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Augusta Welcome Center reopening March 15

AUGUSTA— The Augusta Welcome Center will reopen to the public Tuesday, March 15 after several months of renovations. After Masters Week, contractors will return to complete some HVAC replacement, which won't affect citizen access.

The welcome center, located off Interstate 20 westbound, shut down in November 2015 to undergo an \$871,000 remodel/retrofit. The 15,000-square foot facility first opened in 1997.

Improvements to this facility together with other statewide welcome centers and rest areas is funded by advertising revenue collected by the State Transportation Board's interstate exit sign Logo Program. There isn't any taxpayer money involved in these projects.

Items included in the upgrades are: new signage; car and truck parking lot repairs and striping; landscaping; built and replaced a demolished restroom with a pavilion; demolished rear of building to increase size and restroom number; replaced HVAC (chiller system); installed new plumbing fixtures with automatic flush valves and motion sensors; updated fire alarm system; replaced wall switches with occupancy sensors and all light fixtures with LEDs; repaired/replaced drywall as necessary and painted the entire building.

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