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Governor Kemp announces \$25.8 million in transportation infrastructure project awards

Nineteen governments and CIDs across Georgia receive loan and grant funding

Gov. Brian Kemp today announced that the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) awarded approximately \$25.8 million in funding for 19 transportation infrastructure projects across the state through the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB). Today's awards leverage \$25.8 million in state funding to enable projects with a total value of \$174.1 million to become reality. This represents a better than 6 to 1 ratio of other funds to GTIB funds. Together, the various projects funded through this program will bring innovative and much needed transportation improvements to the local communities who have identified and prioritized these needs. SRTA is a proud to partner with the applicants to provide critical funding to move these projects toward completion.

"We continue to make strides to plan for Georgia's future growth," said Kemp. "This year's GTIB program represents my commitment to put Georgians first by strengthening rural Georgia through economic development and investment in their transportation network. Forty-two percent of the project awards and five of the eight loans approved are in rural parts of the state, significantly helping to accelerate projects. These projects will assist in advancing regional prosperity by improving infrastructure that supplies agricultural goods to market, developing access to rural economic engines such as industrial parks, and enhancing safety through paved road connectivity."

Since its inception in 2009, GTIB has awarded more than \$150 million in loans and grants to highly competitive transportation projects to enhance mobility in local communities throughout Georgia. The 19 project awards made today join with the 100 awards made since the program began. SRTA received 47 applications from eligible local government entities in Georgia,

including community improvement districts (CIDs). Of the 19 projects awarded, 8 received loans totaling \$12.5 million. This represents the greatest number and greatest amount of loan funds ever distributed by GTIB and will help communities accelerate projects while allowing GTIB to grow project funds for future awards, a true win-win for infrastructure investment in Georgia.

“As with GTIB’s rural investment, this round also makes numerous multi-modal investments in metro Atlanta to improve mobility” said SRTA Executive Director Chris Tomlinson. “Innovative projects such as infrastructure in major employment centers, roadway capacity improvements on important regional corridors that support economic development expansion and pave the way for future residential, office and retail development, along with financing innovative technology infrastructure will help to continue to move the needle in making needed transportation advancements”.

Grant applications are evaluated on a competitive basis. The criteria include transportation/engineering merit, economic merit, matching funds, and project specifics, such as the project phase and feasibility. Loan applications are evaluated based on creditworthiness and the merits of the project itself. An advisory committee comprised of stakeholder representatives’ reviews applications and provides feedback to SRTA staff, who then make recommendations to the SRTA board. Funds distributed by GTIB must be used for capital expenses related to road and bridge infrastructure work.

Award winners, project descriptions and funding amounts are listed below.

Aerotropolis CIDs

Virginia Avenue Emerging Technology Deployment

This project will pilot two innovative pedestrian safety technologies including in-pavement LED crosswalks and rapid flashing pedestrian beacons with automated activation in one or two locations each along Virginia Avenue. Virginia Avenue is considered a high-risk pedestrian corridor and these new technologies will improve safety and serve as a test case for wider applications in the metro area.

GTIB Grant Award: \$170,000

Assembly CID

Road and Utility Infrastructure – Phase III

This project will build five new roads totaling just under one mile at the General Motors redevelopment site. Funds will also be used to purchase right-of-way from Norfolk Southern allowing roads to be built adjacent to the railroad tracks in the future. These roads will support economic development including new townhomes, mixed use developments and a movie theater.

GTIB Loan Award: \$3,500,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

City of Cornelia

Level Grove Multi-Use Path

This project will construct a 10-foot concrete multi-use path for approximately one-half mile from Wayside Street to the Highway 441 Bypass. The project creates pedestrian connectivity from downtown to the Highway 441 Bypass and expands access to commercial properties.

GTIB Loan Award: \$500,000

City of Dallas

West Skyline View – Roadway Repair Project

This project will remediate pavement along 1,700 feet of West Skyline View. The current road is failing and cracking due to a poor subbase. The existing asphalt will be removed, the base will be remediated, and the roadway will be resurfaced preventing further damage and more costly repairs in the future.

GTIB Loan Award: \$517,299.90

City of Holly Springs

Holly Springs Parkway Widening Phase II

This project will widen Holly Springs Parkway for a distance of 2,900 feet from Rabbit Hill Road to Ronnell Road. Two additional travel lanes will be added along with sidewalks and street lighting. The improvements will relieve congestion on this important alternative to I-575 between Holly Springs and Woodstock.

GTIB Loan Award: \$3,500,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,250,000

City of Johns Creek

McGinnis Ferry Road Widening Phase I

This project will widen McGinnis Ferry from two to four lanes from Brassfield Drive to Sargent Road, a length of 3,600 feet. A 10-foot multi-use trail will be included on the north side and a left turn bay will be added at Fawn Lake Drive. The project will reduce localized congestion and is a first phase in a broader set of improvements to this critical east-west regional corridor.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

City of Statesboro

Fair Road & South Main Street Intersection Improvements

This project will replace an intersection where three roads meet with a single lane roundabout. The project will substantially reduce delays, improve efficiency and address safety issues at the intersection.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

City of Thomasville

Remington Avenue Streetscape Improvements

This project will make several alterations to Kern St. and Remington Ave. including reducing the number of lanes on Kern Street from five to two, adding a roundabout at the Reid St., Kern St. and Remington Ave. intersection, constructing sidewalks/multi-use paths and improving additional intersections on Remington Ave. The project will improve traffic flow and provide bike and pedestrian access from schools to commercial uses and regional parks.

