VIOLA DAVIS
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 87
P.O. BOX 830726
STONE MOUNTAIN, GA, 30083
EMAIL: Viola.Davis@house.ga.gov

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
404-656-0109

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"Rep. Viola Davis Votes NO on Budget—Here's Why Taxpayers, Voters, and Homeowners Should Be Concerned"

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2025

"Rep. Viola Davis Votes NO on Budget—Here's Why Taxpayers, Voters, and Homeowners Should Be Concerned"

(Atlanta, GA) – Today, Representative Viola Davis (D-Stone Mountain) released a statement regarding her **NO** vote on the 2025-2026 Georgia Budget, citing a lack of transparency and equitable funding distribution. Rep. Davis has formally requested clarification from the Georgia House Budget and Research Office on several critical funding issues, which remain unanswered.

"The people of Georgia deserve a budget that is clear, equitable, and fully funded for critical services such as education and transportation, especially with a $16 billion surplus," said Rep. Davis. "I voted against this budget because billions of taxpayer dollars remain unaccounted for under vague labels like 'Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified.' I am demanding answers to ensure these funds are being used appropriately and fairly across the state. Our action must put the needs of people over politics."

Key Questions That Remain Unanswered:

1. **Unidentified Federal and Other Funds**
   - Over **$3.5 billion** in **Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified** and **$412 million** in **Other Funds Not Specifically Identified (a manual count until total exceeded $3.5 billion).**
   - I require detailed information on the source of these funds and where the money is allocated. I have long noticed that these labels of funding were used in prior budgets such as 2021 and 2023. It is long overdue to question the meaning of "not specifically identified" due to AI adding up the total of funding to include:

1. "Federal Funds Not Specially Identified" - $6,561,725.021.00
2. "Other Funds Not Specially Identified" - $899,725,886.00

- Rep. Davis has asked for a breakdown of these funds' sources and allocations and has not received an answer at present. The question was asked, "who can provide transparency on these unspecified funds and their intended use?"

2. **Behavioral Health Facility Funding**
   - DeKalb County allocated **$15 million** for a regional facility, but how much has the state allocated for similar behavioral health projects and how much did the local governments contribute?
   - The Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission (page 89, Section 50) needs to clarify how much state funding has been allocated to build behavioral health facilities across Georgia, especially when comparing investments in rural areas vs. urban areas.

3. **Repealed GO Bonds – Where Does the Money Go?**
   - The budget lists **$50.67 million** in repealed General Obligation (GO) Bonds. Where does this money go?
   - What criteria determine a school's **"low wealth" classification** for construction funding? There are a large number of "low wealth" schools throughout Georgia.
   - Which schools qualify for funding, received funding, and where are the schools located?

4. **Housing and Rental Assistance – Equitable Distribution?**
   - The budget allocates **$154.96 million** for rental housing programs and **$7.87 million** for homeownership programs. Will Metro Atlanta urban areas that are underserved and under-resourced receive fair access to these funds?
   - The Department of Community Affairs budget includes $1.12 billion, much of the funding has the vague label of "Federal Funding Not Specially Identified" and "Other Funding Not Specially Identified". With there being a critical need for affordable housing, can we be more "specific" about this funding?

5. **Funding Disparities – One Georgia Authority & Georgia Environmental Finance Authority**
   - **Metro Atlanta is ineligible** for One Georgia Authority grants (according to its map) while rural counties receive millions in funding.
   - After attending a meeting, I learned that over $21 billion has been allocated to One Georgia and over $6 billion has been allocated to the Georgia Environmental

Finance Authority. How many federal and state funding sources exclude Metro Atlanta and classify it as "ineligible" for the funding?
  - Homeowners in DeKalb face a **10% annual water rate increase for 10 years**, yet many counties receive **grants** for infrastructure and decrease property taxes. How many counties throughout Georgia have received grants and zero interest rate loans to address water and sewer infrastructure needs and what are their locations?
  - Does the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority operate the same as One Georgia Authority, thus making Metro Atlanta "ineligible" for its funding?
  - How much funding has the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority and One Georgia allocated to Metro Atlanta and the location of the counties/cities that received the funding?

6. **Private Prison Spending – A Misplaced Priority?**
   - The budget allocates **$152.96 million** to private prisons despite state prison lawsuits costing millions and the state prison system facing a major crisis.
- Should this money be redirected toward improving state-run correctional facilities?

7. **Underfunded School Transportation**
   - Pupil transportation is allocated **$353.76 million**, but last year's fiscal note determined **$1.1 billion is needed** for full funding of school transportation.
   - Will there be an update on funding to ensure full support for school transportation? Due to legislative limits (10 bills per session), critical education bills like this delayed for two years. What are the plans to bridge this gap in critical education funding?
   - Should donor counties such as DeKalb, Fulton, Cobb, and Forsyth, subsidize receiver counties such as Gwinnett and Bryan that enjoy a roll back in their property taxes and lower school taxes, especially if the property taxes are in the single digit (Bryan County) when financing the QBE formula?

8. **Negative Allocation in QBE Funding**
   - Why does the Quality Basic Education (QBE) Local Five Mill Share show a negative allocation of $2.75 billion?
   - Has this ever happened before in the budget cycle, especially since the "local five mill share" is a critical part of the QBE formula?

9. **School Security Grants – Are They Fully Funded?**
   - The budget allocates **$158.91 million** for school security grants.

- Rep. Davis is seeking a **fiscal note to ensure this amount is adequate** for school safety.
- During the summer and fall months of 2024, Rep. Davis updated her school security legislation after going to conferences and speaking with school officials and school board members. Her fiscal note from last year on school security stated $103 million was needed to fund school security and the Governor funded school security at $104 million. Do we have a fiscal note on school security for the 2025-2026 school year state budget?

10. **Governor's Emergency Fund – Who Qualifies?**

- The fund has **$156.06 million** allocated for emergencies, but will counties impacted by Hurricane Helene within Metro Atlanta have access?

11. **Refugee Assistance – Lack of Transparency**

- The budget allocates **$20.17 million** for Refugee Assistance, yet it is labeled as **"Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified."**
- Who should be contacted for more details on this funding?
- With DeKalb County receiving over 71% of the school aged student in Georgia, who will explain the negative fiscal notes from $61 million from last year to $90+ million this year for immigrants and refugees, especially when there is a greater need for wrap-around services?

12. **Transportation Funding Disparities in the State Budget**

- **The** Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) received a total budget of $4.47 billion**,** with $2.37 billion allocated specifically from motor fuel funds**.** However, only $118 million was allocated to transit, while $2.18 billion went to capital construction projects, prioritizing highways.
- Routine maintenance for state roads and bridges received **$593 million**, while rail development was significantly underfunded at **$8.9 million**.
- Underserved communities, particularly low-income and minority populations, lack access to sufficient public transit**,** limiting their ability to reach jobs, healthcare, and education.

- Rep. Davis is calling for a fairer distribution of transportation funds, ensuring that transit expansion, road maintenance in underserved areas, and multimodal infrastructure receive equitable investment**.**

- Rep. Davis is calling for a fairer distribution of transportation funds, ensuring that transit expansion, road maintenance in underserved areas, and multimodal infrastructure receive equitable investment.
- Funding disparities within the **Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)** are evident in major transportation projects:
  - **MAP DK-AR-241** - I-285 Interchange Improvements at I-20 East: **$529,600,001**.
  - **MAP AT-244** - I-285 Interchange Improvements at I-20 West: **$469,909,755.**
  - **MAP AR-ML-200** - Top End I-285 North Express Lanes and Collector/Distributor Improvements from I-75 North to I-85 North and North along SR 400 to North Springs MARTA Station: **$12,599,661,718.**
  - **MAP AR-957A** - I-285 Interchange Reconstruction and Collector/Distributor at SR 400: **$607,607,518.**
  - **MAP CL-015** - SR 85 Widening from SR 279 in Fayette County to Roberts Drive in Riverdale: **$38,966,598.**
  - **MAP HE-107** - US 23 Widening from Downtown McDonough to SR 138: **$127,627,773.**
- These figures raise concerns about whether funding is being equitably distributed across all communities, particularly those in need of enhanced transit options and infrastructure improvements.

