

**STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA
MINUTES**

**Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree St.
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

**May 15, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ann R. Purcell, Chair
Jamie Boswell, Vice Chair
Dennis McEntire, Secretary
Cathy Williams
Stacey Key
Doug Stoner
Joseph Stein
Tim Golden
Emily Dunn
Jeff Lewis
Dan Snipes
Micah Gravley

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robert L. Brown
Dana Lemon

DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Brad Saxon, P.E., Deputy Commissioner
Angela Whitworth, Treasurer
Jannine Miller, Director of Planning
Annette Simelaro, General Counsel

Chair Ann R. Purcell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Joseph Stein gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A roll call of board members in attendance was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Chair Purcell proceeded to call for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 2025 board meeting. Jamie Boswell made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Cathy Williams and unanimously approved. *

Albert Shelby, Director of Program Delivery, gave a report on the Letting results for Fiscal Year 2025, the April 2025 Letting results and the projects in the June 2025 Letting. Chair Purcell called for a motion to approve the June 2025 Letting. Tim Golden made a motion to approve the June 2025 Letting, seconded by Dennis McEntire and unanimously approved. *

Matt Markham, Deputy Director of Planning, first presented 3 changes to the Construction Work Program for review with proposed action next month. He then presented the Board with an additional 6 bridge projects for deletion from the program. Chair Purcell called for a motion to approve the revised Construction Work Program. Dan Snipes made a motion to approve the revisions, seconded by Tim Golden and unanimously approved. *

Georgia DOT Deputy Commissioner Brad Saxon, P.E., then informed the board that Commissioner McMurry is at the AASHTO 2025 Spring meeting in Connecticut and that he would be speaking to the board today in his place. Deputy Commissioner Saxon began with the monthly department report including transportation fund collections ending April 2025. Also reported were the total employment figures ending April 2025; and the monthly procurement report for April 2025.

The deputy commissioner moved on to highlight four projects open to traffic in April 2025: bridge replacement project consisting of 0.3 mile of construction of a bridge and approaches on SR 59 over Stephens Creek in Franklin County (Congressional District 10, GDOT District 1); reconstruction project which widened SR 133 to a four-lane median divided roadway with turning lanes at intersections, from south of SR 35/US 319 to north of the Colquitt County line in Colquitt County (Congressional District 8, GDOT District 4); bridge replacement project consisting of the construction of a bridge and approaches on SR 1 BU/US 27 over Cedar Creek Tributary in Polk County (Congressional District 14, GDOT District 6); construction of a roundabout on the I-20 Eastbound Offramp, Maynard Terrace and McPherson Avenue in DeKalb County. (Congressional District 5, GDOT District 7). Deputy Commissioner Saxon then highlighted an aviation project which consisted of the rehabilitation of a runway to include placement of a Single Surface Treatment Crack Relief Layer, Placement of 13,000 Tons of Asphaltic Surface Course, Grooving of Runway Surface and Pavement Markings at the Atlanta Speedway Airport in Henry County.

Deputy Commissioner Saxon began the awards and recognitions section by highlighting the Southern District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers annual meeting where the Department won several awards including:

- John Hibbard, Director of Permits and Operations, winning the John F. Exnicios Outstanding Public Service Award which recognizes outstanding community service and public sector contributions
- GDOT's ITE Steam Camp which won the Traffic Engineering Award category

- GDOT and the Atlanta Regional Commission won for its Joint Use Data Purchasing Program in the Transportation Systems Management and Operations category

The deputy commissioner pointed out the awards served to highlight how the Department is working to better transportation for the citizens in Georgia.

Next, the deputy commissioner discussed the Washington County High School Heavy Equipment Operation Program which recently completed its second year. Eighteen Washington County High School students who were enrolled in the Heavy Equipment Operation class completed their end-of-course final capstone project at GDOT District 2 office in Tennille. Prior to this event, students underwent a year-long training on a Caterpillar Excavator Simulator, which is a safe, hands-on virtual experience that teaches heavy equipment operations. The capstone project was the students' first opportunity to operate an actual excavator, and they were evaluated on their skills by loading a tandem dump truck. Students who passed the exam earned operator certificates and would have the opportunity to be hired right out of high school by the event's sponsors which included Pittman Construction, Reeves Construction, Yancey Brothers, Howard Sheppard and GDOT. The deputy commissioner then showed a video that highlighted the event and offered his congratulations to all the students that participated in this year's event because they all passed and earned their operator certificates. Deputy Commissioner Saxon mentioned that Payton Schuyler, who went through the program last year, is now working as Highway Maintenance Technician in GDOT District 2 and a student from this year's class is going through the interview process now.

