



GDOT Local Bridge Replacement Program

August 29, 2018

Local Bridge Replacement Program

GDOT Partners with Local Governments to Replace Off-System Deficient, Posted Bridges

The replacement of a deficient, posted bridge is a considerable expense for local counties and municipalities. This is something that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) recognizes, appreciates and is addressing.



Typical load posting sign for LOCBR project.

Posted bridges restrict certain vehicle types from crossing. These include emergency vehicles, school buses, agricultural vehicles and, in some cases, even “Suburban-like” SUVs or pickup trucks. Currently there are about 1,400 posted bridges in Georgia out of the nearly 15,000 structures within the state. The majority of these posted bridges are locally-owned. In an effort to reduce this number, GDOT has created the Local Bridge Replacement Program (LOCBR).

The LOCBR program, created in 2017 through GDOT’s Bridge Office, is federally-funded and targets the replacement of locally-owned posted bridges. Within the Local Bridge program, GDOT provides preliminary engineering costs, any utility relocations, all construction costs and 50 percent of the preliminary right-of-way (ROW) estimate that includes all acquisition fees and other related costs. In partnering with local governments for the remaining half of the ROW expenses, GDOT provides a bridge that meets current safety standards and lowers the number of posted bridges throughout Georgia.



Example of LOCBR candidate - wooden piles with helper bracing (this bridge is closed).

In spring 2017, using a data-driven search, off-system bridges throughout the state were identified as candidates for this new program. Solicitation letters detailing the program were sent to the bridge owners and with their written response and support of the program, the preliminary ROW estimates were requested from the Department’s ROW office.

Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) were prepared with the preliminary ROW estimates that included the property values along with fees and risk factors associated with the acquisition of property. ROW needs will be minimized as much as possible during the design process. The preliminary ROW estimates provided in the MOAs represent concept level of effort. Without actual survey and preliminary engineering design, a true ROW estimate was not possible at the time of request.



Typical LOCBR project with narrow existing ROW.

The MOAs were sent to each of the counties that agreed to participate within the terms of the original solicitation (52 bridges in 45 counties). To date, approximately 65 percent of the MOAs have been returned to our office for execution.

Thirty-three counties have returned MOAs for execution (two others are being signed and returned), with 29 of those counties remitting their ROW funds. There are 11 counties who did not respond, return MOAs or declined to participate. Six counties expressed interest and desire to participate, but due to funding issues, requested that the Department postpone the project until they are able to provide their share of the funding.

The average total project cost for a LOCBR is \$1.95 million (\$2 million), with the average ROW amount requested from the counties at just under \$100,000 (\$99,000). This average ROW amount represents about 5 percent of the total cost of the project. Historically, many projects with local participation have been cancelled or not delivered after a significant investment from the State. Therefore, the LOCBR program requested the ROW money in advance of the actual ROW phase in an effort to deliver the project within budget and on schedule.



Typical LOCBR project substandard super and substructure

Counties interested in the Program, but unable to participate at this time due to financial constraints, are encouraged to contact the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB) regarding the possibility of obtaining a low-interest loan to cover their local match. GTIB is administered by the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) and offers low-interest rates and flexible repayment options. Since 2009 GTIB has made more than \$24 million in loans to local governments for competitive

transportation projects statewide. GTIB funds are subject to availability. Please contact gtibinfo@srtga.gov for more information.

LOCBR: MOA Response and Tracking Table FY 2017 Solicitation

County	PI No.	Project Description	MOA received yes/no	check received
Emanuel	0015621	CR 454/LAMBS BRIDGE ROAD AT CANOOCHEE CREEK NE OF SWAINSBORO	yes	yes
Emanuel	0015622	CR 454/LAMBS BRIDGE RD AT LITTLE CANOOCHEE CREEK NE OF SWAINSBORO	yes	yes
Crisp	0015651	CR 73/WATSON ROAD AT REEDY BRANCH TRIB 5.9 MI E OF ARABI	yes	yes

