



Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

# Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds

## APPLICATION

**AUGUST 2021**

**PI# 0017975 Chevis Road Improvement Project**

Send the electronic copy  
of the completed application by:

**5:00 p.m. on September 30, 2021**

to:

Wykoda Wang, Transportation Administrator  
Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission  
110 E. State Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

Contact info:  
912-651-1466  
[wangw@thempc.org](mailto:wangw@thempc.org)

Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

**Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program**

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS

Have you answered all applicable questions in the application?

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Has the appropriate person signed the application?

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Have you filled out the detailed budget table on the last page of this application?

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Please indicate the sources of funding you are requesting for this project.

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Z230

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Have you attached a letter from your governing board or official able to commit to the local match?

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Have you attached a project location map?

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Have you attached information demonstrating the basis of your project's cost estimate?

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Have you attached other information that is applicable to the answers in your application?

# Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds

## AUGUST 2021 CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is conducting a competitive project selection process to award expected FY 2023 and FY 2024 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Urban Attributable (Z230) funds, provided through the act entitled Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (also known as FAST Act).

- **Expected Available Funds:**
  - **FY 2021 = \$900,000 (federal portion – will be added to FY 2023 and FY 2024)**
  - **FY 2023 = \$3,178,721 (federal portion)**
  - **FY 2024 = \$6,030,778 (federal portion)**
- **Maximum Award Each Year = total federal portion of the fiscal year.**
- **Minimum Award for a Project = \$200,000 (federal portion)**
- **At least 20% of the eligible costs of the proposed project must be locally funded.** (Previously incurred costs cannot be counted as part of the 20% match for the newly awarded federal funds.)

An applicant may request a minimum of *at least \$200,000 of federal funds*. The federal funding request in this application can represent no more than 80% of the total cost of the applicant's proposal. For example, if an applicant requests \$1,000,000, and provides no more than the required 20% local match, he/she would be submitting a proposal totaling \$1,250,000.

- **Federal Requirements**

Applicants should keep in mind that using the STBG funds involves adherence to federal requirements, as applicable, such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), prevailing wage rates (Davis-Bacon), Buy America, competitive bidding, and other contracting requirements, regardless of whether the projects are located within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway.

- **Projects funded through this selection process must be located within the CORE MPO's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary.**

The CORE MPO - administered STBG Urban Attributable funds can only be spent within the MPO's Metropolitan Planning Area which includes all of Chatham County, the portion of Effingham County and Bryan County located within the Savannah Urbanized Area, as well as Richmond Hill.

- **Projects, if awarded funds, will be amended into the CORE MPO's FY 2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024).**

Once the project is programmed in the TIP and the awarded federal funding is authorized in the program year, the funds must be obligated within two years, otherwise the funds will be rescinded for use by other selected priority projects.

**Please see CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for additional information.**

## Applicant and Project Information

### Eligible Entities

Please indicate which type of eligible entity is the primary project sponsor: (Select one.)

- Local government
- Regional transportation authority
- Transit agency
- Other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation improvements that the State of Georgia determines to be eligible.

### Eligible Projects

Please indicate **all** applicable categories your proposal falls under. **Please see CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for information on project eligibility.**

- Highway Improvements
- Bridge Improvements
- Transit Improvements
- Operational/Safety Improvements
- Bicycle / Pedestrian /Non-Motorized Improvements
- Planning Studies
- Other

<b>Applicant Information</b>		
Agency Name (i.e. agency that will manage implementation) Chatham County (Department of Engineering)		Date Sept. 30, 2021
Street Address 124 Bull St., Suite 430	City, State Savannah, GA	Zip Code 31401
Contact Person's Name Pamela Bernard, P.E.	Title Senior Transportation Engineer	
Contact Person's Phone Number (912) 652-7800	Contact Person's Email Address pbernard@chathamcounty.org	
Project Manager's Name (if awarded) Allen Blake, P.E.	Title Civil Engineer II	

