

# JIMMY DELOACH CONNECTOR

## FACT SHEET

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### PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Jimmy DeLoach Connector is a 3.1-mile new location limited access four-lane highway between State Route 307/Bourne Avenue and the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway current terminus. The new Connector runs parallel to State Route 21/Augusta Highway and includes the construction of six new bridges, new interchanges at Grange Road and Sonny Dixon, and 11 acres of wetlands mitigation.

#### Key dates to note:

- Project concept completed in 2010
- State sold a \$100 million bond to fund the project in 2011
- Project awarded to design-build team of Archer-Western Contractors/ LPA Group on Dec. 2, 2011
- Groundbreaking on Oct. 17, 2013
- Project completed on May 27, 2016

### INNOVATIVE TIME & COST SAVING INITIATIVES

- This was the first GDOT Design-Build contract to include ROW acquisition, which accelerated the completion of the project schedule by two years.
- A value engineering proposal by the design-build team saved the Department \$2 million in ROW costs.
- The proposers' innovative bid package resulted in over \$8 million in savings from cost estimates.
- Segmented construction phases depended on Right-of-Way acquisition – began construction on segments where ROW was acquired, resulting in significant construction time savings.
- Design flexibility minimized impacts and decreased mitigation needs.
- Upfront utility coordination avoided costly relocation of gas lines.

### PROJECT'S PURPOSE AND BENEFITS

- Improve travel time from the Savannah Port to I-95 and accommodate the increasing truck traffic entering and exiting the Savannah Port.
- Accommodate the expansion of the Savannah Port and deepening of the Savannah River Channel to handle "Super Panamax" ships and maintain the economic viability of the Port and southeast region.
- Improve long-term efficiency, reliability and cost-competitiveness in the movement of workers and goods. Freight movement to and from the port facilities in the Savannah area is critical to the local, state and regional economies.
- Provide the final connecting link between I-95, one of the busiest interstates in the country; local and regional distribution facilities in the United States; and the fastest growing container port.
- Increase the attractiveness of the port to national and international shippers.
- Bypass approximately three miles of existing SR 21 mainline beginning at Jimmy DeLoach Parkway and allow direct access into the Savannah Port gates.
- Provide more than 8,000 trucks, entering and leaving the Port of Savannah through its main gate, uninterrupted access to Interstate Highways 95 and 16.
- Reduce truck traffic and improve safety on busy Augusta Highway by enabling trucks to avoid four traffic signals on SR 21 and save more than 10 minutes each trip – a benefit/cost yield of 8:1.

*(Travel time savings using SR 21 (pre-construction) compared with using Jimmy DeLoach (post-construction) as calculated between Bourne Avenue east of the Jimmy DeLoach Connector and the north end of Jimmy DeLoach Parkway were 10 minutes per vehicle.)*