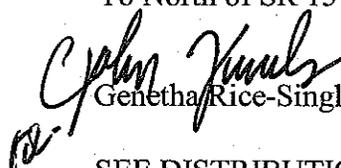


**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

FILE P. I. No. 110660-, Jackson/Banks Counties **OFFICE** Preconstruction
NH-IM-85-2(170)
I-85 Widening from North of SR 98 **DATE** April 9, 2008
To North of SR 15

FROM  Genetha Rice-Singleton, Assistant Director of Preconstruction

TO SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT APPROVED REVISED PROJECT CONCEPT REPORT

Attached for your files is the approval for subject project.

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION:

Brian Summers
Glenn Bowman
Ken Thompson
Michael Henry
Keith Golden
Joe Sheffield
Paul Liles
Russell McMurry
Robert Mahoney
BOARD MEMBER



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Georgia Division

61 Forsyth St. SW 17T100
Atlanta, GA 30303

February 19, 2008

In Reply Refer To:
HTM-GA

Ms. Gena L. Abraham, Commissioner
Department of Transportation
No. 2 Capitol Square
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

TOPP LONG - DIRECTOR OF PRECONSTRUCTION!
Attention: ~~Mike Thomas, Director, Division of Transportation Planning, Data and Intermodal
Development~~

Dear Ms. Abraham:

Our office has reviewed and approved the revised Concept Reports NH-IM-85-2 (165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174) conditioned upon the following comments being satisfied:

- For project NH-IM-85-2(167), please evaluate the option of raising SR 332 in the design phase (as opposed to lowering the Interstate profile).
- Several of the reports indicate the reconstruction of Interstate bridges to accommodate 8 lanes total width. After discussion with your staff, we have agreed that all bridges will only be widened to accommodate six lanes.
- Approval of these Concept Reports does not constitute approval of design decisions (sequence of construction/staging etc.).

Please contact George Merritt if you have any questions at 404-562-3655 or george.merritt@fhwa.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Fol: Rodney Barry, P.E.
Division Administrator

**MOVING THE
AMERICAN
ECONOMY**

REVISED PROJECT CONCEPT REPORT

Need and Purpose: See attached Need & Purpose

Project location: The project is located in northern Jackson County and southern Banks County, beginning just south of SR 98 (mile log 146.5) and ending just north of US 441/SR 15 (mile log 149.4). The total project length is 2.9 miles.

Description of the approved concept: The approved concept for this project is the widening of I-85 from the existing four-lane divided section with a depressed median to a six-lane section with a median barrier.

PDP Classification: Major _____ Minor X

Federal Oversight: Full Oversight (X), Exempt(), State Funded(), or Other ()

Functional Classification: Rural Interstate Principal Arterial

U. S. Route Number(s): I-85 **State Route Number(s):** SR 403

Traffic (AADT) as shown in the approved concept:

Current Year: 51,200 (2005) Design Year: 87,100 (2025)

Proposed features to be revised:

- The proposed typical section:
 - Six 12' lanes
 - Median barrier
 - 12'-9" paved inside shoulder
 - 16' paved outside shoulder

The typical section will be revised to decrease the inside and outside paved shoulder widths per agreement with FHWA. The revised typical section will begin on I-85 just south of SR 98 and extend throughout the project corridor, ending just north of US 441/SR 15.

- Design Exceptions to controlling criteria anticipated:
Design exceptions for inside shoulder width will be required for I-85 at North Elm Street (SR 98) over I-85, at Norfolk Southern Railroad over I-85 and at US 441/SR 15 over I-85.

This design exception was not noted in the approved concept report. The concrete median barrier on I-85 will be transitioned around bridge columns at all overpasses. Design exceptions for inside shoulder width are required at these locations due to the transition of the concrete barrier encroaching on the 12'-0" paved inside shoulder. As a result, the remaining inside shoulder width at the bridge columns will be 9'-10" at the SR 98 and US 441/SR 15 bridges over I-85 and 9'-4" at the Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge over I-85. This dimension is measured from the inside edge of travel to the face of barrier at the bridge columns. A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets 2004 states that the minimum useable shoulder width should be 10'-0" for a paved median shoulder. The paved shoulder will not meet this minimum width at the locations listed above.

