



## OVER \$54 MILLION AWARDED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO GEORGIA'S



### Press Release

ATLANTA—Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) has awarded 25 contracts for statewide transportation projects totaling \$54,335,216. This investment in Georgia's transportation infrastructure yields significant economic benefits for Georgia as well as an improved quality of life for residents. Projects were advertised for bids in November, bids were received in December and contracts were awarded on January 5 and 6.

Georgia DOT continues to focus on preserving existing infrastructure with 13 awards totaling \$39.9 million for resurfacing and maintenance of 170 miles of state highways. Since FY 17 began on July 1, Georgia DOT has invested \$215.4 million in resurfacing interstate and state routes.

Georgia DOT is tackling deferred maintenance with funds generated by Georgia's Transportation Funding Act (TFA) of 2015. This includes Georgia's 18,000 miles of interstate and state routes.

"Taking proper care of our pavements not only extends the life of our roads, but also reduces the cost of driving by lowering fuel consumption and saving wear and tear on vehicles," Georgia DOT Commissioner Russell R. McMurry, P.E. said.

"We are now resurfacing on an average 12 to 15-year cycle with preventative maintenance in between, instead of the previous 50-year cycle."

The highest valued awarded contract is a 12-mile resurfacing on I-95/SR 405 from north of I-16/SR 404 to south of Georgia/South Carolina Bridge in Chatham and Effingham counties. The project, valued at \$8.5 million, was awarded to Reeves Construction Company, Macon, Ga.

The anticipated completion date is November 30, 2017. Other resurfacing and maintenance projects include 24.3 miles on SR 315 in Harris County, 16 miles on SR 144 in Liberty and Long counties, and 5 miles on SR 38 in Decatur County. Bridge projects represent 21 percent of the value of the awarded contracts.

These include \$3.7 million for rehabilitation of 33 bridges on I-85 in west central Georgia; and bridge construction in southeast Georgia. Safety projects include signal improvements at six intersections in Forsyth County and railroad intersection signing and pavement marking upgrades at 149 railroad crossings in northwest and central Georgia.

Please read excerpt: [www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/Public/PressReleases/DECLLETINGAWARDS-1-12-17.pdf](http://www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/Public/PressReleases/DECLLETINGAWARDS-1-12-17.pdf)

## About the GDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on GDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Facilitate liaisons between the Prime Contractor and DBEs.
- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor.
- Provide access to training increases DBE
- Expertise in handling of daily business operations.
- Help DBEs produce sound bid proposals.

## About the Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with GDOT as the statewide provider of the federally fund Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program.

We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient.

Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

## Five top tips for keeping safe on a construction worksite



Construction workers are still being injured or killed at an alarming rate—1 in 5 work-related deaths in the U.S. occurred in the construction industry in 2015, according to OSHA.

### 1. Strong leadership sets the tone.

Safety standards are vital, but they are meaningless if company and project leaders aren't committed to upholding them. Careful adherence to safety policy starts at the top. "As an employer, one of our most important roles is setting policies and procedures to help ensure that employees understand the importance of safety on the job site," says Burke Pinnell, chairman of Hickory Construction.

Do-it-yourselfers also can make sure their quest for efficiency does not trump their focus on following safety procedures, whether they are working on their own or with a group of friends.

### 2. Training and tracking may be time-intensive, but they're worth the investment.

It takes time and energy to train employees on safety protocol, but Hickory says it's time well spent, particularly since 60 percent of construction workplace injuries occur in the builder's first year of employment, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Employers can work toward the goal of achieving high safety standards by requiring that all employees undergo drug-free workplace protocol, engage in weekly "tool box talks" on safety-related activities, take CPR training and receive thorough equipment training.

In addition, it is important to track safety results in order to reward success and refine future practices, Hickory says.

### 3. Proper form decreases the likelihood of injury.

It may sound basic, but Pinnell says construction workers cannot afford to underestimate the importance of following basic best practices when performing key building tasks. "Simple steps like properly lifting heavy items and using ergonomically correct tools can make a big difference in keeping workers safe," Pinnell says.

OSHA reports that one in 10 construction workers are injured on the job in each year, and many incidents result from a failure to adhere to well-known safety benchmarks.

### 4. Good housekeeping makes for good working conditions.

Keeping a work site clean and organized can safeguard workers, too. Sweeping away spills, dust and dirt, keeping walkways clear and moving equipment out of the way minimizes the risk of careless accidents. Falls are the greatest source of fatal project injuries and lead to a large number of nonfatal incidents as well, according to The Center for Construction Research and Training. Making sure scaffolding is sturdy and obstacles are cleared maximizes workers' likelihood of staying on their feet and returning home safely.

### 5. Personal protective equipment is a major tool for success.

Helmets, gloves, eyewear and foot protection are vital shields in the fight against injury. Even when workers use their own personal protective equipment, employers are responsible for its adequacy, maintenance and sanitation. Even the smallest precaution can help builders avoid significant negative consequences in the event of an accident, according to the company.

Excerpt: [www.constructionequipment.com/five-top-tips-keeping-workers-safe](http://www.constructionequipment.com/five-top-tips-keeping-workers-safe)

## Supportive Services Offered



- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website
- Plan Reading



CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.

Call 855-432-1DBE (1323) or visit us online at  
[www.gadbesupport.com](http://www.gadbesupport.com)

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