Rep. Davis remains committed to pushing for answers and transparency in Georgia's budget process, especially for underserved and under-resourced areas throughout Georgia. She urges citizens to demand accountability in how taxpayer dollars are spent.

Federal Funds & Other Funds 'Not Specifically Identified' in Georgia's Budget

Unidentified Federal and Other Funds

- Over **$3.5 billion** in Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified and **$412 million** in Other Funds Not Specifically Identified **(a manual count until total exceeded $3.5 billion)**.
- I, Rep. Viola Davis, require detailed information on the source of these funds and where the money is allocated. I have long noticed that these labels of funding were used in prior budgets such as 2021 and 2023. It is long overdue to question the meaning of "not specifically identified" due to AI adding up the total of funding to include:
  1. "Federal Funds Not Specially Identified" - $6,561,725.021.00
  2. "Other Funds Not Specially Identified" - $899,725,886.00

		State Funds	Total Funds
712	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$3,149	$3,149
713	Amount appropriated in this Act	$580,964	$2,600,006

15.14. Sexual Offender Review Board

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to protect Georgia's children by identifying convicted sexual offenders that present the greatest risk of sexually reoffending.

714	Total Funds	$959,595
715	State Funds	$959,595
716	State General Funds	$959,595

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
717	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$934,839	$934,839
718	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$24,294	$24,294
719	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$462	$462
720	Amount appropriated in this Act	$959,595	$959,595

Section 16: Community Affairs, Department of

721	**Total Funds**	**$280,351,377**
722	**Federal Funds and Grants**	**$169,081,824**
723	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$169,081,824
724	**Other Funds**	**$14,948,980**
725	Agency Funds	$150,000
726	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$14,798,980
727	**State Funds**	**$96,320,573**
728	State General Funds	$96,320,573

16.1. Building Construction

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to maintain up-to-date minimum building construction standards for all new structures built in the state; to inspect factory built (modular) buildings to ensure Georgia's minimum construction codes are met; to review proposed enhancements to local government construction codes; and to provide professional training to building inspectors and builders on Georgia's construction codes.

729	Total Funds	$538,452
730	Other Funds	$232,353
731	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$232,353
732	State Funds	$306,099
733	State General Funds	$306,099

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
734	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$297,870	$530,223
735	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$7,887	$7,887
736	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$86	$86
737	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$181	$181
738	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$75	$75
739	Amount appropriated in this Act	$306,099	$538,452

16.2. Coordinated Planning

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to ensure that county and city governments meet the requirements of the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 by establishing standards and procedures for comprehensive plans and reviewing plans submitted by local governments; to provide training and assistance to local governments in completing comprehensive plans for quality growth by offering mapping and Geographical Information System (GIS) services, online planning tools, and resource teams, and funding the regional planning efforts of Regional Commissions; and to provide annexation reports from Georgia cities to the U.S. Census Bureau.

740 Total Funds $3,744,630
741 State Funds $3,744,630
742 State General Funds $3,744,630

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
743	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$3,713,351	$3,713,351
744	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$29,416	$29,416
745	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$468	$468
746	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$987	$987
747	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$408	$408
748	Amount appropriated in this Act	$3,744,630	$3,744,630

16.3. Departmental Administration (DCA)

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide administrative support for all programs of the department.

749 Total Funds $7,694,756
750 Federal Funds and Grants $2,933,711
751 Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified $2,933,711
752 Other Funds $2,974,724
753 Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified $2,974,724
754 State Funds $1,786,321
755 State General Funds $1,786,321

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
756	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$1,627,761	$7,536,196
757	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$151,574	$151,574
758	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$2,269	$2,269
759	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$3,310	$3,310
760	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$1,407	$1,407
761	Maintain existing cost allocation structure for administrative salaries to preserve transparency of the full cost of federally funded programs. *(G:Yes)*	$0	$0
762	Amount appropriated in this Act	$1,786,321	$7,694,756

16.4. Federal Community and Economic Development Programs

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to administer federal grant and loan programs to promote volunteerism and community and economic development among local governments, development authorities, and private entities.

763 Total Funds $50,158,027
764 Federal Funds and Grants $47,503,822
765 Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified $47,503,822
766 Other Funds $631,978
767 Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified $631,978
768 State Funds $2,022,227
769 State General Funds $2,022,227

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
770	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$1,980,586	$50,116,386
771	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$39,727	$39,727
772	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$481	$481
773	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$1,014	$1,014
774	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$419	$419
775	Amount appropriated in this Act	$2,022,227	$50,158,027

16.5. Homeownership Programs

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to expand the supply of affordable housing through rehabilitation and construction financing, and to promote homeownership for low and moderate-income individuals by providing sustainable housing grants to local governments, administering mortgage and down payment assistance programs for low and moderate income homebuyers, and offering homeownership counseling and home buyer education programs through a partnership with private providers.

776	Total Funds	$8,118,534
777	Federal Funds and Grants	$2,518,296
778	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$2,518,296
779	Other Funds	$5,600,238
780	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$5,600,238

16.6. Regional Services

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to promote access to department services and assistance through a statewide network of regional representatives; to provide technical assistance and grants to local communities to achieve goals relating to housing and community and economic development projects and services that are in-line with the community's comprehensive plan; and to develop leadership infrastructure across local governments.

781	Total Funds	$1,604,504
782	Federal Funds and Grants	$200,000
783	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$200,000
784	Other Funds	$140,752
785	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$140,752
786	State Funds	$1,263,752
787	State General Funds	$1,263,752

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
788	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$1,228,466	$1,569,218
789	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$33,817	$33,817
790	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$369	$369
791	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$778	$778
792	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$322	$322
793	Amount appropriated in this Act	$1,263,752	$1,604,504

16.7. Rental Housing Programs

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide affordable rental housing to very low, and moderate-income households by allocating federal and state housing tax credits on a competitive basis, administering low-interest loans for affordable rental housing, researching affordable housing issues, and providing tenant-based assistance to low-income individuals and families allowing them to rent safe, decent, and sanitary dwelling units in the private rental market.

794	Total Funds	$116,019,277
795	Federal Funds and Grants	$111,873,539
796	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$111,873,539
797	Other Funds	$4,145,738
798	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$4,145,738

16.8. Research and Surveys

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to conduct surveys and collect financial and management data from local governments and authorities in accordance with Georgia law.

799	Total Funds	$447,103
800	Other Funds	$50,000
801	Agency Funds	$50,000
802	State Funds	$397,103
803	State General Funds	$397,103

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
804	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$392,304	$442,304

		State Funds	Total Funds
805	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$4,706	$4,706
806	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$93	$93
807	Amount appropriated in this Act	$397,103	$447,103

16.9. Special Housing Initiatives

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to fund the State Housing Trust Fund; to provide grants for providers of shelter and services to the homeless; to administer loans and grants for affordable housing; to offer local communities collaboration and technical assistance in the development and implementation of an affordable housing plan; and to provide for other special housing initiatives.

808	Total Funds	$6,733,781
809	Federal Funds and Grants	$3,050,864
810	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$3,050,864
811	Other Funds	$451,588
812	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$451,588
813	State Funds	$3,231,329
814	State General Funds	$3,231,329

16.10. State Community Development Programs

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to assist Georgia cities, small towns, and neighborhoods in the development of their core commercial areas, and to champion new development opportunities for rural Georgia.

815	Total Funds	$3,929,842
816	Federal Funds and Grants	$1,001,592
817	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$1,001,592
818	Other Funds	$100,000
819	Agency Funds	$100,000
820	State Funds	$2,828,250
821	State General Funds	$2,828,250

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
822	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$2,783,432	$3,885,024
823	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$43,056	$43,056
824	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$443	$443
825	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$933	$933
826	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$386	$386
827	Amount appropriated in this Act	$2,828,250	$3,929,842

16.11. State Economic Development Programs

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide grants and loans to local governments and businesses and to leverage private investment in order to attract and promote economic development and job creation.

