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State of Georgia
#2 Capitol Square, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1002

January 13, 2005

Dear Citizen:

Thank you for attending the public information open house for the proposed widenings of Lee Road/South Sweetwater Road, (Ph 1) and Lee Road, (Ph 2) projects. In this handout package you will find information about the need and purpose of the projects, a description of the projects, project location maps, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed projects. Department of Transportation and Douglas County representatives, who can be identified by the name tags they are wearing, are available to discuss the projects and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the projects with a DOT representative. There will be no formal presentation.

A court reporter will be available for those persons who would like to make a verbal statement about the projects. You may also complete a comment card and deposit it into the box provided here or send in written comments about the projects until January 24, 2005. Written comments should be sent to *Mr. Harvey D. Keepler, State Environmental/Location Engineer, Georgia Department of Transportation, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30336-1593*. Comments can also be made via the web at www.dot.state.ga.us. Click on Public Outreach from the list of Featured Links. All comments will be made a part of the project record. We hope you will take advantage of one of these opportunities to let the Department know your view of the proposal.

The displays used at this meeting will be available for review at the Douglas County Department of Transportation located at the Douglas County Courthouse 8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134; for ten days after the public information. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at this same location, as soon as compilation is completed.

Again, thank you for attending this meeting and for giving us your comments.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Turner, P. E.
Director of Preconstruction

TLT/jjv-DWA

Attachments

MSL-0004-00(427) Douglas County
PI No 0004427
Widening of Lee Rd / South Sweetwater Road Phase 1

Project Description

Project MSL-0004-00(427) Douglas County is the widening of Lee Road/ South Sweetwater Road - Phase 1, which will begin at the intersection of Lee Road and Interstate 20 interchange and extend north approximately 1.9 miles to the intersection of South Sweetwater Road and US 78 (Bankhead Highway). Major intersections on the South Sweetwater Road portion are at US 78-Bankhead Highway, Skyview Drive, and Lee Road. On the Lee Road portion, major intersections are at Vulcan Drive and Sweetwater Industrial Boulevard. This project is proposed as a 4-lane divided facility from I-20 to Skyview Drive. Because of right of way and environmental constraints, a 2-lane section with a center turn lane is proposed from Skyview Drive to US 78 / Bankhead Highway. A realignment of Lee Road/South Sweetwater Road is proposed where Lee Road currently joins Sweetwater Road at a T-intersection.

Project Need and Purpose

The purpose of project MSL-0004-00(427) is to widen Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road from US 78/SR 5/SR 8-Bankhead Highway to I-20 West to provide greater mobility in the area. The sections of Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road within the project description are currently two lanes and are classified major arterials in Douglas County. At the southern limit of the project, Lee Road connects to Interstate 20 at exit 41. At this interchange is a 145-space park and ride lot which is utilized by Douglas County vanpool and other local residents. The Lee Road interchange with I-20 provides Interstate access to eastern Douglas County in the Lithia Springs area and also connects to the eastern limits of Douglasville.

The existing 2004 traffic volumes on Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road between I-20 and Bankhead Highway range from 13,150 vehicles per day (vpd) on Lee Road just north of the I-20 interchange to 9,250 vpd on South Sweetwater Road near Bankhead Highway. Using the level of service (LOS) guidelines from the *GRTA Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) Review-Technical Guidelines for Generalized Annual Daily Volumes*, the 2004 LOS on Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road between I-20 and Bankhead Highway ranges from C on Lee Road just north of the I-20 interchange to B on South Sweetwater Road near Bankhead Highway. In its current configuration, another operational issue is that the two-lane facility does not provide optimal passing opportunities, which cause vehicles to platoon.

The traffic volumes are projected to increase on Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road by 3.4 percent annually. The projected 2028 traffic volumes along Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road are expected to range from 28,180 vpd on Lee Road just north of the I-20 interchange to 22,150 vpd on South Sweetwater Road near Bankhead Highway. Under no-build conditions, the future level of service (2028) is projected to be LOS F for Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road between I-20 and Bankhead Highway. The widening project would result in a four-lane divided roadway cross-section and an improved LOS for the Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road sections in 2028 of C and B, respectively. This project would improve capacity to an acceptable level and, in turn, would improve traffic operations by reducing vehicle delays and improving safety.

