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Governor Kemp Announces \$17 Million Dollars Awarded to Transportation Infrastructure Projects

16 local governments and CIDs across Georgia receive loan and grant funding in 2022

ATLANTA – Governor Brian Kemp announced today that the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) awarded approximately \$17 million in Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB) loans and grants that will help fund 16 transportation infrastructure projects across the state with a cumulative project value of \$99 million. This represents a better than five to one ratio of other funds to GTIB funds in this round of funding awards. Since 2010, GTIB has awarded over \$182 million in grants and loans enabling projects with a combined project value exceeding \$1 billion to move forward, demonstrating the impact of the state’s investment and outstanding partnerships with local governments and community improvement districts (CIDs) in Georgia over the past 12 years.

The considerable and wide-ranging GTIB funding during Governor Kemp’s first term is a testament of his administration’s commitment to increase Georgia’s mobility and positively impact the state’s economy. “This is the fourth largest amount of low interest loans issued in nine rounds of funding - with three of the largest four taking place during my administration,” said Governor Brian Kemp. “This strategic program allows us to accelerate active projects and make strategic, long-term investments. Ultimately, it is part of what makes Georgia’s transportation infrastructure network one of the top-ranked in the entire country.”

Since its inception in 2010, GTIB has provided strategic state investments in critical transportation projects that enhance mobility in local communities throughout Georgia. Applications are evaluated on a competitive basis. Criteria include transportation/engineering merit, economic merit, matching funds, and project specifics such as project phase and feasibility. Loan applications are also evaluated for creditworthiness and overall project merits.

An advisory committee comprised of representatives from state agencies and statewide associations evaluate SRTA staff recommendations and make final recommendations to the SRTA board. Funds distributed by GTIB are used for capital expenses related to road and bridge infrastructure work.

"This year will be 12 years for GTIB, and we share the same enthusiasm and commitment that we did with our first round of awards," said SRTA Executive Director Chris Tomlinson. The program continues to support and encourage transportation projects that promote economic development and mobility for Georgia citizens and this year's award recipients are reflective of that."

Recent awards have been provided to a diverse group of 16 projects in five cities, five CIDs and six counties. Tomlinson confirmed that, "With this round of funding, we kept the focus on investments in key economic engines such as downtown Atlanta, Town Center in Cobb County, Athens-Clarke County, and accelerated much needed infrastructure upgrades in rural areas such as the City of Sparks and Union County."

The GTIB application window started October 1st and closed on Wednesday, December 15, 2021. Fiscal Year 2022 awardees, project descriptions, and funding amounts are as follows:

Atlanta Downtown Improvement District

Courtland Street Bus Lane

This project will convert the westernmost travel lane of Courtland Street to a bus-only lane during the AM/PM peak from Portman Boulevard to MLK Jr Dr., approximately one mile. This lane will be used by CobbLinc, GCT, MARTA, and Xpress buses and is expected to reduce transit travel times and improve on-time performance. The conversion includes repaving and restriping the lane and the addition of three bus stops. The lane will connect to the Summerhill BRT Lane on MLK Dr.

GTIB Grant Award: \$500,000

Athens-Clarke County

Tallassee Road Bridge Replacement

This project will rebuild the existing and structurally insufficient bridge on Tallassee Road near its intersection with Mill Drive. The project will add a ten-foot multi-use trail/sidewalk and include a traffic signal and stormwater infrastructure upgrades. GTIB funds will allow pedestrian and bike infrastructure to be included within the current schedule. The project will improve safety in an area where non-vehicular fatalities have occurred.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

Cherokee County

Technology Ridge Parkway - Phase I

This project will create a new two-lane half-mile road from Bluffs Parkway to Heard Drive. Two roundabouts, sidewalks and multi-use paths will be incorporated. The project will improve connections to the Cherokee County Airport, provide opportunities for economic development along its route, and serve as a north-south alternative to I-575 between exits 20 and 24.

GTIB Loan Award: \$2,900,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

City of East Point

Janice Drive Intersection Improvements

This project will realign the three-legged T-type intersection at Washington Road and Janice Drive to create a four-legged, signalized intersection. Left and right turn lanes will also be added to Washington Drive. The project will improve safety and reduce congestion.

GTIB Grant Award: \$504,002

City of Lawrenceville

Intersection Improvements – Scenic Highway at Jackson/New Hope Road

This project will improve New Hope Road northbound by converting the right turn lane to a through lane, adding a right turn and lengthening the left turn lane. An additional southbound through lane on Jackson Street and a corresponding southbound receiving lane on New Hope Road will be constructed. Together, these capacity improvements will significantly reduce congestion. Traffic signals will also be updated to improve the functional capability of the intersection.

