

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Press Release

For Immediate Release:
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RoadWorks 2012...

GEORGIA DOT: PLEASE DRIVE CAUTIOUSLY AS SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS AMIDST CONTINUING CONSTRUCTION

ATLANTA – As students return to school, the Georgia Department of Transportation reminds motorists to drive safely, especially with major infrastructure improvement projects underway throughout the state.

“Of course it always is important to drive cautiously but particularly so at the beginning of a new school year,” Commissioner Keith Golden noted. “Youngsters walking and biking to school or gathering at bus stops may be too excited or distracted to pay close attention to traffic. So it is important that drivers be extra vigilant, especially with so much work still ongoing.

“Our foremost responsibility at Georgia DOT is the safety of our citizens. Please help us avoid a tragedy.”

The Department relies on the long days and warm temperatures of summer to be its most productive construction season, but work actually goes on throughout the year with some projects, usually routine repairs and resurfacings, beginning late in the summer months. One such – the resurfacing of 10 miles of Interstate Highway 285 on Atlanta’s northwest side – begins this week and likely will continue until next summer. Even though work hours will be limited to nights and weekends, delays are likely, especially on weekends when mainline paving will require multiple lane closures.

Georgia DOT always attempts to minimize delays and schedules its work for off-peak travel hours on heavily used routes. Still, lanes may need to remain closed and heavy equipment could be staged close to travel lanes during weekday hours; additional school traffic compounds the need for caution.

In addition to the I-285 work in Metro Atlanta, the following are some of the Department’s potentially “motorist impactful” ongoing construction jobs:

Metropolitan Atlanta:

- Construction of Collector/Distributor lanes alongside I-20 between I-285 and Panola Road, in Dekalb County;
- Interchange improvements at I-285 and Covington Highway, also in Dekalb;
- The ongoing widening and reconstruction of Johnson Ferry and Abernathy roads in Cobb and Fulton counties; and
- Resurfacings of sections of Roswell Road and also of Buford Highway in Fulton.

(Metro Media Manager Mark McKinnon – 770 986 1788)

Northeast Georgia:

- Intersection improvements at SR 316 with both SR 20 & Collins Hill Road, Gwinnett County;
- Similar work on SR 211 at SR 124 in Jackson County; and
- Bridge repairs on SR 53 over Amicalola Creek in Dawson and Pickens counties.

(District Communications Officer [DCO] Teri Pope – 770 718 3924)

Northwest Georgia:

- Resurfacing I-75, Bartow & Gordon counties.
- Construction of truck passing lanes on SR 20, Bartow & Cherokee counties;
- Interchange construction on I-575 at Sixes Road and also at Riverwalk Parkway, Cherokee;
- Interchange construction on I-75 at Union Grove Road, Gordon; and
- Construction of the West Rome Bypass in Floyd County.

(DCO Mohamed Arafa – 770 387-4081)

East Central Georgia:

- Widening I-520, Richmond County;
- Widening a portion of SR 24 in Washington County;
- Widening multiple sections of US 1/SR 4 in Emanuel and Toombs counties; and
- I-20 resurfacing in Morgan, Newton & Walton counties.

(DCO Cissy McNure – 478 552-4656)

West Central Georgia:

- I-75 widening at Pierce Avenue & Arkwright Road, Bibb County;
- Construction of an I-75 NB auxiliary lane between Hudson Bridge Road/Eagles Landing Parkway & I-675, Henry County; and
- I-75 interchange reconstruction and bridge replacement at Jodeco Road, Henry.

(DCO Kimberly Larson – 706 646 6938)

Southwest Georgia:

- Two Lowndes County projects – resurfacings on SR 7 and on SR 38; and
- Resurfacing a section of I-75 in Turner County.

(DCO Craig Solomon – 229 391 6852)

Southeast Georgia:

- Two Chatham County projects – the widening of S.R. 204 Spur and also of Dean Forest Road.

(DCO Jill Nagel – 912 427 5743)

Detailed schedule and lane closure information on all Department projects is disseminated weekly.

The Georgia Department of Transportation continues its RoadWorks2012 construction program. As the end of summer and a new school year draw near, dozens of important roadway infrastructure improvement projects continue throughout the state. Keeping Georgia's transportation network the nation's finest requires continual investment and maintenance. Pardon us for this necessary inconvenience and please drive cautiously in work zones and safely at all times. For more information on Georgia DOT projects, please visit <http://www.dot.ga.gov>; you also may follow the Department on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT>) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/gadepotoftrans>).