



For Immediate Release:
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SHIFT THURSDAY ON BARBER CREEK DRIVE

Watkinsville, Ga. – Georgia DOT announces traffic on Barber Creek Drive will shift to temporary asphalt Thursday, if weather allows.

“This work moves traffic so crews can extend the culvert to allow the creek to run under the roadway. Please slow down, follow the signs and barrels as everyone gets used to this change. Other work continues on the project; crews are grading, paving, installing new drainage pipes and new utility lines along the project,” explained Harold Mull, Georgia DOT District Construction Engineer.

The project will widen Mars Hill Road/Oconee Connector from State Route 316 to State Route 53/Hog Mountain Road improving mobility locally in Watkinsville and for the region in to and out of Clarke County. The new road will have four lanes that are 12 feet wide with a 20 feet wide grassy median. It will also have bike lanes and a sidewalk in each direction. As part of the project, a new bridge will be built over Barber Creek, replacing the existing bridge was built in 1944.

G.P.’s Enterprises of Auburn, Georgia is the Project’s Contractor. The contract completion date for this 3.299 mile long project is May 26, 2018 - 56 days were added to the overall completion date because of the delay in issuing the notice to proceed to the Contractor. The contract cost is \$26.3 million.

If you would like to receive email updates on the project please call Teri Pope at 770-718-3924 or email her at tpope@dot.ga.gov

***DriveAlert ArriveAlive** calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit www.dot.ga.gov or on **Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE>) and **Twitter** (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNE>).*

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