- Design Exceptions to controlling criteria anticipated:
A design exception for substandard stopping sight distance will be required at milepost 147.6 between SR 98 and Ridgeway Church Road (CR 296).

Design Exceptions for substandard stopping sight distance are no longer required due to the change in design controls for crest vertical curves in A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets 2004. Additionally, any vertical curves that do not meet the required sight distance will be reconstructed to meet required values.

Describe the revised feature(s) to be approved:

- The revised typical section:
 - Six 12'-0" lanes, outside lane paving will extend 1'-0" into the paved outside shoulder but will be striped at 12'-0"
 - Median barrier
 - 12'-0" paved inside shoulder
 - 12'-0" paved outside shoulder, includes 1'-0" extension of outside lane paving

The revised typical section will begin on I-85 just south of SR 98 and extend throughout the project corridor, ending just north of US 441/SR 15.

- Design Exceptions to controlling criteria anticipated:
Design exceptions for inside shoulder width will be required for I-85 at North Elm Street (SR 98), at Norfolk Southern Railroad over I-85 and at US 441/SR 15 over I-85. The minimum inside shoulder width required is 10'-0". The inside shoulder width will be 9'-10" from inside edge of travel to face of barrier at the bridge columns at the SR 98 and US 441/SR 15 bridges over I-85 and 9'-4" at the Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge over I-85.
- Design Exceptions to controlling criteria are no longer required at milepost 147.6 between SR 98 and Ridgeway Church Road (CR 296).

Updated traffic data (AADT):

Current Year: 53,000 (2010) Design Year: 87,800 (2030)

Programmed/Schedule:

P.E. 2005 R/W: NA Construction: 2013

Revised cost estimates:

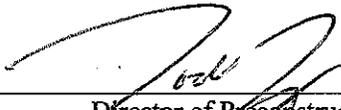
1. Construction cost including E&C, \$26,454,739.30
2. Right-of-way, \$0
3. Utilities, \$0

Is the project located in a Non-attainment area? Yes X No.

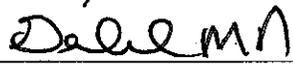
Recommendation: It is recommended that the proposed revision to the concept be approved for implementation.

Attachments:

