



RESOLUTION

Cobb County in partnership with the Cumberland Community Improvement District (CID) is awarded a \$5 million Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant for the construction of the Akers Mill Ramp, 24-foot-wide reversible ramp providing direct access to the I-75 Northwest Express lanes system

WHEREAS, The *Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA)* advances a grant program established in the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation, or FAST Act, surface transportation law. The nationally significant freight and highway projects for the fiscal year 2019 INFRA program provide federal financial assistance to highway and freight projects of national or regional significance.

WHEREAS, On July 25th, 2019, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Elaine Chao announced \$856 million in grants for state and local infrastructure projects through the INFRA discretionary grant program. Through the Congressional release process, Cobb County was awarded \$5 million for the Akers Mill Ramp Phase II project.

WHEREAS, The INFRA discretionary grant program seeks to increase the impact of this federal grant funding by leveraging state, local and private dollars for projects, and incentivizing project sponsors to pursue innovative strategies, including public-private partnerships.

WHEREAS, The Akers Mill Ramp, a 24-foot-wide reversible ramp will provide additional direct access to/from the 29.7-mile Georgia Department of Transportation express lanes system along I-75 and I-575 that substantially improves regional mobility and provides travel time savings by allowing motorists to bypass local roads that are experiencing ever-growing levels of traffic congestion.

WHEREAS, The Akers Mill Ramp also will provide a safe and efficient route for more than 100,000 daily commuters to the Cumberland CID, a major commercial activity center and economic engine in Georgia.

WHEREAS, the **Cumberland CID** and its state, regional and county partners, including the Georgia Department of Transportation, State Road & Tollway Authority, Atlanta Regional Commission and Cobb County each committed significant funding for the completion of the Akers Mill Ramp Phase II project, and the INFRA grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation completes the final funding needed for the project.

WHEREAS, this Akers Mill Ramp represents a true public-private partnership. The leadership of Cobb County's Congressional delegation: U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson, U.S. Senator David Perdue, U.S. Representative Barry Loudermilk, U.S. Representative Lucy McBath and U.S. Representative David Scott, to advance this project reflects their support for vital transportation projects that positively impact the residents of Cobb County and the greater Atlanta region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on August 29th, 2019, the Cumberland Community Improvement District Board of Directors recognizes and thanks Cobb County's Congressional delegation for their leadership, vision and unwavering support of the funding needed to build the Akers Mill Ramp finishing the I-75 Northwest Express Lane system, one of the most successful infrastructure projects in Georgia's history.

John Shern, Chair

Connie Engel, Vice Chair

Barry Teague, Treasurer

Stephen Barnhouse

Mike Plant

Bob Voyles

Mason Zimmerman