828	Total Funds	$14,180,931
829	Other Funds	$476,088
830	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$476,088
831	State Funds	$13,704,843
832	State General Funds	$13,704,843

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
833	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$13,688,867	$14,164,955
834	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$15,176	$15,176
835	Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered insurance programs.	$201	$201
836	Reflect an adjustment in TeamWorks billings.	$424	$424
837	Reflect an adjustment in Merit System Assessment billings.	$175	$175
838	Amount appropriated in this Act	$13,704,843	$14,180,931

The following appropriations are for agencies attached for administrative purposes.

16.12. Payments to Georgia Environmental Finance Authority

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide funds for water, wastewater, solid waste, energy, and land conservation projects.

839	Total Funds	$1,569,922
840	State Funds	$1,569,922
841	State General Funds	$1,569,922

16.13. Payments to Georgia Regional Transportation Authority

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to improve Georgia's mobility, air quality, and land use practices by conducting transportation improvement studies, producing an annual Air Quality Report, and reviewing Development of Regional Impact.

842 Total Funds $0

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
843	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$351,479	$351,479
844	Increase funds to provide a $2,000 cost-of-living adjustment for all full-time, benefit-eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023 to address agency recruitment and retention needs.	$7,800	$7,800
845	Transfer funds to the Payments to the State Road and Tollway Authority at the Department of Transportation to consolidate Transportation Trust Funds under the Department of Transportation pursuant to HB 511 (2021 Session).	($359,279)	($359,279)
846	Amount appropriated in this Act	$0	$0

16.14. Payments to OneGeorgia Authority

Purpose: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide funds for the OneGeorgia Authority.

847	Total Funds	$65,611,618
848	Other Funds	$145,521
849	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$145,521
850	State Funds	$65,466,097
851	State General Funds	$65,466,097

The above amounts include the following adjustments, additions, and deletions to the previous appropriations act (as amended):

		State Funds	Total Funds
852	Amount from previous Appropriations Act (HB 911) as amended	$68,380,757	$68,526,278
853	Transfer Center of Innovation indirect program funds to the Innovation and Technology program at the Department of Economic Development to match program budgets with agency activities.	($2,449,742)	($2,449,742)
854	Transfer Rural Development Initiative indirect program funds to the Rural Development program at the Department of Economic Development to match program budgets with agency activities.	($214,918)	($214,918)
855	Transfer Defense Community Economic Development Fund indirect program funds to the Workforce Development program at the Technical College System of Georgia to match program budgets with agency activities.	($250,000)	($250,000)
856	Amount appropriated in this Act	$65,466,097	$65,611,618

Section 17: Community Health, Department of

857	**Total Funds**	**$19,663,943,993**
858	**Federal Funds and Grants**	**$9,485,245,963**
859	Medical Assistance Program (CFDA 93.778)	$8,991,729,728
860	State Children's Insurance Program (CFDA 93.767)	$466,832,133
861	Federal Funds Not Specifically Identified	$26,684,102
862	**Other Funds**	**$221,942,597**
863	Agency Funds	$77,971,304
864	Indigent Care Trust Fund - Public Hospital Authorities	$139,386,524
865	Other Funds - Not Specifically Identified	$4,584,769
866	**State Funds**	**$4,834,192,301**
867	Ambulance Provider Fees	$8,769,315
868	Hospital Provider Payment	$385,573,177
869	Nursing Home Provider Fees	$152,685,494
870	State General Funds	$4,163,101,964

Education Fiscal Notes and Legislation

DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS
270 Washington St., S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

December 23, 2020

Honorable Sandra Scott
State Representative
611-D Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill (LC 49 0262)

Dear Representative Scott:

The bill would provide school systems with a grant equal to 25 percent of the Quality Basic Education (QBE) base amount for each student living in poverty enrolled as of the initial enrollment count date of the year. At least 90 percent of the funds must be expended "for the benefit of the students living in poverty." The bill defines students living in poverty as those enrolled in a public school who live in a family unit directly receiving SNAP or TANF benefits, homeless students, foster care students, or migrant students.

The cost of the bill will vary each year based on changes in the number of qualifying students, which will vary with population size and economic conditions, and the QBE base amount, which is tied to factors like teacher salary and employer rates for retirement. Based on most recently available enrollment count and the QBE base amount, the bill would have cost approximately $341 million in fiscal year 2021 and approximately $343 million in fiscal year 2022.

- *Student Count* – In the October 2019 student enrollment count, there were approximately 492,000 students that would qualify under this bill (29% of enrollment). The number of students living in poverty has decreased by nearly 34,000 students (6.5% reduction) since fiscal year 2017; however, given current economic conditions, it is possible that the number of qualifying students may increase.

- *QBE Base Amount* – In fiscal year 2021, the base amount for QBE funding is $2,775. A grant of 25% of the base would be approximately $694. In fiscal year 2022, the base amount for QBE funding is $2,790. A grant of 25% of the base would be approximately $698. The base amount has increased over 13% during the last five years.

Sincerely,

Greg S. Griffin

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Kelly Farr

Kelly Farr, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/svp

DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

January 4, 2024

Honorable Sandra Scott
State Representative
611-D Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill 3 (LC 49 1046)

Dear Representative Scott:

This bill would amend the Quality Basic Education Act by enabling the State Board of Education to provide additional grants to local units of administration to support students living in poverty, as defined by the bill. The grant would equal 25% of the base QBE (Quality Basic Education) multiplied by the number of students living in poverty. The State Board of Education would establish school system eligibility for the grant. The bill has no effective date.

Data from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) indicates that the bill would have cost approximately $391 million in FY 2024 (see **Table 1**). The amount is based on FY 2023 student data showing that 517,255 of the 1.7 million public school students would qualify. The FY 2024 base QBE weight is used. The amount assumes that every school system is eligible for the grant.

Table 1: Total Projected Grant Amount for One Year

Base QBE Weight	$3,022.45
25% of Base QBE Weight	$755.61
2023 Georgia K12 Student Poverty Count	517,255
Total Grant Amount	**$390,844,344**

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/ew

DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

February 12, 2025

Honorable Sam Park
State Representative
609 Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill (LC 49 2043)

Dear Representative Park:

This bill amends the Quality Basic Education (QBE) Act to provide funding for students living in poverty, as defined by the bill. The bill adds a new QBE program for students living in poverty to the existing list of state-funded instructional programs. The bill provides for a program weight of 1.75 with a teacher-student ratio of 1 to 15. Additionally, the bill would provide school systems a grant equal to 25 percent of the QBE base amount for each student living in poverty and requires at least 90 percent of the funds to be expended for the benefit of such students.

Data from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) indicates that the bill would have resulted in additional costs of approximately $731 million in FY2025 (see **Table 1**). As discussed below the table, costs associated with the new QBE program are unclear.

Table 1: Total Projected Grant Amount for One Year

Base QBE Weight	$3,191.67
25% of Base QBE Weight	$797.175
2024 Georgia K12 Student Poverty Count	916,536
Total Grant Amount	**$731,320,114**

- **Grant** - The grant would result in additional costs of approximately $731 million in FY2025. The amount of the grant is based on the FY2024 number of students identified through annual local school systems self-reported counts of students/households described as one or more of the following: Migrant, Homeless, TANF, SNAP, or Foster Care, excluding students in the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) system. The FY2025 base QBE weight is used. With the exception of DJJ, the amount assumes that every school system is eligible for the additional funding.
- **New QBE Program** - The cost of the new QBE program is unclear. QBE funding is based on the full-time equivalent (FTE) student count and the per FTE cost of the type of instructional services students receive. An FTE represents six periods (or segments) of state-funded instruction in a typical day. Such instructional services include the kindergarten, gifted, and remedial education programs. The impacted students could be receiving one or

more instructional services **and** meet the definition for poverty which earns the "poverty" weight of 1.75.

The bill does not specify how "poverty" would be assigned to a particular segment of the school day. GaDOE estimates the new QBE program would cost $5.1 billion if the "poverty" weight is to be assigned to all six segments for each of the 916,536 students. If the poverty weight is to be assigned to a single segment for each student, estimated costs would be $853.2 million (or approximately $930 per segment). Students would be removed from the instructional segments (e.g., kindergarten, kindergarten EIP) in which they are already enrolled, offsetting the cost of the bill by an unknown amount. For example, if the average weight for students living in poverty is currently 1.4, the additional earnings under the bill would only be $1.0 billion.[1]

Changes in QBE earnings are borne by the state and local school systems, with the ratio dependent on Local Five Mill Share calculations made each year. Currently, the state share is 80% but could increase in future years based on changes in local property tax digests. Additionally, the cap on the Promise Scholarship program at Georgia Student Finance Commission is set at 1% of QBE earnings and would increase as a result of this bill.