1. Sketch Map,
2. Cost Estimate,
3. Typical Sections,
4. Need and Purpose.

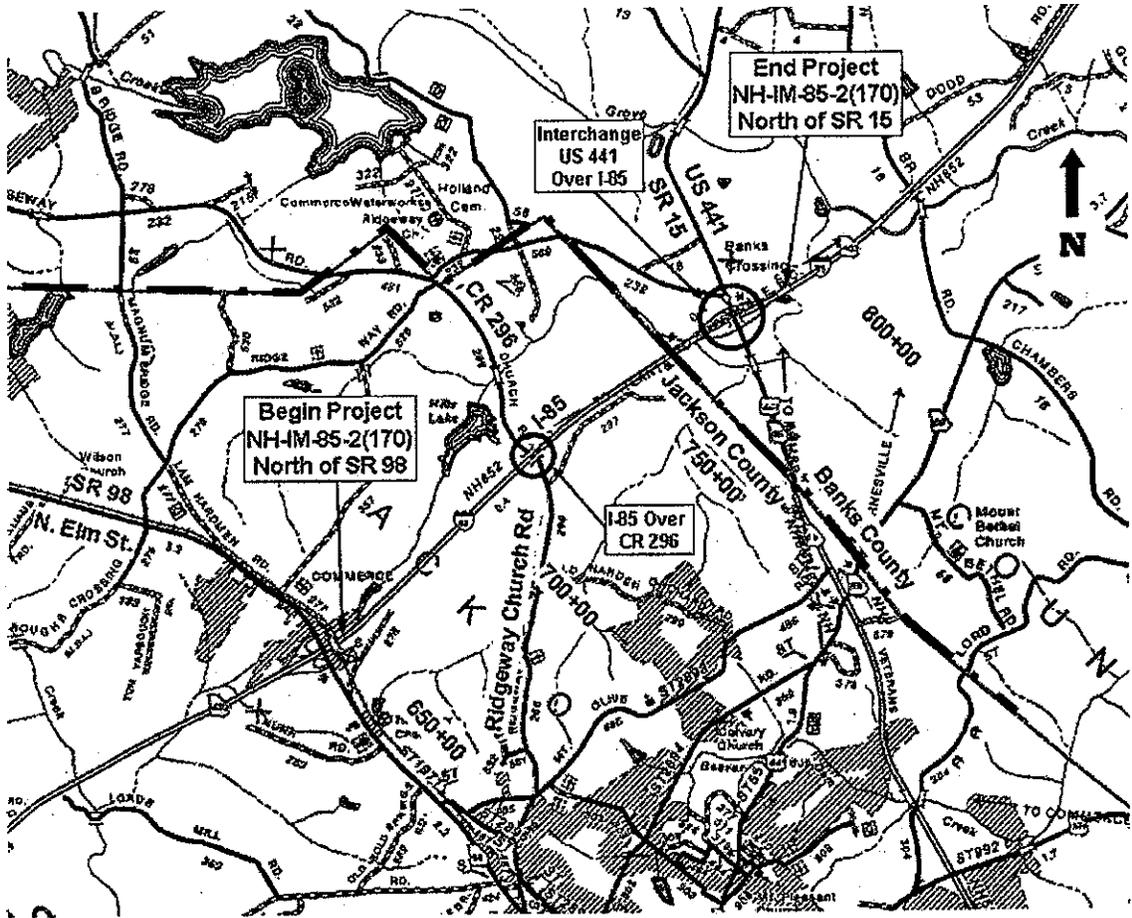
Concur: 
Director of Preconstruction

Approve: 
For: Division Administrator, FHWA

Approve: 
Chief Engineer

PROJECT LOCATION

NH-IM-85-2(170)



Estimate Report for file "110660"

