



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Press Release

For Immediate Release:
April 13, 2011

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LOCAL LEADERS ANNOUNCE FUNDING FOR CALHOUN STREETScape PROJECT

ROME – State Representative John Meadows (R-Calhoun), and State Transportation Board member David Doss today announced that the City of Calhoun will receive \$400,000 in Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding for phase four of the Calhoun Streetscape project.

Phase four will provide sidewalk improvements along the east and west sides of South Wall Street from the intersection of South Wall Street and Hicks Street south to the intersection of South Wall Street and Piedmont Street. These improvements will include new sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian scale lighting, and plant materials (primarily street trees with some accent shrubs). The design standards used in the previous phases of this project will be following in phase four, as well.

“This project will not only provide aesthetic value to our community, it will improve pedestrian safety between the historic downtown district and the commercial area to the south,” said Rep. Meadows. “I am very pleased that we have been able to attain the funding to complete the final phase of this project.”

The TE program is federally funded and was originally established in 1991 by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). The program was continued by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005. The Georgia DOT’s Office of Program Delivery manages the TE program in Georgia.

“This project is a great example of how the TE program works to enrich the lives of Georgians,” Doss said. “Residents of Calhoun will enjoy a safer and more pedestrian friendly community where it is pleasant to live and work. Rep. Meadows was a key advocate in securing TE funds for this project, and was fully supported in this effort by Representative Rick Jasperse. I am proud that Georgia DOT could make it a reality.”

Projects funded by the TE program include multi-use facilities such as walking and biking trails and paths; streetscaping and landscaping projects in cities and towns; historic preservation of transportation-related facilities like railroad depots; and scenic preservation of views and scenic byways. Up to 80 percent of the funds being used for these projects have been provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), with the local government funding the remainder of the total project cost. The local government project sponsor is responsible for implementing the TE project and obtaining federal reimbursement from Georgia DOT.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is governed by the State Transportation Board. Its 13 members, representing each of the state’s congressional districts, exercise general control and supervision of the Department. Each member serves a five-

year term and the terms are staggered. Board members are elected by the state representatives and senators whose legislative districts fall within all or part of the congressional district.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).

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