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Federal bridge funds headed to Gwinnett

Atlanta Business Chronide - by Dave Williams Staff Writer

Federal funds for two bridge replacement projects over Interstate 85 in Gwinnett County are included in a transportation spending bill approved by Congress this week.

About \$1 million is earmarked for a bridge on Pleasant Hill Road spanning the highway, while \$500,000 will go for a bridge over I-85 on Jimmy Carter Boulevard.

The two projects are top priorities of the Gwinnett Place and Gwinnett Village community improvement districts, groups of businesses that formed to tax themselves to support transportation improvements.

To that end, the Gwinnett Village CID has secured more than \$12.5 million for the Jimmy Carter Boulevard project, including federal, county and CID funds.

The Gwinnett Place CID plans to fund up to 20 percent of the Pleasant Hill Road project with local money, including CID and county dollars.

"The business communities at Jimmy Carter and Pleasant Hill have been linchpins in Gwinnett's economy for decades," Gwinnett County Commission Chairman Charles Bannister said. "(The) bridges will be key to the successful redevelopment of both areas."

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