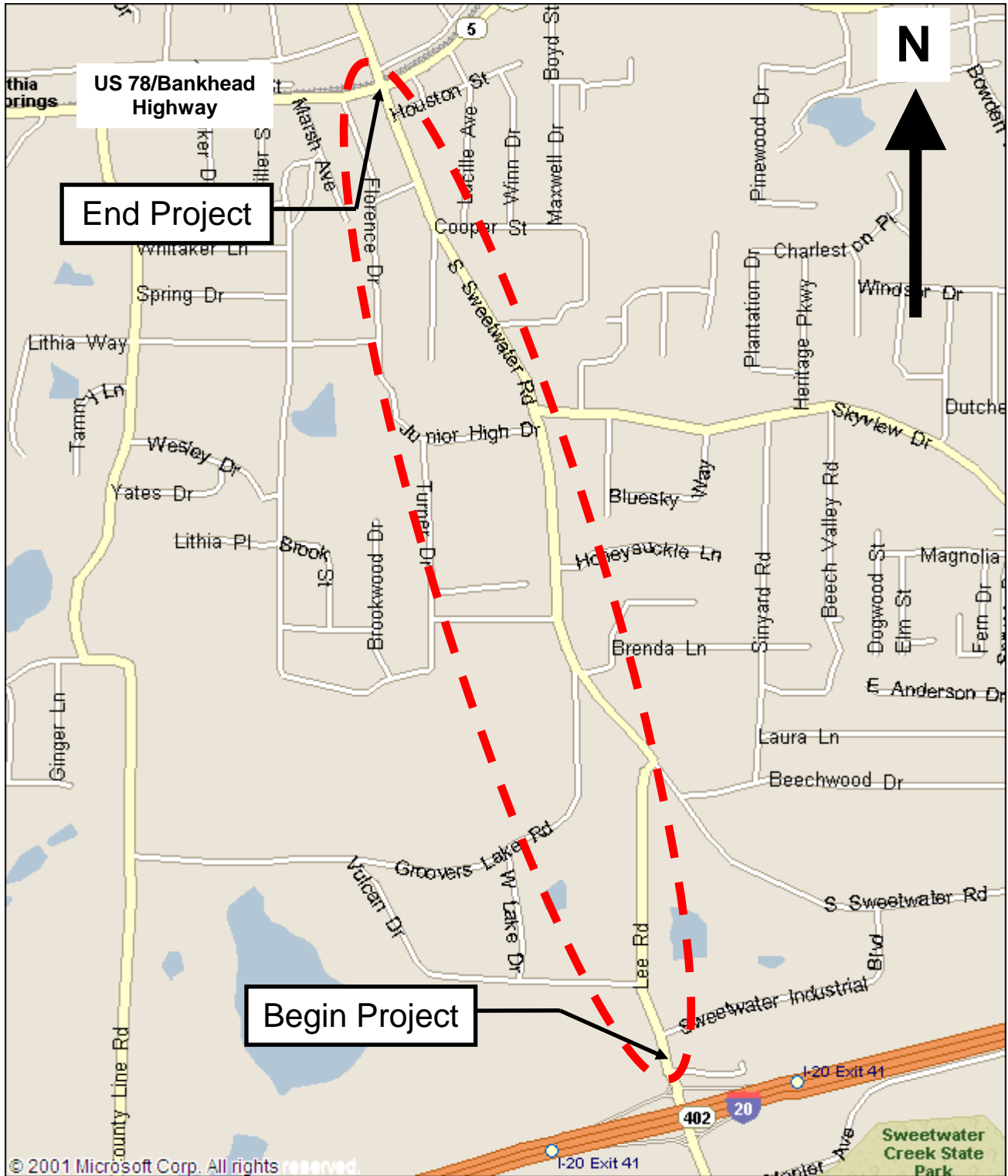
The need exists to improve safety, operations, and mobility for local and through traffic in Douglas County to accommodate its growing population. Widening Lee Road and South Sweetwater Road from US 78/SR 5/SR 8-Bankhead Highway to I-20 West will facilitate a better connection from I-20 and the Bankhead Highway corridor by improving the north-south movement in realigning the intersection of Lee Road to South Sweetwater Road. The improvement will have a beneficial impact on traffic safety by directing turning movements at signalized intersections, providing turning lanes at major intersections and providing sidewalks and cross-walks at intersections.

