



**Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner**  
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### **Why are we here and what is the issue we are seeking to address within your community?**

The Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) is seeking feedback about a proposed solution to provide safe and direct access to major economic developments and to relieve congestion at the interchange of U.S. Highway (US) 278 at Interstate (I)-20 under three PI numbers (0017219, 0018363, and 0018361) in an overlapping area of Morgan, Walton, and Newton counties.

### ***PI No. 0017219 – US 278 Widening, US 278/State Route (SR) 12 from Willow Springs Church Road to Shire Parkway Newton County***

#### **Current conditions along the US 278/SR 12 Corridor:**

- US 278/SR 12 consists of two, 12-foot travel lanes (one lane in each direction) with 2-foot outside shoulders.
- US 278/SR 12 is classified as a minor arterial with a posted speed of 55 mph.
- US 278/SR 12 has an existing interchange at I-20. Existing ramps have two, 12-foot lanes with an inside shoulder width of 6 feet and outside shoulder width of 12 feet.
- US 278/SR 12 ramps at I-20 are unsignalized and are stop-controlled.
- US 278/SR 12 crosses over I-20 as an overpass; the overpass contains sidewalks for pedestrians.

#### **Without this Project (No-Build):**

- The traffic conditions within the study area would deteriorate due to development and inhibit access to three new major economic developments in an overlapping area of Morgan, Walton, and Newton counties.
- The traffic flow at the intersection of I-20 and US 278/SR 12 would worsen over time from a Level of Service (LOS) A/B to a LOS F with delays (e.g., delays up to 335 seconds/vehicle) in both a.m. and p.m. peak periods by the Design Year 2044 by exceeding the capacity of the intersection, which would result in very long delays and a breakdown in traffic flow. Vehicles at the intersection would likely have to wait through more than one green light before moving through the intersection.

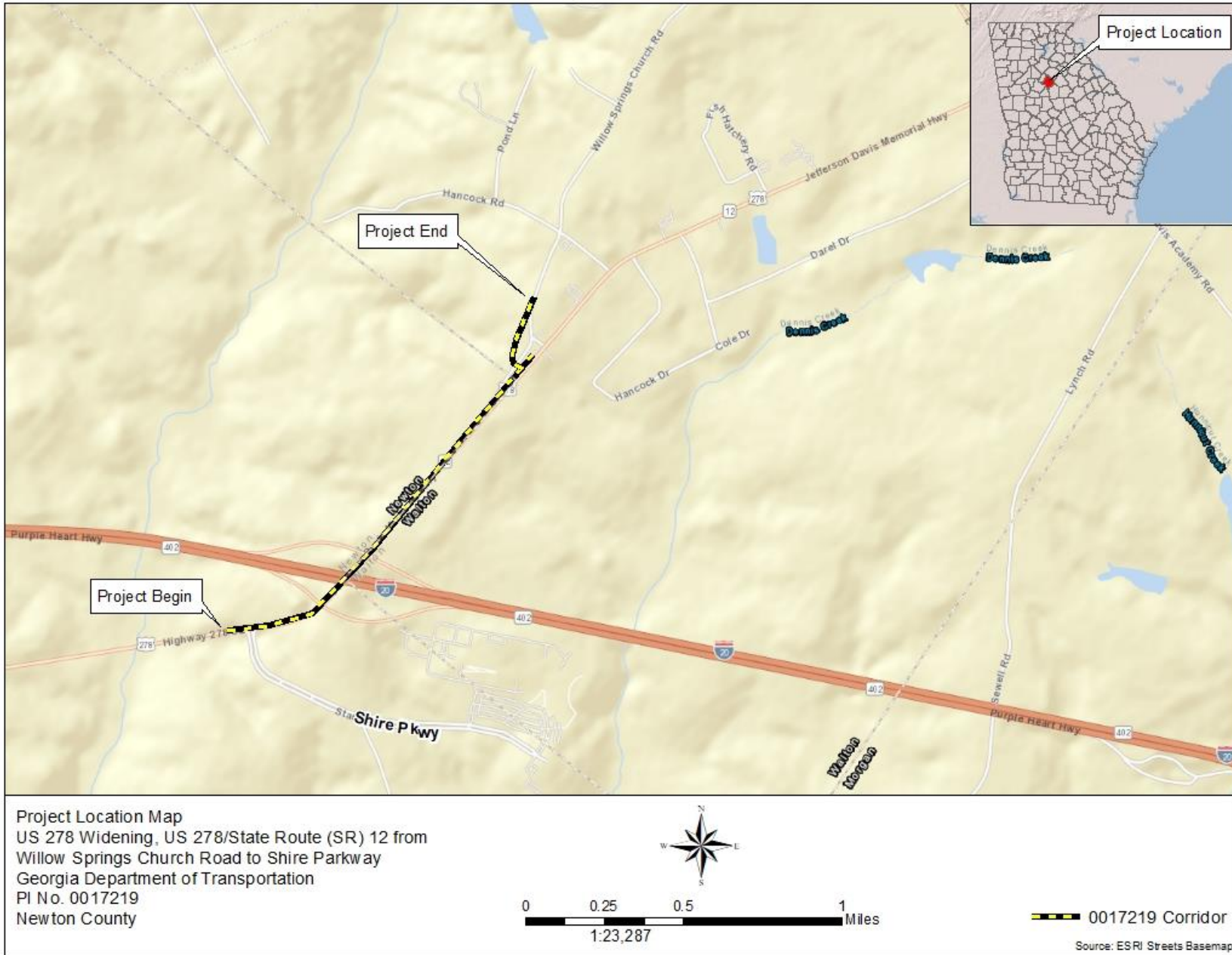
#### **Proposed Solution: (Also See Project Location Map attached)**

