## GEORGIA RECEIVES MORE THAN \$410 MILLION IN CARES ACT FUNDS FOR STATE AIRPORTS AFFECTED BY COVID-19

The Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) has announced the availability of \$410,817,650 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds for Georgia's airports affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, made available by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) under a portion of the CARES Act intended to support continuing airport operations and provide immediate financial relief for expenses and lost revenue. The CARES Act was signed into law by President Trump on March 27, 2020 and includes a total of \$10 billion in funds to be awarded as economic relief to eligible U.S. airports.

"I applaud the Trump administration, Senators Perdue and Loeffler and the Georgia delegation in Washington, D.C. for securing passage of the CARES Act to provide this much-needed relief," said Tim Golden, Chairman of the State Transportation Board of Georgia. "This funding will make a profound impact on our economy in the fight against COVID-19. This support for Georgia's airports will help ensure the continued operation of this critical part of our nation's transportation infrastructure."

The FAA has allocated the funds to airports included in its National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS). With 96 airports in the NPIAS, Georgia will

receive the fourth highest amount of funding in the nation. Included are the world's busiest airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International, and seven additional commercial airports receiving scheduled airline service, including Albany, Augusta, Brunswick, Columbus, Macon, Savannah, and Valdosta. The 88 remaining facilities are general aviation airports that serve communities throughout Georgia. Under the FAA's State Block Grant Program, Georgia DOT will administer CARES Act funding totaling \$3,448,000 to the 88 general aviation airports and will contact airport officials regarding a simplified application process for accessing the funds. CARES Act funding will be provided at a 100% federal share, with no local match required. Payroll, debt service, and capital and operating expenses incurred beginning on January 20, 2020, will be permitted to support airport operations under the CARES Act.

"Georgia DOT participated in a recent call with Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation for the USDOT and the FAA for the rollout of the CARES Act funding. We greatly appreciate Secretary Chao and the FAA for their quick work in administering these funds," said Commissioner Russell R. McMurry.

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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.

# Gov. Kemp, University of Georgia's SBDC Provide Overview of CARES Act Funding

Today Governor Brian P. Kemp and the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provided an overview of the funding allocated by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This critical funding will help small businesses keep workers employed during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the University of Georgia's 17 Small Business Development Centers (SBDC), in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) and Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the state has launched an information website to provide guidance on accessing a variety of U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) programs.

Beginning April 6, these state partners will host a series of web-based information sessions tailored to each region of the state. In addition, SBDC will be available to assist businesses, where necessary.

The CARES Act provides funds for SBA to aid small businesses through its network of private small business lenders. Georgia has more than 70 qualified SBA lenders, and detailed information about the following vital lending programs can also be found here.

"Small businesses are the engine of Georgia's economy

and provide economic opportunity for millions of Georgia families," said Governor Kemp. "As we continue to fight the spread of COVID-19, this critical resource will provide a lifeline to small businesses across our state. I am encouraging all Georgians to support their local businesses in this difficult time. We will get through this together."

"The Georgia Department of Economic Development is continuing to work with our partners statewide to confront COVID-19 and move forward together," said GDEcD Commissioner Pat Wilson. "We thank Governor Kemp, DCA, and SBDC for working together with us to better and more efficiently serve our state's small businesses at this time of great need."

"DCA is proud to work with our state partners to support the small businesses that are such a vital part of the communities we serve," said DCA Commissioner Christopher Nunn.

"The University of Georgia has a strong track record of helping to develop new small businesses across the state. Assisting these firms to navigate COVID-19 aligns perfectly with our land-grant mission," said UGA President Jere W. Morehead.

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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

## \$6 MILLION IN BONDING!!

Contact CEI for Bonding, Financing or Insurance needs!



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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.



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