



April 28, 2011

Thank you for attending the public hearing open house for NH000-0085-02(153), P.I. No. 762380, the proposed SR 400/I-85 Connector Ramps in Fulton County. In this handout package, you will find a need and purpose statement, project description, location map, environmental statement, right-of-way statement, and comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed project. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, who can be identified by the nametags they are wearing, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with a GDOT 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 12, 2011. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental Administrator, Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30308. 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 GDOT know your view of the proposal.

The displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after the public hearing open house at the Georgia Department of Transportation District 7 Office located at 5025 New Peachtree Road, Chamblee, GA 30341. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at this same location and at the Georgia Department of Transportation, Office of Environment Services, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30308, as soon as compilation is completed.

Again, thank you for attending this public hearing 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 Albert Shelby at (404) 631-1758 or Paul Alimia at (404) 631-1353 of the Office of Environment Services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bobby K. Hilliard".

Bobby K. Hilliard, P.E.
State Program Delivery Engineer

BH/pa/

Attachments

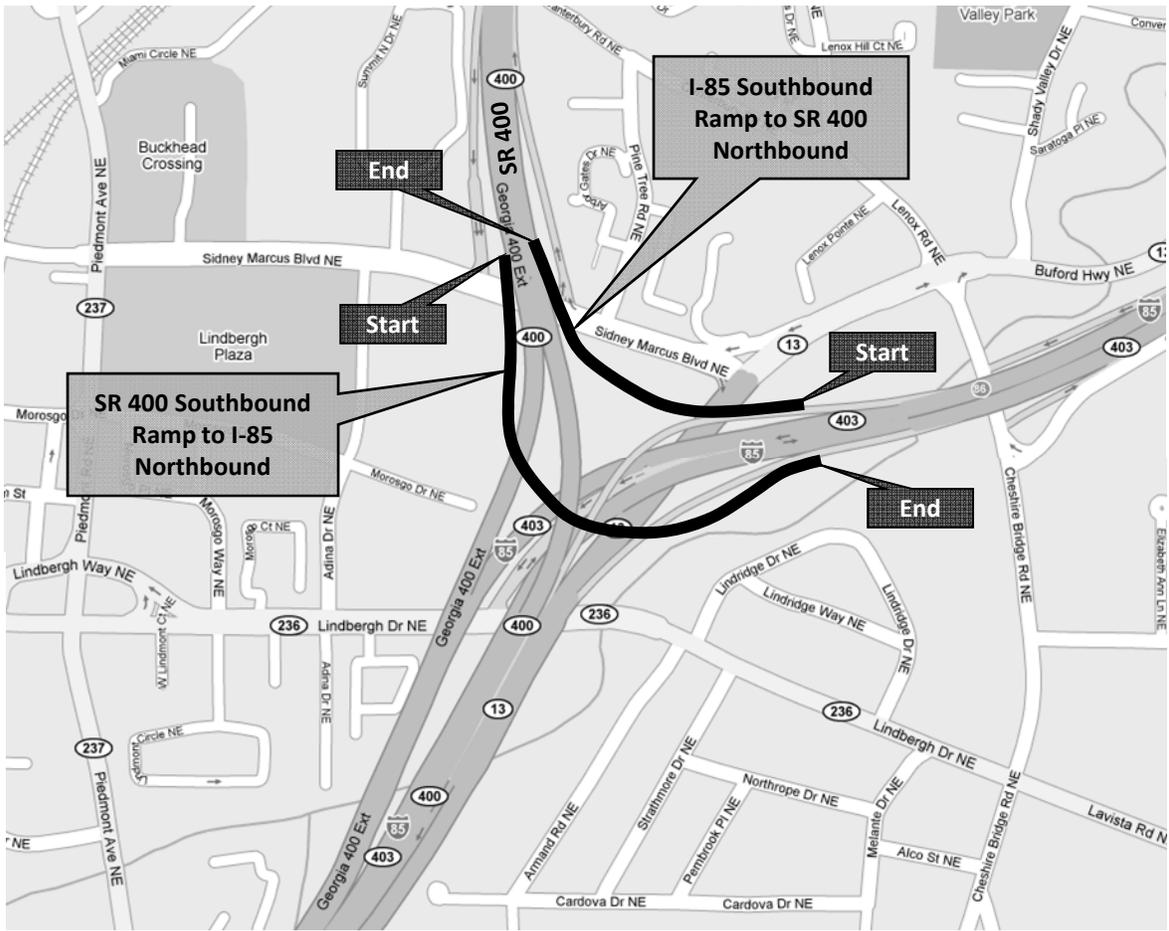
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Project NH000-0085-02(153), Fulton County, would construct connector ramps between State Route (SR) 400 and I-85 in the City of Atlanta, which do not exist as part of the existing interchange. The proposed project would be approximately 0.34 mile in length. No ramps are currently provided for southbound I-85 traffic to access northbound SR 400, or for southbound SR 400 traffic to access northbound I-85. Currently motorists must exit from I-85 and SR 400 and use surface streets (Sidney Marcus Boulevard, SR 13/Buford Highway, and Lenox Road) to transition from I-85 southbound to SR 400 northbound and from SR 400 southbound to I-85 northbound. The posted speed limit for SR 400 and I-85 in this area is 55 mph.