GTIB Loan Award: \$2,115,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

City of Woodstock

Woodstock Hub Transformation Project

This project will convert the intersection of Mill Street and Town Lake Parkway to a roundabout, convert Mill Street from one way to two way and adjust the intersection of Mill Street, Pinehill Drive and Paden Street. Additionally, a left turn lane will be added on Towne Lake Parkway at

Main Street, Main Street will be repaved and sidewalks will be added on Town Lake Parkway. The project will substantially reduce delays, minimize backups to I-575 and improve traffic flow in downtown Woodstock.

GTIB Loan Award: \$2,024,025.61

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,250,000

Cobb County

Old 41 Highway Realignment

This project will realign Old 41 Highway from Kennesaw Avenue to Stilesboro Road (0.33 miles), add capacity to four lanes and replace existing signals with roundabouts. The project will also include a grade separated multi-use path. These improvements will reduce congestion, improve traffic flow and reduce vehicular and non-vehicular safety issues.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

Forsyth County

SR 369 Widening and New Interchange at SR 400

This project will widen 369 from two to four lanes from west of the SR 9/369 intersection to 1,500 ft east of SR 400, eliminating the at-grade intersection with SR 400 and upgrading the intersection at SR 306. This will reduce delays at all three intersections and extend limited access on SR 400 further north.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

Gwinnett County

Sugarloaf Parkway Widening

This project will add an additional travel lane in each direction on Sugarloaf Parkway from Meadow Church Road to Satellite Boulevard, a distance of 0.75 miles. Dual left turn lanes and extended right turn lanes will be added at the intersection with Meadow Church Road. Smart corridor technology will also be installed as part of an innovative regional project allowing vehicle to infrastructure communications. The project improves access to the Infinite Energy Center redevelopment thereby supporting economic development and is part of a first wave of innovative transportation technology in metro Atlanta.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

Hall County

White Sulphur Road Improvement Project

This project will realign White Sulphur Road, which provides access within Hall County's Gateway Industrial Center. The realignment will shift the existing roadway east of the railroad tracks and widen it, thereby eliminating two railroad crossings, minimizing the mixing of industrial and residential traffic and making the road more suitable for truck traffic. The realigned road will improve freight travel within the industrial complex, support current and future economic development and improve safety.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

Macon County

Old Perry Road Improvement Phase II

This project will pave over two miles of dirt road providing paved road connectivity between two state routes. The paved facility will better serve large commercial trucks that transport

agricultural goods to market from businesses along the road and will substantially reduce access issues for residents and county services such as EMS and school buses.

GTIB Grant Award: \$500,000

Meriwether County

County Line Road – Road and Bridge Improvements

This project will replace the existing one lane bridge allowing it to accommodate two-way traffic. The existing gravel road that crosses the bridge and connects County Line Road with Meriwether County Industrial Park Drive will be widened and paved for a length of 1,700 feet. The project will improve safety and access to the industrial park.

GTIB Loan Award: \$150,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$100,000

Metro South CID

Constitution Road Freight Corridor Improvements

This project will improve a 1.6 mile stretch of Bailey St., Fayetteville Rd. and Constitution Rd. including a truck roundabout at the five-leg intersection of Fleetwood Dr., Fayetteville Rd., Woodstock Rd., and Bailey St. and signalization at Bailey St. and US 23. Constitution Rd. will be resurfaced and widened from 20 to 26 feet and its intersection with Fayetteville Rd will be realigned. The project will address safety issues, improve traffic flow and better accommodate the high levels of freight traffic within the corridor.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

Midtown Alliance

5th Street Complete Street

This project will upgrade 5th St. from Williams St. to Myrtle St., a distance of 0.60 miles. Improvements include adding a 10-foot cycle track and mid-block pedestrian crossings between Williams St. and West Peachtree, resurfacing throughout the corridor, a new traffic signal at Williams St. and 5th St. and upgraded traffic signals throughout. The project supports substantial commercial and institutional investment in the area by improving the safety and efficiency of vehicular and non-vehicular travel in this high growth area.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

Tucker Summit CID

Hwy 78 at Mountain Industrial Boulevard Operational and Safety Improvements

This project will add a median on Mountain Industrial Boulevard (MIB) and change access to MIB by eliminating Sarr Pkwy. access, improving turning radii at Hammerhill Rd. and reducing Hirsch Dr. and northern Hammerhill Rd. access to right-in, right-out only. US 78 ramps accessing MIB will have one lane added while lights would be changed to restrict right turns on red from MIB onto US 78 ramps. The project improves capacity to and safety within this critical regional corridor that experiences a high rate of crashes.

GTIB Grant Award: \$600,000

Worth County

Jones Road Transportation Connector

This project will widen and pave approximately two miles of dirt road beginning at the intersection of Jones Road and Sledge Road to the Jones Road intersection with Pine Forest

Road. The project will improve the speed and reliability of shipping agricultural goods to market as well as the provision of fire and EMS services and will reduce maintenance costs.

GTIB Loan Award: \$200,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$150,000

For more information, visit www.srta.ga.gov/gtib.

About the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA)

SRTA is a state-level, independent authority created to operate tolled transportation facilities within Georgia and act as the transportation financing arm for the state. SRTA manages the collection of tolls on Georgia's Express Lanes System through the use of Peach Pass, administers the Atlanta region's vanpool program and manages the Xpress regional commuter coach transit service. In 2017, SRTA combined with the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) to jointly provide the services of both state authorities. The GRTA Board of Directors continues to oversee developments of regional impact, air quality reporting and regional transportation plan approval.