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/jb

[1] Average is based on weights assigned to the grades 4-5 (1.0417), grades 4-5 EIP (1.8337), grades 9-12 (1.0000), gifted (1.7337), and remedial (1.3697) programs, for example.

VIOLA DAVIS
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 87
POST OFFICE BOX 830726
STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA 30083
EMAIL: viola.davis@house.ga.gov

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 404
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
404-656-0109
404-656-0250 (FAX)

STANDING COMMITTEES
DEFENSE & VETERANS AFFAIRS
INSURANCE
INTERSTATE COOPERATION
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
URBAN AFFAIRS

January 11, 2024

Subject: Request for a Hearing on Education Bills – House Bill 712, House Bill 899, and House Bill 900

Dear Chairman Chris Erwin,

I hope this letter finds you in good health. I am writing to formally request a hearing on three significant education bills currently under consideration in the House of Representatives Education Committee. As the Representative for House District 87, I believe that these bills, namely House Bill 712, House Bill 899, and House Bill 900, have the potential to greatly impact the education system in our state.

Allow me to provide a more detailed description of each bill to emphasize their significance:

1. House Bill 712: Ensuring Adequate Funding for School Transportation - House Bill 712 focuses on securing full funding for transportation in school districts across Georgia. This is a critical issue, as inadequate funding for transportation has been a recurring problem, particularly affecting rural districts. HB 712 would address this issue by increasing funding for transportation, ensuring that students can travel safely to and from school without imposing financial burdens on local districts. A fiscal note has been requested on HB 712 and is pending.
2. Refugee and International Students Equalization Fund (RISE) - The legislation, known as the "Refugee and International Students Equalization Fund (RISE)," would provide essential resources and support to refugees and international students in our public schools. This program would offer funding and wrap-around services to ensure students' success by addressing their unique needs, including education, translators, housing, medical care, counseling, nutrition, and transportation (See HB 900 – LC 49 1549). The fiscal note for HB 900 provides insight into the anticipated cost associated with its implementation. The fiscal note was requested.

3. School Violence and Reduction and Safety Act: To bolster school safety and reduce incidents of violence in Georgia's public schools, we have drafted the "School Violence Reduction and Safety Act." This legislation would amend the QBE Act to allocate funds for enhancing security measures and creating a safer learning environment. The drafted legislation includes program weight adjustments, funding assistance, eligibility criteria, and maximum funding limits to ensure that schools can effectively reduce violence and improve safety (See HB 899 – LC 49 1555). This fiscal note for HB 899 indicates that the proposed measures will require an estimated $103 million.

These bills are important to our constituents and warrant a thorough examination by the Education Committee. Therefore, I kindly request that you schedule hearings for House Bill 712, House Bill 899, and House Bill 900 at your earliest convenience. These hearings will provide an opportunity for lawmakers to gather insights, engage in meaningful discussions, and make informed decisions regarding this proposed legislation, taking into account the fiscal implications outlined in the respective fiscal notes.

I am confident that your leadership and expertise as the Chairman of the Education Committee will ensure a fair and productive hearing process. I am also committed to providing any necessary information or testimony to facilitate the hearings.

Please consider this letter as an official request for hearings on these education bills, accompanied by the relevant fiscal notes. Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to your response.

Thank you for your dedication to improving education in our state, and I remain at your disposal for any further discussions or clarifications.

Sincerely,

Viola Davis

Representative Viola Davis

Attachment

DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

January 8, 2024

Honorable Viola Davis
State Representative
404-D Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill (LC 49 1532)

Dear Representative Davis:

This bill would provide Quality Basic Education (QBE) funding assistance to eligible public schools to reduce school violence and improve school safety and security. Funding would begin with the 2025-2026 school year and shall not exceed one percent of the total QBE funding allotted to each school for the most recently completed school year. Funding also shall not exceed fifty percent of the actual costs incurred for implementing the school's safety plan, although this condition is subject to the hardship provisions in law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1185).

The bill would result in additional school system funding of up to $103.1 million based on available data. This amount represents the maximum of one percent of the base QBE earnings in FY 2024. The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) does not have data on school system's safety plans and their associated costs, which could result in a lower cost to the state.

Depending on the policies and processes adopted to implement the bill, GaDOE may require a staff position to administer the program at an annual cost of $140,500 (salary, benefits, and travel).

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/ahs

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program weights and funding requirements under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide for QBE funding assistance to eligible public schools to reduce school violence and improve school safety and security; to provide for eligibility; to provide for the calculation and maximum amount of such funding; to provide for policies, procedures, regulations, and requirements; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "School Violence Reduction and Safety Funds Act."

SECTION 2.

Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program weights and funding requirements under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-183, relating to program weights to reflect funds for maintenance and operation of facilities, as follows:

"20-2-183.

(a) All program weights, when multiplied by the base amount, shall reflect sufficient funds to provide for the maintenance and operation of facilities essential for housing instructional programs and essential supportive educational services, subject to appropriation by the General Assembly.

(b)(1) All program weights, when multiplied by the base amount, shall reflect sufficient funds to provide funding assistance to reimburse eligible public schools for actual costs incurred to reduce school violence and improve school safety and security. Such funds may be referred to as school violence reduction and safety funds.

(2) The State Board of Education shall annually determine the amount of state funds needed to provide funding assistance to eligible public schools as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection, subject to the following conditions:

(A) No public school shall be considered eligible for such funding assistance unless:

(i) It complies with such policies, procedures, regulations, and other requirements as adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection; and

(ii) Its school safety plan meets the requirements of Code Section 20-2-1185; and

(B) The amount of funding assistance calculated for each eligible public school shall not exceed:

(i) One percent of the total amount of funds allotted for such school under this article for the most recently completed school year; or

(ii) Fifty percent of the actual costs incurred during the most recently completed school year for the implementation of such school's safety plan; provided, however, that the application of such condition shall be subject to the hardship provisions set forth in subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-1185.

(3) The State Board of Education shall adopt policies, procedures, regulations, and other such requirements as appropriate:

(A) To determine whether a public school is eligible for funding assistance under this subsection;

(B) To establish procedures and requirements for public schools seeking funding assistance under this subsection;

(C) To establish procedures for the Department of Education to evaluate requests by public schools for funding assistance under this subsection;

(D) To calculate the maximum amount of funding assistance each eligible public school is eligible to receive under this subsection, subject to appropriations by the General Assembly;

(E) To annually assess whether and to what extent funding assistance provided to eligible public schools under this subsection is having the intended impact of reducing school violence or improving school safety and security; and

(F) As may be necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection."

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2024, and shall be applicable beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and continuing each school year thereafter.

SECTION 4.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program weights and funding requirements under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to provide for QBE funding assistance to eligible public schools to improve school safety infrastructure; to provide for eligibility; to provide for allowable uses of such funding; to provide for policies, procedures, regulations, and requirements; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "School Security Protection and Safety Infrastructure Act."

SECTION 2.

Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program weights and funding requirements under the "Quality Basic Education

Act," is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-183, relating to program weights to reflect funds for maintenance and operation of facilities, as follows:

"20-2-183.

(a) All program weights, when multiplied by the base amount, shall reflect sufficient funds to provide for the maintenance and operation of facilities essential for housing instructional programs and essential supportive educational services, subject to appropriation by the General Assembly.

(b)(1) All program weights, when multiplied by the base amount, shall reflect sufficient funds to provide funding assistance to reimburse eligible public schools for actual costs incurred to reduce school violence and improve school safety and security. Such funds may be referred to as school security protection and safety infrastructure funds.

