



## Department of Transportation

HAROLD E. LINNENKOHL  
COMMISSIONER  
(404) 656-5206

DAVID E. STUDDILL, JR., P.E.  
CHIEF ENGINEER  
(404) 656-5277

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

BUDDY GRATTON, P.E.  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
(404) 656-5212

EARL L. MAHFUZ  
TREASURER  
(404) 656-5224

October 26, 2006

Thank you for attending the public information open house for the proposed widening and improvements of I-85 in Franklin County, Georgia, Projects NH-IM-85-2(173) and (174); P.I. Nos. 110690 and 110700. In this handout package you will find a need and purpose statement, project description, location map, and comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed project. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, who can be identified by the name tags they are wearing, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with a DOT or county 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 project. You may also complete a comment card and deposit it into the box provided here or send in written comments about the project until Monday, November 6, 2006. 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](http://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 and plans will be available for review for ten days after the public information open house at the GDOT District One Area Office 3, 301 Conger Road, Carnesville, Georgia 30521, and at the GDOT Office of Environment/Location, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, GA 30336-1593. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at the Office of Environment/Location, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, GA 30336-1593 as soon as compilation is completed.

Again, thank you for attending this public information open house and for giving us your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Long / SBIL".

Todd Long, P.E.  
Director of Preconstruction

TL/LR/hh

Attachments

**Projects NH-IM-85-2(173) and (174), Franklin County, P.I. Nos. 110690 and 110700  
Proposed Widening and Improvements on I-85**

**Need and Purpose**

The purpose of the proposed project is to widen the existing four lane mainline of I-85 to six lanes beginning north of SR 51 and ending north of SR 17 in Franklin County. These two projects are part of a series of projects, NH-IM-85-2 (164-175), which would add one travel lane inside the median in each direction on I-85 from I-985 in Gwinnett County north to the South Carolina state line. I-85 is a primary corridor in northeastern Georgia and the proposed projects would relieve congestion on I-85.

2004 Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) on I-85 ranges from 39,800 to 40,900, providing a Level of Service (LOS) "C". Level of service ratings are relative measures of traffic congestion that range from "A" to "F". A LOS "A" rating represents an ideal travel situation with relatively low traffic volumes and high travel speeds. A LOS of "C" rating represents a stable flow with restricted speed and restricted lane change freedom. A LOS "F" rating, however, represents a "traffic jam" situation. Without the project, LOS ratings are expected to deteriorate to LOS "F" by the year 2029 with traffic volumes ranging from 72,900 AADT to 76,000 AADT. With the implementation of the proposed projects a LOS "C" is predicted in the year 2029. The result of increasing traffic volumes without a corresponding improvement in roadway capacity is deteriorating level of service (LOS) ratings, therefore creating congestion on I-85.

**Project Description**

GDOT Project NH-IM-85-2(173) begins north of SR 51 and ends north of SR 320. Currently, I-85 consists of four 12-foot wide travel lanes (two in each direction) with 4-foot wide paved shoulders adjacent to the median and 10-foot wide paved shoulders on the outside lanes. From mile log 160.0-160.3 and 161.6-164.4 there is a 64-foot wide depressed median and from mile log 160.3-161.6 there is a 102-foot wide depressed median. The existing right-of-way is 350 feet. The total length of the proposed project is 4.4 miles (mile log 160.0-164.4). From mile log 160.0-160.3 and 161.6-164.4 the proposed typical section for the project would consist of six 12-foot wide travel lanes (three in each direction) and a median barrier. From mile log 160.3-161.6 the proposed typical section for the project would consist of six 12-foot wide travel lanes (three in each direction) with a 64'-4" wide depressed median. There would be 12-foot wide paved shoulders adjacent to the median and 12-foot wide paved shoulders on the outside lanes. The right-of-way would be a minimum of 350 feet. Within the project limits there are bridges over Indian Creek, Middle Fork Broad River, and Stephens Creek. These bridges would be widened or replaced as part of the proposed improvements.