LOCATION MAP

MSL-0004-00(427) Douglas County

PI No. 0004427

Lee Road / South Sweetwater Road Phase 1



MSL-0004-00(428) Douglas County
PI No 0004428
Widening of Lee Road Phase 2

Project Description

C.R.817/Lee Road is a primary North-South corridor in Douglas County, Georgia. The proposed project will improve C.R. 817/Lee Road from S.R.92/Fairburn Road (M.P.0.00) to the entrance of the Villa at West Ridge Apartments (M.P. 2.54) located 1450-feet south of the east bound entrance/exit ramps at I-20. Improvements will consist of widening Lee Road from a two-lane roadway with a rural section to a four-lane urban roadway providing two travel lanes in each direction divided by a 20-foot wide raised grass median. The existing traffic signal at S.R.92/Fairburn Road will be upgraded to provide protected left turning movements. The intersection with S.R.92/Fairburn Road will be constructed to provide for two left turn lanes and a right turn lane with storage along Lee Road. The signal at East County Line Road will be replaced with a new signal with signal phasing for protected left turns. The intersection at East County Line Road will be reconstructed to provide left and right turn lanes with storage. The intersection of Lee Road and South County Line Road will be reconstructed to provide left and right turn lanes with storage. Left turning movements from South County Line Road will be stop sign controlled and right turns will be yield sign controlled. Additional turn lanes will be provided along Lee Road as required. The total length of the proposed project is approximately 2.54 miles.

Project Need and Purpose

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is scheduled to adopt a new Transportation Plan for the 13-county Atlanta metropolitan area in December 2004. The Plan addresses travel needs through the year 2030. This Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the direct result of a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuous planning process conducted by ARC, local governments and the Georgia Department of Transportation in cooperation with the Federal Highway and Federal Transit Administrations. The currently approved 2025 RTP and the draft 2030 RTP both include the CR 817/Lee Road widening project. The proposed project is also listed in the short range Fiscal Year 2003-2005 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) as number DO-220A. The proposed project is planned as a 4-lane divided facility that would extend from SR 92 north to I-20 West.

The need exists to provide local and through traffic with improved transportation infrastructure on CR 817/Lee Road that dramatically increases the roadway's existing capacity. Lee Road is currently functionally classified as an Urban Minor Arterial. The existing (year 2004) daily volume on Lee Road is 13,345. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide the additional capacity needed to accommodate the projected number of trips that are likely to use this roadway facility for either local access or as a travel corridor between SR 92 and I-20. The projected number of daily trips is 15,020 for the year 2008 and 27,128 for the year 2028. Widening Lee Road would provide a safer environment for vehicles to operate as well as facilitate the movement of freight more efficiently from its nearby generators to I-20 and points beyond.

Lee Road functions as an arterial route connecting traffic on SR 92 to I-20. The northern terminus of this project would tie into the Georgia Department of Transportation's proposed Lee Road over I-20 Bridge Replacement Project and the proposed 4-lane section of Lee Road going from I-20 to US 78/SR 5 & 8. Future traffic projections suggest that the Lee Road widening has independent utility because projected traffic on Lee Road between SR 92 and I-20 indicates a capacity constrained condition.

There are two projects in the area that must be coordinated with this Lee Road widening project. They are: Lee Road/South Sweetwater Road, PH.1 (from I-20 west to US 78), listed as TIP number DO-022 and Lee Road Bridge over I-20, listed as TIP number DO-220B.

LOCATION MAP

MSL-0004-00(428) Douglas County

PI No. 0004428

Lee Road Phase 2



**Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Information Open House Comment Card
Project MSL-0004-00(427) Douglas County, PI 0004427
Project MSL-0004-00(428) Douglas County, PI 0004428**

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? _____

Which Phase of the project are you interested in?

Phase 1 (I-20 to Bankhead)

Phase 2 (SR 92 to I-20)

Both

Comments _____

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____ Newspaper _____
Signs _____ Word of Mouth _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? _____

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? _____

Please share your suggestions on improving the way GDOT conducts public meetings?