Georgia DOT proposes to widen the existing roadway from two lanes to four lanes with a 14-foot median and rural shoulders. Additionally, the proposed project would include improvements to the intersections of the eastbound and westbound I-20 ramp terminals at US 278/SR12 and at US 278/SR 12 at Shire Parkway, south of I-20. This project begins approximately 2,200 feet south of the I-20 eastbound ramp intersection and extends north approximately 1.36 miles, terminating just inside of the limits of the city of Social Circle, Ga.

#### **Benefits of Project Implementation:**

- The proposed project would accommodate future traffic volumes at the I-20 ramp terminals at US 278/SR 12 intersection and the US 278/SR 12 at Shire Parkway intersection.
- With construction of the proposed project, operations would greatly improve at the US 278/I-20 interchange because of the reduction in delay (LOS E or better in both peak periods). Even with LOS E operations during certain times at some ramp terminals, the delay would be reduced by one half to one third of the delay anticipated under No-Build conditions (e.g., 56.6 sec/vehicle vs. 169.9 sec/vehicle and 67.2 sec/vehicle vs. 136.0 sec/vehicle).

- The proposed project would accommodate future traffic generated by three new major economic developments adjacent to the project area.



***PI No. 0018363 – I-20 Frontage Road from SR 12 to County Road (CR) 249/Old Mill Road  
Morgan and Walton counties***

**Current conditions along US 278/SR 12 and CR 249/Old Mill Road:**

- Currently there is no direct connection between SR 12 and CR 249/Old Mill Road.
- US 278/SR 12 consists of two, 12-foot travel lanes (one lane in each direction) with 2-foot outside shoulders.
- US 278/SR 12 is classified as a minor arterial with a posted speed of 55 mph.
- US 278/SR 12 has an existing service interchange at I-20. Existing ramps have two, 12-foot lanes with an inside shoulder width of 6 feet and outside shoulder width of 12 feet.
- US 278/SR 12 crosses over I-20 as an overpass; the overpass contains sidewalks for pedestrians.
- These ramp connections at US 278/SR 12 are unsignalized and are stop-controlled.
- CR 249/Old Mill crosses over I-20 as an overpass.
- CR 249/Old Mill Road consists of two-lanes with 11-foot travel lanes (one lane in each direction) with 0.5-foot shoulders and is classified as a local road with a posted speed of 55 mph.
- An approximately 23-foot-wide bridge currently carries CR 249/Old Mill Road over I-20.
- Vehicles cannot currently access I-20 from CR 249/Old Mill Road.
- There are no existing bicycle or pedestrian accommodations present along the corridor.

