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NEWS RELEASE
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McGINNIS FERRY BRIDGE ONE STEP CLOSER NOW

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Aug. 16, 2005) – A new four-lane highway bridge for McGinnis Ferry Road over the Chattahoochee River to Forsyth County moved one step closer to reality today when the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners signed an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation and Forsyth and Fulton counties. The agreement was approved by Fulton County earlier this year.

A short, two-lane section of the road in Gwinnett will also be widened to four lanes. Another Gwinnett project will provide a four-lane extension of McGinnis Ferry Road from its current end at Satellite Boulevard eastward along the alignment of the existing two-lane Burnett Road, bridging over I-85 (south of the Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road interchange) and ending at Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road south of Old Peachtree Road. Fulton and Forsyth are planning to widen the road on their side of the river as well.

Gwinnett County will pay one-third of the engineering cost of the project and will pay for acquiring right-of-way and utility relocation between Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and the river. The money will come from the transportation portion of the voter-approved 1997 sales tax program known as SPLOST. Gwinnett has budgeted about \$1.9 million for its share of the costs. Construction, funded by state and federal money, is expected to cost about \$5.5 million and begin in 2007.

“McGinnis Ferry Road is a major artery in the Suwanee area and I’m pleased to keep this much-needed improvement moving toward completion,” said District 1 Commissioner Lorraine Green.

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