<b>Project Overview</b>		
Project Name PI# 0017975 Chevis Road Improvement Project		
Project Location Description (please also attach a location map)  Chevis Road, beginning at the intersection at S.R. 25/U.S. 17/ Ogeechee Road and ending at the intersection with Wild Heron Road.		
County (or counties) in which project is located Chatham	City (or cities), if any, in which project is located N/A	
<p>Proposal Description Summary</p> <p>This project will consider motorized and non-motorized transportation improvements on Chevis Road from S.R.25/ U.S. 17 to Wild Heron Road. A portion of the road in the high density area will be converted to an urban section most likely with five foot sidewalks on both sides of the road. The more rural portion of the project will consider a ten foot multi-purpose trail on one side of the road. The project will include water quality and storm water infrastructure improvements as well as improving the operation and safety of the corridor for all road users. The road design is to be in compliance with the Chatham County Blueprint utilizing 'Complete Streets' design enhancements to enable safe, attractive and comfortable access and travel for all users such as pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit riders and those with a disability. Preliminary engineering will include review of some of the intersections along the project corridor with disproportionately high accident rates for potential safety improvements.</p>		
Total Estimated Project Cost*	Federal Z230 Funds Requested	Local Match Available
\$10,000,000	\$400,000	\$100,000

*\*Please also be sure to fill out the Budget Detail Table at the end of this application.*

**Who is providing the local match?**

Name of Agency or Organization	Source (e.g. particular CIP fund)
Chatham County	Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds

*Please attach a letter signed by either your governing board or an official who can commit to the stated local match.*

**Has your agency managed and completed other federal-aid transportation projects before?**

(Choose one)

- 0 completed federal-aid projects
- 1 completed federal-aid project
- 2 completed federal-aid projects
- 3 or more completed federal-aid projects

Please list as many as three federal-aid projects completed by your agency, *preferably for projects that are similar to your proposal*:

P.I. No.	Project Name	Sponsor's Project Manager
0522790	Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.
0007128	Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.
0007621	Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2A	Nathaniel Panther, P.E.

**What agency will maintain the project after completion?**

Chatham County

**If a maintenance agreement is necessary, has it been executed?** (Chose one) NA  
 If yes, please attach the agreement.

**If the completed project will generate the need for operational funds, please describe the estimated annual cost and the status and source of funding for operations.**

Chatham County will provide for maintenance of the constructed improvements. Chatham County already provides maintenance of the existing roadway within the Chevis Road right of way and this will continue in the future. No maintenance agreement is required and federal funds are not needed to fund maintenance.

**Will your project require purchase(s) or easement(s) for right-of-way** (Choose one) Yes

Additional information:

The goal of the project is to find solutions that will minimize right of way acquisition. However, some acquisitions for easements and right of way will likely be required.

**If other agencies or organizations are partnering with you on this application or on implementation of your proposal, please list and describe the nature and the status of any agreements (e.g. ROW donations or easements):**

<b>Organization #1</b>	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

<b>Organization #2</b>	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

<b>Organization #3</b>	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

If funding were available today, how much time do you estimate would be needed for any phases of your project that would be funded by this request:

Phase(s) to be Z230-funded	No. of Months
Preliminary Engineering (PE)	24
Right of Way	18

Please list any necessary preliminary work that already *has been completed*, and provide dates (e.g. GDOT concept approval, FHWA environmental approval or categorical exclusion, etc.):

Steps Completed	Date
Preliminary Engineering was authorized by GDOT in FY 2021.	May 2021
Proposals for Consultant Design Services were obtained and ranked for QBS.	July 2021

Please describe status of any non-Z230 funded work that *still needs to be completed before the project or phase that would be funded by this request can begin* (e.g. if Z230 funds + Local Match will fund only the construction phase, what is the status and schedule for the incomplete preliminary engineering and ROW phases?).

Status of Steps to be carried out before Z230-funded work begins	Estimated completion date
Complete negotiations and award a consultant design services contract.	October 2021
Concept Approval	November 2022
Complete Right of Way plans	June 2023
Environmental Document Approved & NTP for Right of Way Acquisition	July 2023



**In 500 words or less, please describe what public benefits and efficiencies would be provided to our area by your proposed project.** (For example, how does your project match the project ranking criteria such as freight connection, truck traffic, bridge rating, transit ridership, non-motorized connection, etc.? (Please reference the CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for project ranking criteria.)

The Chevis Road Improvement project proposes to construct operational and safety improvements for non-motorized and motorized roadway users from its intersection with SR 25/US 17/ Ogeechee Road to Wild Heron Road, approximately 2.3 miles in length. The first 1.0 mile of the project (from Ogeechee Road to Beaufort Road) will convert the roadway section from a two-lane rural section with no pedestrian accommodations to a two-lane urban section with curb and gutter, storm drainage and sidewalks on both sides of the road. This portion of Chevis is a heavily populated, lower income section of the County where not all residents have vehicles. The creation of an urban section will provide a safe and equitable alternative transportation system that will provide connectivity to existing schools (Southwest Elementary and Southwest Middle Schools), commercial areas (Walmart, convenience stores, restaurants and shopping plazas) and the Coastal Georgia Botanical Garden. From Beaufort Road to Wild Heron Road, the roadway will remain a rural section. Here the project will consider safety, drainage, water quality improvements and construction of a ten foot multi-use trail to connect to pedestrian improvements to the sidewalk in the northern portion of Chevis as well as to sidewalks on Wild Heron Road.

