



**Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner**  
One Georgia Center  
600 West Peachtree NW  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
(404) 631-1990 Main Office

January 21, 23, 28, and 30, 2020

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for the proposed I-285 Top End Express Lanes, PI Number 0001758. Our goal is two-fold: 1) to provide you with information on the proposed project; and 2) to provide an opportunity for you to give us your comments on the proposed project. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, please take a look at the project display. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, wearing nametags, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. There will be no formal presentation.

We hope you will take the opportunity to tell the GDOT what you think. Listed below are several ways to comment on the project. Your comments are important to us and, should you provide comments by one of the methods noted below, we will respond to you in writing usually within 60 days of the close of the comment period. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

While attending the open house, you can provide your comments by using a tablet at the comment station, by filling out the comment card provided with this handout and dropping it in the comment box, or by sharing your verbal comments to the court reporter who will transcribe them.

You can also provide your comments by Tuesday, February 25, 2020, by using any of the following methods:

- Online at <http://www.dot.ga.gov/AboutGDOT/PublicOutreach>
  1. Scroll to "I-285 Top End Express Lanes" in the lists of Upcoming Public Meetings or Recently Held Public Meetings (January 2020);
  2. Click "View Info"
  3. Click "Comment" and follow the instructions to leave your comments.
- Online at <https://majormobilityga.com/projects/topend/>
- Mail in your comment card to Mr. Eric Duff, Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.

Project displays and plans are available online at: <https://majormobilityga.com/projects/topend/>. Hardcopies will also be available at the GDOT District 7 Office located at 5025 New Peachtree Road, Chamblee, GA 30341. Following the public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

Again, thank you for attending this open house. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the GDOT project manager, Tim Matthews, at [TMatthews@dot.ga.gov](mailto:TMatthews@dot.ga.gov) or (404) 631-1713; or the GDOT environmental analyst, Kaelin Priger at [KPriger@dot.ga.gov](mailto:KPriger@dot.ga.gov) or (404) 631-1362. In addition, we offer a project email address for your convenience:

[TopEndExpressLanes@dot.ga.gov](mailto:TopEndExpressLanes@dot.ga.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Duff".

Eric Duff  
State Environmental Administrator  
Georgia Department of Transportation

**Purpose of the Open House:**

GDOT is here to inform you about the project and answer any questions you may have. The I-285 Top End Express Lanes project is proposed to improve trip time reliability along the northern segment of I-285 in metro Atlanta, one of the most heavily-traveled and congested interstate highways in America. The project is part of the larger Major Mobility Investment Program (MMIP) and Georgia Express Lanes network. This open house provides an opportunity for GDOT to introduce the project concept to the public and we welcome input on the study scope, purpose and need, potential alternatives, environmental considerations and evaluation methods.

The purpose of the proposed project is to implement transportation improvements that address the following needs:

- Provide reliable trip time for commuters;
- Improve regional accessibility and connectivity through priced express lanes that integrate with the Georgia Express Lanes network; and
- Accelerate project delivery following the Transportation Funding Act (TFA) of 2015 legislation in response to the urgency of traffic conditions.

**Project Description:**

The proposed project would include barrier-separated express lanes (ELs) in each direction along 18.0 miles of I-285 from just south of Paces Ferry Road to Henderson Road and along 3.5 miles of SR 400 from south of the Glenridge Connector to the vicinity of the North Springs MARTA Station. Additionally, the project would provide system-to-system connectivity by tying into the existing I-75 NWC EL and I-85 EL systems. Including ramp connections, the project covers a total of 22.5 miles of EL improvements. The proposed number of ELs would be as follows:

