuss the initial list of potential multi-modal transportation improvements.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group, thanked them for coming, and presented the study's findings since the first round of public meetings. She explained to the group that the reason for the plan is to ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses and make sure transportation priorities match community priorities. The study will develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects that coordinate with other planning efforts which will allow for early identification of funding issues and opportunities.

She then provided an update of the study's efforts so far. The HNTB team has documented comments from stakeholder and public meetings which were provided to the group in a hand out. HNTB evaluated the existing and future conditions, developed preliminary improvement recommendations, and developed a prioritization strategy. Work has begun on the development of transportation plan documentation.

Ms. Gwin reviewed the process for identifying deficiencies and developing preliminary improvements. The HNTB team developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model with baseline conditions in 2006 that used Census data, traffic counts, employment information from the Department of Labor, School enrollment, and socioeconomic forecasts for 2015 and 2035, which were allocated by the County's local knowledge about expected growth in population and employment. The HNTB team identified potential improvements based on future transportation deficiencies for a mid-range of year 2015 and a long-range year of 2035.

The potential improvements considered included the following:

- Capacity Enhancement – Widen existing roads or build new facilities
- Parallel Relief – Improve a Corridor Parallel to a Congested Facility
- Network Connectivity – Enhance Connectivity of the Highway Network
- Access Improvement – Improve Access to a Site or Area
- Reconstruction – Improve an Existing Deficient Facility
- Safety – Correct a Potential Safety Deficiency
- Alternative Modes – Bicycle/Pedestrian, Transit and Rail

The HNTB team has completed the initial screening of improvements against evaluation criteria.

She turned the floor over to Tim Hatton, HNTB, to go over the potential projects and to get feedback from the group. The Study Advisory Group was provided maps and an identification key that included information about the projects limits and locations. Also, the qualitative and quantitative criteria were given to the group for review and comment. The group agreed that the criteria were appropriate for Monroe County. Mr. Hatton led the group to go over the potential improvements, which included:

- GDOT's Work Program Projects
- Potential roadway widening and operational improvements
- Potential intersection safety improvements
- Potential bridge replacements
- Potential improvements to railroad crossings
- Potential bicycle and pedestrian projects

The Study Advisory Group reviewed proposed improvements and provided local knowledge that helped refine the list of projects.

The public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the potential improvement during a public meeting scheduled for May 1, 2008. After the public meeting comments are received the improvements will be refined as needed and the final prioritized list of recommended improvements will be completed.

The next steps are to complete potential project screening and ranking, develop cost estimates, provide recommendations for financial resources and funding, and finalize the development of long-range transportation plan (horizon year of 2035).

Members were encouraged to help get the word out regarding upcoming public meetings in the county, scheduled for May 1, 2008 from 5PM to 7PM.





**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Butts County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #2**  
April 8, 2007, 2PM to 4PM  
Butts County Commissioners Meeting Room

**Attendees:**

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning	Linda Sisio, Department of Human Resources
Joe Blankenship, Butts County Board of Education	Bart White, Industrial Development Authority
Garth Lynch, HNTB	Robert Hiatt, McIntosh Trail RDC
Cathy Perry, Department of Human Resources	Lanier Boatwright, McIntosh Trail RDC
David Millen, GDOT District 3	Evelyn O'Neal, Liberty Convalescence Services, Inc.
Christy Taylor, Butts County	Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates
Alan White, Industrial Development Authority	Tim Hatton, HNTB
Lou DuFresne, Jackson Lakes HOA	

**Handouts:**

Meeting Agenda  
Butts County Suggested Improvements  
Butts County Potential Improvement Maps and ID key  
Qualitative and Quantitative Criteria and Scoring  
Public Meeting Announcement

**Meeting Summary:**

This meeting was the second meeting of the Butts County Study Advisory Group for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study. The meeting was held to provide an update of the status of the project tasks completed to date and to discuss the initial list of potential multi-modal transportation improvements.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group, thanked them for coming, and presented the study's findings since the first round of public meetings. She explained to the group that the reason for the plan is to ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses and make sure transportation priorities match community priorities. The study will develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects that coordinate with other planning efforts which will allow for early identification of funding issues and opportunities.

She then provided an update of the study's efforts so far. The HNTB team has documented comments from stakeholder and public meetings which were provided to the group in a handout. HNTB evaluated the existing and future conditions, developed preliminary improvement recommendations, and developed a prioritization strategy. Work has begun on the development of transportation plan documentation.

Ms. Gwin reviewed the process for identifying deficiencies and developing preliminary improvements. The HNTB team developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model with baseline conditions in 2006 that used Census data, traffic counts, employment information from the Department of Labor, School enrollment, and socioeconomic forecasts for 2015 and 2035, which were allocated by the County's local knowledge about expected growth in population and employment. The HNTB team identified potential improvements based on future transportation deficiencies for a mid-range of year 2015 and a long-range year of 2035.

The potential improvements considered include the following:

- Capacity Enhancement – Widen existing roads or build new facilities
- Parallel Relief – Improve a Corridor Parallel to a Congested Facility
- Network Connectivity – Enhance Connectivity of the Highway Network
- Access Improvement – Improve Access to a Site or Area
- Reconstruction – Improve an Existing Deficient Facility
- Safety – Correct a Potential Safety Deficiency
- Alternative Modes – Bicycle/Pedestrian, Transit and Rail

The HNTB team has completed the initial screening of improvements against evaluation criteria.

Ms. Gwin turned the floor over to Tim Hatton, HNTB, to go over the potential projects and to get feedback from the group. The Advisory Group members were provided maps and an identification key that included information about the project limits and locations. Also, the qualitative and quantitative criteria were given to the group for review and comment. The group agreed that the criteria were appropriate for Butts County and the GDOT District representative stated it matched GDOT's prioritization criteria. Mr. Hatton led the group through the potential improvements, which included:

- GDOT's Work Program Projects
- Potential roadway widening and operational improvements
- Potential intersection safety improvements
- Potential bridge replacements
- Potential improvements to railroad crossings
- Potential bicycle and pedestrian projects

The Study Advisory Group reviewed proposed improvements and provided local knowledge that helped refine the list of projects.

The public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the potential improvement during a public meeting scheduled for April 29, 2008. After the public meeting comments are received the improvements will be refined as needed and the final prioritized list of recommended improvements will be completed.

The next steps are to complete potential project screening and ranking, develop cost estimates, provide recommendations for financial resources and funding, and finalize the development of long-range transportation plan (horizon year of 2035).

Members were encouraged to help get the word out regarding upcoming public meetings in the county, scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 2008 from 5PM to 7PM.



Butts Jones Monroe Transportation Study  
 Butts County Advisory Committee  
 Advisory Committee #2 - April 8, 2008  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
*Please Print*



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company and/or Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Kelly Gwin	GDOT Planning	(4) 651-5330	kswin@dot.ga.gov
Joe Blankenship	Butts County BOE	770-504-2320 ext 151	blankenshipj@butts.k12.ga.us
Gartha Lynch	HNTB	404-946-5703	glynch@hntb.com
Cathy Perry	DHR/PO Box 1081, Griffin GA 30224	770-229-3148	cperry@dhr.state.ga.us
DAVID MILLER	GDOT Dist. Precst.	706-646-6987	dwillien@dot.ga.gov
Christy Taylor	Butts County	770-775-8210	ctaylor@buttscounty.org
Alan White	Butts Co IDA	770-775-4851	buttscoida@bellsouth.net
Lorena Greene		770-775-3662	TODUFRESNE "
Linda Lince	DHR PO Box 1081 Griffin GA 30224	770-229-3205	lslince@dhr.state.ga.us
Bob WHITE	Butts Co FAA	404-774-6797	bobwhite@bellsouth.net
Robert Hett	WTRDC	770-227-6300	rnhett@cityofgriffin.com
Lawler Boatwright	MTRPC	"	lboatwright@cityofgriffin.com
Evelyn O'Neal	Liberty Convalescence Serv Inc.	770-775-1229	
Tim Hutton	HNTB	404-946-5755	thutton@hntb.com

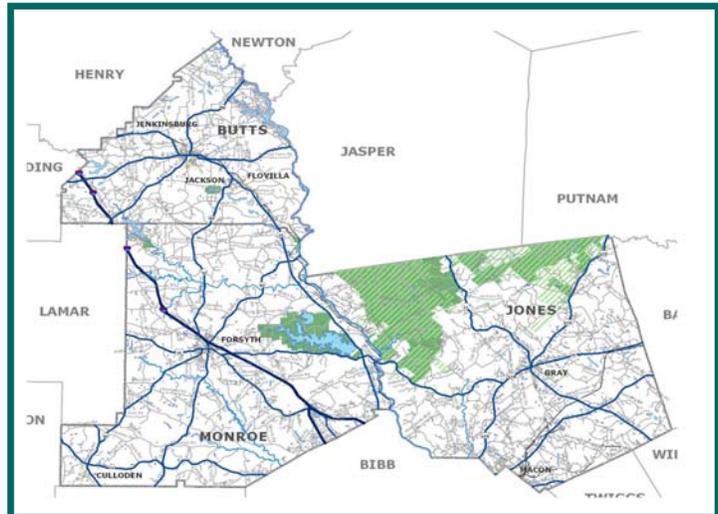
## APPENDIX B

# MEETING NOTIFICATION

# Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study *Public Meeting Announcement*



**BUTTS COUNTY**  
**Public Workshop**  
**Tuesday, October 16, 2007**  
**6PM to 8PM**  
**Butts County Administration**  
**Building**  
**Commissioners Meeting Room**  
**625 West 3rd Street, Jackson**  
**Phone: 770-775-8200**



**Three - County Study Area**

**Please join us and provide your input on  
transportation needs and issues today and  
in the future!**

This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will address transportation needs through the year 2035. During this meeting, we will discuss the study purpose and seek public input related to the existing and future transportation system. Study information will be on display. Representatives from Butts County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the project, answer questions and listen to input.

The meetings will begin with a formal presentation providing an overview of the study; after that feel free to browse display boards, ask questions, and provide your comments.

## **For More Information, Contact:**

Georgia Department of Transportation  
Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin  
#2 Capitol Square, Office of Planning  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
Phone: (404) 651-5330  
E-Mail: [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**

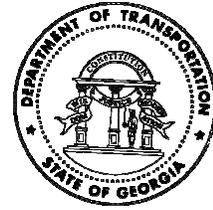
### **Public Workshop Scheduled!**

Butts County, in association with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), will be conducting a **Public Involvement Workshop on Tuesday, October 16, 2007, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** at the County Administration Building, 625 West Third Street, Jackson. The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input on transportation needs and issues concerning Butts county residents. This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will address transportation needs through the year 2035. The study is being developed to identify solutions to provide a safe and efficient transportation system that meets all of the County's mobility needs. Public input is needed and has a significant role in the development of this study.

