

The accurate LMIG amount of \$200,000 is reflected.



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(Photo attached)

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TIA, GDOT and Bleckley County join forces to replace aging bridge



With a little extra funding, the Jones Road Bridge project in Bleckley County switched from a bridge repair to full bridge replacement.

The project originally received \$139,000 from the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) to repair just one of the 11 bents on the bridge. However, Bleckley County was able to secure \$200,000 in additional funding through the Georgia Department of Transportation's Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG), and used \$111,500 in TIA discretionary funds to fully replace the bridge. The County also provided significant in-kind labor to make the bridge replacement feasible, including demolition, traffic control and erosion control.

Bleckley County Commissioner Bob Brockton said simply repairing the bridge was no longer an option.

“The bridge had deteriorated to a point that it was not feasible to repair. Therefore, we decided to replace the bridge and will have a new, safe structure for the citizens of Bleckley County,” Brockton said.

The bridge is also located on an identified School Bus Route, so the new bridge will be in full compliance with increased capacity standards required for such routes. The completed project will also allow for better access to and from the corridor and create a thoroughfare more conducive to pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

The Bleckley County Commissioner’s Office and Construction Materials Services, Inc. will host a ribbon-cutting celebration on May 20 at 11 a.m. The event is open to the public and will held on Jones Road Bridge over Gum Swamp Creek.

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