

PRESS RELEASE

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RoadWorks 2013; On Time, On Budget...

Southside Atlanta I-75 Express Lane Project Highlights \$288 Million In New Georgia DOT Mobility Improvements

Major Work Also Set To Begin In Chatham, Columbia, Dougherty and Gordon Counties...

ATLANTA – Interstate Highway 75 south of Atlanta is in line for dramatic mobility improvements with the Georgia Department of Transportation’s approval of a project to add 12 miles of managed express lanes to the heavily congested corridor. The Department has awarded a \$176.2 million contract to a Georgia company to build variable-rate toll lanes along I-75 between State Route 155/McDonough Road and State Route 138/Stockbridge Highway in Henry and Clayton counties.

“This project is going to provide trip time reliability and mobility options on this portion of the Interstate Highway System in Metropolitan Atlanta by adding much-needed new capacity,” Commissioner Keith Golden commented. “Traffic has been increasingly problematic in this corridor and the growth of Atlanta’s Southside is only going to continue. This project will help accommodate that growth and contribute to the economic prosperity of the region.

“Well in excess of 100,000 vehicles, including both commuters and thousands of tractor trailers passing through Atlanta, utilize this corridor each day,” Commissioner Golden added. “These Express Lanes will benefit both the commuters and the through traffic and, as one of the first components of the Department’s metro-wide managed lanes network, will offer a glimpse of the improved mobility options coming to all of Metro Atlanta.”

C.W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc., of Marietta, will construct the project utilizing Georgia DOT’s innovative design/build approach to expedite project delivery. Initial work is likely to begin later this year and the lanes will be open to traffic by the end of 2016. Two lanes will be added in the center median of I-75 from State Route 138 in south Clayton to just north of State Route 20 and one reversible lane, also in the center median, will extend from that point to State Route 155 in Henry. The lanes will be barrier-separated and reversible – carrying traffic northbound in the mornings and southbound in afternoons and evenings. In addition to State Routes 155 and 138, the Express Lanes will be accessible at Interstate Highway 675, near State Route 20, and at Jonesboro Road. The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) is partnering with Georgia DOT on the project. Motorists will be able to utilize the I-75 lanes and other managed lanes system roadways by choosing to participate in SRTA’s Peach Pass program which uses remote transponders to assess variable-rate tolls based on traffic volumes.

The I-75 Express Lane project is just one of 21 new initiatives announced today by Georgia DOT. They represent a combined investment of \$288 million in the state's transportation infrastructure. Among the other major new projects are:

- A reconstruction of the I-75 interchange with State Route 156 in Gordon County; also to be done by C. W. Matthews; for \$25.1 million; to be completed by May 31, 2016.
- An interchange reconstruction and resurfacing on State Route 3/Liberty Expressway at State Route 91, including the construction of two bridges, in Dougherty County; the work to be performed by Oxford Construction Company, Albany; for \$12.5 million; to be finished by December 31, 2015.
- Also in Dougherty, resurfacing 12 miles of State Route 520 Business beginning north of 21st Avenue and extending to east of State Route 520; Reeves Construction Company, Macon; \$5.2 million; completion date of May 31, 2014.
- The widening and reconstruction of 2 miles of State Route 232/Columbia Road between Old Belair Road and State Route 383/Belair Road in Columbia County; Beam's Contracting, Inc., Beech Island, SC; \$8 million; to be completed by October 31, 2014.
- Construction of a roundabout intersection at Gulfstream Road and Robert B. Miller Road in Chatham County; Reeves Construction Company; \$3.7 million; open to traffic by August 31, 2015.

Detailed information on these and other projects in the Department's June bid awards is available via Award Announcement Download at: <https://www.bidx.com/ga/letting?lettingid=13062101>.

Construction details and lane closure schedules on all projects will be forthcoming before work begins.

The Georgia Department of Transportation continues its RoadWorks 2013 construction program this summer. Dozens of important roadway improvement projects are ongoing throughout the state as we work to deliver projects on time and on budget while keeping our transportation network the nation's finest. Pardon the necessary inconvenience and please drive cautiously and safely at all times, especially in work zones. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit www.dot.ga.gov or subscribe to our Press Release [RSS feed](#). You also may follow us on [Facebook \(www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT\)](#) and [Twitter \(http://twitter.com/gadepftoftrans\)](#).

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Georgia DOT provides funding and technical assistance to support construction and maintenance of the State's harbors in Savannah and Brunswick, which contributes an annual economic value of \$18.5 billion and supports more than 350,000 jobs. The Department is a local sponsor for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that constructs and maintains these harbors.

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