

Transportation Funding Act (TFA) of 2015

What Is the Transportation Funding Act of 2015?

In July 2015, Governor Deal signed into law the **Transportation Funding Act (TFA)** – dedicated transportation funding approved by the legislature to advance transportation and help make Georgia the #1 state for business investment.

This much-needed funding – an estimated \$830 million to \$1 billion in annual revenues offers Georgia DOT the opportunity to address critical infrastructure needs in routine and capital maintenance. Historically, Georgia DOT resurfaced 6-7 percent of the system annually which resulted in a 15-year resurfacing cycle. In 2014, only 2 percent of the system was resurfaced which meant that critical roads would be resurfaced every 50 years. Without the TFA, the Department anticipated resurfacing 1 percent of the system annually, putting major road resurfacing on a 100-year cycle.

Transportation Funding Plan

The **HB170/Transportation Funding Act of 2015 (TFA 2015)** affirmed the Legislative Joint Study Committee's recommendation that \$1 - \$1.5 B in new annual transportation infrastructure funding is needed to address the State's challenges. It is an excellent example of what so many other states are facing – it provides multiple options including the indexing of the excise tax and other fees to maintain a more dependable funding stream that will help counter the inflationary effects that could exist later. It also allows funding flexibility between state and federal funding. TFA 2015 is not a unique program to one area of the Department, but is spread across all programs.

Address Maintenance & Operations Needs

Georgia DOT has prioritized the backlog of transportation needs for this additional funding; primary focus areas will include maintenance and operations:

- Increased routine maintenance (pothole repair, grass mowing, litter pick-up, striping, guardrail repair and other preventative maintenance.)
- Increased resurfacing of state routes and Interstates
- More bridge replacements and improved bridge maintenance
- Increased safety and operational improvement projects
- Increased Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) funds

The additional state funding allows the Department the ability to move federal funding to less complex projects; allowing projects to be potentially delivered faster and cheaper.