

WELCOME TO GEORGIA



FY 18 BEAUTIFICATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, connected, and environmentally sensitive transportation system that will enhance Georgia's economic competitiveness as well as build strong partnerships with local communities. There are over 17,000 miles of roadways in the State Route system, with rights of way that must be kept serviceable, safe and presentable to the traveling public. This is a challenging environment, often steeply sloping and exposed to intense sun and wind. These areas also serve as drainage ways, to keep water off of the travel lanes. Well established vegetation can help improve drainage conditions, control erosion, enhance water quality, and promote pride in Georgia by enhancement of the right of way.

To support these goals, the Beautification and Enhancement Program was created. This program will provide competitive opportunities for local governments to partner with GDOT in improving water quality, controlling erosion, and promoting pride in our state and in our local communities. Funds will be dedicated by the State Maintenance office for small enhancements that are visible to the traveling public and that create multiple benefits for the state rights of way. Long term commitments by local government partners to maintain the areas enhanced through the program will also help offset maintenance costs for the Department.



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Program Overview

The intent of the Beautification and Enhancement Program is to provide funds for small enhancements that are visible to the traveling public and that create multiple benefits for the state rights of way.

Timeline

- GDOT Board solicits local governments for proposals through 3/9/2018
- GDOT staff ranks proposals according to Project Rating Criteria by 5/11/2018 and presents to Board Members at May Board Meeting
- Final Selection by 6/20/2018
- Local Governments provide commitment to implement by 8/20/2018
- All projects must be underway/installed within twelve (12) months of the date the Special Encroachment Permit is approved.

Project Proposal and Selection Criteria

Local Governments (LGs) are asked to submit project proposals using the form provided through 3/9/2018. All submittals must be received by Close of Business (5:00 PM) on 3/9/2018. Proposed projects must be on the state route system and must solve 2 or more of the following issues on State Rights of Way: erosion problems; drainage problems; water quality problems; or wayfinding issues in the Right of Way. Local government sponsors MUST commit to long term maintenance for any project proposed. Projects should improve the aesthetic environment for the traveling public and should have public support. Additional consideration will be given to projects that demonstrate innovation and environmental sustainability.

Local Government (LG) responsibilities

Local governments must be in good standing in regards to receiving state funds. LGs must provide at least a 20% match; matching funds may cover preliminary engineering, public outreach, utilities, and right of way as well as construction. State funds will only be eligible for the construction phase.

LGs will be responsible for completion of fieldwork, plan preparation, bidding the project, construction oversight and inspection services. LGs are responsible for determining the appropriate level and timing of public outreach.

LGs will also be fully responsible for all clearance of environmental requirements, utility adjustments and right of way. LGs will be responsible for obtaining a Special Encroachment Permit and for any other permitting for the project. Application for a Special Encroachment Permit must be made to the DEPARTMENT District Office within ninety (90) days of notice of selection for the program.

LGs must make a maintenance commitment to the project, with such commitment written into Project Agreement. There must be a long term budget commitment for maintenance of improvements by LG Sponsor.

Eligible contract items

Eligible contract items include, but are not limited to Landscape Plantings for Beautification, Pollinator or other Wildflower Plantings, Green Infrastructure, Correction for Erosion Problems, Correction for Drainage Problems, Other Gateway Features (Welcome Signs, Public Sculpture, other artwork, flagpoles, etc.)

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Project Rating Criteria

Project Sponsor: _____

County: _____

District: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Date: _____

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (worth 20 points) Project Sponsor's concept is descriptive, easily understandable, and concise. The concept meets program goals.

- ___ (maximum 1 point) The concept briefly explains why this location was chosen for enhancement and describes the project's relevance to the community.
- ___ (maximum 5 points) The concept addresses how GDOT Policies and Regulations apply directly to this project site. Relevant documents include, but are not limited to: Policy 6755-9, Regulations for Driveway and Encroachment Control, GDOT Construction Specifications, and Drainage Design for Highways and all other GDOT Design Manuals.
- ___ (maximum 5 points) The narrative explains how the project sponsor will implement plan development and installation if awarded a grant.
- ___ (maximum 9 points, one for each item satisfied) The concept meets at least two of the following program goals:
 - Landscape Plantings for Beautification
 - Wildflower Plantings/Pollinator Plantings
 - Correction for Erosion Problems
 - Correction for Drainage Problems
 - Adding Infiltration/Improving Water Quality (Green Infrastructure)
 - Sidewalk Install/Repair (as part of a Gateway)
 - Welcome Signs, Flagpoles, etc. (as part of a Gateway)
 - Public Sculpture, other artwork (as part of a Gateway)
 - Local Funds Match exceeds 20%

The project sponsor MUST adequately explain HOW the proposed enhancement meets the program goals.

2. SITE ANALYSIS (worth 14 points)

- ___ (maximum 3 points) A location map is provided that clearly locates the project site in relation to nearby intersecting roads, major structures, landmarks, bodies of water, and any other identifying points. The map includes a north arrow. Boundaries of the project are clearly delineated.
- ___ (maximum 5 points) The 6 informative color photographs provide a good picture of existing conditions from several vantage points and are properly labeled.
- ___ (maximum 3 points) Existing site features such as guard rail, signs, utilities, or steep slopes that are clearly indicated using the text labels, a simple plan drawing, and/or a narrative.
- ___ (maximum 3 points) Existing vegetation that is to remain and that is to be removed is clearly indicated. Existing site features that are to remain or are to be removed are clearly indicated.