Section ROADWAY					
Item Number	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Item Description	Cost
150-1000	1	LS	1500000.00	TRAFFIC CONTROL -	1500000.00
150-9011	3000	HR	52.67	TRAFFIC CONTROL - WORKZONE LAW ENFORCEMENT (CONTRACTOR BIDS)	158010.00
152-1000	1	EA	30000.00	FIELD LABORATORY	30000.00
153-1300	1	EA	63196.25	FIELD ENGINEERS OFFICE TP 3	63196.25
158-1000	10000	HR	0.80	TRAINING HOURS	8000.00
201-1500	1	LS	352000.00	CLEARING & GRUBBING -	352000.00
205-0001	83400	CY	4.34	UNCLASS EXCAV	361956.00
206-0002	42000	CY	4.99	BORROW EXCAV, INCL MATL	209580.00
310-1101	153100	TN	16.01	GR AGGR BASE CRS, INCL MATL	2451131.00
402-3121	24400	TN	48.57	RECYCLED ASPH CONC 25 MM SUPERPAVE, GP 1 OR 2, INCL BITUM	1185108.00
402-3130	4300	TN	46.98	RECYCLED ASPH CONC 12.5 MM SUPERPAVE, GP 2 ONLY, INCL BITUM	202014.00
402-3190	35400	TN	53.81	RECYCLED ASPH CONC 19 MM SUPERPAVE, GP 1 OR 2, INCL BITUM	1904874.00
413-1000	5000	GL	1.32	BITUM TACK COAT	6600.00
430-0220	166700	SY	44.58	PLAIN PC CONC PVMT, CL 1 CONC, 12 INCH THK	7431486.00
433-1300	830	SY	142.13	REINF CONC APPROACH SLAB, INCL BARRIER	117967.90
436-1000	13000	LF	9.04	ASPHALTIC CONCRETE CURB -	117520.00
441-0204	2000	SY	30.89	PLAIN CONC DITCH PAVING, 4 IN	61780.00
444-1000	160	LF	2.49	SAWED JOINTS IN EXIST PAVEMENTS - PCC	398.40
456-2012	6	GLM	949.78	INDENTATION RUMBLE STRIPS - GROUND-IN-PLACE (CONTINUOUS)	6173.57
500-3200	100	CY	436.65	CLASS B CONCRETE	43665.00
550-1180	11800	LF	36.45	STORM DRAIN PIPE, 18 IN, H 1-10	430110.00
550-1240	3500	LF	44.89	STORM DRAIN PIPE, 24 IN, H 1-10	157115.00
550-1300	1000	LF	54.36	STORM DRAIN PIPE, 30 IN, H 1-10	54360.00
550-1360	300	LF	66.73	STORM DRAIN PIPE, 36 IN, H 1-10	20019.00
550-4218	2	EA	558.86	FLARED END SECTION 18 IN, STORM DRAIN	1117.72
550-4224	6	EA	639.96	FLARED END SECTION 24 IN, STORM DRAIN	3839.76
550-4230	1	EA	732.96	FLARED END SECTION 30 IN, STORM DRAIN	732.96
550-4236	1	EA	1036.11	FLARED END SECTION 36 IN, STORM DRAIN	1036.11
573-2006	1000	LF	15.07	UNDDR PIPE INCL DRAINAGE AGGR, 6 IN	15070.00
576-1010	1100	LF	6.51	SLOPE DRAIN PIPE, 10 IN	7161.00
577-1100	55	EA	1015.93	METAL DRAIN INLET - COMPLETE ASSEMBLY	55876.15
610-1055	11300	LF	1.55	REM GUARDRAIL	17515.00
610-1075	50	EA	245.63	REM GUARDRAIL ANCH, ALL TYPES	12281.50
615-1000	240	LF	291.69	JACK OR BORE PIPE -	70005.60
621-3125	280	LF	270.07	CONCRETE BARRIER, TP 25S, MODIFIED	75619.60
621-6001	5400	LF	55.59	CONCRETE BARRIER, TP S-1	300186.00
621-6002	800	LF	70.48	CONCRETE BARRIER, TP S-2	56384.00
621-6003	9400	LF	177.53	CONCRETE BARRIER, TP S-3	1668782.00
622-1033	25000	LF	28.52	PRECAST CONCRETE MEDIAN BARRIER, METHOD 3	713000.00
641-1100	168	LF	36.09	GUARDRAIL, TP T	6063.12
641-1200	13200	LF	15.99	GUARDRAIL, TP W	211068.00
641-5001	23	EA	549.47	GUARDRAIL ANCHORAGE, TP 1	12637.81
641-5012	29	EA	1713.38	GUARDRAIL ANCHORAGE, TP 12	49688.02
649-0018	15600	LF	12.63	CONCRETE GLARE SCREEN, 18 INCH	197028.00
650-1200	4	EA	12714.99	IMPACT ATTENUATOR UNIT, (COMPRESSION CRASH CUSHION) TYPE T -	50859.96
668-2105	68	EA	3595.64	DROP INLET, GP 1, SPCL DES	244503.52
668-2110	15	LF	257.21	DROP INLET, GP 1, ADDL DEPTH	3858.15
668-5000	2	EA	1793.31	JUNCTION BOX	3586.62
Section Sub Total:					\$20,650,964.72

Section PERMANENT EROSION CONTROL					
Item Number	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Item Description	Cost
603-2182	100	SY	47.10	STN DUMPED RIP RAP, TP 3, 24 IN	4710.00
603-7000	100	SY	4.31	PLASTIC FILTER FABRIC	431.00
700-6910	27	AC	837.76	PERMANENT GRASSING	22619.52

700-7000	119	TN	59.69	AGRICULTURAL LIME	7103.11
700-7010	99	GL	19.04	LIQUID LIME	1884.96
700-8000	19	TN	294.10	FERTILIZER MIXED GRADE	5587.90
700-8100	1316	LB	1.71	FERTILIZER NITROGEN CONTENT	2250.36
715-2200	3800	SY	1.97	BITUMINOUS TREATED ROVING, WATERWAYS	7486.00
716-2000	49800	SY	1.12	EROSION CONTROL MATS, SLOPES	55776.00
Section Sub Total:					\$107,848.85