(2) The State Board of Education shall annually determine the amount of state funds needed to provide funding assistance to eligible public schools as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection, subject to the following conditions:

(A) No public school shall be considered eligible for such funding assistance unless such school complies with such policies, procedures, regulations, and other requirements as adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection; and

(B) Expenditures allowable under this subsection shall be limited to:

(i) Mobile surveillance camera trailers;

(ii) Onsite command centers;

(iii) Weapon detection technology for large events, daily campus entry, or any other school function;

(iv) Systems designed to detect cigarettes, cigars, consumable vapor products, or alternative nicotine products, as such terms are defined in Code Section 48-11-1; or

(v) Systems designed to detect marijuana as such term is defined in Code Section 16-13-21.

(3) The State Board of Education shall adopt policies, procedures, regulations, and other such requirements as appropriate:

(A) To determine whether a public school is eligible for funding assistance under this subsection;

(B) To establish procedures and requirements for public schools seeking funding assistance under this subsection;

(C) To establish procedures for the Department of Education to evaluate requests by public schools for funding assistance under this subsection;

(D) To calculate the maximum amount of funding assistance each eligible public school is eligible to receive under this subsection, subject to appropriations by the General Assembly;

(E) To annually assess whether and to what extent funding assistance provided to eligible public schools under this subsection is having the intended impact of reducing school violence or improving school safety and security; and

(F) As may be necessary to implement the provisions of this subsection."

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2025, and shall be applicable beginning with the 2026-2027 school year and continuing each school year thereafter.

SECTION 4.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

January 4, 2024

Honorable Viola Davis
State Representative
409-G Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill 712 (LC 49 1079)

Dear Representative Davis:

This bill would revise the calculation and distribution of student transportation funds by the State Board of Education to school systems. It would require the calculation to include bus drivers' health insurance costs, other vehicles used to transport students, and students who live within 1.5 miles of schools but cannot walk safely or travel to school without a motor vehicle. The bill also increases the minimum salary for drivers. The State Board of Education would be required to distribute to each school system up to 100% of projected costs of the system's student transportation program.

As shown in Table 1, data provided by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) indicates that the bill would have cost the state an additional $907.1 million if it had been enacted in FY24. While the full cost of the bill would be $1.05 billion, a portion of that cost is offset by the existing funding for student transportation.

Table 1: Cost Breakdown of Projected Fiscal Impact	
Operations	$557,084,928
Driver Salaries	283,759,366
Health Insurance	207,005,280
Bus Insurance	5,363,360
Funds for Extended Miles	2,097,450
Drug Testing	578,654
Total projected cost	**$1,055,889,038**
Less: FY24 Pupil Transportation Grant	$148,750,195
Additional Student Transportation Cost	**$907,138,843**

The assumptions used to calculate the cost are discussed below.

- Data does not distinguish between students who can and cannot get to school safely, the estimate does not include students within 1.5-mile range of a school.

- Data does not exist on the use of school vehicles other than buses. As a result, this estimate only reflects the use of traditional school buses, and the cost would increase if other vehicles are included.
- Salaries, health insurance, and drug testing costs are based on updating the current pupil transportation formula based on the requirements outlined in this bill. Health insurance is based on the current per member per month rate, and future increases would result in additional costs to the state.
- GaDOE does not have current data to update the extended mileage portion of the calculation. Existing data is based on an older survey which would need to be updated to reflect the actual number.

Table 1 shows the projected cost for each year, assuming every category is expended at 100%.

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/ew

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program weights and funding requirements under Quality Basic Education, so as to revise provisions for the calculation and distribution of funds by the State Board of Education to local units of administration for student transportation programs; to require the State Board of Education to distribute to each local unit of administration up to 100 percent of projected costs of such local unit of administration's student transportation program, subject to exception; to remove requirements that regular transportation services shall be fully funded before other transportation services are funded; to require the State Board of Education to collaborate with and receive relevant information from local units of administration regarding the calculation of projected costs of student transportation programs; to include the cost of health insurance in the factors considered in calculating the costs of student transportation programs; to provide for processes; to require the Department of Education to update the schedule of standards and variable student transportation costs or cost factors twice each year and to publish such updated schedules on its public website; to provide for the use of vehicles in addition to school buses in student transportation programs; to provide for an increase in the schedule of uniform minimum salaries for drivers; to provide for the inclusion in transportation cost calculations of students who live within 1 and 1/2 miles from school but who cannot safely walk or otherwise travel to school without the use of a motor vehicle; to provide for short title; to provide for definitions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Georgia Student Transportation Support Act."

SECTION 2.

Part 5 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to program weights and funding requirements under Quality Basic Education, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-188, relating to student transportation, as follows:

"20-2-188.

(a)(1) As used in this Code section, the term 'school vehicle,' or 'vehicle,' means vehicles, including, but not limited to school buses, that are designated and used by a local unit of administration for the transportation of students as part of its transportation program; provided, however, that vehicles owned by school personnel, students, or student family members shall not be included even when used for the purpose of transporting students.

(2) As used in this chapter, the term:

(A) 'Bus' or 'school bus' means vehicles, including, but not limited to school buses, that are designated and used by a local unit of administration for the transportation of students as part of its transportation program; provided, however, that vehicles owned by school personnel, students, or student family members shall not be included even when used for the purpose of transporting students.

(B) 'School bus driver' shall mean a person who is assigned by a local unit of administration to drive vehicles, including, but not limited to school buses, that are designated and used by such local unit of administration for the transportation of students as part of its transportation program.

(C) 'School bus stop' means a place designated by a local unit of administration or other proper authority for the pickup and drop off of students using vehicles, including, but not limited to school buses, designated and used by such local unit of administration for the transportation of students as part of its student transportation program.

~~(a)~~(b)(1) ~~The~~ Twice each school year, the amount of funds needed by a local unit of administration to pay ~~expenses~~ the projected costs of student transportation shall be calculated and distributed by the State Board of Education in accordance with a schedule of standard transportation costs to be incurred by local units of administration in the operation of economical and efficient student transportation programs and a schedule of variable transportation costs or variable cost factors dependent upon current and prevailing circumstances which affect, in varying ways, the cost of student transportation authorized by this Code section; provided, however, that the amount of funds to be ~~actually~~ distributed to any local unit of administration under this Code section during any school year shall equal the lesser of 100 percent of the projected costs calculated under this Code section for such local unit of administration or ~~not exceed~~ the actual costs incurred by the local unit of administration in transporting students to and from public schools, including costs for transportation for disabled or limited-English-proficient students who must travel across local school system lines or away from the school to which they would normally be assigned if they did not have such special needs. ~~It is further provided that the costs of the regular student transportation program receive full funding before funds are provided for transportation of students to and from places for the purpose of work experiences, training in instructional laboratories outside the assigned schools, and in other such field trips required of or integral to the various instructional components of the educational program.~~ In establishing the schedule of standards and variable student transportation costs or cost factors, the ~~state board~~ State

Board of Education shall collaborate with local units of administration throughout the state and is, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, authorized to consider factors and circumstances such as the number and density of students transported in the local unit of administration and the areas therein served by ~~school buses~~ school vehicles; the suitability of ~~school bus~~ school vehicle transportation routes in the local unit of administration; the suitability of the type and number of ~~buses~~ school vehicles used by the local unit of administration; the number of miles traveled by ~~school buses~~ such school vehicles in the local unit of administration; minimum ~~bus~~ school vehicle loads; transportation surveys, cost of transportation equipment, and depreciation schedules; the schedule of minimum salaries for school ~~bus~~ vehicle drivers established in accordance with subsection ~~(b)~~(d) of this Code section; the number of school ~~bus~~ vehicle drivers allotted to the local unit of administration; maintenance, repair, and operating costs of transportation equipment; climate and terrain; condition of roads used for the purpose of transporting students in the local unit of administration; cost of health and liability insurance; cost of safety instruction and training for both ~~bus~~ drivers and students; and such other factors and circumstances as the ~~state board~~ State Board of Education may find relevant for the purpose of establishing such schedules and cost factors. The State Board of Education shall provide for process by which local units of administration shall be permitted to submit for review by the Department of Education information which such local unit of administration deems to be relevant to the calculation of the projected cost of student transportation programs. The ~~state board~~ State Board of Education shall have authority to establish minimum requirements and standards respecting use of funds allotted under this Code section.

