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Georgia DOT Launches Centennial Kick-Off *Department Celebrates a Century of Safety, Service and Innovation*

ATLANTA – Georgia Department of Transportation today officially kicked-off the Department’s Centennial observance with an event held at the main office in Atlanta. The program, with remarks by State Transportation Board Chairman Emily Dunn and Georgia DOT Commissioner Russell McMurry, showcased the history of Georgia DOT with exhibits, videos, maps and artifacts.

Earlier in the day, Governor Nathan Deal signed a proclamation declaring 2016 as Georgia Department of Transportation’s Centennial Year and recognizing Georgia DOT for constructing, maintaining and operating a transportation system that has increased mobility; enhanced quality of life; and provided economic growth that continues to make Georgia the number 1 state for business.

It was 100 years ago - on August 16, 1916 – that the seeds were planted for what would grow into the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Chairman Dunn congratulated the State Transportation Board, department leadership and the employees of Georgia DOT.

“To reach this 100 year milestone took the tireless efforts of many people ... those with vision, those with passion, those who took a stand,” Dunn said. “Georgia DOT thrives today and is set to do great things in the future.”

Commissioner McMurry said that Georgia DOT is proud of its legacy of employees striving to provide the best possible transportation system for Georgia’s citizens. He also contemplated the future.

“While a centennial is a time to reflect on the past, it is also a time to look ahead to new challenges,” he said. “Drones, connected vehicles, self-driving cars - these are just a few of the evolving technologies that will have a tremendous impact on transportation in the not-too-distant future. In the next century, Georgia DOT will continue to embrace change and rise to meet new challenges, break new barriers and positively impact more lives.”

The public is invited to visit the Centennial exhibit at GDOT headquarters in Atlanta (600 West Peachtree Street, 4th floor) April 20-22. Statewide events and exhibits are also planned throughout the year.

PRESS RELEASE

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For everything you want to know about the centennial, visit www.dot.ga.gov/centennial. There you'll find an event calendar, decade-by-decade timeline, historical items, videos and more. You can even take a Centennial Road Trip. #GDOT100

2016 is Georgia DOT's Centennial. GDOT's work over the last century - its focus on maintenance; planning and constructing congestion relief projects; and ensuring the safety of the traveling public - has led to a treasured quality of life for residents and has contributed to the incredible economic development of the Peach State. Start your Centennial journey [HERE](#) or visit GDOT's Centennial webpage at www.dot.ga.gov/centennial.

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