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Design-Build-Finance Contract Underway on Massive I-285/SR400 Interchange Makeover

Final design work starts today on this major mobility project

ATLANTA – April 11, 2016 – The Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) issued the official Notice to Proceed to North Perimeter Contractors (NPC) today for aspects of work related to the I-285/SR 400 Improvement project. On April 8, 2016, full financial close was reached between the developers, Georgia DOT and the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA), which completes the final step in bringing this important project to fruition. Total project cost including right of way acquisition, preliminary engineering, conceptual designs, environmental studies, and other costs is approximately \$800 million.

The North Perimeter Contractor's team includes Ferrovial Agroman US Corp., The Louis Berger Group and Neel-Schaffer, Inc. The notice to proceed issued today allows final design work, final right of way, scheduling and community outreach to begin. Groundbreaking for heavy construction activities is anticipated later this year.

Georgia DOT Commissioner Russell McMurry said, "This interchange is one of the busiest and most critical ones in the metro area. The improvements we are making as part of this project will improve mobility of motorists and goods through our region. I'm very proud of our Georgia DOT team and our partners that we are now able to start delivering results on our commitment to find transportation solutions for this vital economic center of Atlanta. I'm very excited for the innovative approach to deliver this project where the private sector designs, builds, and finances the construction of the project. This innovation has already yielded a significant reduction in cost to the taxpayers. The improved mobility at this interchange, coupled with improved safety of the motorist, will have a positive impact for the region."

Over 420,000 vehicles travel through this corridor every day. Located at the nexus of two vital freeways and a MARTA rail line, this interchange serves one of the region's largest employment areas at Perimeter Center and is a major connection for the freight distribution of goods throughout Georgia. The I-285/SR 400 Interchange Improvement project will provide enhancements to these roadways that improve safety and facilitate better traffic flow to accommodate the high volume of travelers passing through it each day.

Overview of Improvements:

- Along I-285, approximately 4-miles of improvements beginning 1-mile west of Roswell Road and ending just east of Ashford Dunwoody Road
- Along SR 400, the project will construct about 5-miles of improvements from just south of the Glenridge Connector north to the Spalding Drive area
- Construction of barrier-separated collector-distributor (CD) lanes along I-285 and SR 400 to help reduce weaving, merging, and accelerating/decelerating conflict
- Reconstruction of the Abernathy Road interchange
- Replacement of the bridge at Mount Vernon Road
- Reconstruction of existing ramps and bridges in the interchange area
- New flyover bridges
- New connections to I-285 and existing interchanges

"We applaud the innovation and leadership of Commissioner McMurtry and his team at Georgia DOT. This new Design-Build-Finance model for constructing the I-285/SR 400 interchange, as well as related miles of collector/distributor lanes, is bringing this major capital investment project to Georgia at a very competitive cost," said Yvonne Williams, CEO and President of the Perimeter Community Improvement Districts.

Developer work on the I-285/SR 400 project begins today with field surveys, and the overall work will continue for approximately four years, with project completion anticipated in mid-2020. In partnership with the Perimeter Community Improvement Districts (PCIDs), the City of Sandy Springs, the City of Dunwoody and the PATH Foundation, the Georgia DOT is getting the word out to the community about the project, construction impacts and travel alternatives to use during this time. This outreach effort is also supported by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA), Georgia Commute Options (GCO), the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), and the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA).

Ongoing project details are available at
<http://www.dot.ga.gov/BuildSmart/Projects/Pages/I285SR400.aspx>.

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