_____ **SUBTOTAL POINTS**

Project Rating Criteria

3. PRELIMINARY CONCEPT DRAWING (worth 30 points) The project sponsor has clearly indicated what the project entails with a simple plan drawing.

- ___ (maximum 10 points) The drawing indicates the intended locations of all project elements, including plants with their spacing and location. A typical cross section may be included in the application package if the project sponsor believes it will provide additional clarification.

- ___ (maximum 10 points) The plan is drawn to scale and includes the state route number, Right of Way limit, speed limit, utility locations, clear zones and sight distance requirements per GDOT Regulations for Driveway and Encroachment Control, horizontal clearance per policy 6755-9, a graphic scale, a north arrow.

- ___ (maximum 4 points) The plan lists the proposed plant material, including the botanical names of the plants. The plant list or schedule indicates estimated quantities.

- ___ (maximum 6 points) The plan emphasizes native trees and other native plant material where feasible and does not propose any invasive plant species. The plan emphasizes locally sourced materials where feasible.

4. COST ESTIMATE (worth 6 points)

- ___ (maximum 6 points) The cost estimate for initial installation appears to be realistic for the project as described and the project sponsor has an understanding of costs associated with the proposed project.

5. LONG TERM MAINTENANCE ACTION PLAN (worth 30 points) Project sponsor indicates a thorough understanding of the long term maintenance requirements and maintenance funding necessary for a successful project for this specific location and the proposed enhancements. **A budgetary commitment is REQUIRED. No points will be awarded for this section without a firm budget demonstrating commitment on the part of the project sponsor.**

- ___ (maximum 10 points) The action plan clarifies who will monitor the maintenance, who will perform the maintenance and how often maintenance activities will occur.

- ___ (maximum 8 points) The action plan addresses all maintenance needs for the specific project proposal such as, but not limited to, mowing, mulching, weed control, edging, future replacements, future repairs, watering, pruning, fertilizing, litter removal, etc.

- ___ (maximum 12 points) The action plan provides realistic, long term cost projections and funding source. There must be budget information included to satisfy this requirement.

_____ **TOTAL POINTS*** (out of 100)

Comments:

*minimum score of 80 points required for grant consideration

WELCOME TO GEORGIA PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPONSOR INFORMATION:

Government Sponsor	Sponsor Email Address	
Sponsor Contact/Title		Sponsor Phone Number
Sponsor Address	City	Zip Code

PROPOSED PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Title				
County	City	State Route	Milepost	GDOT District
Speed Limit	Congressional District for Project Location*			

PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

1. Attach a site location map and conceptual drawing, 11" x 17" maximum size.
2. Attach long-term maintenance plan. Maintenance plan must include budgetary commitment to fund maintenance to the standard described in long-term plan.
3. Describe the physical components of the project.

4. Describe how the project enhances Georgia rights of way. In addition to visual enhancement, how does the project provide benefits to the citizens and traveling public in the State of Georgia?

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COST ESTIMATE:

Task	Estimated/Actual Cost	
1. Preliminary Engineering	\$ _____	} <i>No.'s 1-3 must be locally funded, even if this cost exceeds 20%. The value of in-house work may be documented.</i>
2. Public Outreach	\$ _____	
3. Utilities (if applicable)	\$ _____	
4. Construction	\$ _____	} <i>GDOT will provide up to 80% of the total project cost to selected projects.</i>
Total Project Cost:		\$ _____

I understand and acknowledge that the following guidelines must be followed as it relates to this project:

- USDOT/FHWA A Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices – current edition
- GDOT Standard Specifications for Construction of Transportation Systems
- GDOT Sections 202, 700, and 702
- ANSI Z 60.1 American Standard for Nursery Stock – current edition
- GDOT Scenic Byway Program and Corridor Management Plan Guidelines and Requirements
- The Americans with Disabilities Act
- O.C.G.A. § 32-6-75.3. (e) (1) (3) (D)

Landscape Guidelines for application submittals shall follow the policy established for Landscaping on the DOT Right of Way (6755-9) and/or as established by the Landscape Architecture unit of Georgia Department of Transportation Maintenance.

This project must be completed by the grantee within twelve (12) months from the date the Special Encroachment Permit is approved. Failure to meet this deadline will subject these funds to reallocation.

The undersigned, herby certifies that all requirements of the program are understood, and that all information provided in this grant application is true and correct, and represents the desires of the local government entity where the project will be installed.

The undersigned shall be responsible for any and all damages to property or persons and shall save harmless the DEPARTMENT, its officers, agents, and employees from all suits, claims, actions or damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the negligence of the undersigned in the performance of work under this Grant Application.

The undersigned hereby indemnifies and hold harmless the DEPARTMENT, its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses arising out of the undersigned's negligent acts, errors or omissions in the performance of this Agreement.

These indemnities shall not be limited by reason of the listing of any insurance coverage.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____

WELCOME TO GEORGIA PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM



MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:

GDOT - Office of Maintenance
Landscape Architecture Unit
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree Street NW, 10th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

OR

Email pdf files to: landscape@dot.ga.gov