**Without this Project (No-Build):**

- There would be no direct connection between US 278/SR 12 and CR 249/Old Mill Road.
- The traffic conditions within the study area would deteriorate due to development and inhibit access to three new major economic developments in an overlapping area of Morgan, Walton, and Newton counties.
- Operations at the US 278/I-20 Interchange are anticipated to deteriorate from a LOS A/B to LOS F with substantial delays (e.g., delays up to 335 seconds/vehicle) in both a.m. and p.m. peak periods by the Design Year 2044 without this project and without PI No. 0018361, which is expected to change traffic patterns in the area once constructed.
- A multiuse path for bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel between US 278/SR 12 and CR 249/Old Mill Road would not be constructed.

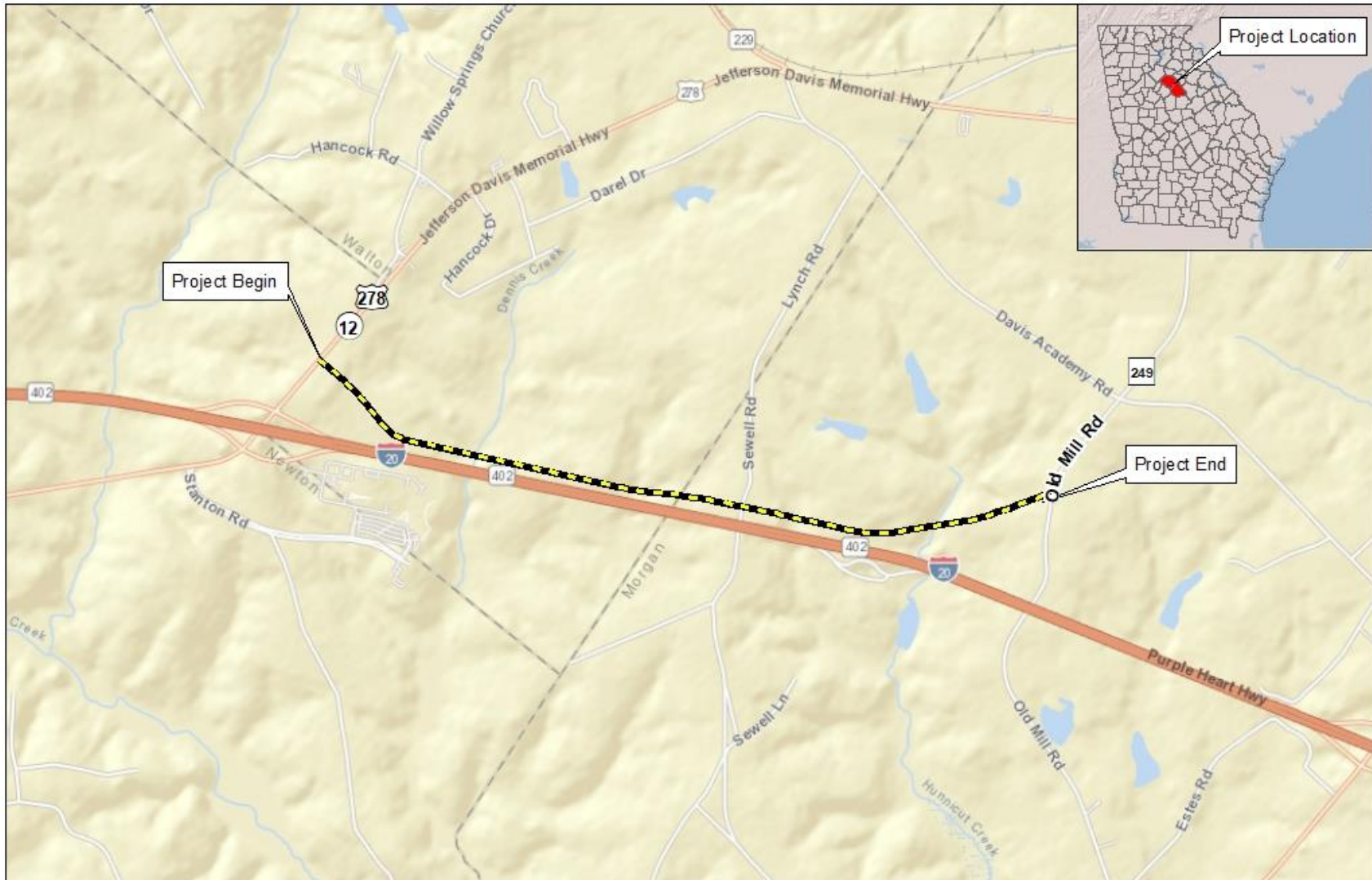
**Proposed Solution: (Also See Project Location Map attached)**