(2) The schedule of standards and variable student transportation costs or cost factors provided for in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be updated by the Department of Education twice each year no later than March 1 and November 1 to accurately reflect

current and actual conditions and published on the Department of Education's public website.

~~(a.1)~~(c) Any funds that the State Board of Education allocates for school ~~bus~~ vehicle replacement may be used by ~~local boards of education~~ local units of administration to refurbish existing school ~~buses~~; provided, however, that school~~. Bus~~ vehicle replacement funds may not be restricted by the ~~state board~~ State Board of Education for use only in purchasing new or replacement school ~~buses~~ vehicles. Any school ~~bus~~ vehicle that is refurbished shall be subject to all safety and maintenance inspection requirements provided for by law. Refurbishment of ~~a school bus~~ such school vehicle shall be done by a ~~school bus~~ manufacturer or by a dealer of a manufacturer. Each ~~local board of education~~ local unit of administration that refurbishes a school ~~bus~~ vehicle pursuant to this subsection is strongly encouraged to apply for federal funds to retrofit the engine. The State Board of Education shall notify the Environmental Protection Division when a local ~~board of education~~ local unit of administration receives state funds to refurbish a school ~~bus~~ vehicle so that the division may provide information to such local ~~board~~ unit of administration regarding the availability of federal funds for such purposes.

~~(b)~~(d) The State Board of Education shall establish a schedule of uniform minimum salaries that shall be paid by local units of administration to drivers of school ~~buses~~ vehicles provided by local units of administration for student transportation, regardless of type of ownership, which shall be not less than the amount appropriated by the General Assembly each year but not less than ~~$500.00~~ $2,000.00 per month for 12 months. ~~The minimum salary schedule shall not apply to drivers of cars and other vehicles not designated as school buses.~~ Local units of administration shall not pay to any ~~bus~~ such driver in their employment salaries less than those prescribed by the uniform minimum salary schedule but shall have the authority to supplement such salaries. The expense of purchasing, maintaining, and operating ~~such buses~~ school vehicles regardless of type of ownership, shall not be considered in establishing the schedule of uniform minimum salaries for ~~school bus~~ such drivers. The schedule of uniform minimum salaries shall be used as a standard cost item for the purpose of calculating the expense of student transportation under subsection ~~(a)~~(b) of this Code section. This subsection shall not apply to student or teacher drivers.

~~(c)~~(e) To the extent that the State Board of Education obtains a state-bid price under subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-168 on any standard item of equipment, supply, or service used or obtained by local units of administration in connection with or as a result of providing transportation services to students attending the public schools of such local units of administration or on any other standard expense incurred by local units of administration, the standard transportation cost or allowance to be attributed to such item or expense under subsection ~~(a)~~(b) of this Code section shall be based upon an amount not in excess of the state-bid price on such item or expense.

~~(d)~~(f) Students who live beyond one and one-half miles from the school to which they are assigned, according to the nearest practical route by school ~~bus,~~ vehicle, and students who cannot readily walk to school or otherwise travel to school without the use of a motor vehicle due to safety concerns, including, but not limited to, a lack of safely traversable sidewalks and bike lanes, congested intersections, and otherwise unsafe conditions, shall be eligible to be counted as transported students for the purpose of calculating that portion of the expense of student transportation associated with transporting students from home to school and from school to home as authorized under subsection ~~(a)~~(b) of this Code section, provided such students are actually transported to such school by a school ~~bus or other~~ vehicle made available for this purpose by the local unit of administration. ~~Any~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any student who resides within such mileage limitation shall not be eligible to be counted for school transportation state-aid purposes, with the exception of disabled students being transported.

~~(e)~~(g) The State Board of Education shall establish and require adherence to minimum specifications for school vehicles used or contracted to be used by local units of administration for transporting students, including a motor vehicle with a capacity of eight persons or less operated and marked for the transportation of school children to and from school and school related activities, taking into account the factors and circumstances set forth in subsection ~~(a)~~(b) of this Code section, and shall establish and require adherence to minimum standards and requirements respecting maintenance, repair, inspection, and use of such vehicles and minimum qualifications for the drivers of such vehicles. The ~~state board~~ State Board of Education shall require, monitor, and fund a program of safety instruction in the practices of safe riding and emergency ~~bus~~ vehicle evacuation drills for both ~~school bus~~ drivers and students riding school ~~buses~~ vehicles.

~~(f)~~(h) The State Board of Education shall have the authority to allot funds for the transportation of all public school students residing on Sapelo Island to the mainland of the state for the purpose of attending school on the mainland.

~~(g)~~(i) The State Board of Education shall adopt policies, procedures, regulations, and other such requirements for transportation and for payment of all transportation costs pursuant to subsections (a) through ~~(e)~~(g) of this Code section for all students with special needs identified by the various local units of administration. Further, the ~~state board~~ State Board of Education shall allot funds to local units of administration for transportation costs for those students authorized by such local units of administration to attend schools and programs of other local units of administration.

~~(h)~~(j) The State Board of Education shall adopt policies and regulations relative to vehicles used for the transportation of students with special needs.

~~(i)~~(k) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) through ~~(h)~~(j) of this Code section, funds to pay the expenses of student transportation shall be paid to an independent school system only when requested by the board of education of such independent school system. Any funds for student transportation costs shall be specified by the board of education of the independent school system in its budget prepared pursuant to subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-167 and, if not budgeted therein, no expenses for student transportation shall be payable to the independent school system for the fiscal year covered by such budget. No provision of this article shall be construed to require the board of education of any independent school system to furnish student transportation services within such school system.

~~(j)~~(1) The amount of funds needed by a local unit of administration during a fiscal year for sick and personal leave expenses of drivers of school ~~bus drivers~~ vehicles shall be determined by multiplying the number of school ~~buses~~ vehicles allotted to a local unit of administration pursuant to this Code section by a sum of money not less than $75.00. The State Board of Education shall have the authority to prescribe minimum requirements and standards for the distribution, use, and expenditure of funds allotted under this subsection."

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

DOAA
Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

January 3, 2024

Honorable Viola Davis
State Representative
404-D Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill (LC 49 1549)

Dear Representative Davis:

This bill would establish Quality Basic Education (QBE) funding for services related to the Refugee and International Students Equalization (RISE) program beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. Additionally, it provides that the RISE program weight would be 1.2 with a teacher-student ratio of 1 to 7.

As shown in **Table 1**, Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) data indicates that the bill would reduce state spending by $62.2 million because students would be moved from QBE segments with higher program weights (e.g., Kindergarten, Grades 1-3 Early Intervention Program) into the RISE program. This amount is based on the student population of 57,309 full-time equivalents (FTEs) during state fiscal year 2024 meet RISE program criteria.

Table 1. RISE QBE weight reduces state costs

	FTEs	Average Funding per FTE	QBE System Earnings
Current Statute	57,309	$4,712.68(1)	$270,079,996
LC 49 1549	57,309	$3,626.95	$207,857,929
Difference			**-$62,222,067**

(1) Funding based on a combination of QBE weights tied to the variety of students

Additional Considerations

The estimate does not consider the proposed teacher-student ratio of 1 to 7. If the legislative intent is to fund the RISE program with a teacher-student ratio of 1 to 7, the QBE earnings for RISE would cost the state approximately $277.1 million more than current QBE earnings. GaDOE noted the teacher-student ratio for the RISE program cannot be 1 to 7 and also have a program weight of 1.2 because the resulting QBE earnings would be more than 3 times (not about 1.2 times) greater than the base earnings.

Programs with a smaller teacher-student ratio and more specialized services have higher weights than that found in the bill. For example, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) has a teacher-student ratio of 1 to 7 and a statutory program weight of 2.5892. In contrast, the Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education Program has a ratio of 1 to 20 and a statutory program weight of 1.1830.

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/ahs

Transportation Information and Proof of Funding

Investing in Georgia's Energy, Land, and Water Resources

Environmental Policy Academy

Introduction to Infrastructure and Rate Setting

Amanda Carroll
Senior Project Manager
December 7, 2024

GEFA

1

GEFA

What is GEFA and Who is Eligible

- GEFA's mission is to conserve and protect Georgia's energy, land, and water resources.
- GEFA has provided almost $6 billion in low-interest loans and has funded more than 2,000 projects Statewide.
- Eligible Borrowers:
    - Counties and municipalities
    - Local water, sewer, and sanitary districts
    - State and local authorities, boards, and political subdivisions created by the General Assembly.

