

# Savannah/ Chatham County GDOT Briefing

**Andrew J. Heath, P.E.**  
Deputy Commissioner

**February 4, 2026**



## Georgia By the Numbers

### GEORGIA

#### by the Numbers



**#1** busiest airport  
in the world



**Fastest Growing  
Port in the U.S.**  
Port of Savannah



**10.91** million people



**59,425** square miles



**19** Fortune 500 HQs  
**34** Fortune 1000 HQs

Sources: Metro Atlanta Chamber, Metrostudy, Georgia Department of Economic Development

# GEORGIA

**NO. 1** STATE  
FOR BUSINESS

Lifestyle and standard of living are two reasons Georgia continues to attract businesses, and our skilled, educated workforce support it.

Multiple challenges and factors associated with growth and new development in Georgia:



Existing bottlenecks and lack of capacity on major interstates and highways



Continued freight and logistics growth



Focus on safety and operational improvements for drivers



# DRIVING GROWTH. CREATING JOBS. BUILDING TOMORROW.

GEORGIA'S ECONOMY IN ACTION

---

**423**  
FACILITIES

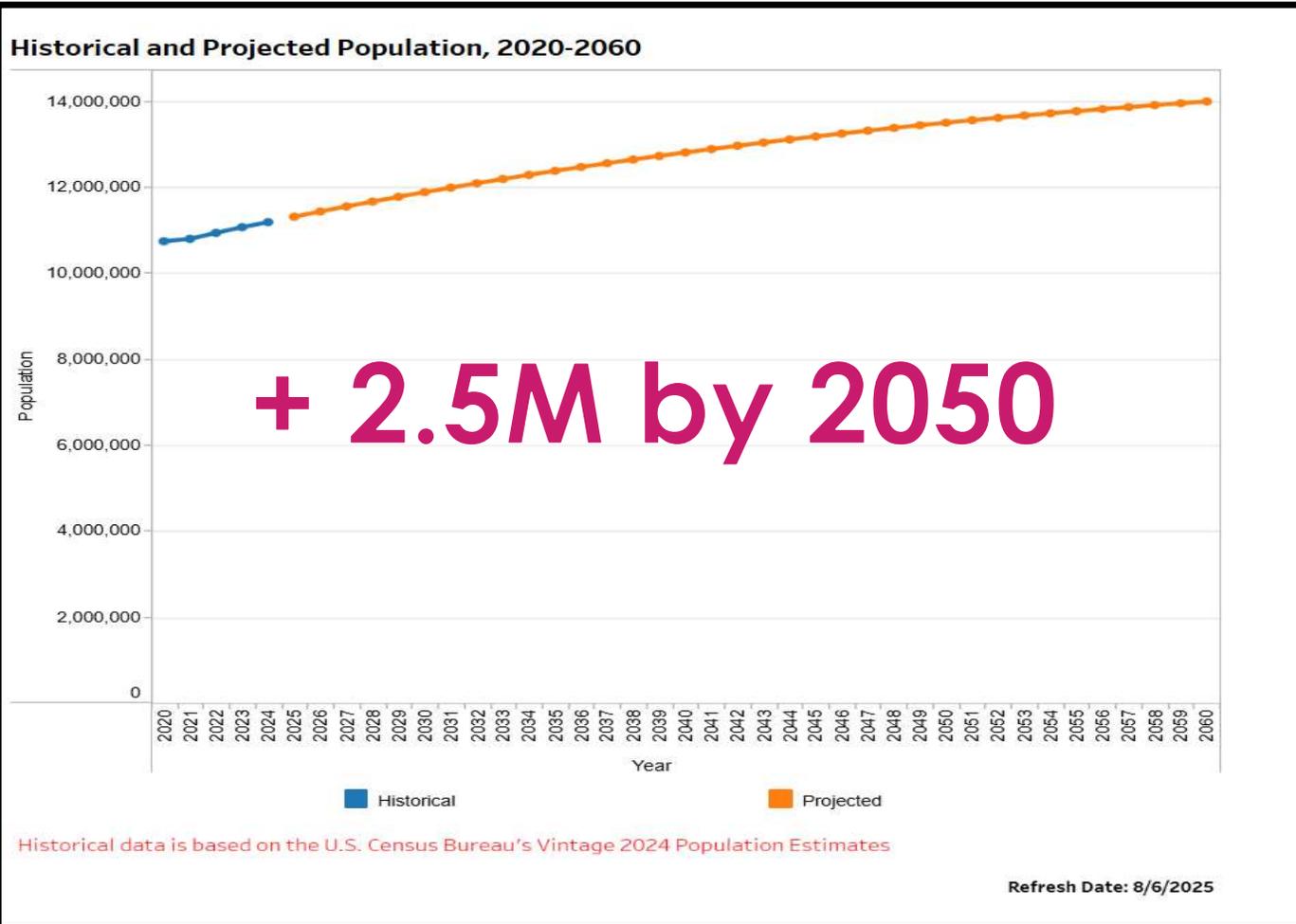
**\$26.3B**  
INVESTMENT

**23,200**  
NEW JOBS

---

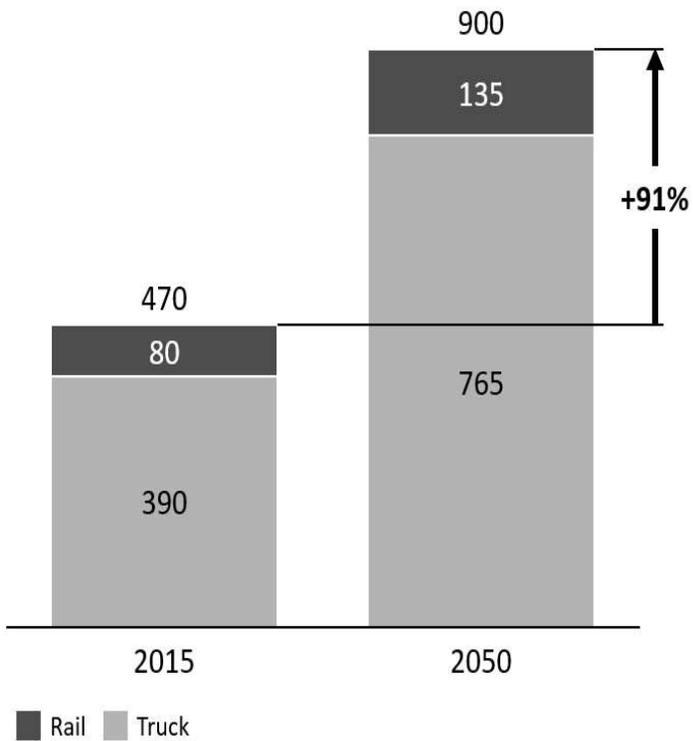


# Georgia's Population Growth



# 2050 Freight Tonnage and Congestion Costs

Annual GA-based freight tonnage, M of tons



Congestion costs for GA-based traffic, \$M / Day

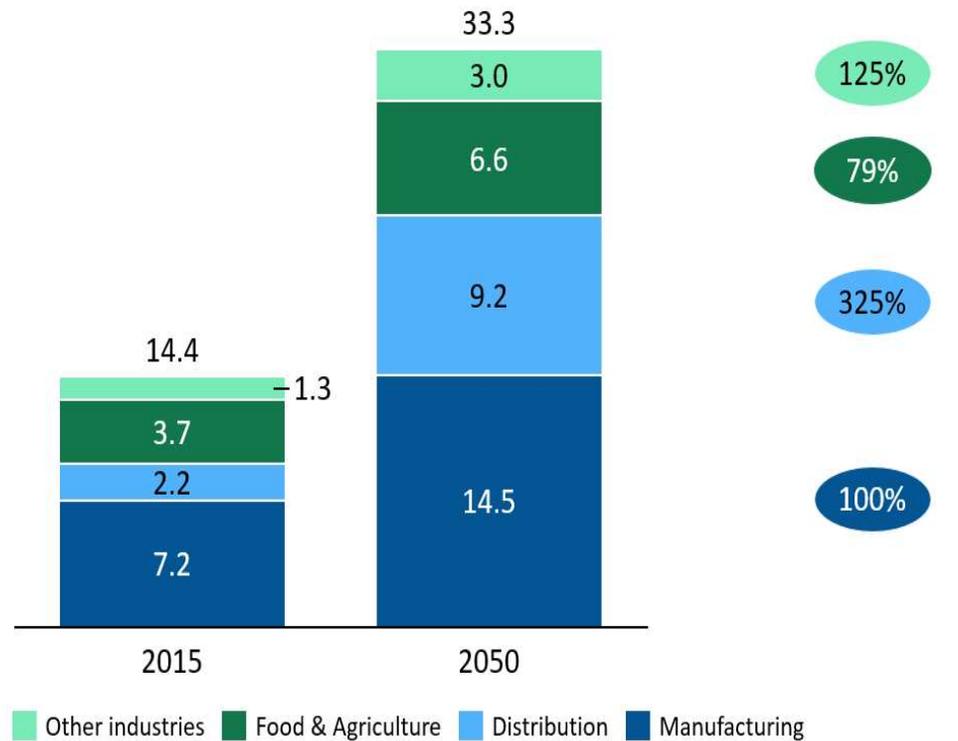
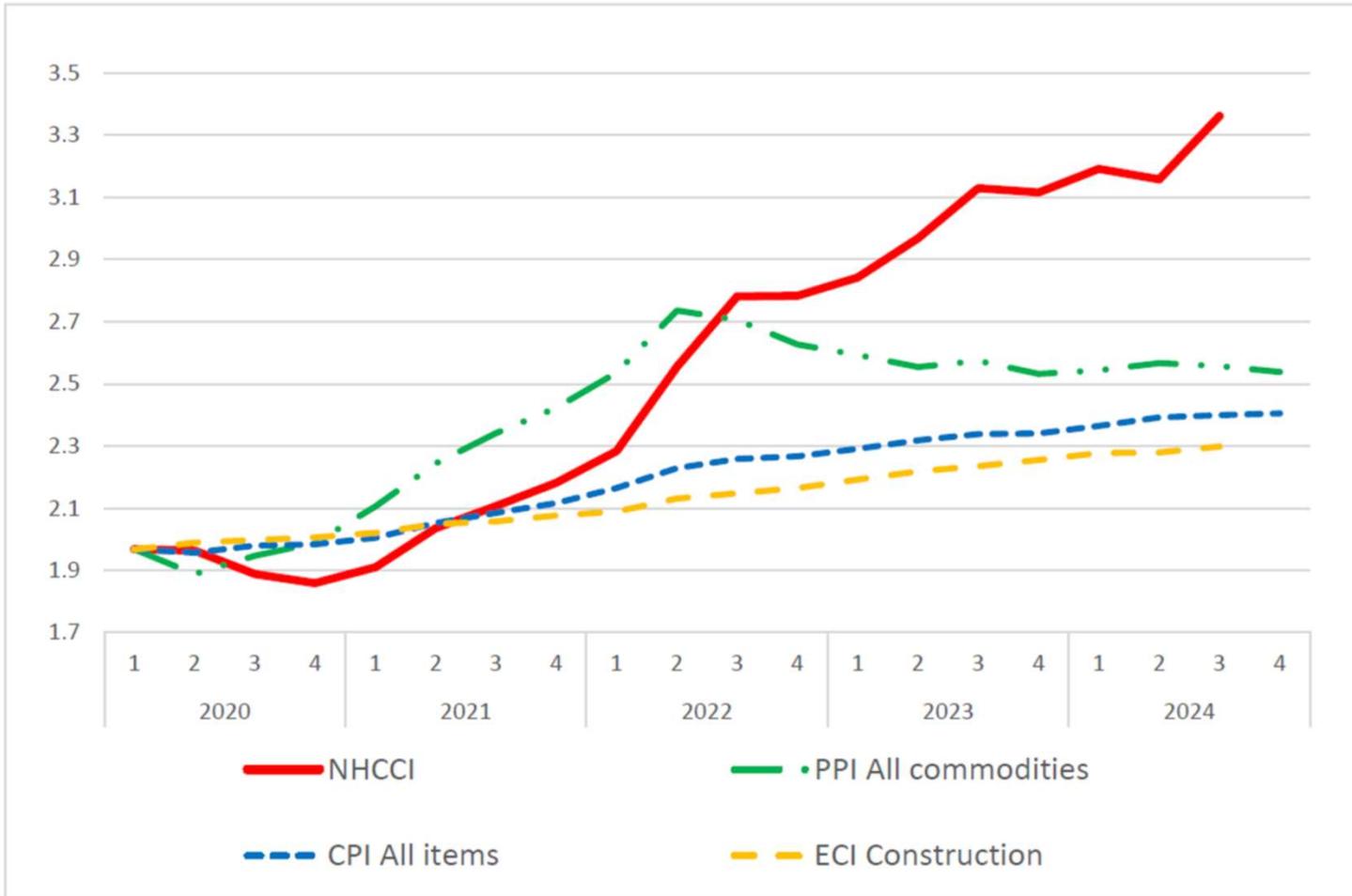


