

Overview & Need

The Cumberland Community Improvement District (CID) is a major commercial activity center and economic engine in Georgia which annually impacts more than five percent of the State's total economy. Located along I-75 in the thriving northwest corridor in the greater Atlanta Region, the Cumberland CID is experiencing tremendous growth, including five class A office towers, 10,000 new jobs, 14,000 new residents, and the new Atlanta Braves' stadium and mixed-use development.

To accommodate the rapid growth taking place along the whole corridor, Governor Deal and the Georgia Department of Transportation are undertaking one of the biggest public infrastructure investments in the State's history; the \$900 million Northwest Managed Lanes. A high priority of the State, this 27-mile reversible toll lane project is scheduled to open to traffic in 2018 and will significantly benefit those who travel I-75 and I-575, be it for business or personal purposes.

Although it will be a tremendous improvement over current traffic conditions, the Managed Lanes as designed and currently under construction do not accommodate direct, safe access for the 100,000+ daily commuters traveling to and from the bustling Cumberland market.

As designed, drivers who wish to access the Managed Lanes at the closest point in Cumberland will be required to quickly maneuver four to five lane changes in I-75 traffic in a very short distance. Given I-75's traffic volumes, this presents an unsafe condition. Drivers in search of a safer alternative will be forced to drive to a different access point several miles to the north, south, east, or west of Cumberland, further hampering traffic conditions along the surface streets.

Working closely with the State, the Cumberland CID is pursuing the addition of an entrance/exit ramp at an existing overpass (Akers Mill Road). Its location in the market and proximity to the Managed Lanes addresses safety concerns and provides better access for millions of Georgia drivers.

Georgia DOT has indicated their desire to add components of the project to the current Managed Lanes construction effort in order to leverage the existing on-site resources and to minimize construction hassles for drivers. Both GDOT and the CID are accommodating this through a two pronged approach.



Delivery Approach

1: Accommodate the Widened I-75 Footprint: I-75 needs to be widened on the southbound direction in order to accommodate the ramp's footprint. Because I-285 travels over this portion of I-75, there will be work done on the I-285 bridge columns in order to accommodate the widened footprint. The intent is to accomplish this bridge work through a task change order via the existing Managed Lanes contract.

2: Construct the Access Ramp: This phase includes building the ramp which will sit on the north side of Akers Mill Road over I-75. The intent is to move forward with this via a competitive bid as soon as the bridge work is completed.

Funding

Specific costs are still in process at this point, however, the Cumberland CID always plays the role of "first-in" funding partner by advancing the necessary plans, designs, and/or construction match. This facilitates regional, state, federal, and/or other funding partners to join. The CID will likely contribute in excess of \$5 million of the business community's money to this critical need.

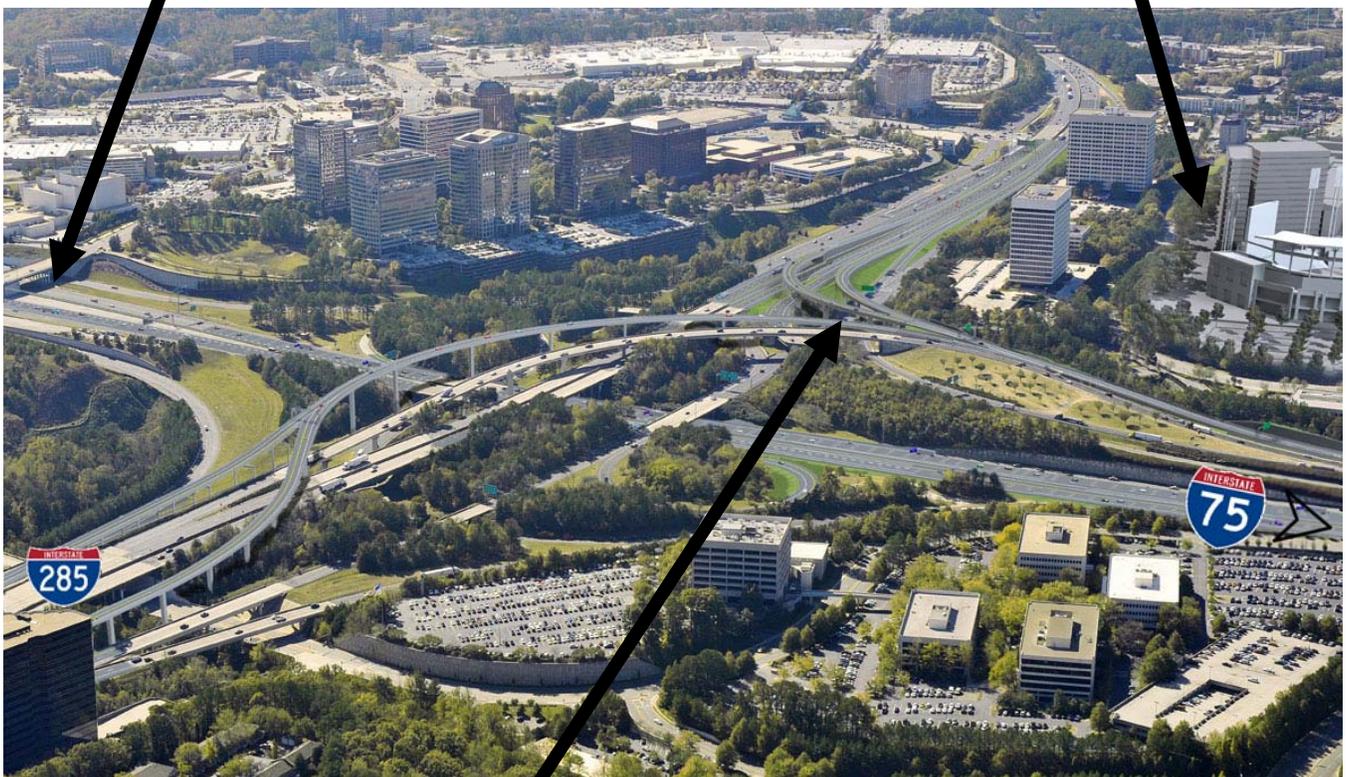
Other committed funders to date include federal Surface Transportation Funds (via the Atlanta Regional Commission), Georgia Infrastructure Bank Grants, and Cobb County funds.

Congressional Districts

The project is located in U.S. Congressional Districts 6 (Rep. Tom Price) and 11 (Rep. Barry Loudermilk). It is in Georgia Districts 43 (Rep. Sharon Cooper) and 40 (Rep. Rich Golick), as well as Georgia Senate District 6 (Sen. Hunter Hill).

Location of proposed ramp on the north side of Akers Mill Road which feeds into the Managed Lanes System

Rendering of the new Braves' ballpark and mixed-use development upon completion in 2017



Rendering of the Managed Lanes System upon completion in 2018