

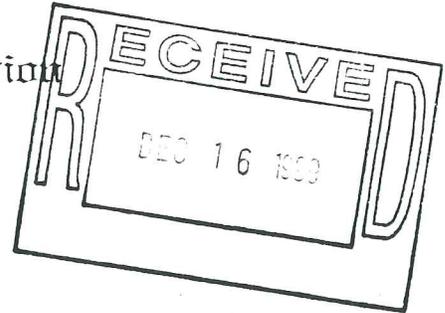


Department of Transportation

District Five

Jesup, Georgia 31598

December 13, 1999



The Telfair Enterprise
Post Office Box 269
McRae, Georgia 31055

RE: EDS-441(12) & (13), Telfair and Wheeler Counties
P. I. Nos. 531100 & 561470

Dear Sir:

Attached is Notice of Location and Design Public Hearing for the above referenced projects. It is requested that you publish this notice as a Legal Ad in your paper on Wednesday, December 15, 1999 and Wednesday, January 12, 2000.

Charges for this notice will be made in accordance with Section 9-13-143 of the Georgia Code.

Please mail a statement in duplicate covering the charges directly to the Department of Transportation, P. O. Box 608, Jesup, Georgia 31598. Also, please send three (3) copies of the tear sheet of the newspaper as the Legal Ad appears in your paper on the requested dates.

Yours very truly,

For: Gary D. Priester
District Engineer

By:


Jeffrey E. Griffith
District Planning and Programming Engineer

JEG/BAC/bc
Attachment

cc: Tom Turner, Atlanta
David Studstill, Atlanta
Wayne Hutto, Atlanta
Jim Kennerly, Atlanta
Jim Schell, Atlanta
Ronald Anderson, Baxley
General Files Unit, Atlanta

Telephone 912/427-5700

THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TO HOLD
A LOCATION AND DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING
FOR PROJECTS EDS-441 (12) & (13), Telfair and Wheeler Counties
P. I. NOS. 531100 & 561470

On *January 19th*, 2000, the Georgia Department of Transportation will hold a Public Hearing concerning the proposed Location and Design of Projects EDS-441 (12) & (13), Telfair and Wheeler Counties. The hearing will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Telfair Center for Community Development, 713 Telfair Avenue, McRae, Georgia.

Projects EDS-441 (12) & (13), Telfair and Wheeler Counties consist of constructing a bypass around the City of McRae. This alternative would begin at US 441/US 319/SR 31 approximately 0.41 mile south of the SR 149 Connector intersection with US 441/US 319/SR 31 and would proceed in a northeasterly direction until its intersection with US 341/US 23/SR 27, approximately 0.42 mile southeast of S2922. From there it would extend north on new location bridging over the Norfolk Southern Railroad, then turn northwest for approximately one mile before bridging over the Ocmulgee River. The proposed alignment would continue north bridging over US 280/SR 30 and the Central of Georgia Railroad until it ties back into existing US 441/US 319 near the entrance to the Little Ocmulgee State Park and the Telfair/Wheeler County Airport. Access to US 280/SR 30 would be provided by a slip ramp. The proposed typical section would be a four lane rural section with a 44 foot grassed median on 250 feet of right-of-way.

Representatives from the Department of Transportation will be available from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with plans and displays. The public will have an opportunity to attend the hearing at its convenience to ask questions and discuss the project with a Department representative. Relocation assistance will be discussed at the hearing. There will be no formal presentation.

A court reporter will be available during this time to allow the public an opportunity to make comments about the project. These comments will be included in the transcript of the hearing.

Written statements may be submitted to:

Mr. David E. Studstill, P.E.

State Environmental/Location Engineer

3993 Aviation Circle

Atlanta, Georgia 30336-1593

Written statements should be sent by *January 29, 2000*. The displays at the Public Hearing will be available for ten days for review after the Public Hearing at the office of the Area Engineer, 740 Oakdale Circle, Baxley, Georgia.

Also, as soon as the transcript is prepared, it will be available at this location.

There is wetland involvement on this project. Unavoidable wetland losses would be mitigated by restoration of existing degraded wetland habitats or creation of new wetlands.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is in need of providing wetland mitigation for their projects. Land for wetland mitigation, in the form of **restoring degraded wetlands**:

1. **must be** relatively near the project (no greater than 10 miles);
2. **must not** be existing wetlands or swamp (potential restoration areas should show signs of being previously ditched or drained or converted to non-wetland use such as agriculture or silvaculture); and,
3. **must be** easily accessible by local or state roads.

Anyone who has such property and would be willing to sell it to the State for wetland restoration, should send a letter, with a map (USGS Topographic Quad Sheet, County Road Map, or Detailed Drawing), clearly showing the location of the degraded wetland, to David E. Studstill, at the above address.

The environmental document will be available for review 15 days before the date of the Public Hearing at the location stated above. Also, copies of the environmental document will be available at the hearing for public review.

Copies of the environmental document are available to the public by sending your request to Mr. David Studstill at the address listed above.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA

RECEIVED

MAY 31 1994

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

PRECONSTRUCTION

FILE P.I. Nos. 531000 & 561470 OFFICE Environment/Location
DATE May 11, 1994
FROM David E. Studstill, P.E., State Environmental/Location Engineer
TO DISTRIBUTION BELOW
SUBJECT Projects EDS-441(12) & (13), Telfair and Wheeler Counties,
Summary of Comments Received During the Public Comment Period -
North and South McRae Bypasses

COMMENT TOTALS:

A total of 84 people attended the March 30, 1992 public information meeting held for the subject projects. From those attending, 26 comments were received. An additional 19 comments were received during the ten day comment period following the meeting, for a total of 45 comments. The comments are summarized as follows:

<u>No. Opposed</u>	<u>No. In Support</u>	<u>Uncommitted/Conditional</u>
20*	20	5

* Includes a petition with 55 signatures; several of these individuals submitted more than one comment, each of which was counted separately.

MAJOR CONCERNS:

Of the commenters who expressed concern about the project, most were concerned about effects to their individual properties or to their neighborhoods. Many of those opposed to the project were opposed because of the current alignment but were not opposed to the initial alignment.

OFFICIALS:

Officials attending included the following:

Johnny Bradfield - Mayor of McRae
Harvey Batten - Telfair County Commission
Max Lockwood - US 441 Economic Development Council

Summary of Comments
May 11, 1994
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DISPOSITION OF COMMENTS:

The Planning Office is requested to respond to comment number 3 and Right-of-Way is requested to respond to comment number 43. Both offices are requested to send this office a copy of their response. The environmental office will respond to the remaining comments.

Attached is a complete transcript of all comments received during the comment period and a copy of the hearing handout.

If you have any questions about the comments, please call Harvey D. Keeper at 699-4409.

DES/hdk

Attachments

DISTRIBUTION: John Lively, James Kennerly, Don Welch, Marion Waters, Craig Brack, Toni Dunagan