Figure 1. Comparison of NHCCI with PPI, CPI, and ECI (rebased to NHCCI 2020 Q1).



<b>GDOT Letting Awarded Contracts Cost Increases</b>			
<b>Project Types</b>	<b>FY 21</b>	<b>FY25</b>	<b>% increase</b>
Asphalt resurfacing Costs Per Lane-Mile (State Routes)	\$83,268	\$125,873	<b>51%</b>
Urban Widening Costs Per Mile (2-Lane to 4-Lane)	\$8,870,113	\$17,642,893	<b>99%</b>
Rural Widening Costs per Mile (2-Lane to 4-Lane)	\$5,770,198	\$10,960,884	<b>90%</b>
Roundabout - Cost Per Square Yard of Impervious Surface	\$140	\$205	<b>47%</b>
Bridge Replacement Construction Cost	\$3,562,717	\$6,880,568	<b>93%</b>
Bridge Replacement Costs Per Square Foot of Deck	\$183	\$284	<b>55%</b>

<b>Average Percent Increase for Materials (FY21 to FY25)</b>	
Asphalt (\$/Ton)	<b>60%</b>
Aggregate Base (\$/Square Yard)	<b>62%</b>
Storm Drainage (Pipe/Drop Inlets/Catch Basins)	<b>90%</b>
Bridge Beams (Commonly Used)	<b>45%</b>
Guardrail (Guardrail/Terminals)	<b>35%</b>

## Additional State General Funds AFY 24 & AFY 25



**Airport  
Aid**

\$98M



**Local Roads  
Funding**

\$250M

\$265M



**Freight  
Program**

\$500M

\$500M



**Capital  
Construction**

\$593M

(58% increase  
in budget)



**Capital  
Maintenance**

\$50M

(32% increase  
in budget)



**Hurricane  
Clean Up**

\$200M

A photograph of a highway construction site. In the foreground, a worker in a yellow shirt and white hard hat is pushing a large spool of rebar. In the background, a yellow tractor is pulling another spool of rebar. To the left, a white utility truck is driving on the highway. To the right, a white semi-truck is parked. The scene is set on a dirt shoulder next to a concrete barrier. The image has a green tint and a white geometric shape on the right side.

# ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

# 16@95 Improvement Projects

## Project Overview

- Provides enhancements to the I-16 at I-95 Interchange and widening along the I-16 corridor
- One of Georgia's busiest freight corridors as well as the gateway to the growing Port of Savannah
- Design Builder: Savannah Mobility Contractors
- Contract Value: \$263.9M

## Current Activities

- Traffic is in the final configuration throughout the project
- Remaining paving to be completed as weather permits
- Contractor progressing completion of remaining work items and corrective work



**2020**  
Construction Start



**2026**  
Anticipated Substantial  
Completion

*Project schedules are subject to change.*

# US 17/SR 404 Spur Bridge Major Maintenance Project

## Project Overview

- 30-year-old+ structure in Chatham County
- Replace the existing cables, bridge bearings, and joints as part of the planned maintenance of the cable stayed bridge
- Explores raising the profile of the bridge to accommodate access for larger shipping vessels headed to the Port of Savannah

## Current Status

- The project was awarded to a CM/GC team in late 2023
- Construction of the new median glare screen was completed in early 2025
- Ongoing work to finalize design and cable procurement



**2026**  
Construction Start



**2030**  
Anticipated Substantial Completion

## SR 25 at Savannah and Middle River Bridge Replacements

### Project Overview

- The project replaced two bridges along SR 25 over the Savannah River and Middle River. New bridges were constructed parallel upstream to the old structures.
- Design Builder: Scott Bridge Company/Michael Baker International
- Contract Value: \$65.5M

### Current Activities

- Substantial completion was achieved in November 2025 and both new bridges are in service.



**2022**  
Construction Start



**November 2025**  
Substantial Completion

# Brampton Road Connector from SR 21 to SR 21 Spur (P.I. 0006328 )

This is a 4-lane highway and SR Spur to connect Brampton Rd, GPA Gate 3, and Foundation Drive to SR 25, SR 21, and US 80. This project will provide direct access to the Interstate System for heavy commercial truck traffic

- Substantial Completion: 2026



A photograph of a highway construction site, overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. In the foreground, a worker in a yellow shirt and white hard hat is pushing a large wooden spool of rebar. In the background, a yellow tractor is pulling another spool of rebar. To the left, a white utility truck is driving on the highway. Further back, a white semi-trailer truck with 'HAVERTY' branding is visible. The scene is set on a dirt shoulder next to a concrete barrier. The text 'PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT' is centered in white, bold, uppercase letters.

## PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

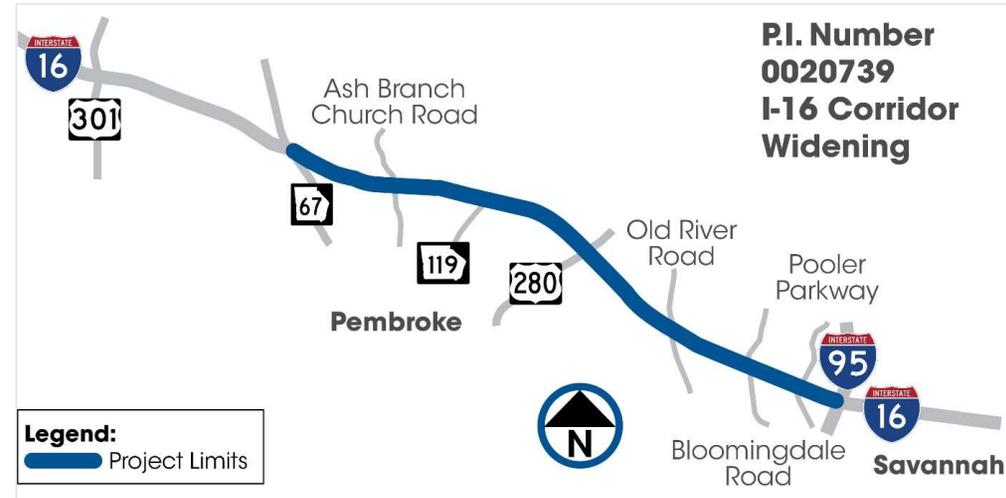
# I-16 Widening (from I-95 to SR 67)