Sumter	0015640	CR 313/SALTER MILL ROAD AT PESSLEL CREEK 2.8 MI S OF PLAINS	yes	yes
Brantley	0015660	CR 122/HUMPBACK RD AT LITTLE SATILLA RIVER 6 MI N OF NAHUNTA	yes	yes
Banks	0015608	CR 92/WRIGHTS MILL ROAD AT HUDSON RIVER 7.3 MI SE OF HOMER	yes	yes
Clayton	0015631	CR 506/BROWN ROAD AT SWAMP CREEK 1 MI SW OF JONESBORO	yes	yes
Hancock	0015602	CR 101/WATER WORKS ROAD AT CSX #279806B 2.1 MI W OF SPARTA	yes	yes
Johnson	0015613	CS 666/CROSS CEDAR ROAD AT BIG CEDAR CREEK E OF WRIGHTSVILLE	yes	yes
Barrow and Gwinnett	0015609	CR 93/PATRICK MILL ROAD AT APALACHEE RIVER 3.6 MI S OF CARL	yes	yes
Barrow	0015610	CR 268/OLD THOMPSON MILL RD AT LITTLE MULBERRY RVR N OF WINDER	yes	yes
Brooks	0015603	CR 245/OLD MADISON ROAD AT PISCOLA CREEK 3.5 MI SE OF QUITMAN	yes	yes
Fayette	0015647	CR 61/COASTLINE ROAD AT CSX #639500S 3 MI NE OF TYRONE	yes	yes
Gilmer	0015611	CR 145/VANILLA LANE AT BIG TURNIPTOWN CREEK NE OF ELLIJAY	yes	yes
Gwinnett	0015618	CS 833/MARTIN FARM ROAD AT SUWANEE CREEK IN SUWANEE	yes	yes
Clinch	0015620	CR 203/SHILOH CHURCH ROAD AT SURVEYORS CREEK S OF HOMERVILLE	yes	yes
Habersham	0015636	CR 225/HUB TATUM ROAD AT SAUTEE CREEK 3 MI S OF BATESVILLE	yes	yes
Pierce	0015641	CR 305/TYRE BRIDGE RD AT SIXTY FOOT CREEK N OF PATTERSON CITY	yes	yes
Colquitt	0015617A	CR 486 AT WARRIOR CREEK; AT WARRIOR CREEK OVERFLOW & AT TY TY	yes	yes
Colquitt	0015617B	CR 486 AT WARRIOR CREEK; AT WARRIOR CREEK OVERFLOW & AT TY TY	yes	yes
Colquitt	0015617C	CR 486 AT WARRIOR CREEK; AT WARRIOR CREEK OVERFLOW & AT TY TY	yes	yes
Paulding	0015604	CR 591/MORNINGSIDE DRIVE AT LICK LOG CREEK 2 MI S OF HIRAM	yes	yes
Oconee	0015656	CR 592/CLOTFELTER ROAD AT BARBER CREEK 3 MI S OF BOGART	yes	yes
Lowndes	0015614	CR 136/OLD QUITMAN ROAD AT CSX #637487Y 6 MI W OF VALDOSTA	yes	yes
Echols	0015619	CR 96/J FRANK CULPEPPER RD AT ALAPAHOOCHEE RVR W OF STATENVILLE	yes	yes
White	0015616	CR 30/AIRPORT ROAD AT MOSSY CREEK TRIB 4.2 MI SE OF CLEVELAND	yes	yes
Bulloch	0015605	CR 927/OLD HWY 46 AT ASH BRANCH 11.6 MI SE OF BROOKLET	yes	yes
Talbot	0015652	CS 670/GORMAN ROAD AT CSX # 638437Y IN TALBOTTON	yes	yes
Schley	0015601	CR 133/EBENEZER ROAD AT MUCKALEE CREEK 7.5 MI W OF ELLAVILLE	yes	yes