Georgia DOT proposes to construct a new location frontage road north of and parallel to I-20 from US 278/SR 12 to CR 249/Old Mill Road for a length of approximately 2.75 miles. The new roadway would consist of four lanes with a 20-foot raised median and rural shoulders. The intersection of the proposed frontage road at US 278/SR 12 would be signalized and the intersection of the proposed realignment for PI No. 0018361, Old Mill Road Interchange at I-20, would be traditional signalized intersections. The proposed frontage road would also include a 12-foot multiuse path on the north side of the roadway.

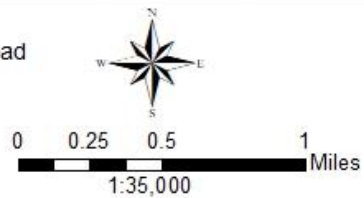
**Benefits of Project Implementation:**

- The proposed project would provide a direct connection between US 278/SR 12 and CR 249/Old Mill Road to accommodate future traffic and relieve anticipated congestion generated by three new major economic developments adjacent to the project area.
- With construction of the proposed project, operations would greatly improve at the US 278/I-20 Interchange because of the reduction in delay (LOS E or better in both peak periods). Even with LOS E operations during certain times at some ramp terminals, the delay would be reduced by one half to one third of the delay anticipated under No-Build conditions (e.g., 56.6 sec/vehicle vs. 169.9 sec/vehicle and 67.2 sec/vehicle vs. 136.0 sec/vehicle).

- The proposed project would provide a multiuse path for bicyclists and pedestrians to safely travel between US 278/SR 12 and CR 249/Old Mill Road.



Project Location Map  
I-20 Frontage Road from SR 12/US 278 to CR 249/Old Mill Road  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
PI No. 0018363  
Morgan & Walton Counties



 Project Corridor

***PI No. 0018361 – I-20 at Old Mill Road Interchange, I-20 at CR 249/Old Mill Road***  
*Morgan and Walton counties*

**Current conditions at CR 249/Old Mill Road over I-20:**

- CR 249/Old Mill Road consists of two-lanes with 11-foot travel lanes (one lane in each direction) with 0.5-foot shoulders and is classified as a local road with a posted speed of 55 mph.
- An approximately 23-foot-wide bridge currently carries CR 249/Old Mill Road over I-20.
- Vehicles cannot currently access I-20 from CR 249/Old Mill Road.
- There are no existing bicycle or pedestrian accommodations present along the corridor.
- Old Mill Road crashes exceeded the statewide averages for total crashes in 2018-2019 and for injury crashes in 2015. Crashes occurring along the Newborn Road/Hawkins Avenue corridor exceeded the statewide averages for total crashes in 2018, injury crashes in 2018-2019, and fatal crashes in 2016.