Section TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL					
Item Number	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Item Description	Cost
163-0232	14	AC	523.03	TEMPORARY GRASSING	7322.42
163-0240	830	TN	191.61	MULCH	159036.30
163-0300	6	EA	1826.91	CONSTRUCTION EXIT	10961.46
163-0520	1500	LF	14.30	CONSTRUCT AND REMOVE TEMPORARY PIPE SLOPE DRAIN	21450.00
163-0530	15000	LF	3.05	CONSTRUCT AND REMOVE BALED STRAW EROSION CHECK.	45750.00
163-0550	68	EA	272.79	CONSTRUCT AND REMOVE INLET SEDIMENT TRAP	18549.72
165-0010	6000	LF	1.00	MAINTENANCE OF TEMPORARY SILT FENCE, TP A	6000.00
165-0030	1800	LF	1.32	MAINTENANCE OF TEMPORARY SILT FENCE, TP C	2376.00
165-0070	7500	LF	1.76	MAINTENANCE OF BALED STRAW EROSION CHECK	13200.00
165-0101	6	EA	486.99	MAINTENANCE OF CONSTRUCTION EXIT	2921.94
165-0105	68	EA	98.01	MAINTENANCE OF INLET SEDIMENT TRAP	6664.68
167-1000	2	EA	1477.12	WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND SAMPLING	2954.24
167-1500	24	MO	903.71	WATER QUALITY INSPECTIONS	21689.04
171-0010	12000	LF	1.83	TEMPORARY SILT FENCE, TYPE A	21960.00
171-0030	3600	LF	3.32	TEMPORARY SILT FENCE, TYPE C	11952.00
Section Sub Total:					\$352,787.80

Section SIGNING AND MARKING					
Item Number	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Item Description	Cost
632-0003	4	EA	13092.88	CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGN, PORTABLE, TYPE 3	52371.52
636-1020	24	SF	14.49	HIGHWAY SIGNS, TP 1 MATL, REFL SHEETING, TP 3	347.76
636-1029	240	SF	17.89	HIGHWAY SIGNS, TP 2 MATL, REFL SHEETING, TP 3	4293.60
636-1032	480	SF	27.99	HIGHWAY SIGNS, TP 2 MATL, REFL SHEETING TP 6	13435.20
636-3010	2	EA	372.41	GROUND-MOUNTED BREAKAWAY SIGN SUPPORT	744.82
636-5010	25	EA	40.57	DELINEATOR, TP 1	1014.25
638-1001	1	LS	77889.04	STR SUPPORT FOR OVERHEAD SIGN, TP I, STA -	77889.04
638-1001	1	LS	77889.04	STR SUPPORT FOR OVERHEAD SIGN, TP I, STA -	77889.04
654-1001	6600	EA	3.59	RAISED PVMT MARKERS TP 1	23694.00
654-1003	830	EA	3.78	RAISED PVMT MARKERS TP 3	3137.40
657-1054	33800	LF	3.56	PREFORMED PLASTIC SOLID PVMT MKG, 5 IN, WHITE, TP PB	120328.00
657-1104	4000	LF	6.66	PREFORMED PLASTIC SOLID PVMT MKG, 10 IN, WHITE, TP PB	26640.00
657-3085	66000	GLF	3.34	PREFORMED PLASTIC SKIP PVMT MKG, 8 IN, CONTRAST	220440.00
657-6054	32900	LF	3.77	PREFORMED PLASTIC SOLID PVMT MKG, 5 IN, YELLOW, TP PB	124033.00
Section Sub Total:					\$746,257.63

Section BRIDGE					
Item Number	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Item Description	Cost
500-9000	10816	SF	100.00	Bridge No. 1	1081696.00
500-9000	11102	SF	100.00	Bridge No. 2	1110208.00

Section Sub Total: \$2,191,904.00

Total Estimated Cost: \$24,049,763.00

Subtotal Construction Cost	\$24,049,763.00
E&C Rate 10.0 %	\$2,404,976.30
Inflation Rate 0.0 % @ 0.0 Years	\$0.00
<hr/>	
Total Construction Cost	\$26,454,739.30
Right Of Way	\$0.00
ReImb. Utilities	\$0.00
<hr/>	
Grand Total Project Cost	\$26,454,739.30

NEED AND PURPOSE
PROJECTS NH-IM-85-2 (166-174)
BARROW, JACKSON, BANKS, FRANKLIN
P.I. NO. 110620, 110630, 110640, 110650, 110660, 110670, 110680, 110690, 110700
I-85/SR 403 IMPROVEMENTS

I-85/SR 403, a rural principal arterial, is a primary corridor in northeastern Georgia. The proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (166-174) would consist of adding one lane to I-85/SR 403 inside the median in each direction from SR 211 in Barrow County to north of SR 17 in Franklin County for a total of 47.2 miles.

