

PRESS RELEASE

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Renovation and Beautification Completed Welcome Center in West Point Georgia Scheduled to Reopen July 1st

THOMASTON, GA – There is some good news for travelers on Interstate 85 in West Point, Georgia. Renovation and retrofitting work on the Georgia Welcome Center on I-85 northbound has been completed and the Center will reopen on Friday, July 1 at noon.

The West Point Welcome Center has been closed for renovation since December 7, 2015. During that renovation and beautification time, motorists had no access to the Georgia Welcome Center driveway, parking areas or building.

Renovations were performed by Astra Group, Inc. from Woodstock, Georgia and included remodeling, replacement and/or repair of most systems in the building from the roof, drywall, façade; to replacement of HVAC system; rewiring and replacement of light fixtures with LED light fixtures; replacement of the drywall and painting the entire building to re-pavement of the car and truck parking areas, restriping parking lots, and landscaping.

The 5,750 square foot West Point Welcome Center was opened to the public in 1980.

These major renovations were completed at a construction cost of \$1,422,000. Funds for the renovation and beautification of the Georgia welcome centers and rest areas come from revenues collected from the Georgia LOGO program. The Georgia LOGO program offers businesses advertising along highway interchanges through placement of names and logos on signs approaching exits. It generates approximately \$3.3 million annually.

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. #ArriveAliveGA

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