

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

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FROM Meg Pirkle, P.E., Chief Engineer
TO Program Delivery, IPD, TIA, Engineering, Operations, Construction, and Field Districts
SUBJECT **State-Funded PDP Process**

The passage of the Transportation Funding Act of 2015 allows for a large increase in the number of wholly state funded projects within the state construction work program. The Georgia Department of Transportation will deliver these projects using a streamlined delivery process (State Process), that will ensure a shorter project delivery time than is normally achieved using the Federal Process.

This streamlined process is outlined in a new **Chapter 10, State-Funded Projects**, of the GDOT Plan Development Process (PDP) Manual and can be found at the following web address <http://www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/DesignManuals/PDP/PDP.pdf>. Chapter 10 outlines project development procedures that differ from the "Federal Process" defined in Chapters 5 through 9. This process applies to projects where the project environmental document is prepared to comply with the [Georgia Environmental Policy Act of 1991 \(GEPA\)](#). The State Process essentially includes the same major steps as the Federal Process, but with significant flexibility in timing for the start and ending of individual steps. The State Process can also be applied to projects which include local funds.

Effective immediately, all projects with future unauthorized phases funded solely by state/local funds should utilize all applicable time-saving procedures afforded by the State Process. It is important to note that the sequence of activities will likely vary project by project as determined by the Project Manager based on acceptable levels of risk. For example, projects with well-developed plans and low risk of change may proceed into right of way acquisition prior to GEPA approval if needed.

A decision to move forward with a project in accordance with the State Process and subsequent advancement will require that the project continue with state funding until completion. Projects that follow the State Process will not, thereafter, be eligible to use federal funds. Projects needing a future federal authorization will continue to follow the Federal Process.

This is an exciting opportunity to accelerate delivery of transportation projects in Georgia! Please use every available flexibility to the fullest extent possible to achieve success. Should you have any questions about this process, please contact Glenn Bowman, Director of Engineering, at (404) 631-1519 or gbowman@dot.ga.gov.

MP:GSB:BAS:dgp

cc: Commissioner Russell McMurry, Mike Dover, GDOT "Manuals & Guides" webpage, ACEC