



January 26, 2015 and January 27, 2015

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for the proposed SR 133 Widening and Reconstruction, PI Numbers 0000520, 0000519, 0000475, and 0000473. Our goal is two-fold: 1) to provide you with information on the proposed project and 2) to provide an opportunity for you to give us your comments on the proposed project. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, please take a look at the project displays. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, wearing nametags, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. There will be no formal presentation.

We hope you will take the opportunity to tell GDOT what you think. Listed below are several ways to comment on the project. Your comments are important to us and, should you provide comments by one of the methods noted below, we will respond to you in writing usually within the next 45 days. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

While you are attending the open house, you can **provide your comments today** by filling out the comment card provided with this handout and dropping it in the comment box, or you may choose to provide your verbal comments to the court reporter who will transcribe your comments.

You can also **provide your comments by Friday, February 06, 2015** by using either of the following methods:

- Online at [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov).
  1. Click *Public Outreach* in the Quick Links box on the bottom right side of the page;
  2. From the menu, select the county in which the proposed project is located and click *Go*;
  3. Then select *SR 133 Widening and Reconstruction*;
  4. Lastly, click *Comment* and follow the instructions to leave your comments.
- Mail in your comment card to Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.

The project displays and plans will be available online for review for ten days after this open house at the *Public Outreach* at [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov), described above. Hardcopies will also be available at the GDOT District 4, Area 4 Office located at 120 Veterans Pkwy North, Moultrie, GA 31788 and at the GDOT District 5, Area 5 Office located at 2060 Newton Road, Albany, GA 31701. Following the ten-day public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

Again, thank you for attending this open house. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager, Sonja Thompson, at 229-529-5300 or [sthompson@dot.ga.gov](mailto:sthompson@dot.ga.gov), or the environmental analyst, Zach Adriaenssens, of the Office of Environmental Services at 404-631-1650 or [zadriaenssens@dot.ga.gov](mailto:zadriaenssens@dot.ga.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Hiral Patel in blue ink, followed by the initials "- SP".

Hiral Patel, P.E.  
State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation

**Why We Are Here:** The State Route (SR) 133 Widening and Reconstruction project has been previously studied and GDOT most recently held a Public Hearing Open House (PHOH) for the project in June 2011. Comments were received from the public at that time that prompted GDOT to reevaluate the project and its proposed alignment. As a result of these efforts, additional environmental resources were identified. GDOT has identified new alternatives to avoid these additional environmental resources and to address public concerns. Due to these proposed changes, GDOT is seeking public feedback on these changes to the proposed project.

**Displays:** The displays show a 400-foot study corridor and the locations where proposed detours are proposed. Please note that GDOT will refine to an approximately 200 foot typical section based on the environmental analysis and public input. The refined design will be presented to the public again in Public Hearing Open Houses to be held summer 2016.

**Project Need and Purpose:** The State Route (SR) 133 corridor was identified in the 1989 Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP) as an area designated by the Georgia State Legislature for corridor improvements to promote rural highway connectivity, safe and efficient travel, and economic development opportunities. SR 133 is a major north-south corridor with traffic volumes ranging from 6,219 to 10,706 vehicles per day (VPD). The corridor serves a variety of uses, including the movement of agricultural goods, manufactured goods, military logistical transport, and freight transport. Whether or not the project is constructed, the corridor is expected to continue to operate in the design year of 2037 with a Level of Service (LOS) of "A," which denotes traffic is flowing freely with little or no delay at intersections. However, given the importance of agriculture to the local economy, providing an efficient route for the movement of agricultural goods and local farm vehicles has been identified by planning studies as a critical component for stability and growth of the agricultural industries located in the region. A widespread and well-constructed transportation system linking producers with their suppliers and customers lowers overall shipping and production costs, thereby increasing farm incomes. While the corridor capacity on SR 133 appears adequate for through traffic, the long-range projections for trucks and other agricultural vehicles will lead to congested conditions. The lack of turn lanes and passing lanes for slow vehicles will create bottlenecks on SR 133 as freight movement increases. In addition, the SR 133 crash history is an indication of likely conflicts with turning or slow vehicles. The combination of rural agricultural and denser commercial areas presents challenges for drivers, especially when freight trucks or farm vehicles are involved. The lack of turn lanes presents conflicts both for turning drivers and those attempting to pass in the travel lane. The proposed capacity improvements to SR 133 would address these safety issues and support the statewide strategic plan of GDOT to reduce traffic fatalities. The construction of the SR 133 Widening and Reconstruction project would provide an improved system for the transportation of goods within southwest Georgia, improve rural connectivity, support economic growth, and provide a safer and more efficient transportation system.

**Project Description:** The proposed project would widen and reconstruct SR 133 through Colquitt, Worth, and Dougherty Counties between the cities of Moultrie and Albany. The proposed project would relocate some portions of SR 133 in order to minimize impacts to the project area. The project would construct two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, separated by a 32-foot depressed median. The project has been divided into four sections as follows:

- STP-0000-00(520): From 1,000 feet south of US 319 in Moultrie to 2,300 feet north of the Colquitt/Worth County line.
- STP-0000-00(519): From 2,300 feet north of the Colquitt/Worth County line to approximately 1,500 feet north of SR 112 in Worth County.
- STP-0000-00(475): From approximately 1,500 feet north of SR 112 in Worth County to 1,700 feet north of County Line Road (CR 417/ CR 459) in Dougherty County.
- STP-0000-00(473): From 1,700 feet north of County Line Road (CR 417 /CR459) in Dougherty County to 1,000 feet north of Holly Drive/South Mock Road in Albany.

The total project length is approximately 32 miles, and the proposed right-of-way would be approximately 200 feet wide.

