

## **PRESS**RELEASE

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## **Georgia DOT Breaks Ground on \$31 Million Windsor Spring Road Widening Project**

Richmond County to benefit from the Transportation Investment Act

**AUGUSTA, Ga.** – State Transportation Board (STB) Chair Don Grantham led the official groundbreaking ceremony for the anticipated Windsor Spring Road project. The Georgia Department of Transportation's Office of TIA awarded the \$31 million widening project in Augusta-Richmond County to E. R. Snell Contractor, Inc., with a completion date of April 2017.



STB Chair Don Grantham and GDOT Commissioner Keith Golden speak at today's groundbreaking event. Additional photo

"This one has been a long time coming, and we could not be more pleased to see this project happening. We are excited to see our transportation tax dollars used to get started with the widening," STB Chair Don Grantham commented. "Our communities are benefitting each day from the tax collections - with large projects like Windsor Spring Road and smaller ones like sidewalks and traffic signals."

Augusta Mayor Deke Copenhaver, Augusta Chamber President Sue Parr and Citizen's Review Panel Chair Phil Wahl also joined Chair Grantham with remarks at the groundbreaking.

GDOT's State TIA Administrator Mike Dover noted the quick mobilization time from contractor E. R. Snell receiving a notice to proceed on the project to the groundbreaking this week. The project widens the roadway from Willis Foreman Road to Tobacco Road to four lanes with a raised median, adds 16-foot shoulders, and 8-feet wide multi-use trails on both sides of the road. The new design will improve safety, efficiency and traffic flow in the area.

The contractor began clearing land immediately, and utilities relocations are expected to begin as early as next week. Additional construction details and any lane closure schedules will be forthcoming.

Forty-six counties and their respective cities comprise the three regional districts that approved the TIA referendum last July. Cumulatively, they are expected to self-generate approximately \$1.8 billion in new revenue dedicated to local transportation improvements. Georgia DOT will coordinate work for cities and counties on some smaller jobs, and also assist in the engineering and construction management of larger projects. All of the projects were

selected by regional commission roundtables of local elected officials after much public input. Seventy-five percent of the revenues will be utilized for the construction of these roundtable pre-selected projects while the remaining 25 percent will be disbursed to the regions' governments each month on a predetermined formula basis for discretionary use on local transportation-related efforts.

Committed to full disclosure of its TIA-related activities, Georgia DOT maintains a webpage devoted to the program and featuring current updates on all project activities; it may be accessed by visiting: <a href="http://www.ga-tia.com/">http://www.ga-tia.com/</a>

The Georgia Department of Transportation continues its construction program this summer. Dozens of important roadway improvement projects are ongoing throughout the state as we work to deliver projects on time and on budget while keeping our transportation network the nation's finest. Pardon the necessary inconvenience and please drive cautiously and safely at all times, especially in work zones. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit <a href="https://www.dot.ga.gov">www.dot.ga.gov</a> or subscribe to our Press Release <a href="https://www.dot.ga.gov">RSS feed</a>.

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Below: Augusta leaders join elected officials, GA DOT staff and others to kick-off the Windsor Spring Road widening project.

