

Gwinnett County Government Communications Division NEWS RELEASE

Heather Sawyer
Public Relations Manager
Office: 770.822.7035
Fax: 770.822.7189
www.gwinnettcounty.com

Story contact: Brian Allen Transportation Director 770.822.7417 brian.allen@gwinnettcounty.com

COUNTY, CITIES COLLABORATE ON REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT LIST

(Lawrenceville, Ga., March 30, 2011) – Gwinnett County submitted a list of potential transportation projects to the state transportation planning director and the Atlanta Regional Commission today. These projects will be considered for inclusion in the metro Atlanta region's project list for the Transportation Investment Act of 2010.

Local governments were asked to submit potential projects for consideration in advance of a referendum for a 10-year, one percent regional transportation sales tax to be considered by voters in 2012. The submitted list will first be reviewed by the Georgia DOT Planning Director Todd Long, who will provide the Metro Atlanta Regional Roundtable with an unconstrained list for funding consideration. The project selection process for the referendum will include substantial public involvement and will continue throughout the summer and fall of this year.

Gwinnett County, the cities and four Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) worked together to create a comprehensive, combined list. Gwinnett County submitted projects from the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), which is part of the County's 2030 Unified Plan adopted in 2009. The cities and CIDs selected projects based on the CTP, corridor studies and other approved studies. Gwinnett County did not attempt to prioritize the list or constrain it financially.

The Metro Atlanta Regional Roundtable is made up of the 10 county commission chairs, a mayor from each of the 10 counties and the mayor of Atlanta. Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash and Norcross Mayor Bucky Johnson represent Gwinnett County on the roundtable.

"Gwinnett cities started the process of identifying specific transportation projects last November and began working jointly with Gwinnett County in January 2011," said Linda Blechinger, Auburn Mayor and Georgia Municipal Association President. "This has been a cooperative, professional effort involving all cities, the County staff and our CIDs. I believe the comprehensive list represents transportation projects that are important to and can be supported by our Gwinnett citizens."

"I believe the joint effort of the Gwinnett cities, the County and CIDs have resulted in a good first step of the process outlined in the 2010 Transportation Investment Act," said Bucky Johnson, Norcross Mayor. "I trust that Gwinnett's effort will help streamline the next steps required of the Regional Roundtable. Ultimately, our citizens will authorize the projects, and our voters deserve our best efforts to insure municipal, county and regional projects are all included."

"Through this collaborative effort, Gwinnett County, its cities and CIDs have compiled a broad range of transportation projects," said Charlotte Nash, Gwinnett County Chairman. "I want to emphasize that the submission of the potential project list is the beginning of the selection process. The public will have multiple opportunities to affect the final project list and will ultimately determine if the slate of approved projects is worthy of a positive vote in the referendum."

###

Note: Please see the attached document for the submitted unconstrained project list.