Investing in Georgia's Energy, Land, and Water Resources

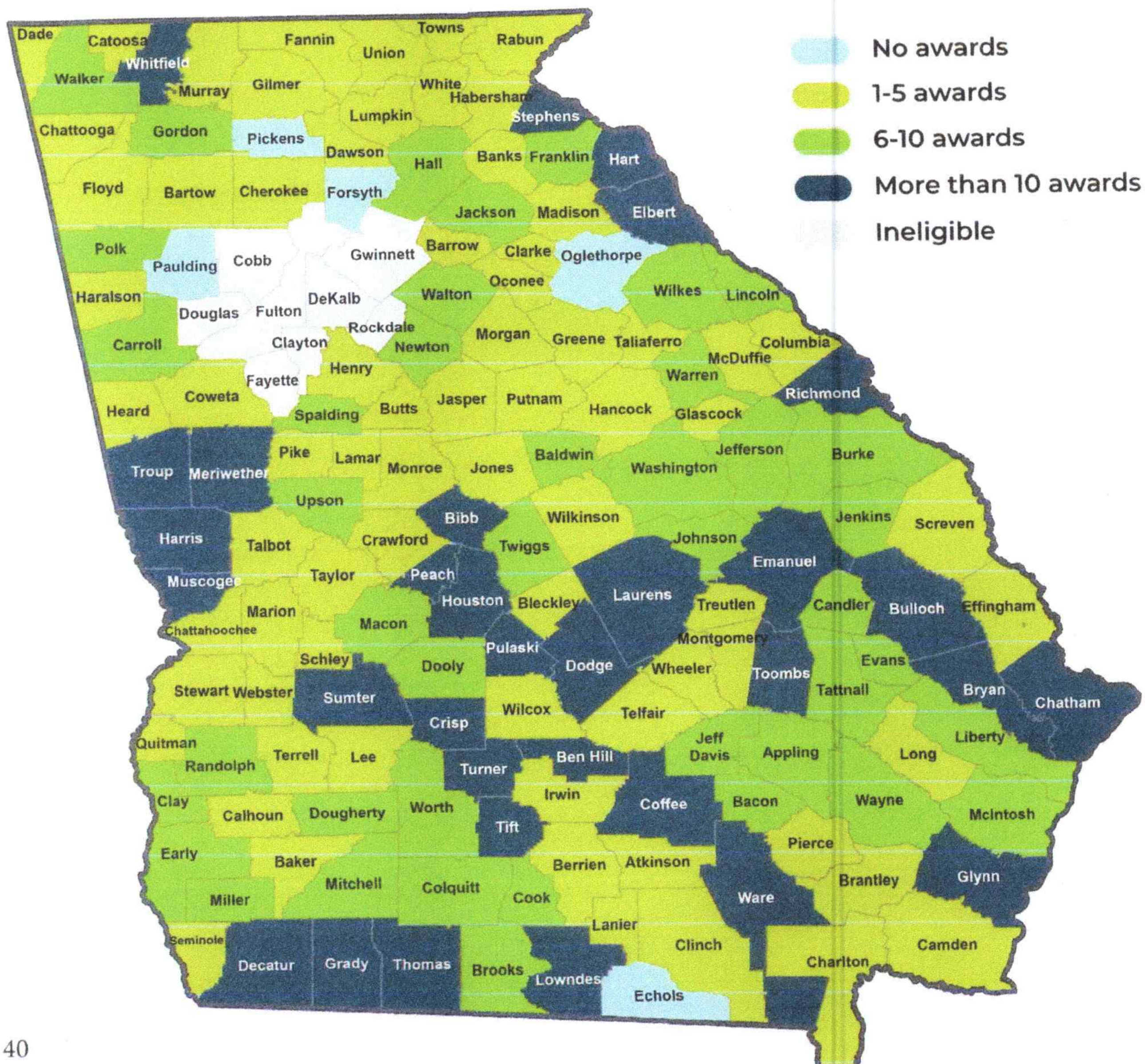
2

2

25 YEARS *of* OneGeorgia Awards

OneGeorgia has made awards in nearly every eligible county.

The Authority's community-driven investments often provide immediate, direct impact through one-time capital expenses for site preparation, construction, and utility installation. These initial investments also provide longer-term and ongoing benefits through job creation and retention, capacity building, and new business growth across industries and the broader region.



Leveraged over
$21 BILLION
in private investment

Created over
65,000
new, direct jobs

OneGeorgia made
872
total awards

Leveraged more than
$816 MILLION
in community investment

Invested over
$778 MILLION
in Rural Georgia

Provided capacity for
2,500
newly, constructed housing units

"I think into the future, long after my administration, you'll continue to see OneGeorgia doing a lot of great things."
– *Brian Kemp* GOVERNOR

"The formula OneGeorgia brings to the table is working and it does allow those cities to leverage and bring resources in that allow us to stand up infrastructure to make it a welcoming place for industry to come create jobs that change people's lives."
– *Jon Burns* SPEAKER

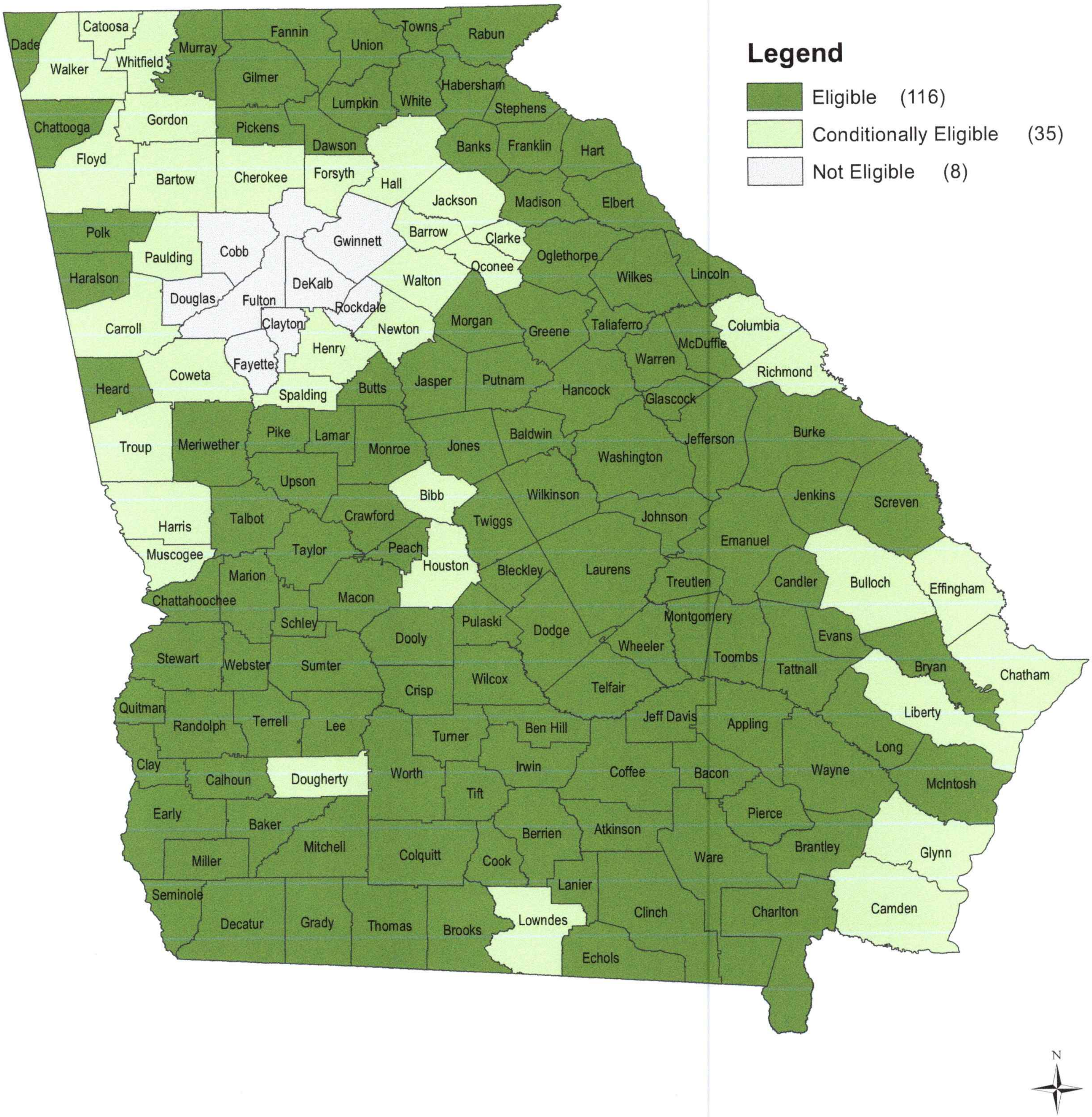
"It is the job opportunities in the smaller communities that have made a bigger difference. Even though the numbers of jobs that were created may be small, they have significance in the area where they are located."
– *Nathan Deal* FORMER GOVERNOR