**Project Location Map:**

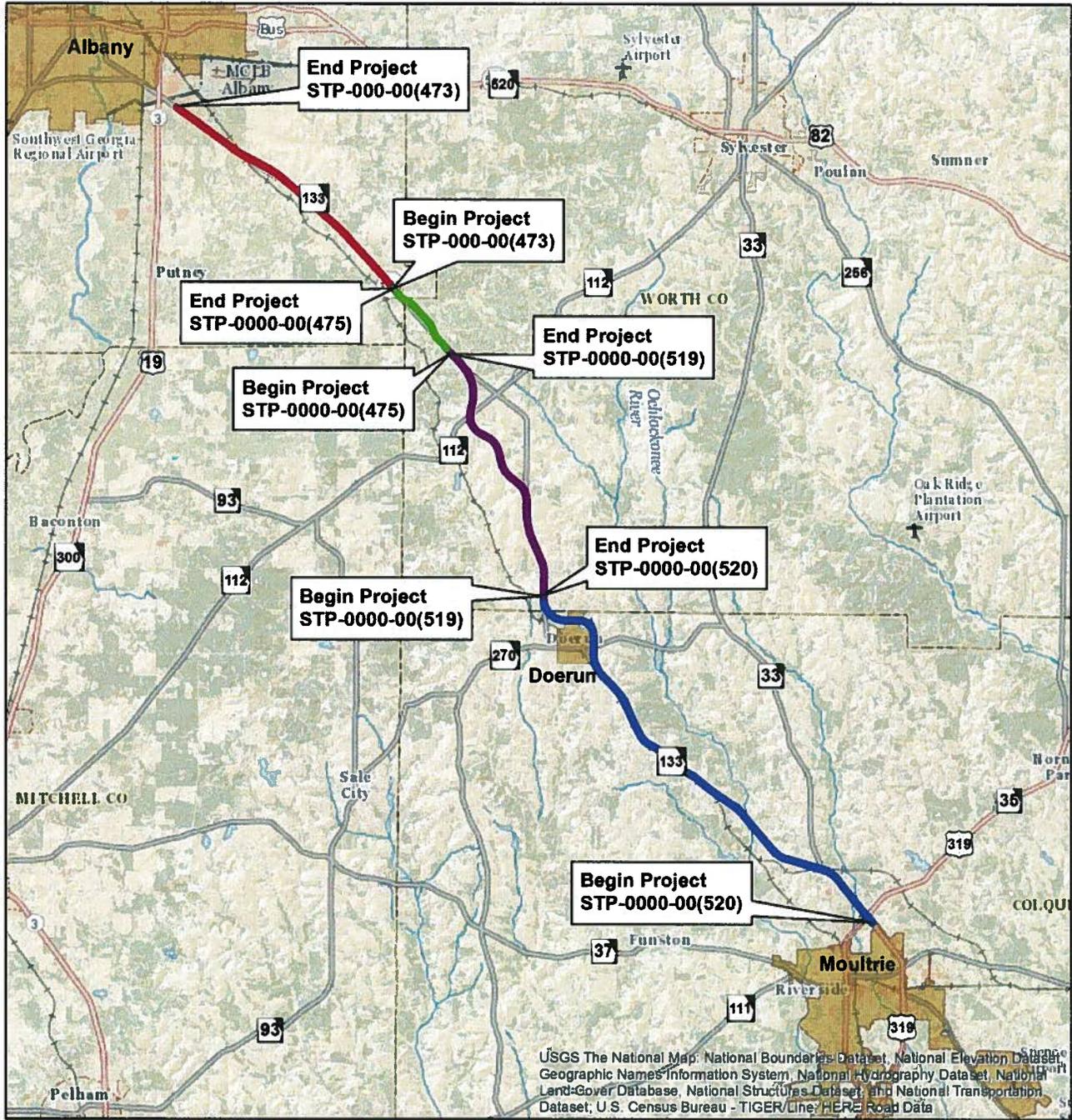
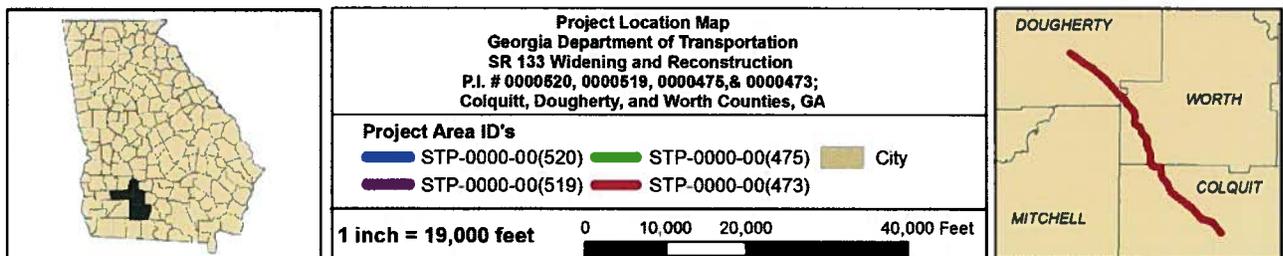


Figure 1



### Comment Card

*Please print responses.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you support the project? (check your response)

- For*       *Against*       *Conditional*       *Uncommitted*

General Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this Open House? (check)     *Radio*     *Newspaper*     *Signs*     *Word of Mouth*  
 *Other* \_\_\_\_\_

Was the location of the Open House 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 GDOT personnel?       **Yes**       **No**

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

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

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Mail to:  
*Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E., State Environmental Administrator*  
*Georgia Department of Transportation*  
*600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor*  
*Atlanta, Georgia 30308*  
Or email  
[zadriaenssens@dot.ga.gov](mailto:zadriaenssens@dot.ga.gov)