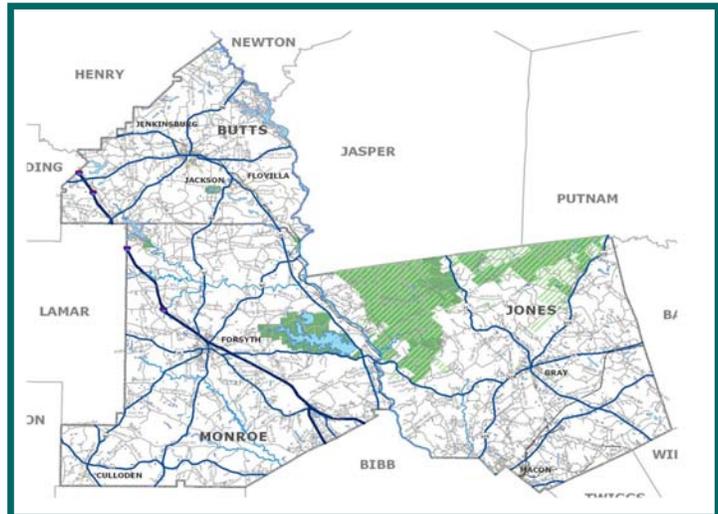
During this meeting, we will discuss the study purpose, study schedule, summarize existing transportation conditions and seek public input related to the existing and future transportation system. Study information and plans will be on display. Representatives from Butts County, GDOT, and the project team members will be on hand to discuss the project, answer questions and listen to recommendations. Everyone is encouraged to attend this public information meeting. Your participation is important and Butts County and GDOT want to be aware of any questions or recommendations you may have.

For additional information on the study, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact Ms. Kelly Gwin, Georgia Department of Transportation, by phone at (404) 651-5330, or by e-mail at [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us).

# Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study *Public Meeting Announcement*



**JONES COUNTY  
Public Workshop  
Tuesday, October 23, 2007  
5PM to 7PM  
Jones County Government  
Center  
166 Industrial Boulevard, Gray  
Phone: 478-986-6405**



**Three - County Study Area**

**Please join us and provide your input on  
transportation needs and issues today and  
in the future!**

This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will address transportation needs through the year 2035. During this meeting, we will discuss the study purpose and seek public input related to the existing and future transportation system. Study information will be on display. Representatives from Jones County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the project, answer questions and listen to input.

The meetings will begin with a formal presentation providing an overview of the study; after that feel free to browse display boards, ask questions, and provide your comments.

### **For More Information, Contact:**

Georgia Department of Transportation  
Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin  
#2 Capitol Square, Office of Planning  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
Phone: (404) 651-5330  
E-Mail: [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**

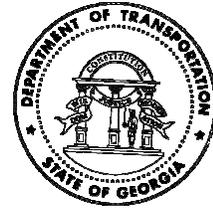
### **Public Workshop Scheduled!**

Jones County, in association with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), will be conducting a **Public Involvement Workshop on Tuesday, October 23, 2007, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at Jones County Government Center, 166 Industrial Boulevard, Gray. The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input on transportation needs and issues concerning Jones county residents. This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will address transportation needs through the year 2035. The study is being developed to identify solutions to provide a safe and efficient transportation system that meets all of the County's mobility needs. Public input is needed and has a significant role in the development of this study.

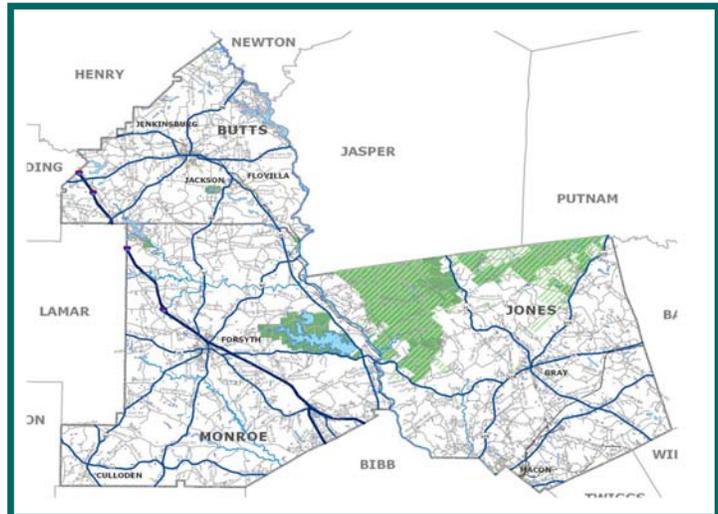
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For additional information on the study, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact Ms. Kelly Gwin, Georgia Department of Transportation, by phone at (404) 651-5330, or by e-mail at [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us).

# Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study *Public Meeting Announcement*



**MONROE COUNTY**  
**Public Workshop**  
**Thursday, November 1, 2007**  
**5PM to 7PM**  
**Monroe County Clubhouse**  
**(across from library)**  
**Phelps Street, Forsyth**  
**Phone: 478-994-7029**



**Three - County Study Area**

**Please join us and provide your input on  
transportation needs and issues today and  
in the future!**

This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will address transportation needs through the year 2035. During this meeting, we will discuss the study purpose and seek public input related to the existing and future transportation system. Study information will be on display. Representatives from Monroe County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the project, answer questions and listen to input.

The meetings will begin with a formal presentation providing an overview of the study; after that feel free to browse display boards, ask questions, and provide your comments.

## **For More Information, Contact:**

Georgia Department of Transportation  
Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin  
#2 Capitol Square, Office of Planning  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
Phone: (404) 651-5330  
E-Mail: [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**

### **Public Workshop Scheduled!**

Monroe County, in association with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), will be conducting a **Public Involvement Workshop on Thursday, November 1, 2007, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at the Monroe County Clubhouse, Phelps Street, Forsyth (Across from the Library). The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input on transportation needs and issues concerning Monroe county residents. This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will address transportation needs through the year 2035. The study is being developed to identify solutions to provide a safe and efficient transportation system that meets all of the County's mobility needs. Public input is needed and has a significant role in the development of this study.

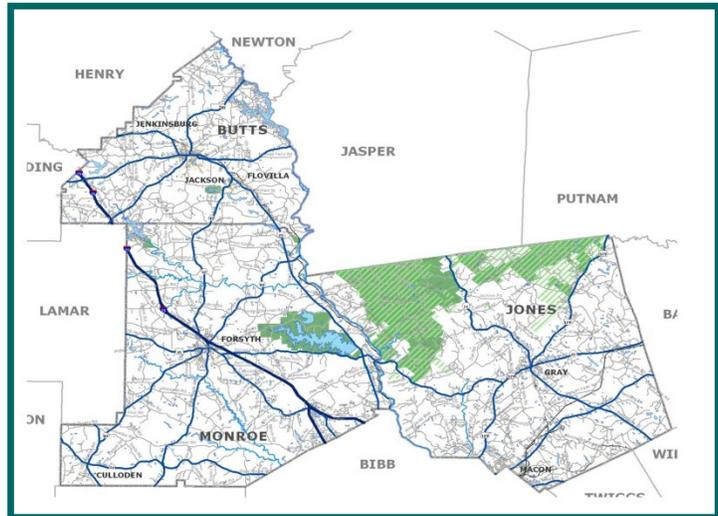
During this meeting, we will discuss the study purpose, study schedule, summarize existing transportation conditions and seek public input related to the existing and future transportation system. Study information and plans will be on display. Representatives from Monroe County, GDOT, and the project team will be on hand to discuss the project, answer questions and listen to recommendations. Everyone is encouraged to attend this public information meeting. Your participation is important and Monroe County and GDOT want to be aware of any questions or recommendations you may have.

For additional information on the study, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact Ms. Kelly Gwin, Georgia Department of Transportation, by phone at (404) 651-5330, or by e-mail at [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us).

# Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study *Public Meeting Announcement*



**BUTTS COUNTY**  
**Public Workshop**  
**Tuesday, April 29, 2008**  
**5PM to 7PM**  
**Butts County Administration**  
**Building**  
**Commissioners Meeting Room**  
**625 West 3rd Street, Jackson**  
**Phone: 770-775-8200**



**Three - County Study Area**

**Please join us and provide your input on  
transportation needs and issues today and in the  
future!**

This meeting is part of the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will mitigate transportation needs through the year 2035. During this meeting, the study team will present potential project recommendations that address transportation issues identified by Butts County citizens during the initial round of meetings in fall of 2007. Study information will be on display. Representatives from Butts County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the study, answer questions, and listen to input.

The meetings will begin with a formal presentation providing an overview of the study; after that feel free to browse display boards, ask questions, and provide your comments.

## **For More Information, Contact:**

Georgia Department of Transportation  
Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin  
#2 Capitol Square, Office of Planning  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
Phone: (404) 651-5330  
E-Mail: [kgwin@dot.ga.gov](mailto:kgwin@dot.ga.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**

### **Second Public Workshop Scheduled!**

Butts County, in association with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), is conducting a **Public Involvement Workshop on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at the County Administration Building located at 625 West Third Street in Jackson, GA. The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input on potential transportation project recommendations for Butts County. This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which seeks to mitigate transportation needs through the year 2035. The study will identify potential solutions to provide a safe and efficient transportation system in an effort to meet the County's current and future mobility needs. Public input is welcomed and has a significant role in the development of this study.

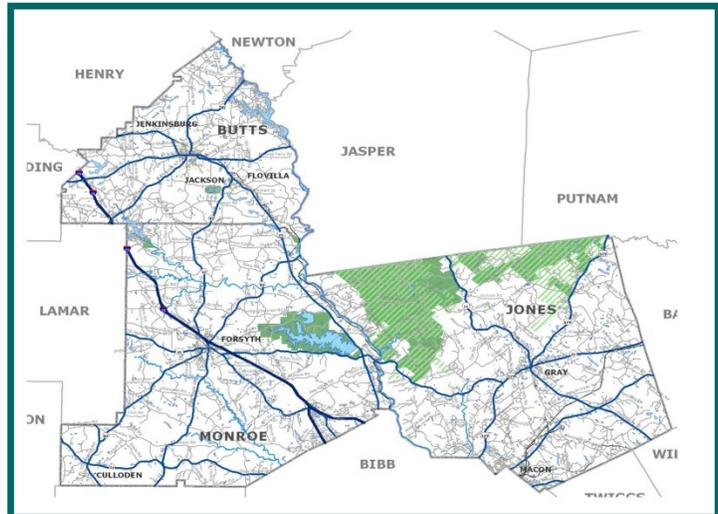
Key study information to be presented at the meeting includes: a summary of key transportation issues, an overview of the project evaluation process, and potential project recommendations. Representatives from Butts County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the study, answer questions and listen to recommendations. Everyone is encouraged to attend this public meeting and provide input on the potential projects proposed for inclusion in the Butts County Transportation Plan. Your participation is important, and Butts County and GDOT are interested in any questions or recommendations you may have.

For additional information on the study, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact Ms. Kelly Gwin, Georgia Department of Transportation, by phone at (404) 651-5330, or by e-mail at [kgwin@dot.ga.gov](mailto:kgwin@dot.ga.gov).

# Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study *Public Meeting Announcement*



**MONROE COUNTY**  
**Public Workshop**  
**Thursday, May 1, 2008**  
**5PM to 7PM**  
**Monroe County Clubhouse**  
**(across from library)**  
**Phelps Street, Forsyth**  
**Phone: 478-994-7029**



**Three - County Study Area**

**Please join us and provide your input on  
transportation needs and issues today and in the  
future!**

This meeting is part of the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will mitigate transportation needs through the year 2035. During this meeting, the study team will present potential project recommendations that address transportation issues identified by Monroe County citizens during the initial round of meetings in fall of 2007. Study information will be on display. Representatives from Monroe County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the study, answer questions, and listen to input.