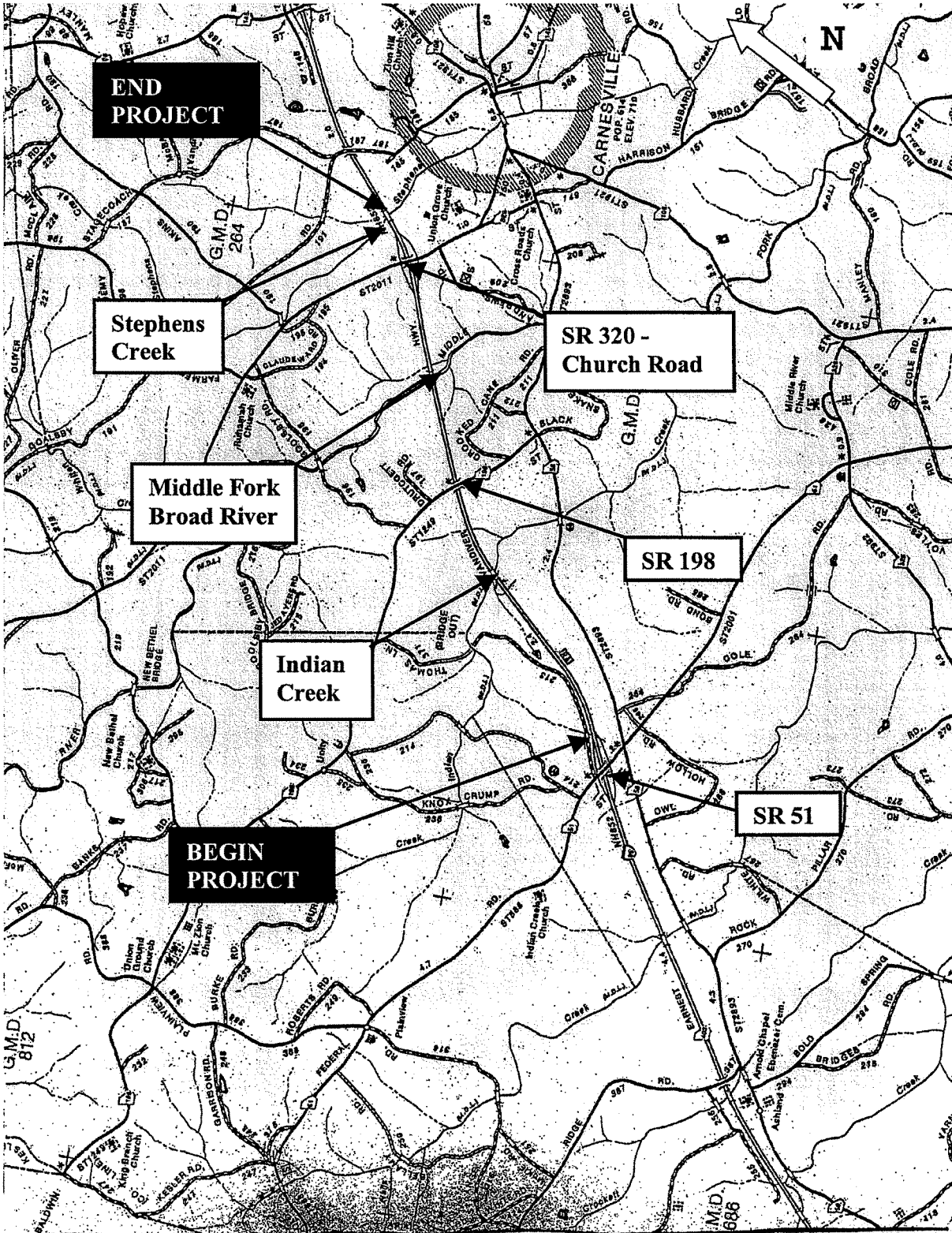
GDOT Project NH-IM-85-2(174) begins north of SR 320 and ends north of SR 17. Currently, I-85 consists of four 12-foot wide travel lanes (two in each direction) with 4-foot wide paved shoulders adjacent to the 64-foot wide median and 10-foot wide paved shoulders on the outside lanes. From mile log 164.4-171.8 and 172.6-173.5 there is a 64-foot wide depressed median and from mile log 171.8-172.6 there is a 144-foot wide depressed median. The existing right-of-way is 300 feet. The total length of the proposed project is 9.1 miles (mile log 164.4-173.5). From mile log 164.4-171.8 and 172.6-173.5 the proposed typical section for the project would consist of six 12-foot wide travel lanes (three in each direction) and a median barrier. From mile log 171.8-172.6 the proposed typical section for the project would consist of six 12-foot wide travel lanes (three in each direction) with a 102'-4" wide depressed median. There would be 12-foot wide paved shoulders adjacent to the median and 12-foot wide paved shoulders on the outside lanes. The right-of-way would be a minimum of 300 feet. Within the project limits there are parallel bridges over the North Fork Broad River. These bridges would be replaced as part of the proposed improvements.