## Project Overview

- The proposed project would widen I-16 from two to three lanes east and westbound between I-95 and State Route 67 in Bulloch, Bryan, Effingham, and Chatham Counties
- Six bridges will be replaced at three locations and other bridges in the corridor would be widened

## Current Activities

- Intermittent field work ongoing to finalize geotechnical boring and survey information
- Ongoing work on the environmental document (NEPA – Categorical Exclusion); anticipating FHWA approval by April 2026
- Meetings with potential Design-Build Teams ongoing throughout Spring 2026
  - Technical & Price Proposals due May 14, 2026
  - Bid opening scheduled for June 4, 2026



**June 2026**  
Anticipated  
Bid Opening

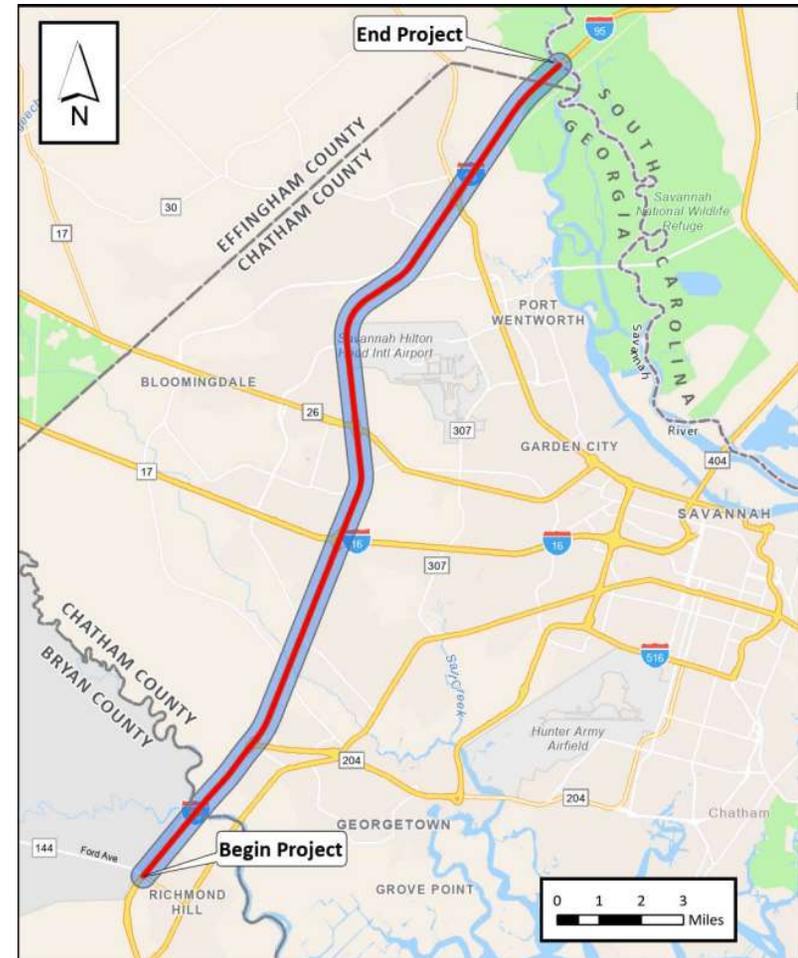


**2027**  
Anticipated  
Construction Start

## I-95 From SR 144/Bryan To South Carolina State Line/ Chatham (P.I. 0020169)

This project includes the widening of I-95 from six to eight lanes between SR 144 in Bryan County to SR 21 in Chatham County through Chatham County to the Savannah River (Georgia/South Carolina state line) in Effingham County. The project is approximately 22.03 miles