The meetings will begin with a formal presentation providing an overview of the study; after that feel free to browse display boards, ask questions, and provide your comments.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**

### **Second Public Workshop Scheduled!**

Monroe County, in association with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), is conducting a **Public Involvement Workshop on Thursday, May 1, 2008, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at the Monroe County Clubhouse located on Phelps Street across from the library in Forsyth, GA. The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input on potential transportation project recommendations for Monroe County. This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which seeks to mitigate transportation needs through the year 2035. The study will identify potential solutions to provide a safe and efficient transportation system in an effort to meet the County's current and future mobility needs. Public input is welcomed and has a significant role in the development of this study.

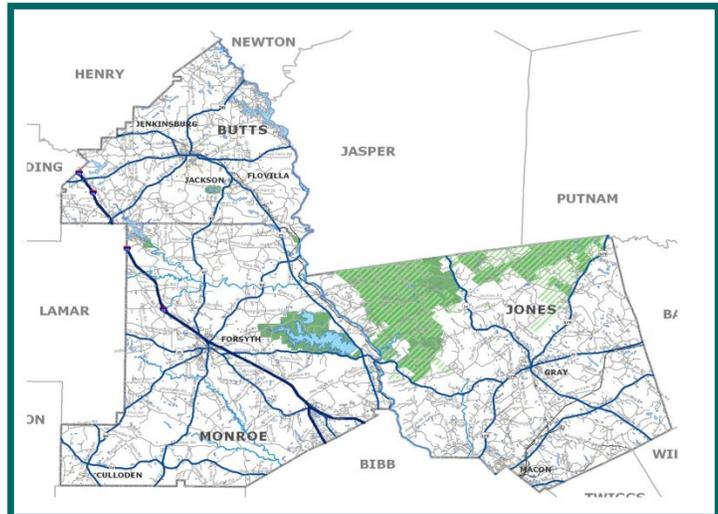
Key study information to be presented at the meeting includes: a summary of key transportation issues, an overview of the project evaluation process, and potential project recommendations. Representatives from Monroe County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the study, answer questions and listen to recommendations. Everyone is encouraged to attend this public meeting and provide input on the potential projects proposed for inclusion in the Monroe County Transportation Plan. Your participation is important, and Monroe County and GDOT are interested in any questions or recommendations you may have.

For additional information on the study, or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact Ms. Kelly Gwin, Georgia Department of Transportation, by phone at (404) 651-5330, or by e-mail at [kgwin@dot.ga.gov](mailto:kgwin@dot.ga.gov).

# Butts, Jones, & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study *Public Meeting Announcement*



**JONES COUNTY**  
**Public Workshop**  
**Thursday, May 8, 2008**  
**5PM to 7PM**  
**Jones County Government**  
**Center**  
**166 Industrial Boulevard, Gray**  
**Phone: 478-986-6405**



**Three - County Study Area**

**Please join us and provide your input on  
transportation needs and issues today and in the  
future!**

This meeting is part of the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which will mitigate transportation needs through the year 2035. During this meeting, the study team will present potential project recommendations that address transportation issues identified by Jones County citizens during the initial round of meetings in fall of 2007. Study information will be on display. Representatives from Jones County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the study, answer questions, and listen to input.

The meetings will begin with a formal presentation providing an overview of the study; after that feel free to browse display boards, ask questions, and provide your comments.

### **For More Information, Contact:**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**

### **Second Public Workshop Scheduled!**

Jones County, in association with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), is conducting a **Public Involvement Workshop on Thursday, May 8, 2008, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at the County Government Center located at 166 Industrial Boulevard in Gray, GA. The purpose of this meeting is to gather public input on potential transportation project recommendations for Jones County. This meeting is a key component of the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study, which seeks to mitigate transportation needs through the year 2035. The study will identify potential solutions to provide a safe and efficient transportation system in an effort to meet the County's current and future mobility needs. Public input is welcomed and has a significant role in the development of this study.

Key study information to be presented at the meeting includes: a summary of key transportation issues, an overview of the project evaluation process, and potential project recommendations. Representatives from Jones County, GDOT, and the study team will be on hand to discuss the study, answer questions and listen to recommendations. Everyone is encouraged to attend this public meeting and provide input on the potential projects proposed for inclusion in the Jones County Transportation Plan. Your participation is important, and Jones County and GDOT are interested in any questions or recommendations you may have.

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## APPENDIX C

# PUBLIC WORKSHOP DOCUMENTATION



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Butts County Study Advisory Group – Meeting #1**  
October 16, 2007, 6PM to 8PM  
Butts County Commissioners Meeting Room

**Attendees:**

Steven Lease, Butts County  
Christy Taylor, Butts County  
Marty Long, Public Works Director  
Jim Herbert, Butts County Recreation  
Tommy Crochet, McGee Partners  
Ronnie Duffey  
Kim Duffey  
Sandra Reid

David Millen, GDOT District 3  
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Matthew Fowler, GDOT Planning  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB  
Andrew Smith, HNTB

**Meeting Summary:**

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study, a public meeting was held in Butts County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, to begin the presentation. Ms. Bilotto began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process. Ms. Bilotto highlighted specific topics related to Butts County that included the following:

- Planned and Programmed Projects
- Safety
- Bridges
- Freight Networks for Rail and Trucks
- Public Transportation
- Aviation
- Travel Demand Model Development
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Existing and Planned Projects
- Local Issues and Opportunities

A questions and answers session was offered. The meeting then progressed into an open house format where the meeting participants were able to ask questions of the staff positioned at various maps displayed around the room. Based on these conversations and the comment forms received, the following is a list of issues raised at the public meeting:

- Emergency vehicle access to roads that have no existing access to a main road
- Trains blocking the cross-roads
- Cork Road currently has no access to another road without first crossing a railroad track and the road also has a closed bridge.
- Sidewalk needs are critical for safety concerns as well as quality of life. Currently, sidewalks are not provided to any school, except Jackson Elementary, which is planned to be relocated.
- Affordable transportation for individuals, including transportation options for low-income workers to other employment centers in Spalding and Henry Counties.

The Butts County bike paths need to reflect a connection on High Falls Road across SR 36 to SR 16 then north of SR 16 on England Chapel to SR 42 across Burg to Oak Street back SE on Wolf Creek then on 4-Points Road to Stark Road.

In Jenkinsburg, there is a new Road completed in 2001 or 2002, Kudzu Road, further west that provides an additional crossing on the single track portion. A lot of the original problem was that the crossings were on the double track portion where the trains were required to stop for other trains to pass.

Problem Intersections:

- SR 16 and Shiloh Road – sight distance
- SR 42 and Shiloh Road – sight distance
- SR 42 and Burg/England Chapel (west of Jenkinsburg) – poor intersection design
- SR 16 and Old Higgins – sight distance
- SR 36 and Fincherville – bad angle
- SR 42 and Cenie Raod – (neaeer Indian Springs) – intersection is tight – more room needed

Old Bethel/4-Points Road @Stark – needs wider travel lanes – this is a major connection between SR 42 and the lake area

Keys Ferry from Henry County SE to SR 36 – lanes were made wider in 2005 – this is a temporary solution for a high growth area.

Bike/Ped facilities would be desirable along the Ocmulgee.



Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study  
Butts County  
Public Meeting- October 16, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
STEVEN LEASE	Butts County		
CHRISTY TAYLOR	Butts County		
Tim Hatton	HNTB		
Mary Huffstetter	MPH		
Claudia Bilts	HNTB		
Andrew Smith	HNTB		
Matthew <del>John</del> Fowler	GOOT		
Kelly Gwin	GOOT		
MTL (Marty)	Road Superintendent Butts County		
Jim HERBERT			jim@ButtsCountyRecreation.com
Tommy Crochet	Mcbee Partners		
Ronnie Duffey			
Kim Duffey			
Sandra Reid			
DAVID MILLEN	GDOT		davidmillen@dot.state.ga.us



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Jones County Public Meeting #1**  
October 23, 2007, 5PM to 7PM  
Jones County Government Center

**Attendees:**

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning  
Chuck Thompson, Macon Telegraph  
Joe Metzker, Haddock community  
Butch Reece, Jones County Sheriff Dept.  
Lyndall and Billy Moore  
Craig Fluck, CGRTA  
Connie and Larry Smith, Gray  
Debbie Lurie Smith, Jones County news  
Fleta M. Harpon, Gray  
Berry W. Moore, Gray  
Jill F. Ussery, Gray  
Bobby May

Jimmy Roberts, Gray  
J. Preston Hawkins, Jones County  
Glenda Wood, Jones County  
Paul Melton, Jones County  
Tim Ingram, P.E., Ingram & Associates  
Berta Morton  
Tom Queen, GDOT District 3  
Mike Underwood, Jones County, Administrator  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB  
Johnny Han, HNTB

**Meeting Summary:**

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study, a public meeting was held in Jones County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and provided an overview of the study's purpose. She turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, to begin the presentation. Ms. Bilotto began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process. Ms. Bilotto explained specific topics related to Jones County. She covered topics related to planned and programmed projects, transportation safety issues, bridges, and freight networks for rail and trucks. She provided information on the public transportation program. An overview of travel demand model development was given, including the use of population and employment statistics and projections. Existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian projects were discussed. Ms. Bilotto explained that previous meetings with county stakeholders relieved local issues and opportunities and one of the purposes of this meeting was to continue that data collection process.

**Questions and Answer Session:**

Questions were asked about the location of north Gray Bypass. Mike Underwood had a proposed alignment engineering concept which he posted on the wall.

A member of the audience proposed a "quick fix" solution to the railroad crossing at the Gray intersection, the request included signal timing and a new signal location so as to provide 2 pairs of traffic lights.

State Route 22 onto SR 18 from Milledgeville needs left turn lanes.

Additional passing lanes on US 129 were requested to accommodate Saturday college football traffic to Athens and others going to Lake Sinclair.

**Notes from Open House Session:**

A comment was made to look at the use of Upper River Road as a connection to I-75 in Bibb County to act as an alternative north-south route to Macon instead of US 129. In conjunction with the proposed school on SR 18, Upper River Road would become a more direct route for those dropping off children at school then proceeding onto Macon for employment.

Oliver Green Road is currently not a paved roadway; a request was made to pave it.

Green Settlement Road was considered a high traffic area that needed improvement.

Improvements to the intersection at SR 22 and Harris Morton Road/ Altman Road were requested due to high speeds on SR 22.

Bypass is needed to get truck traffic off Gray highway through Gray

On US 129 north to Eatonton – are there any plans to put in passing lanes? Tom Queen said there is a 4lane project being developed from SR 44 from the new bypass to Eatonton.

The RR intersection in downtown Gray with two traffic signals @ SR 11 and SR 44: SR 11 signal should be relocated to correct sight distance issue. Tom Queen stated that there is a possible need to switch to LED signals which can be seen better. Refer to District 3 for correction.

Left turn signal needed from SR 22 from Milledgeville onto SR 18 East.

SR 11 and SR 18 need to be connected from Wayside to Gerald Plantation – there is a dirt road (5-Points Road) and it is very busy now. This could be paved.

Look into paving Oliver Green Road – part is paved and the rest needs to be paved.

Widen shoulders on bicycle routes to minimize conflicts for bicyclists and rumble strips.