Project No. NH-IM-85-2(173)

PI No. 110690

County: Franklin

Project Location Map – Project No. NH-IM-85-2(173); PI No. 110690; Franklin County

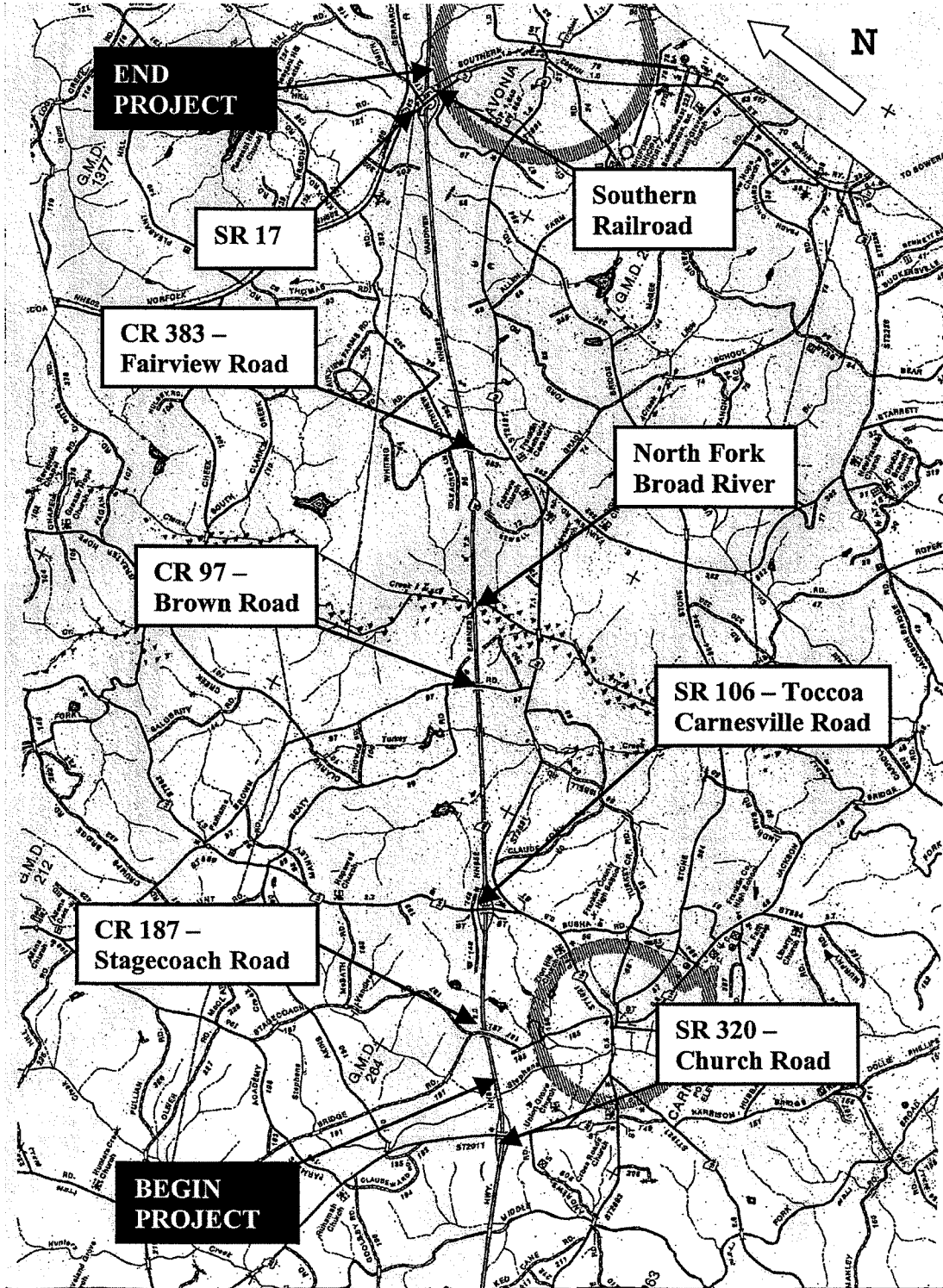


Project No. NH-IM-85-2(174)

PI No. 110700

County: Franklin

Project Location Map – Project No. NH-IM-85-2(174); PI No. 110700; Franklin County



Georgia Department of Transportation  
Public Information Open House Comment Card  
Projects NH-IM-85-2(173) and (174)  
Franklin County, GA, P.I. Nos. 110690 and 110700  
October 26, 2006

*Please print responses.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you support the projects?     For     Against     Conditional     Uncommitted

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?     Yes     No

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

\_\_\_\_\_

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?     Yes     No

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you. \_\_\_\_\_

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?     Yes     No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?     Yes     No

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail To:**  
*Mr. Harvey D. Keepler, State Environmental/Location Engineer*  
*Georgia Department of Transportation*  
*3993 Aviation Circle*  
*Atlanta, GA 30336-1593*