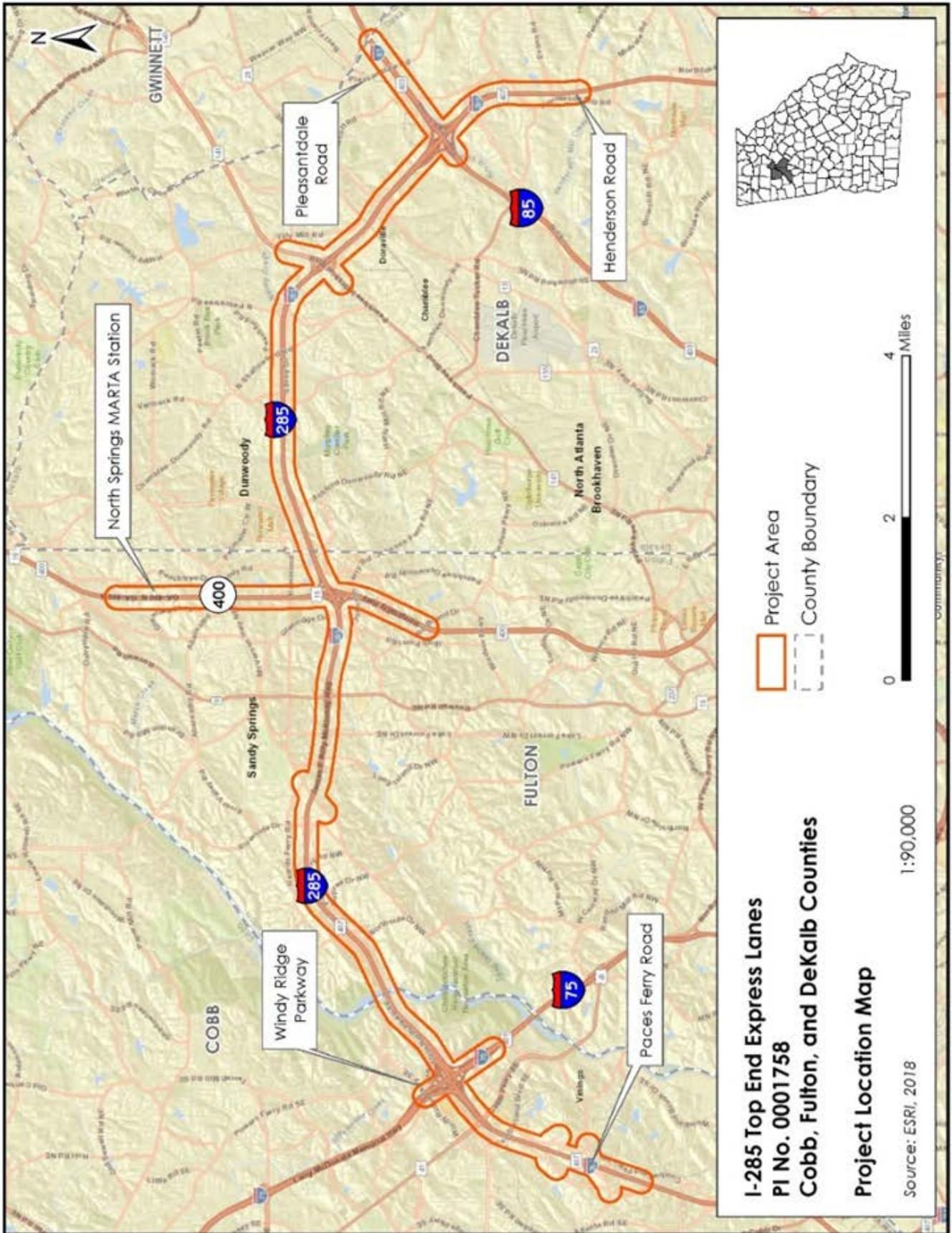
- Along I-285, one EL in each direction from the western terminus for 2.75 miles to the I-75/I-285 interchange, where it then transitions to two ELs in each direction.
- From the I-75/I-285 interchange to the I-85/I-285 interchange, two ELs in each direction.
- From the I-85/I-285 interchange to the eastern terminus of the project, one EL in each direction for 1.85 miles along I-285.
- Along SR 400, one EL in each direction from south of Glenridge Connector to the I-285/SR 400 interchange and two ELs in each direction from the I-285/SR 400 interchange to the North Springs MARTA Station.

The I-285 Advanced Improvement Projects also shown at this PIOH will be constructed and open to traffic prior to the I-285 Top End Express Lanes.

**Project Location Map:**

A map is attached for your reference. The same layout can be viewed online or downloaded at:

<https://majormobilityga.com/projects/topend/>.



### Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you support the project? (check your response)

- For**
- Against**
- Conditional**
- Uncommitted**

General Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this Open House? (check)  **Newspaper**  **Signs**  **GDOT Website**  **Radio**

**Word of Mouth**  **Social Media**  **Other** \_\_\_\_\_

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend?  **Yes**  **No**

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

\_\_\_\_\_

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?  **Yes**  **No**

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you. \_\_\_\_\_

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel?  **Yes**  **No**

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?  **Yes**  **No**

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

*Mr. Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator*  
*Georgia Department of Transportation*  
*600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16<sup>th</sup> Floor*  
*Atlanta, Georgia 30308*