

FACTSHEET

Date: Tuesday, July 02, 2013

Project Name: Turner Hill Road Widening

Project Number: CSSTP-0006-00(891)
PI Number: 0006891

Brief, general description: The Georgia Department of Transportation is in the preconstruction stages of a project to provide 1.50 miles of roadway improvements along Rockland Road/Turner Hill Road, as well as several adjacent side road improvements, in DeKalb County.

Project Location: The project is located on CR 632/Turner Hill Road from Hayden Quarry Road to McDaniel Mill Road in DeKalb County.

Proposed Project Description: The proposed roadway improvements will consist of modifying an existing two-lane rural road into a four-lane divided highway with curb and gutter, sidewalks, and a 10' multi-use trail. This corridor serves as an important north-south connection in this part of DeKalb County and with the anticipated growth, this area is expected to experience high pedestrian volumes. To provide safety to residential vehicular traffic as well as pedestrians, the speed limit will need to be reduced from the current 45 mph to 35 mph. The project begins approximately 1450' west of the McDaniel Mill Road intersection and ends approximately 300' north of the Mall Parkway intersection. The project will also include modifications to the signalized intersection of Turner Hill Road at Mall Parkway, including the conversion of southbound dual left turning lanes to a second travel lane and a single left turn lane. Rockland Road, McDaniel Mill Road, and Hayden Quarry Road will be realigned at their intersections with Rockland Road/Turner Hill Road and the horizontal and vertical alignments will be designed to comply with the appropriate design speed requirements. The existing corrugated metal pipe culvert carrying an unnamed tributary to Honey Creek under Rockland Road will be replaced with a concrete, double barrel bottomless arch structure. A detention pond serving the Stoney Creek residential neighborhood will be relocated to accommodate the proposed horizontal alignment improvements to Rockland Road/Turner Hill Road. Utility relocations, other than when a direct conflict exists, are not within the scope of this project.

Preconstruction Info: The concept report was approved in May 2007.
The NEPA document was approved in February 2013.
A Preliminary Field Plan Review has been scheduled for July 10, 2013.

Project Schedule:

Public Involvement Phase: Completed
PIOH Dates/Locations: August 20, 2007 at the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott at 7850 Stonecrest Square, Lithonia, Georgia 30038.
PHOH Dates/Locations: April 10, 2012 at the Stonecrest Library located at 3123 Klondike Road, Lithonia, Georgia 30038.

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Let Date: TBD
Right of Way: 2014
Construction Start Date: 2016 (tentative)
Construction Duration: 24 months (estimated)

Background:

The eastern edge of DeKalb County along I-20 is experiencing residential and commercial development in the area of The Mall at Stonecrest. The existing interchange at I-20 and Turner Hill Road already has steady volumes of traffic and is anticipated to face an increase in traffic volumes as more development projects are completed in the area, including large tracts of retail, commercial, and residential growth along the Turner Hill Road corridor. The development in this area also includes five residential developments and two Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) [Forest Lake (DRI #985) and Lakeview at Stonecrest (DRI #987)] that will increase travel demand in the area.

With additional traffic from the planned area developments, it is projected that existing infrastructure will not be able to provide adequate capacity to meet expected demand. To accommodate this current and projected growth, improvements are needed to address future deficiencies in capacity, safety, and pedestrian access.

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve the overall level of transportation service by enhancing operational efficiency, north-south access, safety, and pedestrian access. While the existing two-lane road adequately handles current traffic volumes, recent development and projected growth will lead to traffic volumes exceeding the roadway's capacity to safely and efficiently operate by 2034. Turner Hill Road currently provides access from undeveloped and primarily residential developments south of the project corridor to I-20, The Mall at Stonecrest, and retail land uses north of the corridor. The proposed project also would fulfill the goal of the *2005-2025 DeKalb County Comprehensive Plan* to make pedestrian safety and accommodation a top priority. The *Comprehensive Plan* includes an objective to “construct sidewalks along all arterials and collectors.” By including sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, the project fulfills that County objective.

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