This project would improve interchange capacity by constructing two separate ramps. The first proposed ramp would exit I-85 southbound providing direct access to SR 400 northbound. The second proposed ramp would exit SR 400 southbound, cross over the mainline of I-85, and directly merge onto I-85 northbound.

SR 400 Southbound to I-85 Northbound Ramp – The new access ramp would diverge from the right side of SR 400 southbound south of the Sidney Marcus Boulevard exit. From this point, the new access ramp would continue south on a bridge and cross over Sidney Marcus Boulevard. Turning east the new ramp would cross over the existing SR 400/I-85 Interchange structures and Buford Highway to join the I-85 northbound mainline. The ramp's typical cross section would consist of a 6-foot inside shoulder, a 16-foot lane, and a 10-foot outside shoulder. The proposed speed limit for this ramp would be 45 miles per hour (mph).

I-85 Southbound to SR 400 Northbound Ramp – The new proposed access ramp would share the existing exit ramp to Buford Highway southbound. After exiting I-85, this ramp would consist of two lanes for a distance of 1,000 feet before splitting into two ramps. One ramp is the existing ramp to Buford Highway southbound and the second ramp would be the new proposed access ramp to SR 400 northbound. The proposed ramp to SR 400 northbound would turn north to cross over Sidney Marcus Boulevard and join SR 400 northbound mainline. The proposed ramp's typical cross section would consist of a 4-foot inside shoulder, a 16-foot lane, and a 12-foot outside shoulder. The proposed speed limit for this ramp would be 45 mph.



	<h3>Project Location Map</h3>	<p>Construction of SR 400/ I-85 Connector Ramps Fulton County</p> <p>Project No. NH000-0085-02(153)</p> <p>P.I. #: 762380</p>

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY NH000-0085-02(153), FULTON COUNTY

In compliance with the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act, the Georgia Department of Transportation has conducted an assessment of the social, economic and environmental effects for the proposed SR 400/I-85 Connector Ramps. The following information gives a summary of the environmental document.

No residential units and no businesses would be displaced by the proposed project. The roadway would be placed closer to remaining residences, but no loss of yard area will occur.

The proposed project would result in the loss of a small amount of residential and business property located along the back of the properties.

However, owners would be compensated for these losses.

In accordance with Executive Order 11990, the proposed project was surveyed for wetland and stream involvement. Two jurisdictional wetlands and eight jurisdictional streams were identified within the project's area of potential effect (APE). It is estimated that 0 acres of wetlands and 0 linear feet of streams would be impacted by the proposed project.

In accordance with Executive Order 11988, the proposed project was surveyed for floodplain involvement. The proposed project would not significantly encroach upon the floodplain associated with the North Fork of Peachtree Creek. The project would not have an adverse effect on water quality within the project corridor. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit would not be required for this project.

