



April 23, 2009

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for Project CSMSL-0008-00(690), Chatham County, P.I. No. 0008690, the proposed construction of Jimmy Deloach Connector from Bourne Avenue (SR 307) to the existing eastern end of Jimmy Deloach Parkway. In this handout package, you will find a project description, location map, need and purpose statement, and comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed project. Department of Transportation (DOT) representatives, who can be identified by the name tags they are wearing, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with a DOT representative. There will be no formal presentation.

A court reporter will be available for those persons who would like to make a verbal statement about the project. You may also complete a comment card and deposit it into the box provided here or send in written comments about the project until May 8, 2009. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environment/Location Engineer, Georgia Department of Transportation, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30336-1593. Comments can also be made via the web at www.dot.ga.gov. Click on **Public Outreach** from the **Information Center** dropdown menu at the top right side of the page. All comments will be made a part of the project record. We hope you will take advantage of one of these opportunities to let the Department know your view of the proposal.

The displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after the Public Information Open House at the Georgia Department of Transportation District 5, Area 5 Office, 630 West Boundary Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at these same locations and at the Office of Environment/Location, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, GA 30336-1593, as soon as compilation is completed.

Again, thank you for attending this public information open house and for giving us your comments. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager Mr. Norman "Greg" Wiggins at (404) 631-1712 or Mr. Philip Alimia of the Office of Environment/Location at (404) 699-4448.

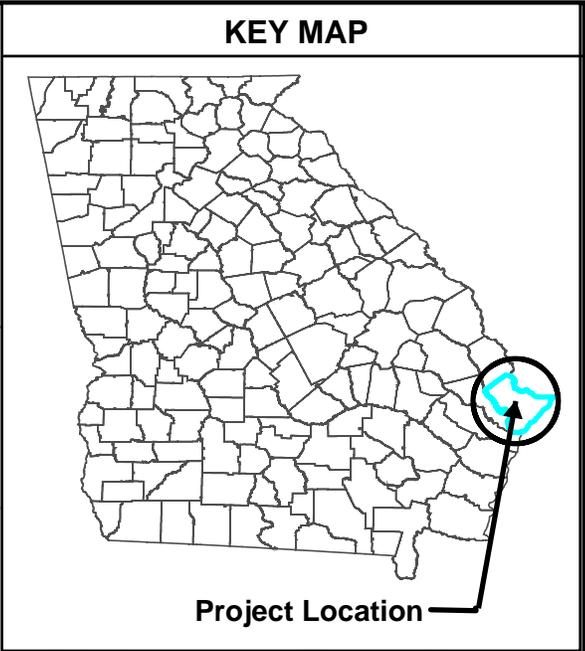
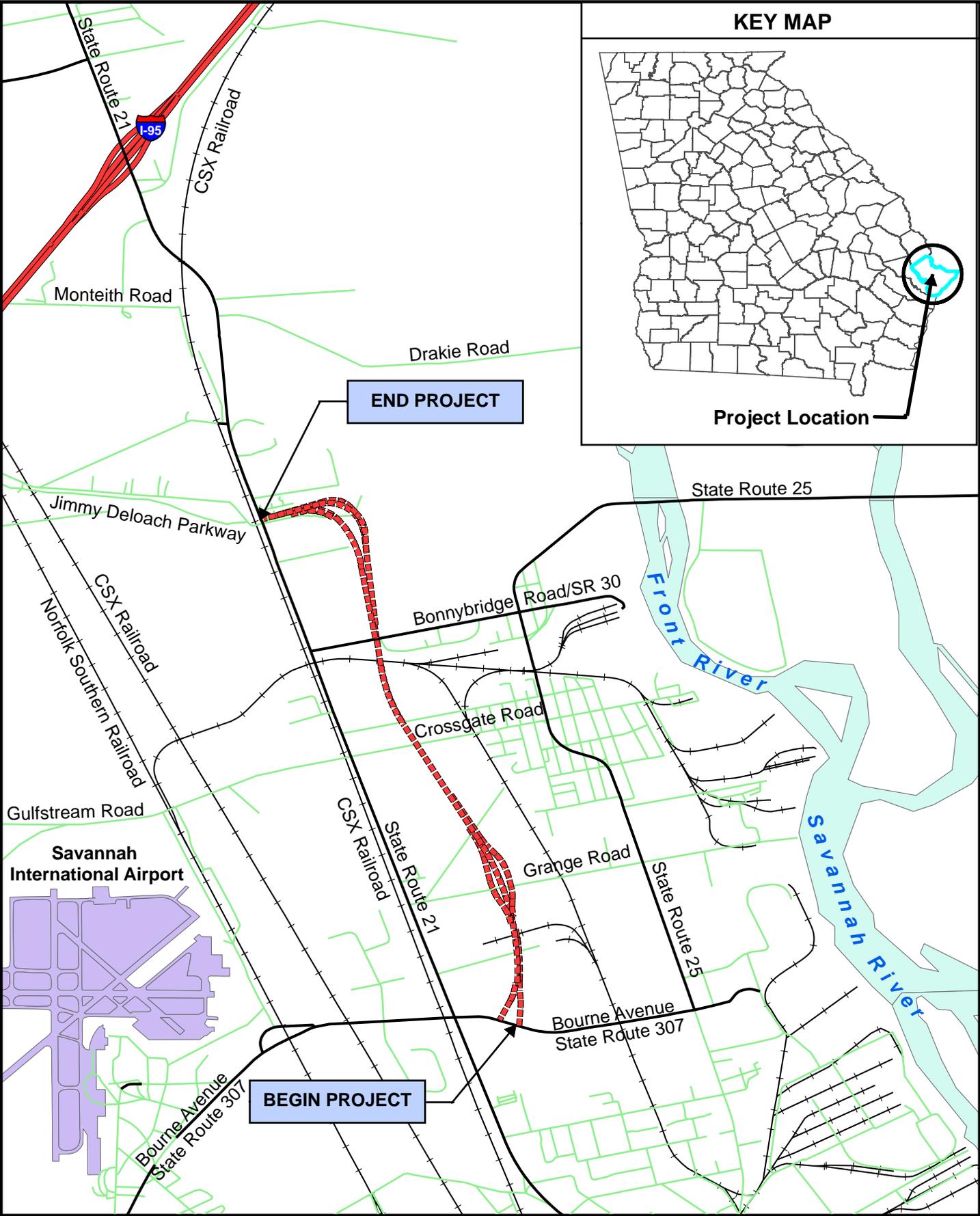
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Bowman".

Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environment/Location Engineer

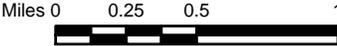
GB/GW/PTG

Attachments



PROJECT LOCATION MAP

CSMSL-0008-00(690), PI NO. 0008690
 CHATHAM COUNTY



Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Information Open House
Project CSMSL-0008-00(690), Chatham County, P.I. No. 0008690
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project (see attached Project Location Map) proposes the construction of Jimmy Deloach Connector, a new roadway alignment that would begin at Bourne Avenue/SR 307 and terminate at the existing eastern end of Jimmy Deloach Parkway in Chatham County, Georgia. New interchanges would be constructed at Bourne Avenue, Grange Road and Jimmy Deloach Parkway. The proposed project would be approximately 3.1 miles in length. Typical section of the proposed limited access roadway would consist of four 12-foot wide travel lanes (two in either direction) separated by a 24-foot wide raised median and 6.5-foot wide shoulders on both sides of the roadway. An exception to this typical section will begin at Crossgate Road and continue to the end of the project and will include a median barrier with 4-foot wide inside shoulders. The posted speed limit would be 55 mph. The proposed right-of-way for the Jimmy Deloach Connector would vary from 200 feet along the mainline, up to 800 feet at interchange locations.

In the vicinity of the proposed project, SR 21 is a four-lane divided highway (two lanes in either direction) with a variable 16-foot wide to 42-foot wide median and 10-foot paved outside shoulders. The existing right-of-way varies from approximately 175 feet to 200 feet.

The new location roadway would bypass approximately 3 miles of existing SR 21 mainline beginning at Jimmy Deloach Parkway, and would allow direct access to the Port of Savannah gates. The purpose of the project is to improve travel time from the Savannah Port to Interstate 95 (I-95) and accommodate the increasing truck traffic entering and exiting the Savannah Port.

NEED & PURPOSE

The proposed project is primarily needed to provide improved efficiency and safer movement of freight into and out of the Port of Savannah from I-95 and SR 21. The project is also needed to accommodate the increase in truck traffic that will result from the expansion of the Port of Savannah and the deepening of the Savannah River Channel, and to maintain the economic viability of the Port of Savannah and the southeast region.

The proposed project stems from the Georgia Department of Transportation's (the Department's) Statewide Truck Lanes Identification Study (2007). Within this study, Savannah, a subarea of Chatham County, was studied for potential truck lanes and other truck travel improvements because of increased freight traffic through the Port of Savannah. The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) studied the feasibility of construction of an express route from the I-95/Jimmy Deloach Parkway interchange southeast to provide direct access to the gates at the Port of Savannah. As a result, the Department and GPA have been working together to develop a project that would bypass SR 21 and provide direct truck access into the Port of Savannah.

GPA moved more than 2 million containers through the Port of Savannah in FY 2006, many of which were off-loaded to interstate-bound trucks. Counts conducted in the summer of 2006 estimate 5,200 gate transactions to 5,800 gate transactions per day involving container trucks, including movements into and out of the Port of Savannah's gates. Additional container berth capacity and additional Port of Savannah upgrades, including a major channel deepening project expected to be complete in 2012, indicate that many years of strong growth are anticipated at the Port of Savannah. By 2018, total throughput capacity at Garden City Terminal is forecast to increase more than 250 percent from current volumes.

The direct and indirect economic benefits due to the Port of Savannah's growth are immense. It is projected that 30 million square feet to 50 million square feet of additional retail distribution space would be added in the Savannah area over the next 10 years, bringing additional distribution traffic and employment opportunities to the area. As such, it is imperative that freight-related access to the interstate system and to the Port of Savannah is enhanced and that safe and efficient mobility for local employees and commuters is maintained.

Georgia Department of Transportation

Public Information Open House Comment Card

Project CSMSL-0008-00(690), ChathamCounty, P.I. No. 0008690

April 23, 2009

Please print responses.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? *For* *Against* *Conditional* *Uncommitted*

Comments _____

How did you hear about this meeting? *Radio* *Newspaper* *Signs* *Word of Mouth*

Was the location of the meeting 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 the DOT personnel? *Yes* *No*

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

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

Mail To:

*Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental/Location Engineer
Georgia Department of Transportation
3993 Aviation Circle
Atlanta, GA 30336-1593*