Deputy Commissioner Saxon then discussed Commissioner McMurry joining the Executive Director of the Atlanta Regional Commission, Anna Roach, and leaders from the Technical College System of Georgia at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta to discuss current and future staffing needs in transportation under the ARC's new "Building Georgia" program. Building Georgia is a workforce partnership program created by the ARC to foster collaboration across the state between government agencies, private sector and the workforce training community to improve employment in the infrastructure construction sector. Deputy Commissioner Saxon stated that the Commissioner invited ARC to the Department to give a presentation on the new program.

Georgia State Employee Recognition Week was the next focus. The deputy commissioner mentioned that from May 4th – 10th, the department joined fellow agencies across the state to recognize and celebrate the work of the dedicated public servants throughout Georgia. He then showed a video celebrating the department's employees, thanked Strategic Communications for developing the video and thanked all Georgia DOT employees for their commitment and for the sacrifices they make every day in service to the people of Georgia.

The final topic of the presentation was the announcement that the restroom at the I-95 Southbound Georgia Welcome Center at milepost 111 was awarded the best public restroom in the state of

Georgia. A west-coast based organization providing support services to the trucking industry surveyed more than 3000 drivers and truckers, and the Georgia Welcome Center on I-95 near Savannah took top honors in Georgia. The deputy commissioner mentioned that it was not easy maintaining the facility and credited the D5 Roadside Enhancement team for working with the custodial and landscaping contractors to provide the high level of services needed to obtain such an award.

Chair Purcell then introduced John Burns who is a former member of the State Transportation Board of Georgia and current Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives. Speaker Burns was there to honor Deputy Commissioner Brad Saxon who will retire from the Department at the end of the month. Speaker Burns also thanked the board members for their service to the state.

Board Member Tim Golden presented District Engineer Scott Chambers with a retirement resolution on behalf of the entire State Transportation Board and the Department. Board Member Golden made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Cathy Williams and unanimously approved.

A Resolution by the State Transportation Board

WHEREAS, Scott Chambers, a graduate of Georgia Southern University with a degree in Civil Engineering Technology, is retiring from the Georgia Department of Transportation after a 32-year career highlighted by his diligent work to improve the safety and mobility of Georgia's roadways, specifically in GDOT District 4; and

WHEREAS, Scott began his career at the Georgia Department of Transportation in 1993 working out of the Valdosta Area Office as a Civil Engineering Technologist where he first acquired the knowledge and understanding of the Department's policies, procedures and programs that would be the foundation of his career. His skill and expertise in construction then led him to the position of Construction Project Engineer in District 4; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 Scott's dedication to improving transportation in Georgia led him to the Albany Area Office where he accepted a promotion to Assistant Area Engineer for Construction. In 2001, Scott received another promotion to Area Engineer for Interstate Reconstruction where he oversaw the \$750 million Interstate 75 widening and reconstruction project in District 4; and

WHEREAS, Scott has built an impressive career at the Georgia Department of Transportation, marked by steady growth and advancement. Over the years, he also held the positions of Assistant District Construction Engineer, District Construction Engineer, and District Maintenance Engineer helping to shape District 4's transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Scott was promoted to his final role at the Department, District Engineer, where he has built partnerships with the public, transportation stakeholders and state and local lawmakers, oversees the district's projects and programs, and manages district staff innovating, building and maintaining District 4's roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, Scott's career at the Georgia Department of Transportation featured many notable achievements. His service and dedication to the citizens of Georgia is exemplified by his efforts in leading response and recovery operations during and after Hurricane Michael in 2018, Hurricane Idalia in 2023 and Hurricane Helene in 2024. Because of his leadership and contributions at all times but especially during these times of immeasurable stress, anxiety and loss for many Georgians, he has had a lasting impact on the state; and

WHEREAS, Scott is dedicated to his family; he and his wife, Gina, have four children and three grandchildren.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Transportation Board recognizes Scott Chambers for his exemplary contributions, his loyal service, and for his leadership and unwavering commitment to District 4, the citizens of Georgia and the Georgia Department of Transportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and a suitable copy be presented to Scott Chambers in honor and recognition of his retirement from the Georgia Department of Transportation after 32 years of dedicated service to the state of Georgia.

