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NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY APPROVES STATE AND LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Aug. 5, 2008) - The Board of Commissioners approved a right of way agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation today for the State Route 324 at I-85 bridge replacement project. This project will replace the existing two-lane bridge with a new four-lane bridge to match the four-lane roadway between State Route 20 and State Route 124.

The project will also move Camp Branch Road and Morgan Road away from the bridge to improve safety. "The project has been designed to accommodate a potential future interchange which would relieve congestion at the adjacent State Route 20 and Hamilton Mill Road interchanges with I-85," DOT Director Brian Allen said.

The project will be funded by the voter-approved SPLOST program in addition to state and federal funding. The County will acquire approximately 30 parcels to construct the project and state and federal dollars will be used to purchase approximately \$7.9 million of right of way and easements. Construction is expected to begin by the summer of 2009.

A second project approved today by the Board of Commissioners will add sidewalks on McCart Road. The project will add sidewalks from Simonton Road to Paper Mill Road tying nearby neighborhoods to Simonton Elementary School. GS Construction, Inc., was the lowest of nine bidders at \$624,179.34.

The Board of Commissioners also awarded a construction contract today for improvements to the intersection of State Route 20 and

Old Peachtree Road. The project will provide longer left turn lanes on all four approaches of the intersection. It will also install right turn lanes on both Old Peachtree Road approaches. "These improvements will enhance the operations and reduce the backup at the intersection," Allen said. The construction contract was awarded to The Dickerson Group, Inc., for \$1,613,824, the lowest of 12 bids.

Both projects will be funded through the 2005 SPLOST program.

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