**Without this Project (No-Build):**

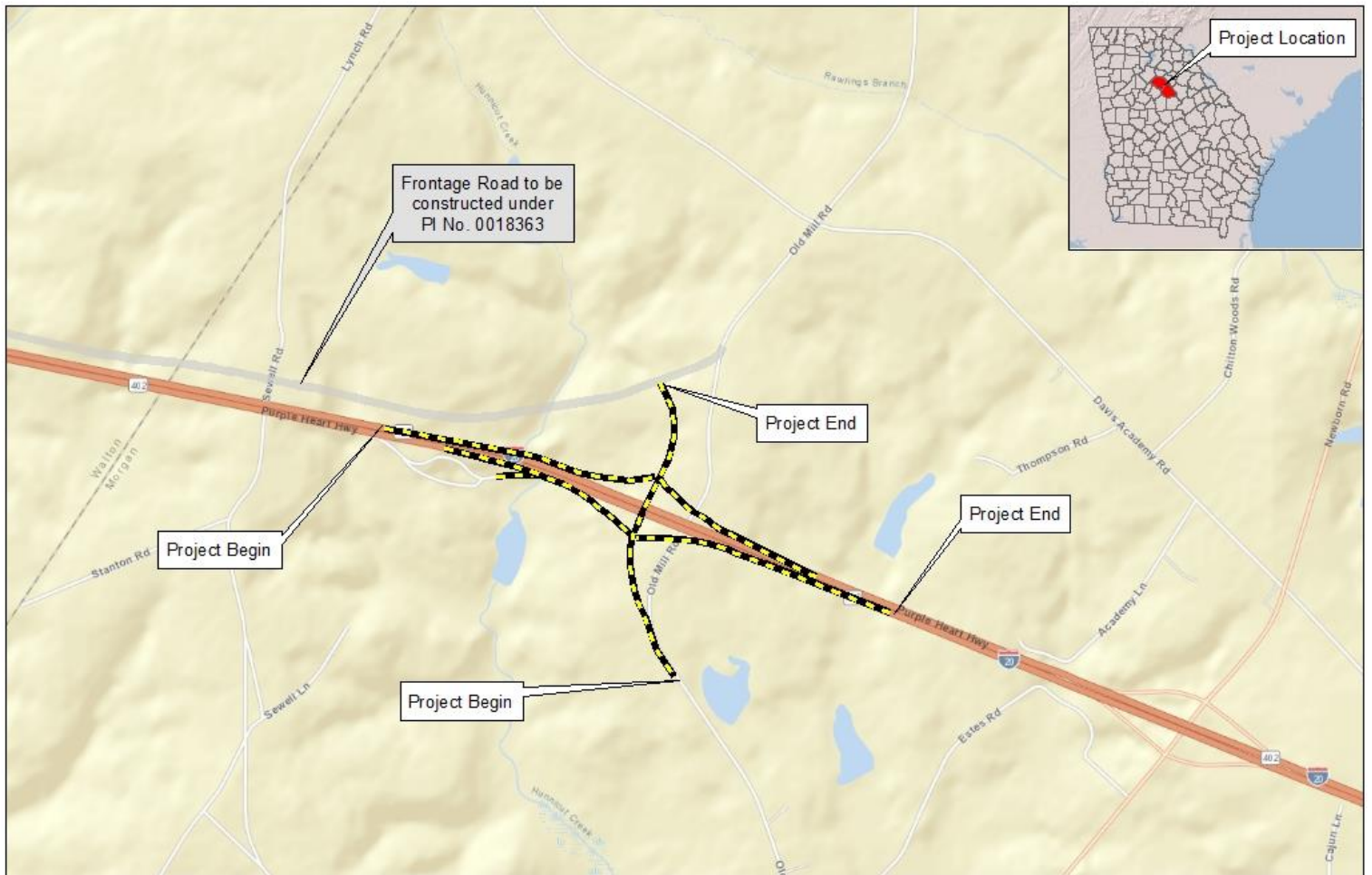
- The traffic conditions within the study area would deteriorate due to development and inhibit access to three new major economic developments in an overlapping area of Morgan, Walton, and Newton counties.
- An additional access point (other than the US 278 Interchange) to I-20 would not exist in the project area.
- Six area intersections are expected to experience failing (LOS F) or near-failing (LOS E) operations by the Design Year (2045) under No-Build conditions. The US 278 at I-20 westbound ramps would go from operating at the current LOS B to a LOS E in the Design Year (2045) a.m. and p.m. peak hours with queues spilling back to and impacting traffic operations on I-20. The anticipated delay at this intersection would be poor at 177.9 seconds/vehicle.
- Safety would not be improved because the total number of crashes in the study area would not decrease.