Haddock has new businesses. Look at the widening of SR 22 to Milledgeville and take steps to minimize impacts to Haddock as a part of this project. Haddock does not want the character to be affected. There is pedestrian traffic crossing SR 22 between the church, antique shops, post office, etc. Continue to look into a traffic signal in Haddock @ SR 22 and Ethridge and Bowen Hill Road. Bowen Hill provides a connection between SR 22 and SR 49 – used frequently.

There is a Haddock TE project for sidewalks and lighting from the two “Unincorporated Haddock” signs.

SR 18 – awarded \$500K in HPP funds for sidewalks between Gray Station and Allen Green Parkway to the Recreational Complex. Ingram and Associates is in charge of design.



**Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Jones County  
 Public Meeting - October 23, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
 Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
Kelly Gavin	GDOT Planning	(4) 651-5330	KELLY.GAVIN@dot.state.ga.gov
Chuck Thompson	Mason Telegraph	744 4489	c.thompson@mac.com
Metzker	Haddock GA	932 5987	Joe.Metzker@gmail.com
Butch Reese	S.C. Sheriff's Dept	946-3439	
Wyndell & Billy (W.S.) Moore	Moore	986-6893	nanapapa.moore@aol.com
Chris Evue	GRATA	478-955-2233	Chris@cox.net
Connie & Larry Smith	GRAY	478-986-0292	Smith-C@metcar.com lcs@metcar.com
Debbie Lure Smith	SC News	478-986-3929	debsmith@scnews.com
Etera M. Thompson	Gray, Ga.	478-986-3845	
Benny W. Johnson	Gray, GA	478-986-5725	NANAPAPAMOORE@aol.com
Bob F. Johnson	Gray, Ga.	478-986-6485	
BOBBY MAY	GRAY GA	478-986-6678	
Jimmy Roberts	Gray	986-6122	
Leighton Howard	Jones County	986-6405	
Blenda Wood	Jones Co.	607-9086	
Paul McLean	Jones	750-9731	
Tim Ingram, PE	Ingram & Associates	478-745-3906	Tim@ingrameng.com



**Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**

Jones County  
Public Meeting - October 23, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
*Please Print*



Name

Company and/or Address

Phone

E-Mail

Gentel Weston 687 Harris Weston Rd 986 3237



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
Monroe County Public Meeting #1**

November 1, 2007, 5PM to 7PM  
Monroe County Clubhouse

**Attendees:**

Joann Woodward  
Hal Gagnon  
George McGinty  
Bill Trigg  
Jim Mickle  
Scott Cowart  
Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning

Matthew Fowler, GDOT Planning  
Tom Queen, GDOT District 3  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB  
Garth Lynch, HNTB

**Meeting Summary:**

As part of the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study, a public meeting was held in Monroe County to discuss county-specific issues related to transportation and growth. Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and provided an overview of the study's purpose. She turned the floor over to Claudia Bilotto, HNTB, to begin the presentation. Ms. Bilotto began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process. Ms. Bilotto explained specific topics related to Monroe County. She covered topics related to planned and programmed projects, transportation safety issues, bridges, and freight networks for rail and trucks. She provided information on the public transportation program. An overview of travel demand model development was given, including the use of population and employment statistics and projections. Existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian projects were discussed. Ms. Bilotto explained that previous meetings with county stakeholders relieved local issues and opportunities and one of the purposes of this meeting was to continue that data collection process.

**Questions and Answer Session:**

A question was raised as to whether the Department of Corrections is factored in to the study. Ms. Bilotto explained that future increases in employment in the area are incorporated into the transportation demand model and that specific information regarding the employment estimates for the Department of Corrections would be included in the future analysis.

The topic of commuter rail was brought up by one of the public meeting attendees. Ms. Bilotto, along with Matthew Fowler from GDOT, explained that commuter rail was part of long-range study for the area that included the future possibility of commuter rail from Macon to Atlanta, with the interim project considered from Lovejoy to Atlanta.

A comment was made that the truck traffic from Highway 83 and US 41 culminates in downtown Forsyth and a possible solution could be to construct a new road at Collier Road to act as a connector to I-75 from SR 41 along the rail corridor. It was assumed that the truck traffic was using Highway 83 to go to I-20.

Ms. Bilotto and Matthew Fowler explained the prioritization process with other counties in response to a question about how county projects are funded. This study acts as a catalyst for project generation and formulates a transportation project prioritization plan for the county. Projects could be funded through state and/or local funds.

A comment about one-way pairs on SR 41 in downtown Forsyth or SR 23/ 87 as an alternate.

**Comments:**

Transportation safety issues:

- Bicycling on US 41
- Accidents near Wadley Road from Rock Quarry to Bolingbroke
- 41/Smarr/Rumble Road

A comment was made that the funds dedicated to the passing lanes located south of Forsyth could be used elsewhere, on a higher priority project.



uu  
all

Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study  
 Monroe County  
 Public Meeting - November 1, 2007  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
 Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
Jean Woodward	3131 Hwy 41 South	478-994-5897	
Hal Gagnier	110 Venton's Ct	578-471-1673	hal.gagnier@aol.com
George Mc Ginty	POBx-6 - Fort Valley 31030	213-0220	GMWA2@AOL.com
Bill Tri 66	118 Cowfen Dr	770-1109(C) 974-0092(H)	wn7a55@bellsouth.net
Jim Mickle	7833 Rivoli Rd 31007	478-994-0034	
Scott K Cowart	MCRUE 25 Brooklyn Ave	478-994-2031	Cowart@Monroe.k12.ga.us



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Butts County Public Meeting – Meeting #2**  
April 29, 2008, 5PM to 7PM  
Butts County Commissioners Meeting Room

**Attendees:**

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning

Ray Bitrick

Jim Herbert, Butts County Parks and Rec

Joe Blankenship, Butts County BOE

Al Duke

Brent Fisher, KW Realty

Sheri Hudson, Butts County Historical Society

Lou DuFresne

Christy Taylor, Butts County

Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates

Tim Hatton, HNTB

Claudia Bilotto, HNTB

**Meeting Summary:**

This meeting was the second of two public meetings held in Butts County for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study. The purpose of this meeting was to present the study findings to date and to present and gather feedback on the preliminary recommendations for addressing Butts County transportation issues through the year 2035.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process. She explained to the public meeting attendees that the reason for the plan is to ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses and make sure transportation priorities match community priorities. The study will develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects that coordinate with other planning efforts which will allow for early identification of funding issues and opportunities.

She then provided an update of the study's efforts so far. The HNTB team has documented the comments from the first round of study advisory group and public meetings. HNTB has evaluated the existing and future conditions, developed preliminary improvement recommendations, and developed a prioritization strategy. Work has begun on the development of transportation plan documentation.

Ms. Gwin reviewed the process for identifying deficiencies and developing preliminary improvements. The HNTB team developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model with a baseline, no-build condition in 2006 that used Census data, traffic counts, employment information from the Department of Labor, School enrollment, and socioeconomic forecasts for 2015 and 2035, which were allocated by the County's local knowledge about expected growth in population and employment. Using this data, the HNTB team completed an initial screening of improvements against evaluation criteria. The Travel Demand Model results for 2006, 2015, and 2035 and potential transportation improvements projects for Butts County and for 3-county regional project were on display boards at the meeting.

Following the presentation, Ms. Gwin asked if there were any questions from the audience. She stated that the list of potential projects is preliminary and welcomed comments about the recommendations and suggestions for modifications to the current list or for additional projects to address the transportation needs. Comment cards were available for the public to fill out and return at the meeting or to fax or mail later. Ms. Gwin stated that the study would be concluding in the summer of 2008.

The meeting then moved to an open house format. Project staff made themselves available at the boards for one-on-one conversations about the potential projects and to answer any questions that the meeting attendees had.



Butts Jones Monroe Transportation Study  
 Butts County  
 Public Meeting #2 - April 29, 2008  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
*Please Print*



Kelly Gwin	GDOT Planning	404-651-5330	Kgwin@dot.ga.gov
RAY BITTACK	116 GORNS RD. JACKSON	770 827 6361	ABITRICK@EMPH/HA.HI
JIM HERBERT	BUTTS CO PARKS & REC	976 775 8228	jim@buttscountyga.gov
Joe Blankenship	Butts Co. BOE	770 504 2309	blankenshipj@butts.k12.ga.us
Al Duke		770 712 3930	
BRENT FISHER	KW REALTY	770 880 9111	BRENTFISHER@GMAIL.COM
Sheri Hudson	BEITS	770-775-0764	SHUDSON1@Bellsouth.net
Low Du Fresne	133 SKY RD	770-775-3662	TODUFRESNE@aol.com



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Monroe County Public Meeting – Meeting #2**  
May 1, 2008, 5PM to 7PM  
Monroe County Clubhouse

**Attendees:**

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning	Pam Bittick
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning	Rosemary Walker, Forsyth City Council
Jim Peters, Monroe County Commissioner	Alvin Walker, City of Forsyth
Harold Carlisle, Monroe County Commissioner	Jimmy Pace, Pace and Pace, Inc.
Sidney Jones	Ansley Hunt, Harvey Plumbing
Wiley Crosby	Marilyn Smith, Library
Howell Newton	Florence Pace, Pace and Pace, Inc.
Mike Dodd, Forsyth City Council	Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates
Don Daniel	Tim Hatton, HNTB
Tye Howard, Mayor – City of Forsyth	Claudia Bilotto, HNTB
Tiffany Andrews	

**Meeting Summary:**

This meeting was the second of two public meetings held in Monroe County for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study. The purpose of this meeting was to present the study findings to date and to present and gather feedback on the preliminary recommendations for addressing Monroe County transportation issues through the year 2035.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process. She explained to the public meeting attendees that the reason for the plan is to ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses and make sure transportation priorities match community priorities. The study will develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects that coordinate with other planning efforts which will allow for early identification of funding issues and opportunities.

She then provided an update of the study's efforts so far. The HNTB team has documented the comments from the first round of study advisory group and public meetings. HNTB has evaluated the existing and future conditions, developed preliminary improvement recommendations, and developed a prioritization strategy. Work has begun on the development of transportation plan documentation.

Ms. Gwin reviewed the process for identifying deficiencies and developing preliminary improvements. The HNTB team developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model with a baseline, no-build condition in 2006 that used Census data, traffic counts, employment information from the Department of Labor, School enrollment, and socioeconomic forecasts for 2015 and 2035, which were allocated by the County's local knowledge about expected growth in population and employment. Using this data, the HNTB team completed an initial screening of improvements against evaluation criteria. The Travel Demand Model results for 2006, 2015, and 2035 and potential transportation improvements projects for Monroe County and for 3-county regional project were on display boards at the meeting.

She stated that the list of potential projects is preliminary and welcomed comments about the recommendations and suggestions for modifications to the current list or for additional projects to address the transportation needs. Comment cards were available for the public to fill out and return at the

meeting or to fax or mail later. Ms. Gwin stated that the study would be concluding in the summer of 2008.

Following the presentation, Ms. Gwin asked if there were any questions from the audience and several were asked. The following issues were raised:

- Truck traffic in downtown Forsyth
- Increased traffic on streets in the vicinity of the Department of Corrections – former Tift College facility
- Frontage roads to be used for truck traffic
- Sidewalks on US 41 near Johnston Street
- Sidewalks for new subdivisions

The meeting then moved to an open house format. Project staff made themselves available at the boards for one-on-one conversations about the potential projects and to answer any questions that the meeting attendees had.



Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study  
 Monroe County  
 Public Meeting # 2 - May 1, 2008  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
*Please Print*



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Kelly Gwin GDOT Planning 404-651-5330 ksgwin@dot.ga.gov  
 Jim Leber Monroe Co. Courthouse 478-328-1840 jmp826@bellsouth.net  
 Harold Carlisle " " 478-214-3321 hebe1956@yahoo.com  
 Digney Jones 477 HARBOR STONES DR. 770-775-7151  
 Wiley Crosby 130 S LEE ST PO BOX 151 FORTY 478-994-1862 wiley@redboynline.com  
 HOWELL NEWTON TRIO MFG Co. P.O. Box 270 FORTY 478+994-2671 hnewton@trioyarn.com  
 MIKE DODD City of Forsyth 478-394-1993 medodd@forsythcable.com  
 Don Daniel 478-994-1312  
 Tye Howard Mayor - City of Forsyth 478-994-5649 tyehoward@cityofforsyth.com  
 TIFFANY ANDREWS Forsyth-Monroe County Chamber 994-9239 tiffany@forsyth-monroechamber.com  
 Pam Bitlick 322 Stokes Store Rd. 957-3168 dwt-burrsp@dcov.state.ga.us  
 Rosemary Walker City Council Forsyth 478-994-5445  
 Ahrvin Randall City of Forsyth 478-994-7623 arandall@cityofforsyth.com  
 Jimmy Pace Pace & Pace Inc 478-994-0550 jpace@pacenet.net  
 Ansley Hunt Harvey Plumbing 478-994-2803 ansleyhunt@bellsouth.net  
 Argulena Smith L. Harvey 478-994-7025 smth@fms.net  
 Brenda Pace Pace & Pace, Inc 478-994-0550 bpace@bellsouth.net



**Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
**Jones County Public Meeting – Meeting #2**  
May 8, 2008, 5PM to 7PM  
Jones County Commissioners Meeting Room

**Attendees:**

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Planning  
Radney Simpson, GDOT Planning  
Bill Parker  
James Nobles  
Greg Kimball  
Daniel Clark  
Connie and Larry Smith  
Yvonne Bonds

Phil Clark  
Debbie Lurie-Smith  
Carl Bonds  
Kevin and Jenny Reynolds  
Donna L. Clark  
Mary Huffstetler, MPH & Associates  
Tim Hatton, HNTB  
Claudia Bilotto, HNTB

**Meeting Summary:**

This meeting was the second of two public meetings held in Jones County for the Butts, Jones, and Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study. The purpose of this meeting was to present the study findings to date and to present and gather feedback on the preliminary recommendations for addressing Jones County transportation issues through the year 2035.

Kelly Gwin, GDOT Project Manager, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. She introduced the project team and began a PowerPoint Presentation providing an overview of the transportation study and process. She explained to the public meeting attendees that the reason for the plan is to ensure that each County is able to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents and businesses and make sure transportation priorities match community priorities. The study will develop a listing of prioritized transportation projects that coordinate with other planning efforts which will allow for early identification of funding issues and opportunities.

She then provided an update of the study's efforts so far. The HNTB team has documented the comments from the first round of study advisory group and public meetings. HNTB has evaluated the existing and future conditions, developed preliminary improvement recommendations, and developed a prioritization strategy. Work has begun on the development of transportation plan documentation.

Ms. Gwin reviewed the process for identifying deficiencies and developing preliminary improvements. The HNTB team developed a 3-County Travel Demand Model with a baseline, no-build condition in 2006 that used Census data, traffic counts, employment information from the Department of Labor, School enrollment, and socioeconomic forecasts for 2015 and 2035, which were allocated by the County's local knowledge about expected growth in population and employment. Using this data, the HNTB team completed an initial screening of improvements against evaluation criteria. The Travel Demand Model results for 2006, 2015, and 2035 and potential transportation improvements projects for Jones County and for 3-county regional project were on display boards at the meeting.

Following the presentation, Ms. Gwin asked if there were any questions from the audience. She stated that the list of potential projects is preliminary and welcomed comments about the recommendations and suggestions for modifications to the current list or for additional projects to address the transportation needs. Comment cards were available for the public to fill out and return at the meeting or to fax or mail later. Ms. Gwin stated that the study would be concluding in the summer of 2008.

Several comments were made regarding the Gray Bypass. There was both opposition to and support for the bypass. Issues concerning the bypass were cost, traffic and environmental impacts, and impact to property owners along the route. Potential positive aspects included potential removal of truck traffic in historical, downtown Gray and increased safety in this area as well.

A request was made to pave Five Points Road and Fire Tower Road. It was explained that these roads are local and local funds would need to be identified to pave these roads.

The meeting then moved to an open house format. Project staff made themselves available at the boards for one-on-one conversations about the potential projects and to answer any questions that the meeting attendees had.



Butts Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study  
Jones County  
Public Meeting # 2 - May 8, 2008  
**SIGN-IN SHEET**  
Please Print



Name	Company and/or Address	Phone	E-Mail
Babe R. Parker	164 Eatonton Hwy.	478-9863880	
JAMES Nobles	157 Eatonton Highway, Gray	31032	404-358 <sup>5</sup>
Greg Kimball	835 Greene Settlement Rd	Gray	31032 5125
Daniel Clark	276 Five Points Rd.	Gray	31032 (478) 986-4915
Connie + LARRY Smith	322 FIVE POINTS Rd.	Gray	31032 478 986-0292
Yvonne Bonds	PO Box 834	Gray	31032 986-1012
Phil Clark	MGRPC 175-Corley Hwy	Macon	31217 751-6160
Debbie Surie-Smith	P.O. Box 1538 Gray	986-3929	debsmith@jcnews.com
Paul Bonds Jr	PO box 834 Gray		31032 986-1012
Kevin & Jenny Reynolds	PO Box 2152 Gray		jennylou12@yahoo.com



## APPENDIX D

# MEDIA COVERAGE AND PUBLIC COMMENT FORMS



## **Transportation study workshop tonight in Gray**

**By Chuck Thompson - [cthompson@macontel.com](mailto:cthompson@macontel.com)**

### **GRAY --**

The Georgia Department of Transportation will hold a public involvement workshop this evening to collect information for a study it is performing to identify transportation needs through 2035 in Jones, Monroe and Butts counties.

The meeting is set for 5-7 p.m. at the Jones County Government Center, 166 Industrial Blvd., off of Ga. 11 in Gray. Another similar workshop is scheduled for 5 p.m. Nov. 1 at the Monroe County Clubhouse in Forsyth.

During the meetings, DOT and Jones County officials will discuss the purpose of the study and schedule, summarize existing transportation conditions and seek public input about the existing and future transportation system.

For more information or to be added to the project mailing list, contact Kelly Gwin of the DOT at (404) 651-5330 or [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us).

## **MACON TELEGRAPH**

### **DOT outlines proposed Jones road projects**

**By Chuck Thompson - [cthompson@macon.com](mailto:cthompson@macon.com)**

About 20 people attended a workshop Tuesday evening where the Georgia Department of Transportation and its consultant group outlined a study they are conducting to identify transportation needs in Jones County through 2035.

Claudia Bilotto of HNTB, the company preparing the study, and Kelly Gwin, who is the DOT's point person on the project, said they began collecting information for the study in June by meeting with county officials and other stakeholders to see what they thought Jones County's transportation needs would be during the next 28 years.

Tuesday's meeting at the Jones County Government Center was to gather public input from residents.

Bilotto said that the study also includes Monroe and Butts counties, but that the needs of each also will be considered separately.

"They are combined because we are going to be calculating a travel-demand model, and those run better if you can group counties. But we'll also be looking at individual needs for each county and projects that will be confined to individual counties," Bilotto said.

A similar workshop was held last week in Butts County, and one for Monroe County is scheduled for 5 p.m. Nov. 1 at the Monroe County Clubhouse.

The study is needed to help county and city governments identify transportation needs, to be sure transportation priorities meet community priorities, develop prioritized lists of potential projects, coordinate planning efforts of projects and begin to identify funding issues and opportunities, Bilotto and Gwin said.

They had several maps already prepared. One shows road projects already planned, such as the bypass around Gray and widening or improvement projects on U.S. 129 north of Gray, Ga. 49, Ga. 22, Ga. 18 and Ga. 11. Another map included proposed bicycle or pedestrian trails in downtown Gray, along Ga. 11 and Round Oak-Juliette Road, another along Cumslo Road and the Jones County portion of a rails-to-trails project from east Macon to Milledgeville. Others showed proposed bridge improvements, high accident areas that could be made safer and freight corridors.

Jones County Administrator Mike Underwood said county officials see the study as a way to get road projects they want on the DOT's radar so they will be included in future plans.

"Including these things in the study won't automatically mean they'll be done, but it does give us something to use when it comes time to apply for federal or state grants so we can say a certain project is something we've been planning for a while," he said.

Gwin said other projects could be added later even if they aren't identified in the study.

"It isn't a case that if it isn't included it won't be done before 2035. This is just a planning tool to get people to think about what may be needed," she said.

Bilotto said her group will continue to collect information and perform future traffic and population calculations, then hold another series of meetings in February and March with county officials and the public. Then it will complete the study, hopefully having it ready by June 2008.

Those attending Tuesday's meetings only offered a few suggestions not already made by the county officials. Among them were to replace the traffic lights and possibly add turning lanes at the railroad crossing in downtown Gray where U.S. 129, Ga. 11, Ga. 22 and Ga. 18 all intersect, to add more passing lanes on U.S. 129 north of Gray, and to pave Oliver Greene and Five Points roads to improve traffic flow west of Gray.

Those unable to attend the meeting can send suggestions to Gwin by e-mail at [kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us](mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us) or to Bilotto at [cbilotto@hntb.com](mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com). More information on the study is available on the DOT's Web site at [www.dot.state.ga.us](http://www.dot.state.ga.us) by clicking on the plans and programs bar on the left side of the screen.

**COMMENT ON THIS STORY AT MACON.COM.**

## Transportation Issues & Needs

- A. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns in your County?

1. FRONTAGE ROADS ON I-75

2. RAILROAD OVERPASS

3. NARROW ROADS 42 + 36

- B. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

BYPASS - Southern

BYPASS - Northern

- C. What do you think is the relationship between transportation and land use in the Study Area?

TRANSPORTATION ~~drives~~ how land is used  
should drive

- D. Given this is a Plan that discusses short-range and long-range transportation issues, what is the best way to reach out to citizens and community groups to involve them in the Transportation Study?

Encourage the legislature to put all of Butts County in one legislative district - State + Fed

- E. What funding sources should be used to pay for future transportation improvements in the Study Area? Which sources should not be used?

GASOLINE TAX + Toll Fees

- F. If you could share one major message with the Project Team, what would it be?

Build before development  
ROADS

- G. How engaged do you think Study Area residents want to be in discussing transportation and land use issues and the Transportation Study?

I want to be more involved

- H. What do you see as the transportation "Hot Spot" in the study area?

Intersection of 36 + 16



**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Public Workshop #1 - **Butts County**  
 October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - 6:00PM to 8:00PM

**Thank** you for attending **this Public** Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe **Counties Transportation Study**. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your **input** and recommendations regarding transportation issues **and** opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a **few minutes** to complete this **form**.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Butts County?

