

## Pleasant Hill Road Bridge Project Receives Key Approval



Provided by Gwinnett CID

Efforts to replace the Pleasant Hill Road bridge over I-85 have received an important boost from state transportation authorities.

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) this week officially approved a concept report as part of planning for the innovative diverging-diamond interchange (DDI) at Pleasant Hill Road's interstate crossing.

Having the concept report approved is required to advance the project further with the Federal Highway Administration and marks an important milestone in advancing the project from a conceptual one to an approved project ready for implementation. Additional permitting and plan approvals will be sought this fall as right-of-acquisition continues in preparation for construction to begin in early 2012.

Leo Wiener, chairman the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (CID), said the GDOT approval is welcomed news signaling that the bridge replacement is closer to reality.

“The CID’s top priority is rebuilding this bridge to dramatically improve traffic flow and safety,” Wiener said. “We greatly appreciate the strong leadership and emphasis that Gwinnett County and Georgia transportation authorities have placed on the Pleasant Hill Road DDI. They recognize the importance of this project to the CID and our county’s central business district.”

The CID also received word that the GDOT will be supplying \$450,000 in 2011 Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant funding. These funds will support the CID’s efforts to complete streetscaping and other pedestrian enhancements on Satellite Boulevard from Pleasant Hill Road to the Gwinnett Transit Center.