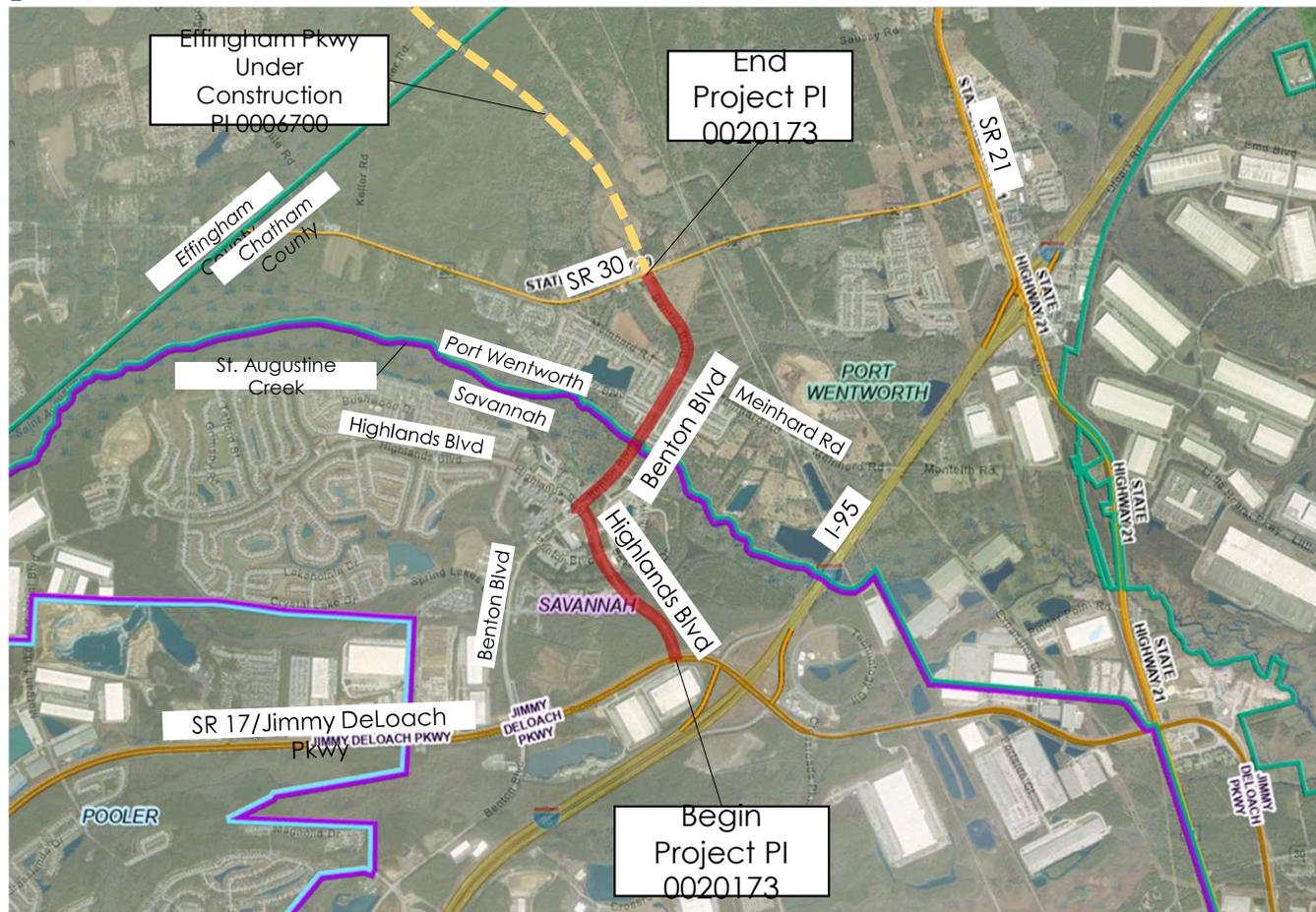
- **State General Funds**
- **PE Authorized**
- **CST Proposed FY 2026**



# Chatham County Connector from SR 17 to SR 30 (P.I. 0020173)

This project proposes to reconstruct and widen Benton Boulevard and Highlands Boulevard from two lanes to four lanes from SR 17/Jimmy DeLoach Parkway to SR 30

- **State General Funds**
- **PE Authorized**
- **ROW Proposed FY 2026**
- **CST Proposed FY 2028**



## I-95 @ Airways AVE/Pooler Parkway (Pooler) (P.I. 0018402)

This project will improve operations of the Airways/Pooler Parkway Interchange.