The proposed project would not exceed state and federal air quality standards, and it is consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the attainment of clean air quality in the state. This project has been evaluated by an interagency group consisting of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) and Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and was found to be exempt from the PM_{2.5} hot spot requirements

The construction of this project would result in the range of 0.3 decibel to 6.8 decibel increase in traffic generated noise by the design year 2035, and 25 properties would approach or exceed the noise abatement criteria. No feasible noise abatement measures were identified for the 25 properties.

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the project has been surveyed for existing and eligible National Register properties. No existing or eligible archaeological resources were found to be located within the project's area of potential environmental effect. One eligible historic resource, the Lindridge-Martin Manor Historic District, was found within the project's APE.

The proposed project would not affect any threatened or endangered plant or wildlife species, as none are located in or frequent the project area.

The project would not involve any farmland as defined in the Farmland Protection Policy Act, 7 CFR Part 658, due to the land in this corridor being in or committed to urban development.

In accordance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act, the criteria of 7 CFR, Part 658 have been applied to determine project effects on farmland. Based on the assessment of these effects, no additional alternates need to be examined.

The proposed project has been surveyed for potential sites where contaminated soil and/or water from leaking underground storage tanks may exist. The seven potential sites that were identified are outside the project limits and do not warrant further investigation. If contaminants are found during construction, applicable laws and regulations concerning the removal of toxic or hazardous material will be coordinated with the GDOT and Environmental Protection Division.

Copies of the environmental document are available at this hearing for your review or by sending your request to:

Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Right-Of-Way Acquisition Project NH000-0085-02(153), Fulton County

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has the responsibility, once a project is approved, of appraising, purchasing property and, if required, assisting individuals, families or businesses in relocating. When purchasing property, we desire to pay full market value for the necessary property. This value will be established by using qualified real estate appraisers who will prepare, for GDOT's use, written appraisals using actual sales data in the surrounding community.

In making an appraisal, the appraiser will contact each property owner and arrange a convenient time to make an on-site inspection of the property with him or her. After completion of the appraisal, the right-of-way appraisal staff will review and field check the findings for accuracy to ensure that all things relating to value have been considered in establishing the amount to be offered. When only a part of the property is needed, we will purchase that part plus pay for loss of value, if any, to the remaining property. In all cases, when GDOT purchases property, we will make additional payments to property owners for the cost of transferring ownership to GDOT. These costs generally include transfer taxes, deed-recording fees, mortgage pre-payment penalties and the pro-rata share of city or county taxes.

Georgia DOT is aware of the problems experienced by individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofit organizations when they are required to move. It is our commitment that no family or individual will be required to relocate until comparable decent, safe and sanitary housing is available or is provided for those occupants.

Additionally, GDOT will provide assistance to businesses and nonprofit organizations in relocating to other sites and will encourage them to remain in the community.

The information pamphlet "*What Happens When Your Property is Needed for a Transportation Facility*" is available at the greeter's table at the Public Hearing Open House (PHOH), and this booklet outlines the services offered and any payments for which you may be eligible, such as moving expenses and replacement housing benefits for owners and tenants. The brochure also outlines the eligibility requirements for receiving these payments.

Results of the field inspection by GDOT personnel have revealed that there will be 0 residences and 0 businesses that will be required to relocate.

It is important to remember that GDOT is committed to the principle that no one will be required to relocate until housing is available, or, if there is no housing available, until provisions have been made by GDOT to provide housing. It is also important to remember that all displacees will be given sufficient advance notice of GDOT's intention to purchase any property in order to allow sufficient time in which to relocate.

If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager Albert Shelby at (404) 631-1758.

Georgia Department of Transportation

Public Hearing Open House Comment Card

Project NH000-0085-02(153), Fulton County, P.I. No. 762380

April 28, 2011

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*
 Other _____

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 GDOT personnel? *Yes* *No*

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

Please share your suggestions on improving the way GDOT conducts public meetings.

Mail To:

*Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308*