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**ROAD WIDENING
CONTRACTS LET**

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Dec. 11, 2007) - Three new road construction projects got the green light from the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday.

Braselton Highway (SR 124) will get an additional lane in each direction from Hamilton Mill Road east to Pine Road. The County will get \$1.5 million in state funding for the project. "We really appreciate the efforts of State DOT Board member Rudy Bowen and Commissioner Linnenkohl for helping obtain funding for this much-needed project to deal with congestion in the growing Hamilton Mill area," said District 3 Commissioner Mike Beaudreau. G.P.'s Enterprises will begin the work early next year.

The intersection of Cooper and Rosebud Roads south of Grayson will be upgraded with turn lanes and a new traffic signal, eliminating the current four-way stop. The project will reduce congestion at this increasingly busy intersection and also around two new schools in the area, according to Beaudreau. The \$2.9 million contract, which includes turn lanes at Trip Elementary School on Cooper Road and Bay Creek Middle School on Rosebud Road, went to the lowest of 11 bidders, Gary's Grading, Inc. Funding comes from the 2005 SPLOST program.

A third project on Webb Gin House Road will upgrade its intersection with Scenic Highway (SR-124) and will add a center turn lane and sidewalks from there to Ronald Reagan Parkway. The intersection will get additional turn lanes and a second through

lane. G.P.'s Enterprises, the lowest of nine bidders, got the almost \$4.5 million contract that is also funded by the 2005 SPLOST program.

The Board also approved a lighting agreement with the state DOT for assistance with lighting on the U.S. 78 corridor improvements that are now underway. That project is a joint venture between Gwinnett County, Georgia DOT and the Evermore Community Improvement District. Evermore CID Executive Director Brett Harrell said, "Our strong partnership with the Georgia DOT and the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners continues to deliver cost-effective community improvements more rapidly than would otherwise be possible."

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