

Georgia DOT Partners with Railroads to Add Grade Crossing Signage



The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has partnered with Norfolk Southern Railway and other railroads operating in the state to install new signs at hundreds of public grade crossings that do not have

automatic warning devices. The signage will be installed at nearly 600 crossings. With 582 affected crossings in Georgia, NS' project is the largest due to the size and complexity of its rail network in Georgia, GDOT officials said in a press release. "The interest and investment in the safety of the Georgia's motoring public by Norfolk Southern and the other railroads operating in Georgia is commendable," said GDOT Commissioner Russell McMurry. "These partnerships will improve safety at passive railroad crossings throughout the state." Funding for the project includes dollars from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Railway-Highway Crossings (Section 130) Program, which makes funds available to states to help cover the costs of eliminating hazards at grade crossings. Other railroads with which GDOT is partnering on the grade-crossing projects include Georgia Northeastern Railroad, Georgia Southern Railway, Ogeechee Railroad Company and St. Mary's Railway West.

To Read More, See Excerpt: https://www.progressiverailroading.com/norfolk_southern/news/Gorgia-DOT-partners-with-railroads-to-add-grade-crossing-signage--56857

GDOT Awards \$31.3 Million in Construction Contracts for January

Georgia DOT has awarded 11 construction contracts for statewide transportation projects totaling \$31,262,935. The construction, resurfacing, bridge and safety projects included in the award were advertised on December 21, bids were received on January 18 and contracts were awarded to the lowest qualified bidder on February 1.

The largest single investment is a \$14.9 million contract to resurface and rehabilitate 9.5 miles of roadway on Interstate 20/State Route 402, from State Route 5 to Sweetwater Creek in Douglas County. This contract was awarded to C. W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc. and E.R. Snell Contractor, Inc., and is the only resurfacing project awarded in the state in the month of December, representing 48 percent of the awarded funds.

Bridge contracts represent 30 percent of the awarded funds, or \$9.4 million. A \$5.8 million contract was awarded to construct a 0.16 mile bridge on Spanish Creek Road over Long Branch Creek in Coweta County. The remaining \$3.63 million of the awarded bridge funds include four separate contracts for bridge construction at various locations in Ware, Charlton and Bulloch counties. Thirteen percent of awarded funds, or \$3.9 million, represent three safety enhancement contracts at various locations in Fulton and DeKalb counties.

To Read More, See Excerpt: <https://us13.campaign-archive.com/?u=80dbe14272ec0b5e1a1bf5b4e&id=3a9a7fbcff>

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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.

Our goal is 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.

Driving Collaboration

4 ways fleet data can counter management challenges & speed up project completion



General contractors understand the importance of job completion rates in both the office and the field, but a number of factors can slow down job completion, including addressing

changes following inspections, obtaining permits, waiting on special orders and experiencing weather-related supply delays. While a skilled workforce and solid management help overcome these challenges, data mining and utilization speed up job completion even further. In fact, the use of data can help improve routing, communication between office staff and field workers, and driver behavior—all of which correlate with job completion. And to improve job completion rates, construction companies need greater access to near real-time data, but they also need to measure, report and analyze the data as it relates to business management challenges—all of which can be achieved through the use of fleet management software.

1. Enhance Routing

With fleet management software, businesses are able to access a vehicle's history and more easily monitor and manage an entire mobile workforce. The use of this data can help businesses overcome poor routing, which hurts workforce utilization, increases fuel costs, puts more wear and tear on fleets and, as a result, negatively impacts job completion time. If contractors do not use the most direct route between jobsites, it can mean more time spent in transit and less time spent performing billable work that contributes to better job completion speed.

2. Strengthen Communication & Visibility

Access to near real-time and historical data allows fleet managers a 360-degree view of the business, which is a crucial perspective when it comes to improving customer service. "Fleet Connections 2018: The Data-Driven Fleet," a recent report completed by business research firm Aberdeen, delved into the impact of fleet management software on driver behavior and operational efficiency in field service businesses, revealing that companies using field service and fleet management software see a 33 percent greater workforce utilization rate than companies that do not.

After implementing fleet management software, more than half of the businesses surveyed in the report saw improved customer service—a critical key performance indicator in today's competitive landscape.

3. Improve Driver Behavior

Speeding, idling and harsh driving are behaviors that can waste fuel and decrease truck longevity, impacting business performance, equipment effectiveness and job completion over time. Fleet management software adds additional visibility into these behaviors.

Within Aberdeen's study, is also an analysis of more than 27,000 vehicles, which found companies that actively measure fleet performance see improvements in driver behavior, improving efficiency, profitability and safety. And, companies that view reports on driver behavior see a 71-percent improvement in speeding and a 29-percent improvement in idling after the first month of the software's implementation.

To Read More, See Excerpt:

<https://www.constructionbusinessowner.com/fleet/driving-collaboration>

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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.

Call 855-432-1DBE (1323) or visit us online at
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