GTIB Grant Award: \$400,000

City of Nashville

Resurfacing Program

This project will resurface three miles of roads which would typically take several years to complete. GTIB funding will allow the city to achieve economies of scale in contracting thereby creating cost savings while significantly accelerating the city's resurfacing program.

GTIB Loan Award: \$241,390

GTIB Grant Award: \$600,000

City of Sparks

Brushy Creek Resurfacing

This project will resurface one mile of Brushy Creek Road from city hall to McCranie Road. GTIB funding will allow the entire resurfacing to take place at one time, accelerating project delivery and minimizing the impact of inflation.

GTIB Loan Award: \$107,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$133,000

City of Union City

McClure Road Paving

This project will pave and widen McClure Road, which is currently closed to traffic from SR 92 to the city limit, a distance of 1.24 miles. The upgraded roadway will provide access to landlocked parcels in an area that continues to experience residential and commercial growth.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

City of Woodstock

Neese Road Northern Segment

This project will widen Neese Road from Washington Avenue to Arnold Mill Road by adding a two-way left turn center lane. A roundabout will be included at the Neese Road/Washington Avenue intersection and sidewalks and multi-use paths will be provided. This final phase of the Neese Road widening project will be accelerated with GTIB funding and significantly improve north-south mobility east of I-575.

GTIB Loan Award: \$2,900,000

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

Fayette County

SR 92 at Hampton Road Improvements

This project will improve Hampton Road's two stop-controlled intersections on SR 92 by creating a traffic light at the northern intersection and a roundabout at the southern intersection. The project will significantly reduce delays on Hampton Road and improve access to the state highway system.

GTIB Grant Award: \$300,000

Forsyth County

Coal Mountain Connector

This project will construct a new four-lane road from SR 9 to SR 369, a distance of 1.34 miles. A roundabout will be constructed on Settingdown Road, and a light will be installed at its intersection with Bridgetowne Drive. This project will improve mobility west of GA 400 and increase access to the state highway system.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

Gateway 85 CID

Beaver Ruin at I-85 Interchange Improvements

This project will make capacity improvements at the Beaver Ruin Road/I-85 intersection by adding left and right turn lanes to both on and off ramps. A southbound lane on Beaver Ruin Road will also be extended through its intersection with Shackelford Road for a distance of 1,100 feet. This project will reduce delays at multiple intersections along Beaver Ruin Road and reduce backups onto I-85.

GTIB Grant Award: \$750,000

Gwinnett County

Rowen Development Roadway Infrastructure

This project will construct the first phase of roadway infrastructure for the Rowen Development, a 2,000-acre community in eastern Gwinnett along SR 316. A new roadway connection to SR 316 at Drowning Creek Road, two miles of new four-lane roadways with three roundabouts, eight-foot sidewalks, and a fourteen-foot multi-use trail will be built. This project will pave the way for the first phase of development within the site and help drive economic development along the SR 316 corridor.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

Lilburn CID

Bryson Park/Hood Road Realignment at Lawrenceville Highway

This project will realign Lilburn School Road and Jennifer Drive which currently form separate, stop-controlled intersections with Lawrenceville Highway. Both intersections will be removed allowing the two roads to intersect and form a new roundabout on Bryson Park property. A third leg of the roundabout will be built to intersect with Lawrenceville Highway and align with Hood Road to the south. A light will be placed at this third leg which eliminates three separate stop-controlled intersections. This project will improve access to Lawrenceville Highway and provide significant safety benefits.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

Town Center CID

Big Shanty Road Widening

This project will widen Big Shanty Road from two to four lanes with a raised median from Chastain Meadows Parkway to Bells Ferry Road, a distance of 2100 feet. Intersection

improvements at Chastain Meadows Parkway will include the addition of a right turn lane while a roundabout will be included at Bells Ferry Road. This is the final phase of the Big Shanty corridor expansion and will substantially improve east-west mobility and access to the interstate system.

GTIB Grant Award: \$500,000

Union County

Pat Haralson Drive Roundabout

This project will construct a roundabout at the intersection of Pat Haralson Drive and Deep South Farm Road which is currently stop-controlled and provides access to the Union General Hospital. The roundabout will improve traffic flow and accommodate an upcoming medical office expansion.

GTIB Grant Award: \$1,000,000

For more information about the GTIB program, visit www.srta.ga.gov/qtib.

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. In 2017, SRTA combined with the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) to jointly provide the services of both state authorities. The GRTA board continues to oversee developments of regional impact, air quality reporting and regional transportation plan approval.

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