**Proposed Solution: (Also See Project Location Map attached)**

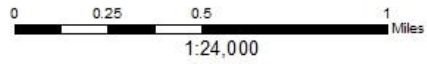
Georgia DOT proposes to construct a new location interchange at I-20 and Old Mill Road in Morgan County, Georgia. The construction of the new interchange will be to the west of the existing CR 249/Old Mill Road overpass and approximately 0.5 miles east of the existing rest area on I-20 at milepost 103.

**Benefits of Project Implementation:**

- The additional interchange would divert traffic away from other local roads and intersections throughout the study area including the Newborn Road corridor. With the new interchange, most interchanges in the project area would operate at a LOS D or better in both peak hours through the Design Year and the US 278 at I-20 westbound ramps would operate at LOS E in the p.m. peak hour in the Design Year (2045), however the anticipated delay at this intersection (59.5 seconds/vehicle) under the Build condition would be greatly improved over the No-Build condition (177.9 seconds/vehicle).
- Eastbound I-20 would operate at a LOS C or better in the Design Year, however oversaturated conditions from demand being higher than the capacity of the roadway unrelated to the proposed project, would cause three segments of I-20 westbound to operate at a LOS F in the Design Year p.m. peak hour.
- With the implementation of the new interchange, access to I-20 would be expanded and the total number of crashes in the study area is expected to decrease. Traffic would be rerouted from the signal-controlled intersection of US 278 at I-20 to the new roundabout-controlled interchange of Old Mill Road at I-20.



Project Location Map  
I-20 at Old Mill Road Interchange, I-20 at CR 249/Old Mill Road  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
PI No. 0018361  
Morgan & Walton Counties



 0018361 Corridor  
Source: ESRI Streets Basemap

**How you can assist:** Please provide feedback about our proposed solutions as well as information about any resources important to you or to the community. Are there events that future construction may affect once it begins?

**Where is this project in the process?** These projects are currently in the concept phase. The concept phase defines the existing issue seeking to be resolved along with a proposed solution that will meet the community's needs.

**What are the next steps?** After the public meeting is held, feedback will be assessed, revisions may occur to the proposed plan initially brought to the public or the No-Build alternative will be selected. Once a Concept Report is approved, the project alternatives could be refined. If major changes occur to what was previously shown to the community, additional public outreach would occur. If no major changes are proposed, the project would advance to right-of-way acquisition and into final design. After all right-of-way acquisition occurs, project design is finalized, and the project would advance to construction.

## Comment Card

Select the project that applies to your area?

- I-20 at Old Mill Rd Interchange (PI No. 0018361)
- Frontage Road (PI No. 0018363)
- US 278 Widening (PI No. 0017219)
- All PI Numbers

*Please print responses.*

Name

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Address

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Email

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Do you support the project, I-20 at Old Mill Rd Interchange (PI No. 0018361)? (check your response)

- For
- Against
- Conditional (*I would support this project if... describe below*)
- Uncommitted

Do you support the project, Frontage Road (PI No. 0018363)? (check your response)

- For
- Against
- Conditional (*I would support this project if... describe below*)
- Uncommitted

Do you support the project, US 278 Widening (PI No. 0017219)? (check your response)

- For
- Against
- Conditional (*I would support this project if... describe below*)
- Uncommitted

Comments: (Please distinguish which PI is being discussed if commenting on multiple projects):

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**Help GDOT Improve Future Meetings:**

**Advertising:** How did you hear about the meeting: Newspaper Signs GDOT Website Radio  
Word of mouth Social Media Post card Other\_\_\_\_\_

**Attendance:** Did you visit the online information for the project? Yes No

Questions:	Answer	If answer is no please provide a suggestion/comment
Was the website convenient?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Was the time convenient?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Were your questions answered?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Do you understand the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Were materials (in person or virtual) understandable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts or advertises online open houses:

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Mail to:  
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Georgia Department of Transportation  
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