- 1) *For occupation advancement of poverty level residence - there is a great need.*
- 2) *Affordable transportation for individuals.*
- 3) *Academic studies that will cause residence to commute from GTC in Jackson to another location - due to lack of transportation.*

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Butts County?

*That the County residence that are below poverty will have accept employment only in the Counties of Butts, Monroe, + Jones. This population will benefit from transportation access connection to Spalding + Henry Counties where industry is growing the most.*

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes  No *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

*I*

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: *Sandra Reid*

Address: *461 S. Harkness Street*  
*Jackson, GA 30233*

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
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COMMENT SHEET

Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study

Public Workshop #1 - Butts County
October 16th, 2007 - 6:00PM to 8:00PM

Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Butts County?

- 1) Emergency vehicle access to roads that have no access to a main road
2) Without crossing a train track. Trains often stop and block the railroad crossings.
3) Cork Road: No access to a road without crossing railroad track & the road also has a bridge that has been closed - would like to see re-opened

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Butts County?

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio Newspaper Signs Word of Mouth Newsletter Other, Please Specify Steven Lease & Kristi Butts County

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: Ronnie Duffey 678-300-6170 / Kim Duffey 678-300-6172
Address: Cork Road - Flouilla Thank you for your help!!

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Table with 2 columns: Georgia Department of Transportation contact info and HNTB contact info.





**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Public Workshop #1 - Butts County  
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1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Butts County?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Butts County?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio    Newspaper    Signs    Word of Mouth    Newsletter    Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes    No   *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name: J. m HERBERT Butts Co PARKS + RECREATION

Address: SEE BACK →

**Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:**

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
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① Existing Bike Routes not all shown on current maps.

I will email to Mary a comprehensive map.

② SEVERAL SIDEWALK NEEDS ARE CRITICAL for safety reasons as well as quality of life

CANNOT WALK TO ANY SCHOOL EXCEPT JACKSON

I will email my ~~own~~ personal "critical" list.

Etc.  
AND it's BEING MOVED!

③ IF FEASIBLE FOR THIS STUDY COULD THE Ocmulgee RIVER BE CONSIDERED AS AN ALTERNATE MEANS TRANSPORTATION?

WE HAVE IDENTIFIED CANOE PATHWAY.

PLUS RIVER CONNECTS ALL 3 COUNTIES

PLUS POTENTIAL TIE-IN TO MACON RIVERWALK AND FUTURE EXPANSION TO WARNER ROBINS

④ THANK YOU!



**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Public Workshop #1 - Jones County  
 October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 - 5:00PM to 7:00PM

Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Jones County?

- 1) By Pass Around Grap
- 2) US 129 (St Rt 44) Improvements
- 3)  Hwy 22 to Baldwin Co

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

US 129 (St Rt 44)

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Jones County?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes  No *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jimmy Roberts

Address: Box 635 - Grap Ga 31032

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
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Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Jones County?

- 1) Ac Allowing smart growth
- 2) Keeping connectivity/developing
- 3) preserving quality of life.

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

Haddock - Hwy 22 - between Milledgeville and Gray -  
Developing Haddock as preserved area when  
connecting two areas.

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Jones County?

Developing bike - pedestrian that connect transportation  
destinations not lanes to nowhere.

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes  No *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Keep advertising in the calendar section of the JC News

Name: Joe Meltzer joe.meltzer@gmail.com.

Address: Haddock 478 451 9675

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
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**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Public Workshop #1 - Jones County  
 October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 - 5:00PM to 7:00PM

Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Jones County?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Jones County?

Check Oliver Greene Rd.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio    Newspaper    Signs    Word of Mouth    Newsletter    Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes    No   *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

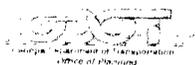
\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Joseph Wood, Jr.

Address: P.O. Box 279 Gray, Ga. 31032

**Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:**

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
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**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Public Workshop #1 - Jones County  
 October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 - 5:00PM to 7:00PM

Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

**1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Jones County?**

- 1) The Congestion in Gray is Dangerous.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?**

Desperately need to pave Five Points Rd to be a Connector from Hwy-11 - Wayside, to Hwy 18 Jewell Plantation.

**3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Jones County?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**4. How did you hear about this meeting?**

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?**

Yes  No *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*  
6:00 would have been better to get from work in Macon

**6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.**

I just saw the item for this meeting today, in the Macon Telegraph.

Name: Connie G. Smith

Address: 322 Five Points Rd, Gray 31032

**Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:**

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a>	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a>
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SFE BACK

COMMENT SHEET
Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study
Public Workshop #1 - Monroe County
November 1st, 2007 - 5:00PM to 7:00PM

Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Monroe County?

- 1) 41/50 main / Rumble
2) Project M2 does not need to be done - there are higher priorities for expenditure of \$
3) higher priorities for expenditure of \$

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

US41 lots of accidents Rock Quarry to Bowlingbrook near Wadley Road

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Monroe County?

Bicycling on US 41 is dangerous - but cyclists should ride somewhere else instead of using \$ to improve this route

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio Newspaper Signs Word of Mouth Newsletter Other, Please Specify

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

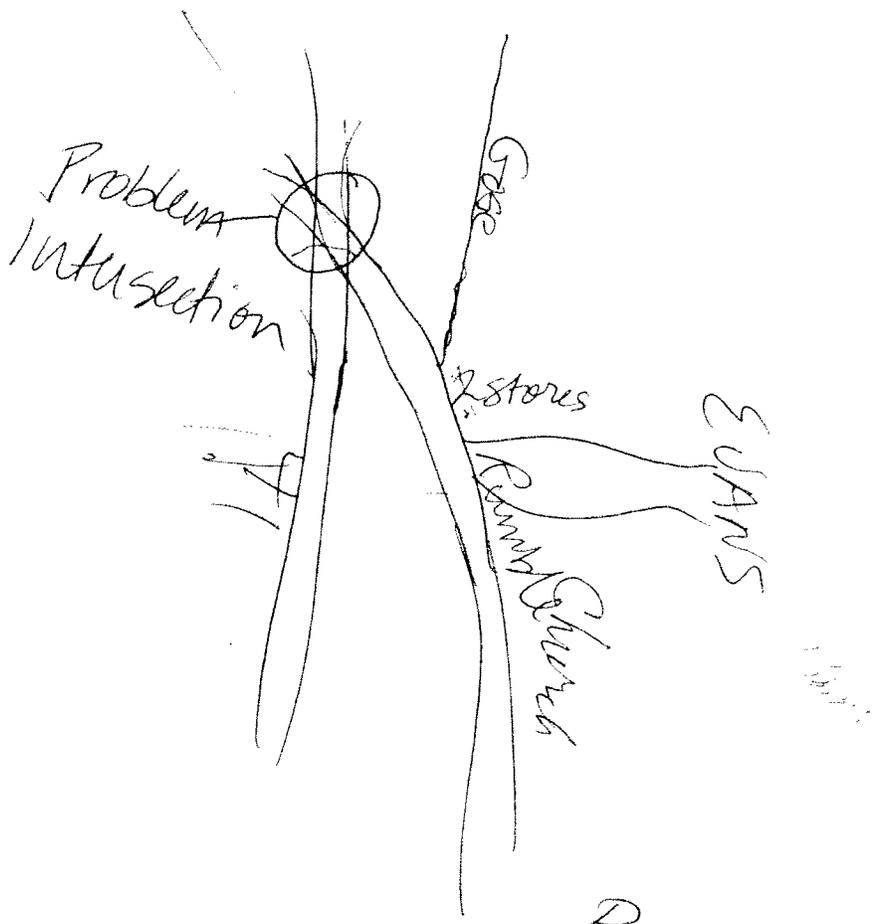
Name:

Address:

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Table with 2 columns: Georgia Department of Transportation (Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin) and HNTB (Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP). Includes contact information like phone, fax, and email for both.





Proposed solution:  
Extend Evans to  
connect directly  
to US41



**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study**  
 Public Workshop #1 - Monroe County  
 November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 - 5:00PM to 7:00PM

Thank you for attending this Public Workshop to assist with development of the Butts, Jones and Monroe Counties Transportation Study. The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Monroe County?

- 1) 41 Trucks (over) / Cong - Narrow Rd - Visibility
- 2) 83 - Road - Blind spots - Passing lanes
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

- 41 & Safety
- 83

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Monroe County?

congestion in Forsyth - Trucks

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio
- Newspaper
- Signs
- Word of Mouth
- Newsletter
- Other, Please Specify Monroe Co. PC

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes
- No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

More Attendance - More Publicity?

Name: Hal Caywood

Address: 110 Winters' Ct  
Macon, GA 31210

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin 2 Capitol Square Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 Email: kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us	HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5700 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: cbilotto@hntb.com
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**1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Monroe County?**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?**

railroad access to atlanta from Albany - monroe - Savannah

**3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Monroe County?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**4. How did you hear about this meeting?**

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?**

- Yes  No *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

**6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.**

Hand-out scratch sheet with names + contact numbers

Name: George Mc Ginty

Address: P.O. Box - 6 - Fort Valley 31030

**Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:**

<p>Georgia Department of Transportation          Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin          2 Capitol Square          Atlanta, Georgia 30334          Phone: (404) 651-5330          Fax: (404) 657-5228          Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a></p>	<p>HNTB          Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP          3715 Northside Parkway          400 Northcreek, Suite 600          Atlanta, GA, 30327          Phone: (404) 946-5700          Fax: (404) 841-2820          E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a></p>
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1. What do you see as the three greatest transportation issues or concerns for Monroe County?

- 1) GA Dept of Corrections move to former Tift College Campus
- 2) River Forest development @ exit 193 (resident/construction traffic)
- 3) Commercial traffic thru downtown Forsyth.

2. What transportation corridors are of most interest to you in terms of the Transportation Study?

Highways bounding TIFT College Area.  
 Hwy 1415 & GA 87 E.

3. Do you have any other transportation concerns in Monroe County?

Cycling paths/trails

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

5. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes  No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

Possibly Monroe Co. BOE Auditorium.

6. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: Dill Trigg

Address: 118 Coniker Dr, Forsyth 31068  
WHTrigg@BellSouth.net

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

<p>Georgia Department of Transportation          Attention: Ms. Kelly Gwin          2 Capitol Square          Atlanta, Georgia 30334          Phone: (404) 651-5330          Fax: (404) 657-5228          Email: <a href="mailto:kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us">kelly.gwin@dot.state.ga.us</a></p>	<p>HNTB          Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP          3715 Northside Parkway          400 Northcreek, Suite 600          Atlanta, GA, 30327          Phone: (404) 946-5700          Fax: (404) 841-2820          E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a></p>
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COMMENT SHEET  
Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
Public Meeting #2

The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

What County do you live in?

Butts  Jones  Monroe  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

1. What existing transportation problems in your County were not addressed as part of this study?  
\_\_\_\_\_

For the next two questions (#2 and #3), please use the Potential Improvements board or visit the study's webpage: <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/studies/Pages/ButtsJonesMonroe.aspx> for a copy of the maps.

2. What do you see as the top three multi-modal transportation improvement priorities for your County?

- 1) Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - By Pass
- 2) Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - low lanes of Hwy 23 to Locust Grove
- 3) Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which proposed recommendation should be implemented first?

Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_

4. Other Comments?

Indian Springs - Hwy 42 South - needs signage to slow down traffic in historic tourist area. A possible red light intersection of caution light - side walks

5. How did you hear about this meeting?

Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

6. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

Yes  No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

7. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: Sheri Hudson

Address: 114 Hickory Dr Jackson GA 30233

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

<p>Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Kelly Gwin Office of Planning, Room 326 2 Capitol Square SW Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 657-9330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:kgwin@dot.ga.gov">kgwin@dot.ga.gov</a></p>	<p>HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway NW 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5747 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a></p>
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HNTB



COMMENT SHEET

Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study  
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What County do you live in?

( Butts ( Jones ( Monroe ) ( Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

1. What existing transportation problems in your County were not addressed as part of this study?

Backup from Henry Co.

For the next two questions (#2 and #3), please use the Potential Improvements board or visit the study's webpage: <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/studies/Pages/ButtsJonesMonroe.aspx> for a copy of the maps.

2. What do you see as the top three multi-modal transportation improvement priorities for your County?

- 1) Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - Rapid Transit
- 2) Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which proposed recommendation should be implemented first?

Recommendation # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

4. Other Comments?

5. How did you hear about this meeting?

( Radio ( Newspaper ( Signs ( Word of Mouth ( Newsletter ( Other, Please Specify DOT

6. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

(Yes) ( No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

7. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: Sidney Jones

Address: 477 Harbour Shores Dr. 30233

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

<p>Georgia Department of Transportation Attention: Kelly Gwin Office of Planning, Room 326 2 Capitol Square SW Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: (404) 651-5330 Fax: (404) 657-5228 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:kgwin@dot.ga.gov">kgwin@dot.ga.gov</a></p>	<p>HNTB Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP 3715 Northside Parkway NW 400 Northcreek, Suite 600 Atlanta, GA, 30327 Phone: (404) 946-5747 Fax: (404) 841-2820 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cbilotto@hntb.com">cbilotto@hntb.com</a></p>
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( Butts ( Jones ( Monroe ) Other, Please Specify

1. What existing transportation problems in your County were not addressed as part of this study?

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2. What do you see as the top three multi-modal transportation improvement priorities for your County?

- 1) Recommendation #
2) Recommendation #
3) Recommendation #

3. Which proposed recommendation should be implemented first?

Recommendation #

4. Other Comments?

Gene info regarding sidewalks - road connecting Hwy 41 & GPSTC (Collier/Goodwin)

5. How did you hear about this meeting?

( Radio ( Newspaper ( Signs ( Word of Mouth ( Newsletter ( Other, Please Specify Chamber of Commerce

6. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

( Yes ) ( No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

7. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: Pam Bittick

Address: 327 Stokes Stone Rd., Forsyth 31027

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Table with 2 columns: Georgia Department of Transportation (Attention: Kelly Gwin) and HNTB (Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP)



COMMENT SHEET

Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study
Public Meeting #2

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What County do you live in?

( Butts ( Jones ( Monroe ) ( Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

1. What existing transportation problems in your County were not addressed as part of this study?

too many

For the next two questions (#2 and #3), please use the Potential Improvements board or visit the study's webpage: http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/studies/Pages/ButtsJonesMonroe.aspx for a copy of the maps.

2. What do you see as the top three multi-modal transportation improvement priorities for your County?

- 1) Recommendation # 1 - Bypass around Forsyth
2) Recommendation # 2 - Tilt (DOC) traffic
3) Recommendation # -

3. Which proposed recommendation should be implemented first?

Recommendation # 1 - Bypass around Forsyth

4. Other Comments?

5. How did you hear about this meeting?

( Radio ( Newspaper ( Signs ( Word of Mouth ( Newsletter ( Other, Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

6. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

( Yes ( No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

7. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Table with 2 columns: Georgia Department of Transportation contact info and HNTB contact info.



COMMENT SHEET

Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study
Public Meeting #2

The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

What County do you live in?

( Butts ( Jones ( Monroe ) ( Other, Please Specify

1. What existing transportation problems in your County were not addressed as part of this study?

For the next two questions (#2 and #3), please use the Potential Improvements board or visit the study's webpage: http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/studies/Pages/ButtsJonesMonroe.aspx for a copy of the maps.

2. What do you see as the top three multi-modal transportation improvement priorities for your County?

- 1) Recommendation # 1 - Reduce truck traffic in downtown Forsyth
2) Recommendation # -
3) Recommendation # -

3. Which proposed recommendation should be implemented first?

Recommendation # 1 -

4. Other Comments?

5. How did you hear about this meeting?

( Radio ( Newspaper ) ( Signs ( Word of Mouth ( Newsletter ( Other, Please Specify Chamber of Commerce

6. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

( Yes ) ( No If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.

7. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.

Name: HOWELL NEWTON

Address: P.O. Box 633 Forsyth GA. 31029

Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:

Table with 2 columns: Georgia Department of Transportation (Attention: Kelly Gwin) and HNTB (Attention: Claudia Bilotto, AICP). Includes contact info like phone, fax, and email.

**JAMES NOBLES LLC**

LAW FIRM

75 FIFTH STREET, NW

SUITE 332

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

U.S.A.

PHONE: 404-875-3600

FAX: 404-875-1500

**RECEIVED**

APR 15 2008

HNTB  
CORPORATION

April 14, 2008

Ms. Kelly Gwin  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
2 Capitol Square  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Re: Butts, Jones and Monroe  
Counties Transportation Study

Dear Ms. Gwin:

I am writing in response to your request for public input for the Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Transportation Study (the "Study"). While I commend the Georgia Department of Transportation ("DOT") for undertaking a systematic study of the very serious transportation issues facing these counties, I am concerned that any decisions that DOT makes with respect to the future transportation take into consideration the historic aspects of these communities. I am now writing to bring several aspects of the historic background of the City of Gray to your attention.

Gray began as a railroad town in 1886. Since its founding, it has had a long and proud history. As reflected in the two (2) articles I am enclosing, many of the historic structures associated with Gray and its development since 1886 are still standing (see, "History Notes", Jones County History and Heritage, Inc., Spring 2007), and "Gray: 1886 to Transition to County Seat", Jones County News (Thursday, July 5, 2007).

The future of Gray can not be separated from its past. Thus, it is imperative that all future transportation plans of DOT accommodate the history of Gray and Jones County.

Ms. Kelly Gwin  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
April 14, 2008  
Page 2

1. Gray-Eatonton Corridor (Highway 129) The Gray-Eatonton Highway (the "129 Corridor) reflects the historic background of Gray as a Middle Georgia cattle and railroad town. At 157 Eatonton Highway, there is the Cecil Roberts home, an excellent example Queen Anne Victoria home, constructed in 1895. This home site contains many of the original outbuildings. Also, the old pastures associated with the dairy farm Mr. Roberts operated on this home place continue to exist and provide valuable green space for the City of Gray.

Nearby is the home place of Rev. E.W. Sammons. This home is a classic Southern style home which has been renovated and provides a very good example of early 20th century architecture.

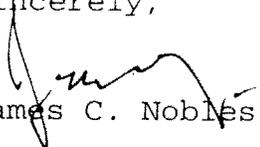
2. The "Gray By-Pass" (Highway 129) The construction and completion of the project known as the "Gray Bypass" is very important (from Macon-Gray Road to the Gray-Eatonton Road) because this new transportation corridor will relieve the traffic congestion that threatens the historic buildings in Gray. However, as the Gray By-Pass is constructed, it must be done in a manner so as to avoid further erosion of the "Historic Clinton" area of Jones County.

I would very much like to participate in any future public meetings and forums you may hold with respect to the Study. Should you have any questions, please contact me at either my office (404-875-3600) or on my cell phone (404-358-5125).

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

  
James C. Nobles, Jr.

JCN/sse

cc: Ms. Claudia Bilotto, AICP,  
HNTB Corporation

# HISTORY NOTES

Jones County History & Heritage, Inc.

Volume 4

Spring 2007

## About the Newsletter

This is newsletter #5 in the series on historic communities of Jones County, Georgia. The subject is the county seat of Gray, a proud participant in Georgia's Better Hometown program. This issue will cover Gray's history through 1920, with subsequent years addressed in a second issue.

Gray in its youth was a compact rural village with houses and businesses clustered around the railroad depot and crossing. The open fields surrounding it were planted in cotton, peaches, and other crops. Gray quickly established itself as a friend of progress and was designated county seat in the election of 1905, displacing Clinton.

Much of the early Gray has disappeared, replaced by the sprawl of strip malls, subdivisions, and highways with traffic lights, but enough remains to imagine what it must have been like. This newsletter is intended to help the reader discover the old in the new.

The editor wishes to thank the wonderful people listed on page 4 who so graciously have shared their newspaper clippings, pictures, and remembrances for this issue and the next one. And special thanks to Mary Anne Hamrick who got the ball rolling! ❖

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 Gray 1908-1920
- 4 Eula Pitts Morgan
- 4 Newsletter Sources

## History of Gray 1886-1920

### How Gray came to be

In 1886 the Covington and Macon Railroad Company began building a railroad from Macon to Covington (later Athens). The tracks passed through land owned by Congressman James Henderson Blount, and a depot (the present one) was built near his country home, which stood on the present site of 115 E. Clinton St. Blount (1837-1903) was a prominent lawyer, planter, and politician whose family were early settlers of Jones County. Most notably, he was a U.S. Representative for 20 years (1873-1893) and President Grover Cleveland's commissioner to investigate the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom by American revolutionaries in 1893.

An 1886 railroad survey calls the depot village *Blountston*. Exactly when this changed to Gray is unknown, but by January 1888, the masthead address of *The Headlight*, an early county newspaper, is Gray's *Station*. By April 1888, the name *Gray* appears.

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Jones County History & Heritage, Inc.  
 (JCHH)  
 PO Box 2605  
 Gray GA 31032

JCHH is a private, non-profit organization formed in 2002 to promote an appreciation of Jones County's historic resources and foster their preservation, restoration, and revitalization.

If you are not currently a member, we invite you to join us by sending a check payable to JCHH to the address above.

Membership levels are:

Individual	\$ 25.00
Family	\$ 35.00
Patron	\$ 75.00
Bronze	\$ 125.00
Silver	\$ 300.00
Gold	\$ 600.00
Platinum	\$1000.00

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Carol Krom	Newsletters

Publications: Carolyn White Williams' *History of Jones County, Georgia 1807-1907*, with a new index of names, is available for \$75 (or \$80 if shipped). Earl and Beth Colvin's *Fields of Stone: Cemeteries of Jones County, Georgia* is available for \$50 (or \$55 if shipped). Special bicentennial price of \$100 (or \$110 if shipped) for both through 2007. Send mail orders to the address above. Copies also may be purchased at the Jones County Chamber of Commerce in Gray, Georgia.

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Other gleanings from 1907 issues indicate houses  
owned by Dr. J.W. Anderson, L.C. Morton  
(lumberyard owner), C.R. Smith, Mrs. J.H. Moring,  
Richard Brown, and H.C. Souther (corner of Dolly  
Street and W. Clinton St.; house stood into the 1970s).