- **Current Activities:** Scoping and Concept Development
- **PM Submit Concept Report:** July 2025
- **Concept Report Approval:** November 2025



## SR 21 From Cook ST/Chatham To McCall RD/Effingham (P.I. 0020172)

This project proposes the widening and reconstruction of SR 21 into a six-lane, median-divided highway with intersection improvements

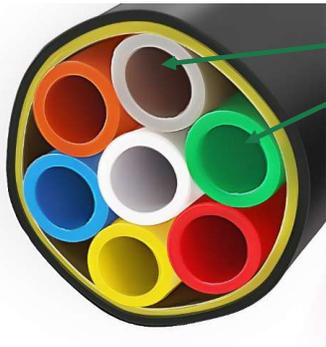
- Utilizes inside widening where feasible to reconstruct the existing 44-ft depressed median to a 24-ft raised concrete median, which will allow for a more concise footprint with the least amount of ROW and environmental impacts to the surrounding parcels and environmental resources
- **State General Funds**
- **PE Authorized**
- **ROW Proposed FY 2027**
- **CST Proposed FY 2029**





# Interstate Broadband Project

## Plenary



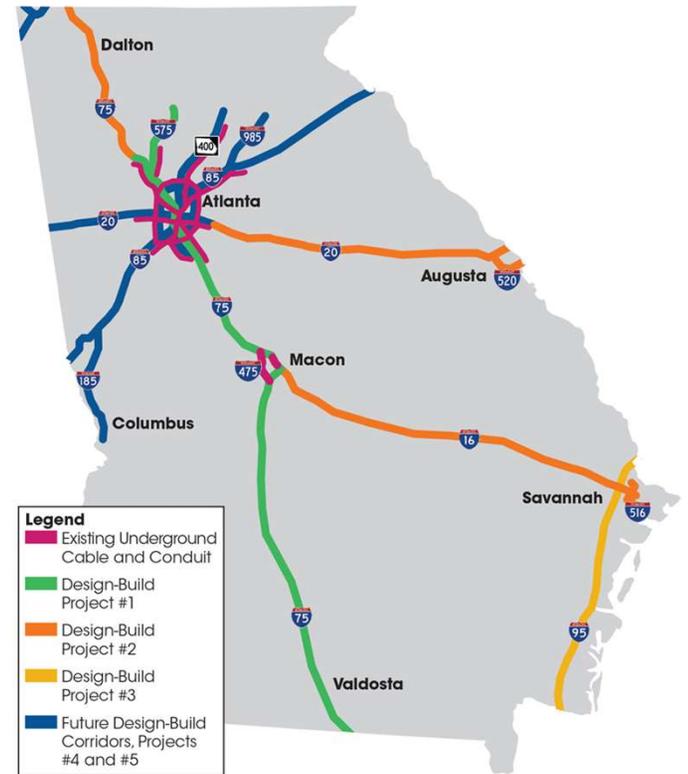
### GDOT Network:

- Total of 2 conduits
- 1 with 288 count fiber
- 1 empty



### Commercial Network:

- Total of 5 conduits
- 1 with 288 count fiber
- 4 empty





# Autonomous Vehicles in Transportation

- GDOT is supportive
- Always glad to Partner
- Pilot: SR 307 Chatham

 **cavnue**

## Stay Connected

 @GeorgiaDOT

 @GADeptofTrans

 @gadeptoftrans

 [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov)

# Thank You

For Viewing