Chatham County previously received a rural road safety grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) based on the high crash frequency on Chevis Road. Improvements made included two foot shoulder widening, enhanced striping and raised pavement markers. The proposed project will build on and enhance these improvements to provide a more equitable, safe and operationally efficient corridor for all road users. A traffic study will be completed to review various intersections for safety and operational improvements including traffic calming features.

Proposals for consultant design services have been received for this project and staff is currently in the process of negotiations with the top ranked firm. It is anticipated that a design services contract will be awarded within the next 30 days. A Project Framework Agreement is in process with GDOT. Partial funding is established in the County's SPLOST program and federal Z301 funds in the amount of \$240,000 have been awarded to this project in last years Call for Projects. County staff will continue to look for additional grant opportunities to offset construction costs.

The benefits of this project are increasing connectivity and safer non-motorized access to the existing bike lanes and sidewalks on SR 25/ US 17/ Ogeechee Road as well as safer access to bus stops on Chevis Road. Completion of the trail and sidewalks along Chevis Road will provide connectivity to the East Coast Greenway which runs along Canebrake Road and Chief of Love Road, the Al Bungard Conservation Area and the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens via existing improvements along Ogeechee Road. The added connectivity to the local community will provide additional opportunities for our citizens to utilize non-motorized transportation alternatives rather than using their vehicles to get to their destinations, improving the quality of life for all income levels in this community.

**Project Sponsor Signature**

SPONSOR

Suzanne Cooler  
Signature (on hard copy)

9/29/21  
Date

Suzanne Cooler  
Print Name

County Engineer  
Title

Please remember:

- To fill out the Detailed Budget Table, to the extent applicable, on the following page;
- To attach a letter from your governing board or other official who can commit the agency to the stated local match.
- To attach a Project Location Map;
- To attach information showing the Basis of your Cost Estimate.



**Budget Detail for Proposal**

**Project Name: PI# 0017975 Chevis Road Improvement Project**

Activity	Desired Fiscal Year for TIP Programming (GDOT Fiscal Year) *	Total Estimate	Requested CORE MPO Z230 Federal Funds (Maximum allowed is 80% of your total eligible costs.)	Local Match (Minimum required is 20% of your total eligible costs.)	Local Match Breakdown (by source)					
					Amount A	Source A	Amount B	Source B	Amount C	Source C
PE	2021	1,500,000								
ROW	2023	1,500,000	400,000	100,000	100,000 SPLOST					
Utilities	2024	0								
Construction	2025	7,000,000								
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
<b>Total Amounts</b>		10,000,000	400,000	100,000						

Please use this area to explain whether other grants or sources (not already shown above) are dedicated either to the proposed phase or to future phases, of your project.

We currently have \$240,000 of Z301 funds authorized for PE in FY 2021 with a 20% local match from Chatham County SPLOST. We also have \$1,036,604 in FY 2023 currently for Construction with a 20% local match.

\*The first GDOT fiscal year in the MPO’s current TIP is FY 2021, which begins July 1, 2020. The last year of the next TIP is FY 2024, which begins July 1, 2023.