Level of Service

The current Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) on I-85/SR 403 for projects NH-IM-85-2 (166-174) ranges from 35,800 to 42,800 providing a Level of Service in the "C" to "D" range. The projected (2025) traffic volumes for NH-IM-85-2 (166-174) range from 76,800 AADT to 95,300 AADT, providing for a LOS "F". The increasing-traffic volumes, with 24% trucks, are projected to cause the roadway to reach unacceptable Levels of Service.

<i>Projects NH-IM-85-2</i>	<i>Current Year (2005) AADT</i>	<i>Current Year (2005) (LOS)</i>	<i>Design Year (2025) Projected AADT</i>	<i>Design Year (2025) Projected (LOS) Build</i>	<i>Design Year (2025) Projected (LOS) No Build</i>
(166)	51,600	D	95,300	E	F
(167)	51,600	D	87,700	D	F
(168)	53,800	D	91,500	E	F
(169)	53,200	D	90,500	E	F
(170)	51,200	D	87,100	E	F
(171)	51,200	D	87,100	E	F
(172)	49,500	D	84,200	E	F
(173)	47,000	C	79,900	D	F
(174)	45,200	C	76,800	D	F

Accidents

The latest year that complete accident data is available is 1997. The statewide average accident rate in 1997 for a rural interstate was 49 accidents per 100,000,000 vehicle miles traveled. Proposed projects NH-IM-85-2 (166-173) are below the statewide average. Proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (174) was above the statewide average.

<i>Projects NH-IM-85-2</i>	<i>Accidents</i>	<i>Accident Rate</i>	<i>Statewide Accident Average</i>
(166)	25	31	49
(167)	12	15	49
(168)	26	46	49
(169)	17	17	49
(170)	12	26	49
(171)	9	16	49
(172)	17	21	49
(173)	18	36	49
(174)	65	51	49

Project Termini

The termini for the proposed projects are as follow:

<i>Projects NH-IM-85-2</i>	<i>Southern Terminus</i>	<i>Northern Terminus</i>	<i>Project Length (Miles)</i>
(166)	North of SR 211	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (167) Location: North of SR 60	5.8 mi.
(167)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (166) Location: North of SR 60	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (168) Location: North of US 129/SR 11	5.0 mi.
(168)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (167) Location: North of US 129/SR 11	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (169) Location: North of SR 82	3.6 mi.
(169)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (168) Location: North of SR 82	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (170) Location: North of SR 98	6.2 mi.
(170)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (169) Location: North of SR 98	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (171) Location: North of US 441/SR 15	2.8 mi.
(171)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (170) Location: North of US 441/SR 15	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (172) Location: North of SR 63	4.4 mi.
(172)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (171) Location: North of SR 63	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (173) Location: North of SR 51	6.0 mi.
(173)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-29(172) Location: North of SR 51	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (174) Location: North of SR 320	4.1 mi.
(174)	Ties into proposed project NH-IM-85-2 (173) Location: North of SR 320	North of SR 17	9.3 mi.

Other Projects in the Area

Although the proposed improvements demonstrate independent utility, it is also consistent with the goals of other projects in the area in order to improve the entire transportation network.

- NHS-M001-00 (027), Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, and Banks Counties: resurfacing of I-85 south of SR 211 in Gwinnett County to South of US 441/SR 15 in Banks County
- IM-00MS (266), I-85 Safety Upgrades at SR 211 in Barrow County and SR 53, SR 82, and SR 98 in Jackson County
- IM-85-2 (177), Jackson County Rest Areas
- STP-065-3 (55), SR 53 from I-85 to Lanier Raceway/Road Atlanta
- IM-00MS (325), I-85 Safety Upgrades at SR 15 and SR 63 in Banks County and SR 51, SR 320, SR 106, and SR 17 in Franklin County and SR 77 in Hart County
- EDS-IM0545 (19), Widen and Reconstruct SR 17 from CR 67 in Lavonia to Stephens County line including replacement bridge over I-85 and realigning ramp terminals on SR 17