

GDOT Newsletter

May 2023
Volume 83



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

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



Design-Builder Announced for I-85 at North Druid Hills Road Interchange Improvements

The Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) has announced the Design-Builder for the Interstate 85 at State Route (SR) 42/North Druid Hills Road Interchange Improvements project. The project will:

- add a displaced left turn (DLT) for the westbound to southbound movement via an additional bridge structure over I-85,
- add a braided ramp from the I-85 northbound (NB) off-ramp to I-85 NB access road,
- and replace the SR 42/North Druid Hills Road bridge over Peachtree Creek.

The team of North Tarrant Infrastructure, LLC, and Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering (ICE) was awarded the design-build contract to complete final design and construct the project, which includes three new bridge structures and a new traffic signal at the new Children's Healthcare of Atlanta driveway, with an award amount just over \$78 million. This project is being constructed in partnership with the City of Brookhaven, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and Emory University Hospital. "There has been tremendous growth in this area over the last few years with the expansion of the healthcare facilities, new residential properties, and developments in cities on both ends of this vital thoroughfare," said Georgia DOT Design-Build Project Manager Albert "Butch" Welch, P.E. "We are excited to be a part of mitigating congestion and improving safety associated with the additional vehicles in the area."

[Read More](#)

How Tech Can Help Contractors Win the War for Talent

Modernizing the back office for a competitive

While already fighting to keep up with its typical hiring pace, the construction industry will need to draw more than 500,000 additional workers this year to meet rising demands, according to recent data released by Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC).

It's not an easy task, as contractors are looking to accommodate an 18% projected increase in spending on construction projects while dealing with an unrelenting labor shortage that threatens their ability to complete projects on time and take on new ones. The rapidly dwindling labor pool that continues to vex firms is largely tied to its aging workforce. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the percentage of construction industry workers who are 55 and over has nearly doubled, and as workers retire or leave for other industries, construction firms are scrambling to find replacements while also shoring up their workforce to capture new opportunities.

Construction laborers and skilled workers top their hiring lists, as do professionals on the management, business and financial operations side — a segment that BLS estimates to account for 20% of the construction industry's total workforce.

As firms fight to secure the talent they need amidst the pressures of supply chain shortages, volatile pricing and a potentially looming recession, they need to rethink how they operate in the back office. In doing so, they have a powerful opportunity to increase their efficiencies and mitigate risks while giving employees what they want, and technology plays a part in this equation.

Rethinking the Construction Industry's Back Office

The back office is the hub of operations for firms, as staff in this department are responsible for handling the complex finances of construction. Back-office employees must confirm that contractors and suppliers are accurately paid and properly manage cash flow to ensure business continuity and growth. Yet despite its critical importance, the back office is often overlooked when budgeting for technology.

As a result, processes like navigating invoices or paying bills remain paper-based and inefficient.

[Read More →](#)

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.



CEI DBE Supportive Services

(855) 432-1323

www.gadbesupport.com