# CHEVIS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Begin Project

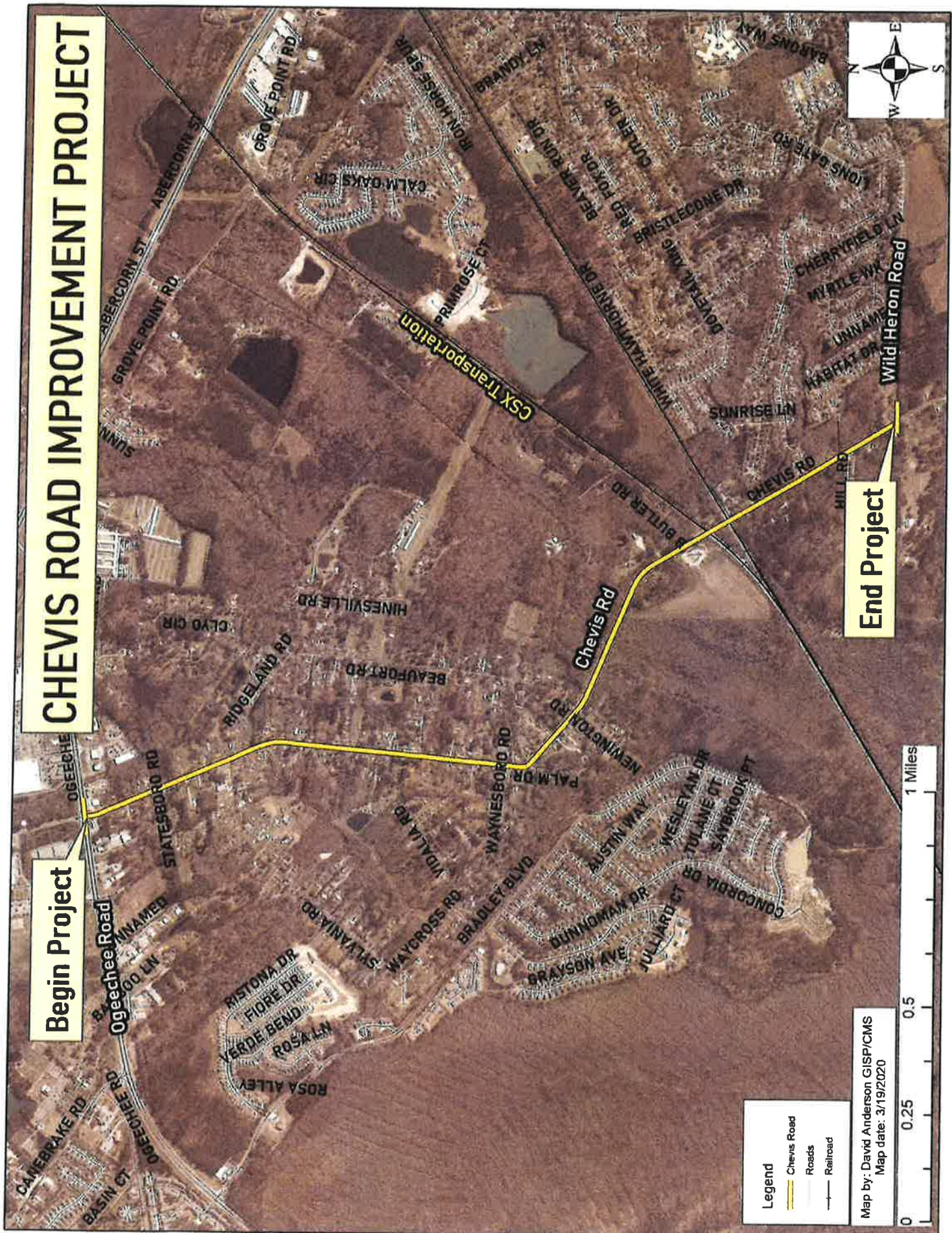
End Project



**Legend**

- Chevis Road
- Roads
- Railroad

Map by: David Anderson GISP/CMS  
Map date: 3/19/2020



## Chevis Planning Level Cost Estimate

### Preliminary Engineering

<u>Category</u>	<u>Est Cost</u>
Concept	250,000
Survey/ Database/SUE	300,000
Environmental Screening	200,000
Public Involvement	50,000
Geotech/ Pvmt/Soil	75,000
Preliminary Design	300,000
Environmental Document	100,000
Right of Way Design	100,000
Final Design	125,000
	<u>1,500,000</u>

### Right of Way

<u>Category</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Est Cost</u>
Residential (50k/ac)	9 ac	400,000
Multi-Family (100k/ac)	2.5 ac	250,000
Commercial (250k/ac)	1 ac	250,000
Relocations (200k/ea)	3	600,000
		<u>1,500,000</u>



## CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

124 Bull Street, Room 430  
P.O. Box 8161  
Savannah, Georgia 31412-8161  
FAX 912-652-7818  
912-652-7800

*Suzanne V. Cooler, P.E.*  
County Engineer

*Nathaniel Panther, P.E.*  
Assistant County Engineer

September 30, 2021

Ms. Wykoda Wang  
Transportation Planner  
CORE MPO  
110 E. State Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

Subject: Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds Call For Projects, Commitment of Stated Local Match for the Chevis Road Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Wang:

This letter is written to confirm that Chatham County has Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds available to provide the required local match for this project.

If you have any questions, please call Pamela Bernard at (912) 652-7800.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Cooler, P.E.  
County Engineer