



**For Immediate Release:**  
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**Contact:**  
Jill Goldberg 404.631.1828 or Natalie Dale 404.772.2836

## **C.W. MATTHEWS AND ARCADIS AWARDED \$139 MILLION BEST VALUE CONTRACT FOR INTERSTATE 85 NORTH MANAGED LANES EXTENSION PROJECT**

**Atlanta** – GA DOT announced the best value contract for the design build project widening Interstate 85 to add a managed lane in each direction extending north of the existing HOT lanes was recently awarded to C.W. Matthews and ARCADIS. The three shortlisted teams were required to offer bids in two parts, a technical section worth 25 percent of the score and a price section worth 75 percent of the score which were evaluated independently of each other by the selection committee. This Best Value based selection is only the second time the method has been utilized by the Department, and is a bidding method used to generate innovative strategies in proposals.

“Using a Best Value approach to the I-85 managed lanes project helped ensure that the Department received innovative proposals focused on employing the latest advances and technology in delivering this new roadway to the citizens,” said Russell McMurry, GA DOT Commissioner. “This project represents the third express lanes initiative moving to construction in just a couple of years. Georgians are going to see new options available to them all across the metro Atlanta area that will give them choices on reaching their destinations.”

C.W. Matthews and ARCADIS form a design-build team providing both design and construction services to widen Interstate 85 by adding one managed lane in each direction, from just north of Old Peachtree Road to Hamilton Mill Road in Gwinnett County. Construction is expected to begin in August 2016 and be completed by the summer of 2018. The \$139 million project also includes resurfacing of all the existing I-85 travel lanes within the project limits, as well as the addition of new auxiliary lanes northbound between GA20 and Gravel Springs Road and southbound between GA20 and GA 317/ Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road, including the I-985 Interchange.

The I-85 Express Lanes project is part of the Georgia Express Lanes system, a network of toll lanes that run alongside existing interstates in some of the most congested corridors around metro Atlanta. These lanes are intended to offer a choice for drivers to pay a toll to bypass congestion when they desire, provide a clear path for transit operators, and present reliable trip times within these corridors. Currently, two other Express Lanes projects are underway: the Northwest Corridor on I-75 and I-575 in Cobb and Cherokee Counties; and the I-75 South Metro in Henry and Clayton Counties.

**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](http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA). #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov). You may follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT](http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT)) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/gadepthoftrans>).

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*Additional detailed project information:*

*The new managed lane will tie directly into the existing managed lane section between I-285 and Old Peachtree Road. Two new auxiliary lanes will be constructed, one southbound between SR 20/Buford Drive and SR 317/Lawrenceville Suwanee Road (SB) and one northbound between SR 20/Buford Drive and SR 324/Gravel Springs Road (NB). South of I-985, the project will widen I-85 outside of the existing eight-lane mainline. North of I-985, widening will be on the inside median along the four-lane I-85 section. Both auxiliary lanes will be constructed with additional inside widening. The I-85 southbound bridge over I-985 will be replaced. One new bridge will be constructed to carry the I-85 Northbound managed lane over the general purpose lanes exit to I-985. The I-85 northbound and southbound bridges over SR 20 will be widened to accommodate the widening. Also included in the Design-Build contract is repaving of the general purpose lanes where necessary throughout the corridor, and coordination with the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) in order to install tolling and ITS infrastructure.*