### **Gray prospers (1908-1920)**

A 1908 railroad survey map in the archives of the  
Georgia Historical Society in Savannah identifies  
various properties along the railroad. On the present  
Hwy 18 S were Dr. J.W. Anderson's lot, an African-  
American Church, the Gray Gin Mill Company, and  
a brick warehouse (must have been the new Planter's  
Warehouse). On the present Cumslo Rd were a  
railroad cattle chute, the depot, and Bush & Smith  
warehouse. On the present Atlanta Hwy business  
strip were Bush & Smith General Merchandise Store  
(acquired in 1915 by D.V. Childs) which included  
Ellis Bragg's beef market and C.W. Bragg's  
barbershop, the Bank of Gray, W.E. Morgan's  
General Merchandise Store and livery stable, C.R.  
Smith's store, and lots owned by T.C. Morton and  
W.E. Morgan. By 1909, the Gray Drugstore is  
advertising in the *News*.

In 1910, a much-needed hotel was built by F.H.  
Houser, a peach buyer from Fort Valley, to  
accommodate court session and other visitors. The  
hotel stood into the 1940s on the vacant lot to the left  
of 147 Madison Ave. Later Mrs. W.E. (Lovie)  
Morgan ran it with the help of her sister, Queenie  
Huff.

Around the corner from the hotel site is another  
early house at 111 Dolly Street. A c. 1910s sketch by  
Telamon Cuyler of the view from the front door of the  
courthouse shows this cottage facing Clinton Street (it  
was moved and turned when the highway was  
widened) along with several other similar cottages  
now destroyed. This sketch can be seen at

[www.georgiaencyclopedia.org](http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org).

The D.V. Childs house (134 E. Clinton St.) was built in 1914; it was the first house in Gray to have electricity (Delco generator). The houses opposite and to the side were built earlier. Early owners of these houses were the Mortons at #125, Clem Roberts at #130, and Sam Hungerford at #133.

The population continued to grow, and by 1917, a new 6-room brick schoolhouse and auditorium had been completed on the site of the previous school (Civic Center, 161 W. Clinton St.).

To take us to 1920, here are some newspaper items from the two preceding years. W.H. Mulligan moved into his new brick general merchandise store on the site of his former stand (store stood into the mid 1900s on the site of 127 W. Clinton). A new school truck is picking up children in the outlying area, and the attendance soon will reach 160. Several businesses related to autos and trucks are open: C.R. Bowen's auto shop, Everybody's auto shop, Dixie auto repair, Morgan's auto service (car rental), and the Gray Auto Company (Ford dealer). Chambliss Pharmacy is established, with A. C. Kitchen's barbershop in the same building. A 1919 ad for Bonner & Childs (later D.V. Childs' store) general merchandise says, "There will be money, lots of money, circulating from our wonderful peach crop in Jones so take this hint—come to our 'bargain store' and make your peach money buy your full value." Other stores belong to C.W. Bragg, C.S. Bryant, W.E. Morgan, Smith & Hudson, and Middlebrooks & Morgan. Bonner & Greene have an insurance agency, and Smith, Hudson & Bonner are ginners. ❖

### Eula Pitts Morgan

Mrs. Eula Morgan, Gray's oldest citizen (any other contenders?), will be 100 on New Year's Eve, but it's hard to believe! She is agile and active, warm and vibrant, and brimming with intelligence and curiosity. She cooks and keeps house, is a daily participant at the Senior Center, and a faithful member of St. Paul AME Church. She is much loved by her large family and numerous friends.

Miss Eula and a twin brother, the youngest of 15 children, were born to Gus and Frances Smith Pitts. The family lived on the old David Blount Place, later Bateman Farm, by the present government camp on Cumslo Road. Her parents were charter members of Turner Chapel AME (200 Dolly St), and her father, who was an ordained minister, was a steward there. She attended the school at Turner Chapel as well as Mrs.

Maggie Califf's one-room school (still standing) near St. Paul AME off Lite'N'Tie, just northeast of the intersection of Rt. 129 S.

After her marriage, Miss Eula lived for a time in the old Jacob Hutchings house that stood near here. Jacob Hutchings was the master stonemason responsible for much of the 19<sup>th</sup> century stonework in the county. A granite marker in his honor stands at the courthouse above the retaining wall granite that he originally had hewn to form the walls of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century jail in Clinton.

She and her late husband, Claude Morgan, were married for 57 years, and raised two sons, Carlton and Clyde Morgan, both deceased, and a foster daughter, Hazel Pitts. She has 5 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Before she married, Miss Eula cooked for Gray's physician, Dr. J. D. Zachary. Eventually, she began assisting him with deliveries and mother and baby care. She came by it naturally. Her grandmother, Frances Seabrook, had been a midwife, and Miss Eula had accompanied her on her rounds. Also, she was frequently called on to provide medical advice and assistance to members of her community.

She proved so adept that Dr. Zachary asked her to apply for a State midwife license in 1953. The county public health nurse, Mrs. Lillian Young, supervised her training for this. She worked with Dr. Zachary until his retirement, and after that, on her own for 3 years. Later, she provided private nursing to a number of families.

Miss Eula is an inspiration and one of the people who make Gray a Better Hometown! ❖

### Newsletter Sources

Thanks to the following for their contributions to this newsletter: *Marguerite Anderson, Bobby Bentley, Bill Bragg, Margaret Brisco, Elaine Childs, Marguerite Childs, Thad Childs, Patsy Childs, Kema Clark, Pat Daniels, Max Davis, Cecil Estbridge, Charles Farrar, Alice Golson, Mary Anne Hamrick, Danny Greene, the late Louise Kelley, Bert King, Harriet Madison, Eula Morgan, Berta Morton, Beebe Parker, Ruth Grier, Frank Stewart, Sally Wicker.*

### References

*Colvin, Earl and Beth. Fields of Stone: Cemeteries of Jones County, Georgia, Milledgeville GA. 2004.*  
*Williams, Carolyn White. History of Jones County Georgia. Macon GA, 1957.*

Websites and newspapers acknowledged in text.

# Gray: 1886 to transition to county seat

## How Gray came to be

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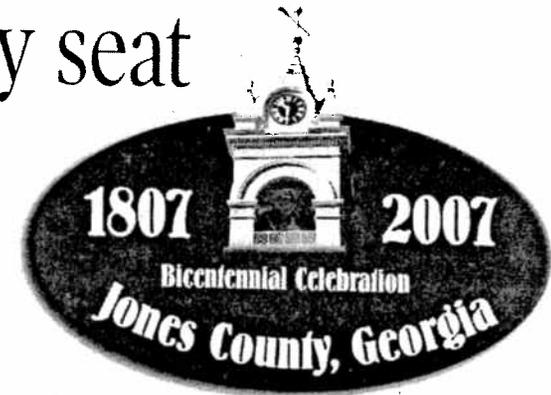
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**JAMES NOBLES LLC**

LAW FIRM

75 FIFTH STREET, NW

SUITE 332

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

U.S.A.

PHONE: 404-875-3600

FAX: 404-875-1500

May 19, 2008

Ms. Kelly Gwin  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
2 Capitol Square  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Re: Butts, Jones and Monroe  
Counties Transportation Study

Dear Ms. Gwin:

We appreciated the opportunity to attend the informational meeting conducted by GDOT and its contractor, HTNB. The meeting provided us with a better understanding of GDOT's long term plans for Jones, Butts and Monroe counties. I am now writing to provide some additional comments based on the charts and oral presentation at the meeting, as follows:

1. Historical Areas As I outlined in my letter to you of April 14, 2008, the historic background of Gray is vitally important to its citizens and to the fabric of everyday life in Gray. The citizens of Gray are proud of the historical aspects of their town.

I am concerned that your maps and charts did not appear to document and take into consideration the historic areas of Gray. It is my hope that your final report will fully document the historical aspects because, in the future, GDOT engineers and planners must take the historical areas into consideration as they plan changes to the roadways. Unless the historical areas are documented and highlighted at this early stage, they may ignored by planners in the future.

2. Pedestrian Access While your presentation addressed areas that are in need of new sidewalks, the materials did not document existing pedestrian patterns in Gray. In the City of Gray, pedestrian foot traffic is a major means of transportation for its citizens.

In fact, if you look closely at the pedestrian foot traffic, you will find that there are a significant number of households in Gray which do not own or lease an automobile or other vehicle. For these families, their primary means of transportation is by foot. These citizens are unlikely to own a vehicle in the foreseeable future due to the fact that they cannot drive, lack a driver's license and/or cannot afford a vehicle.

It is our strong belief that any transportation plan must respect these existing pedestrian transportation patterns (but which your study appears to not document). Therefore, for example, as GDOT studies a means by which the intersection of Highways 129, 18 and 22 in downtown Gray must be revised, GDOT must incorporate the existing pedestrian transportation patterns and the effect which GDOT's proposed revisions to that intersection will have upon pedestrians who must traverse it on a regular basis to access shopping, to visit friends and family and to attend church worship.

3. Truck Traffic We are very appreciative of GDOT's recognition that truck traffic must be removed from downtown Gray, and hope that the final report will strongly emphasize this point. As I pointed out in the meeting, this heavy truck traffic is fundamentally inconsistent with the historical and pedestrian nature of downtown Gray.

For example, the large trucks coming through Gray on their way to I-20 or I-16/I-75 are usually traveling at the speed limit or above because the trucking companies are under severe time constraints to quickly move their vehicles and loads. As a result, their goals and objectives of moving goods fast and quick are sometimes diametrically opposite of those of local citizens, including local businesses, pedestrians and homeowners. The fast travel, heavy traffic, loud noise and diesel fumes caused by these large trucks deteriorates the quality of

Ms. Kelly Gwin  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
May 19, 2008  
Page 3

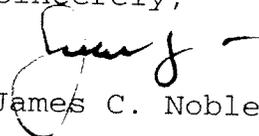
life in a small town such as Gray and adversely impacts the health and welfare of its citizens. Thus, we believe that your report should also address the adverse impacts of interstate truck transportation in the City of Gray.

Should you have any questions or wish to further discuss any of these issues, please contact me at either my office (404-875-3600) or on my cell phone (404-358-5125).

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to provide input into your report.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

  
James C. Nobles, Jr.

JCN/sse

cc: Ms. Claudia Bilotto, AICP,  
HNTB Corporation



**COMMENT SHEET**  
**Butts, Jones & Monroe Counties Multi-Modal Transportation Study**  
 Public Meeting #2

The Georgia Department of Transportation seeks your input and recommendations regarding transportation issues and opportunities throughout the study area. Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

What County do you live in?

- Butts  Jones  Monroe  Other, Please Specify part time

1. What existing transportation problems in your County were not addressed as part of this study?  
See Attached

For the next two questions (#2 and #3), please use the Potential Improvements board or visit the study's webpage: <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/studies/Pages/ButtsJonesMonroe.aspx> for a copy of the maps.

2. What do you see as the top three multi-modal transportation improvement priorities for your County?

- 1) Recommendation #      - Gray Bypass Completion ASAP  
 2) Recommendation #      - Pedestrian Traffic  
 3) Recommendation #      - Preserve historical aspects of community

3. Which proposed recommendation should be implemented first?

Recommendation #      - Gray Bypass

4. Other Comments?

See Attached

5. How did you hear about this meeting?

- Radio  Newspaper  Signs  Word of Mouth  Newsletter  Other, Please Specify Phone call from  
GDOT & HNTB

6. Was the time and location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

- Yes  No *If no, please suggest a time or general location that is more convenient to you.*

7. Please share your suggestions on improving the way public meetings are conducted as part of this project.  
See attached

Name: James C. Nobles, Jr.

Address: 157 Eatonton Highway, Gray, Georgia 31032

**Members of the Project Team can be contacted by calling or writing to the following:**

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