DeKalb	0015646	CR 3271/MERCER UNIVERSITY DRIVE AT NORTH FORK PEACHTREE CREEK	Yes	-
Upson	0015615	CR 422/JEFF DAVIS ROAD AT TEN MILE CREEK 2 MI NW OF THOMASTON	yes	not invoiced yet
Gilmer	0016123	CR 101 (LOWER CARTECAY ROAD) OVER CARTECAY RIVER	yes	not invoiced yet
Clarke	0015645	CR 479/BELMONT ROAD AT SHOAL CREEK 6.7 MI S OF WINTERVILLE	in mail	not invoiced yet
Fulton	0015642	CR 614/OAKLEY ROAD AT BROADANAX CREEK 2 MI SE OF UNION CITY	in mail	not invoiced yet
Coffee	0015632	CR 705/BRIDGETOWN ROAD AT SATILLA RIVER 11 MI W OF DOUGLAS	yes	not invoiced yet
Towns	0015654	CR 295/TITUS VALLEY ROAD AT HALL CREEK 6.7 MI E OF HIAWASSEE	Postponed – FY 20	not invoiced yet
Wilkinson	0015648	CR 81/ROSE JUSTICE RD AT BIG SANDY CREEK 2.5 MI S OF IRWINTON	Postponed – FY 20	not invoiced yet
Monroe	0015643	CR 275/JOHNSTONVILLE ROAD AT ROCKY CREEK 5 MI N OF FORSYTH	Postponed – FY 20	not invoiced yet
Fannin	0015653	CR 159/EPWORTH ROAD AT FIGHTINGTOWN CREEK SW OF MCCAYSVILLE	Postponed – FY 20	not invoiced yet
Lumpkin	0015635	CR 48/ROY GRINDLE ROAD AT CHESTATEE RIVER TRIB N OF DAHLONEGA	Postponed – FY 21	not invoiced yet
Macon	0015639	CS 699/HAMILTON ROAD AT BEAVER CREEK IN MONTEZUMA	Postponed – FY 21	not invoiced yet
Putnam	0015658	CR 29/MARTINS MILL ROAD AT LITTLE RIVER 4.5 MI NW OF EATONTON	no	no
Jones	0015655	CR 118/FOLENDRE ROAD AT COMMISSIONER CREEK 5.1 MI E OF GRAY	no	no
Haralson	0015612	CR 347/MONROE MILL ROAD AT TALLAPOOSA RIVER NE OF TALLAPOOSA	no	no
Gordon	0015659	CR 214/BATTLE ROAD AT ROCKY CREEK 1 MI E OF FLOYD COUNTY LINE	no	no
Jasper	0015633	CR 362/POST ROAD AT MURDER CREEK 7.7 MI N OF MONTICELLO	no	no
Jasper	0015634	CR 362/POST ROAD AT PITTMAN CREEK 8.7 MI N OF MONTICELLO	no	no
Taylor	0015637	CR 126/TURNER RD AT PATSILIGA CREEK TRIB 3 MI NW OF REYNOLDS	no	no
Taylor	0015638	CR 128/TURNER ROAD AT PATSILIGA CREEK 2 MI NW OF REYNOLDS	no	no
Jenkins	0015623	CR 48/HARRISON ROAD AT HORSE CREEK 6.4 MI SE OF MILLEN	no	no
Dade	0015644	CR 197/NEWSOME GAP ROAD AT LOOKOUT CREEK 7.5 MI SW OF TRENTON	no	no
Union	0015657	CR 463/CANADA CREEK ROAD AT TOCCOA RIVER SW OF BLAIRSVILLE	no	no

33 MOAs received (2 MOAs in route and 29 checks received)

6 postponed for budget concerns

11 no response or rejected

The Local Bridge Replacement Program looks to reduce overall costs and construction time by utilizing off-site detours whenever feasible, using prefabricated bridge elements for construction and minimizing ROW needs by way of practical bridge design. With the County's financial support and signed agreement, the Department is able to provide for more bridge replacements in more counties throughout the state.



Example of completed LOCBR project

The Bridge Office is in the process of selecting the next round of LOCBR candidates. Several counties and municipalities have been contacted to confirm interest and establish priority in having a specific bridge replaced. Solicitation letters will be sent out shortly providing information about the Program and how local governments can and should participate.

If you have specific questions regarding the Local Bridge Replacement Program or other Bridge Office programs, please contact Carol Kalafut at 404-631-1882 or ckalafut@dot.ga.gov.

Or visit our website:

<http://www.dot.ga.gov/InvestSmart/BridgePrograms/Pages/LocalBridges.aspx>.

Reflects information as of 8-27-18