ADOPTED, this the 15th day of May 2025.

Committee Chairman Jeff Lewis gave the report from the Program Delivery Committee. * No actions were taken during this committee.

Board Chair Ann R. Purcell gave the report from the Committee of the Whole. * No actions were taken during this committee.

There being no further business, Chair Purcell adjourned the board meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted

Ann R. Purcell., Chair

Dennis McEntire, Secretary

***Denotes documentation in file.**

PROGRAM DELIVERY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA

Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

May 14, 2025
1:30 PM

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

(* indicates committee member)

Ann R. Purcell*

Jamie Boswell

Cathy Williams

Doug Stoner

Joe Stein

Tim Golden*

Emily Dunn

Jeff Lewis*

Dan Snipes*

Micah Gravley*

DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Brad Saxon, Deputy Commissioner

Angela Whitworth, Treasurer

Jannine Miller, Planning Director

Annette Simelaro, General Counsel

Committee Chairman Jeff Lewis called the Program Delivery Committee to order at 1:30 PM.

The State TIA Administrator, Kenneth Franks, presented an annual update on the status of the Transportation Investment Act in the four active regions in Georgia. Some highlights from 2024 include 142 projects advancing to construction, 112 projects completed in construction and program expenditures exceeding \$210 million. Projects in TIA 1 continue to progress in the construction phase. Sales tax collection for TIA 2 and Southern Ga TIA 1 continue to outpace the original forecast for each region, allowing projects scheduled to be accelerated. Southern GA's TIA 2 is currently projected to Start April 1, 2026.

The Assistant Office Head in the GDOT Office of Program Delivery, Charles Robinson, presented updates on mobility projects either in development or under construction along the metro Atlanta I-285 corridor. The presentation focused mostly on the interchange design bid build projects that are currently managed by the GDOT Office of Program Delivery, but the presentation also acknowledged some of the design build projects that are currently being managed by the GDOT P3 Division. The project updates included descriptions of each project and general project status updates. There was also a mention of the I-285 West Wall capital maintenance pavement preservation projects also being managed by the GDOT Office of Program Delivery.

There being no further business, Committee Chairman Jeff Lewis adjourned the meeting at 2:08 PM.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted:

Jeff Lewis, Chairman

Dennis McEntire, Secretary

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES

STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA

Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

May 14, 2025
2:09 PM

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ann R. Purcell
Jamie Boswell
Cathy Williams
Stacey Key
Doug Stoner
Joe Stein

Tim Golden
Emily Dunn
Jeff Lewis
Dan Snipes
Micah Gravley

DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Brad Saxon, Deputy Commissioner
Angela Whitworth, Treasurer
Jannine Miller, Planning Director
Annette Simelaro, General Counsel

Board Chairman Ann R. Purcell called the Committee of the Whole to order at 2:09 PM.

District 7 Engineer, Paul DeNard, provided an update on District 7 to the GDOT Board. A District overview was provided that included regional statistics, growth, and coverage of the metro region. District 7 is excelling in the area of customer service and has seen an increase in permit approvals. Key construction projects in 8 congressional districts were highlighted including widenings, interchange improvements, and roundabouts. A District maintenance update was provided that included the resurfacing and routine maintenance activities in preparation for upcoming special events including the World Cup in summer 2025 and 2026.

Alan Davis, State Traffic Engineer, and Sam Hendow, State Signal Operations Engineer, presented on the department's involvement with traffic management for major events in Metro Atlanta and the state. Through partnerships with local governments and organizations, GDOT has worked closely with these teams to successfully manage traffic through major concerts, sporting events, and even emergencies. Mr. Davis highlighted how GDOT worked with partners to develop the play book for the Super Bowl in 2019, which has been foundational to event management in the region. Mr. Hendow provided an update on recent activities with the College Football National Championship, and highlighted the planning effort GDOT is a part of with the City of Atlanta for the upcoming 2025 FIFA Club World Cup and 2026 FIFA World Cup.

There being no further business, Board Chairman Ann R. Purcell adjourned the meeting at 3:03 PM.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted:

Ann R. Purcell, Chairman

Dennis McEntire, Secretary