



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Press Release

For Immediate Release:
Friday, December 2, 2011

Contact: David Spear
(404) 631-1825

RoadWorks FY'12...

CRUCIAL SAVANNAH PORT PROJECT INCLUDED IN NEARLY \$100 MILLION OF NEW TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

ATLANTA – The Port of Savannah’s long-anticipated “last mile” project - the Jimmy Deloach (Parkway) Connector – moved closer to reality today as the Georgia Department of Transportation awarded a \$73 million contract for its construction.

The Deloach Connector will serve truck traffic movements between the Port’s main gate and Interstate Highway 95 and will reduce current truck congestion on State Route 21. As many as 10,000 trucks access the Port daily and that number is expected to increase substantially in years to come.

Ports Authority and State Transportation Board officials have said the new roadway is critical to improving Port access and growing the state’s logistics industry. “This is as important as any project the Department has begun since I’ve been on the Transportation Board,” Chairman Rudy Bowen commented. “The economic impact of this project will be huge for Savannah and huge for all of Georgia.”

“When complete, the Jimmy Deloach Connector will provide direct access from the Port of Savannah to I-95 and I-16; helping to create a transportation and logistics hub for the entire Southeast U.S.,” added Curtis Foltz, Ports Authority Executive Director. “This project could never have been awarded without the strong leadership of Governor Nathan Deal, the General Assembly and the DOT and GPA boards. This is another fine example of how Georgia’s leadership works together to make economic development possible.”

The project calls for the design and construction of a new limited access, median barrier-separated, four-lane highway between S.R. 307/Bourne Avenue and the Jimmy Deloach Parkway. The 3.1-mile roadway will be built east of and roughly parallel to S.R. 21. It is scheduled to be completed in December, 2015. Construction will be by Archer Western Contractors, LTD, of Atlanta, for \$72,772,000.

The Connector was one of 19 construction projects awarded at a total value of nearly \$97 million.

Georgia DOT has now awarded 111 new projects valued at approximately \$560 million since Fiscal Year 2012 began July 1.

Other projects awarded today include:

- Resurfacing 10 miles of U.S. Highway 27/S.R. 1 in Carroll County – to C.W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc., of Marietta, for \$3.4 million;
- Resurfacing 16 miles of S.R. 219 in Heard and Troup counties – also to Matthews, for \$2.9 million;
- Construction of a new U.S. 39/U.S. 441/S.R. 31 bridge over Heart of Georgia Railroad track in Wheeler County – to Southern Concrete Construction Co., Inc., of Albany, for \$2.8 million;
- Intersection improvements on S.R. 85 at Bernhard Road in Fayette County – to E.R. Snell Contractor, Inc., of Snellville, for \$2.2 million.

Information on construction and lane closure schedules will be forthcoming before work begins. Further details on these projects and others awarded in the Department’s November letting are available via this link:

<http://tomcat2.dot.state.ga.us/ContractsAdministration/uploads/A111118.pdf>

Motorists can access real-time, statewide, route-specific information on accidents, road work, traffic and weather conditions through **Georgia 511** - a free phone, web, and mobile service. By dialing 511, callers also can transfer to operators 24 hours a day to report incidents or request assistance. The system can be used to access transit providers, major airports, rideshare organizations, tourism information and 511 systems in surrounding states. Additionally, 511 is available online or as a hybrid solution via a free download for your smart phone. Georgia DOT partners with sponsors for assistance in funding 511, preserving tax dollars and helping sustain critical services. For more information about 511, its mobile application download, or to learn how to become a sponsor, visit 511ga.org. For information on the Department of Transportation, visit (www.dot.ga.gov); you also may follow Georgia DOT on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) (<http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT>) and [Twitter](http://twitter.com/gadepoftrans) (<http://twitter.com/gadepoftrans>).

###