



For Immediate Release:
Monday, June 23, 2014

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GEORGIA DOT AWARDS FIVE 2014 METRO GATEway GRANTS *Proceeds Go To Community Landscape Projects*

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Transportation has awarded more than \$235,000 in GATEway Grants to five Metro-area local governments and community improvement districts (CIDs). Funds from the grants are for reimbursement of local monies used to purchase and install plants in landscaping projects on state routes. “This is a wonderful chance for the Department to partner with local governments and organizations as they improve the landscape throughout Georgia,” Commissioner Keith Golden commented.

The five Metro entities awarded funds were:

- The Cumberland CID which received \$50,000 for landscaping on I-285 at Paces Ferry Road;
- The Fulton Industrial Boulevard CID which got \$47,736 for Fulton Industrial Boulevard plantings;
- The City of Marietta; \$45,496 for a landscape project on Duluth Highway at Wylie Road;
- The City of Peachtree Corners; \$50,000 for landscaping enhancements along Peachtree Parkway; and
- The Town Center Area CID which received \$43,199 for landscaping along I-75 in Cobb County.

GATEway Grants are funded from revenues collected by Georgia DOT for permits to outdoor advertising companies that allow removal of trees and other vegetation from the front of billboards. Grant awards are selected by the Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council, a panel of 12 members appointed by the governor. Any organization, local government or state agency can apply for a grant up to \$ 50,000, contingent upon authorization by a local government and an agreement to perpetually maintain the project. A primary goal of the GATEway Grant program is to fund enduring enhancements to roadsides utilized by the traveling public.

More information on GATEway Grants is available at:

<http://www.dot.ga.gov/localgovernment/FundingPrograms/gateway/Pages/default.aspx> .

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