

# Your Guide TO DOING BUSINESS WITH



Georgia Department of Transportation

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a GDOT Partnership With



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## GDOT's \$800M Project to Reduce Congestion in Atlanta

Transform 285/400 rebuilds the Interstate 285 at SR 400 interchange, in the heart of the Perimeter area in north Metro Atlanta, and constructs 4.3 miles of new collector-distributor (CD) lanes along I-285 and 6.2 miles of new CD lanes along SR 400, in addition to other bridge and local interchange improvements within the corridor.

The Perimeter is home to approximately 5,000 companies — including several on the Fortune 500 list — and more than 33 million sq. ft. of office space, three major hospitals, Georgia's second-largest shopping mall and roughly 100,000 residents. Throw in 420,000 commuters just passing through, and you've got a recipe for rush-hour misery.

Rush hour around the interchange typically lasts three to four hours each morning and afternoon, according to an environmental assessment of the project. Even in the middle of the day, traffic often backs up on both highways. Moreover, closely-spaced interchanges along I-285 (including Roswell Road, Glenridge Drive, GA 400, Peachtree Dunwoody Road and Ashford Dunwoody Road) leave many motorists weaving in and out of traffic as they enter and exit the highway.

GDOT originally envisioned this multi-year project as two separate plans — I-285/SR 400 Interchange Reconstruction and SR 400 Collector-Distributor (CD)

Lanes. "But in order to achieve maximum efficiency, economic benefit and cost effectiveness for the region, we combined the two stand-alone projects into one Design-Build-Finance [DBF], Public-Private Partnership [P3]," explained Darryl VanMeter, GDOT's assistant P3 division director.

The project is designed to help reduce traffic congestion and enhance safety in the area near the I-285/SR 400 interchange. It adds new flyover ramps, new collector-distributor lanes and other facilities to aid east-west travel along I-285 and north-south travel along SR 400. When completed, it will improve operational efficiency, save 12,500 hours per-day of driving time and prevent worsening traffic delays over time, reduce weaving along I-285 and SR 400 and improve ramp geometry at the I-285/SR 400 interchange.

"Congestion was heavy before and during the start of construction — that's one of our biggest challenges," VanMeter added. "Transform 285/400 will improve traffic flow, decrease traffic congestion and increase safety for vehicles traveling through one of metro Atlanta's largest business districts. Good access and mobility are significant factors in attracting and keeping business in the Perimeter area."

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### 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:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



### About The Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with GDOT as the statewide provider of the federally funded 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.

# Concrete Calculator: How Much Concrete Do You Need?

Use this free concrete calculator to determine how much concrete you need. Knowing how much concrete is needed for a job is incredibly important. Learn how to correctly calculate how much concrete mix you will need for your job.

## CONCRETE CALCULATOR FORMULA

**What equation should I use to find out how much concrete I need?**

### How to calculate concrete:

1. Determine how thick you want the concrete
2. Measure the length and width that you'd like to cover
3. Multiply the length by the width to determine square footage
4. Convert the thickness from inches to feet
5. Multiply the thickness in feet by the square footage to determine cubic feet
6. Convert cubic feet to cubic yards by multiplying by .037

Here's what the math looks like for a 10' by 10' concrete patio:

$$10 \times 10 = 100 \text{ square feet}$$

$$4 \div 12 = .33$$

$$100 \times .33 = 33 \text{ cubic feet}$$

$$33 \times .037 = 1.22 \text{ cubic yards}$$

Essentially you are solving for volume and then converting to cubic yards. For concrete, the formula for

volume is as follows: length x width x thickness.

To determine how many bags of concrete you will need, divide the total cubic yards needed by the yield.

Use the following yields per each bag size:

- 40 pound bag yields .011 cubic yards
- 60 pound bag yields .017 cubic yards
- 80 pound bag yields .022 cubic yards

Bagged concrete is ideal for:

- Pouring small slabs for sidewalks or patios
- Setting posts for fences or mailboxes
- Making repairs to foundation walls, walkways or steps
- Pouring small curbs, steps, or ramps
- Footings for decks, pergolas, walls and more

If you're purchasing bagged concrete you may be able to have it delivered, but if it is only a few bags you'll be responsible for transporting it yourself. You'll also need additional equipment for mixing the concrete. A rented mixer can be very helpful, but a wheelbarrow works for just a few bags.

Ready mixed concrete by the yard is good for:

- Large patios, driveways, pool decks and more
- Foundation slabs for a house
- Parking lots or commercial sidewalks

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## Supportive Services Offered:

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



Within the past 3 months,  
CEI assisted DBEs  
in obtaining

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IN BONDING!!**

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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.