One Georgia Authority

Georgia®

Official Map

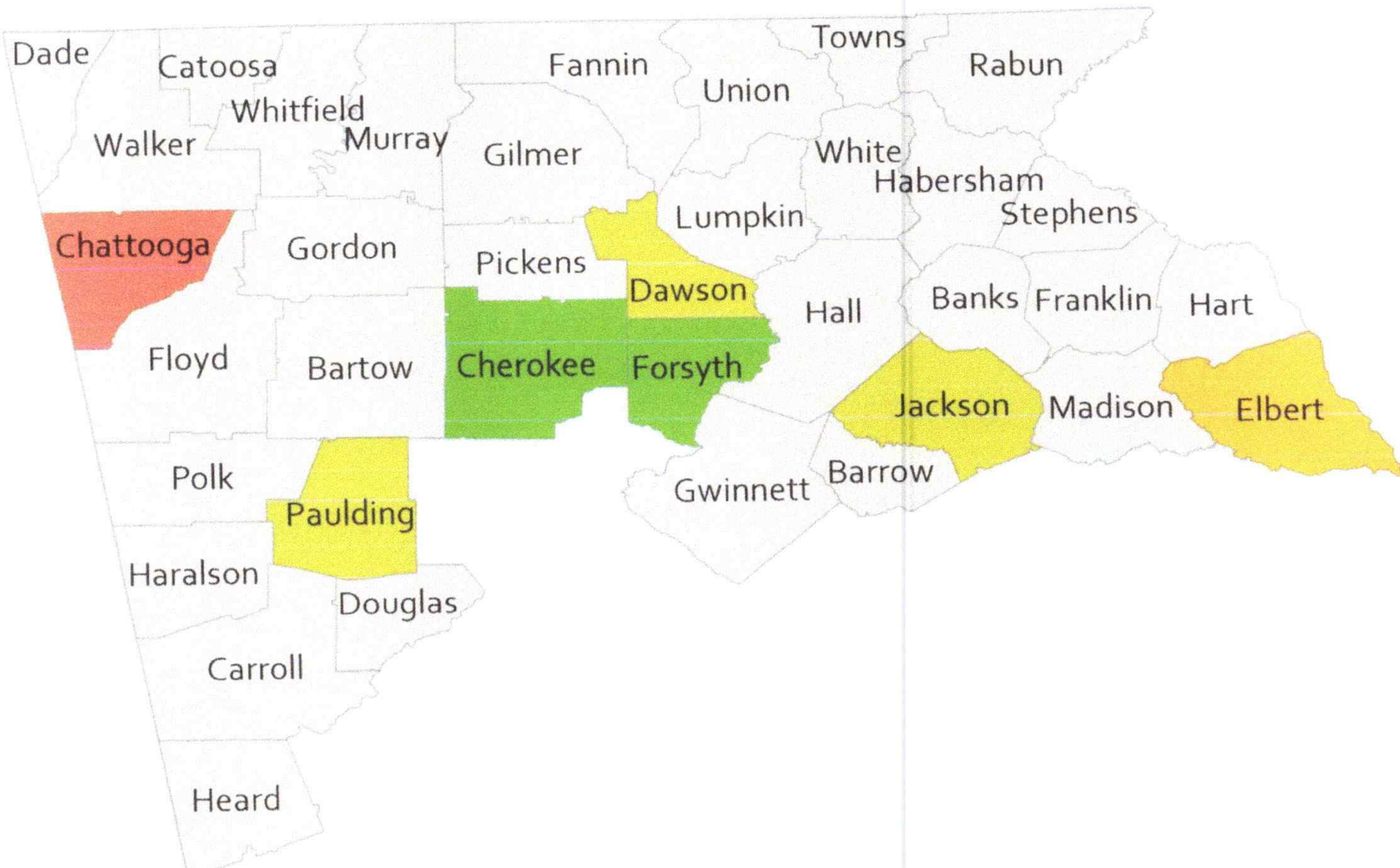
Eligible Counties



Appalachian Regional Commission

Georgia County Designations

FY 2025



What's changed since FY 2024?

County	FY 2024	FY 2025	Economic Shift
Elbert	Distressed	At-Risk	+
Franklin	At-Risk	Transitional	+
Heard	At-Risk	Transitional	+
Murray	At-Risk	Transitional	+
Polk	At-Risk	Transitional	+

- Attainment counties: ineligible for funding
- Competitive counties: 30% investment / 70% match
- Transitional counties: 50% investment / 50% match
- At-Risk counties: 70% investment / 30% match
- Distressed counties: 80% investment / 20% match

Source:Appalachian Regional Commission, 2024
Effective October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025


Northwest Georgia
1
Georgia Mountains
2
Atlanta Regional Commission
3
Three Rivers
4
Northeast Georgia
5
Middle Georgia
6
Central Savannah River Area
7
River Valley
8
Heart of Georgia Altamaha
9
Southwest Georgia
10
Southern Georgia
11
Coastal
12
DADE
CATOOSA
WHITFIELD
MURRAY
FANNIN
WALKER
GILMER
CHATTOOGA
GORDON
PICKENS
FLOYD
BARTOW
POLK
PAULDING
HARALSON
TOWNS
RABUN
UNION
WHITE
HABER-SHAM
LUMPKIN
STEPHENS
DAWSON
BANKS
FRANKLIN
HART
HALL
FORSYTH
CHEROKEE
GWINNETT
COBB
DEKALB
DOUGLAS
FULTON
CLAYTON
ROCKDALE
FAYETTE
HENRY
JACKSON
MADISON
ELBERT
BARROW
CLARKE
OGLE-THORPE
WALTON
OCONEE
MORGAN
GREENE
NEWTON
JASPER
CARROLL
COWETA
HEARD
SPALDING
BUTTS
PIKE
LAMAR
TROUP
MERI-WETHER
UPSON
WILKES
LINCOLN
TALIA-FERRO
MCDUFFIE
COLUMBIA
WARREN
RICHMOND
HANCOCK
GLASCOCK
BURKE
JEFFERSON
WASHINGTON
JENKINS
PUTNAM
MONROE
JONES
BALDWIN
BIBB
WILKINSON
CRAWFORD
TWIGGS
PEACH
HOUSTON
PULASKI
HARRIS
TALBOT
TAYLOR
MUSCOGEE
MARION
CHATTA-HOOCHEE
MACON
SCHLEY
DOOLY
STEWART
WEBSTER
SUMTER
CRISP
QUITMAN
RANDOLPH
CLAY
JOHNSON
EMANUEL
LAURENS
TREUTLEN
CANDLER
BLECKLEY
DODGE
EVANS
WHEELER
MONT-GOMERY
TOOMBS
TATTNALL
WILCOX
TELFAIR
JEFF DAVIS
APPLING
WAYNE
SCREVEN
BULLOCH
EFFINGHAM
BRYAN
CHATHAM
LIBERTY
LONG
MCINTOSH
GLYNN
CAMDEN
TERRELL
LEE
CALHOUN
DOUGHERTY
WORTH
EARLY
BAKER
MITCHELL
MILLER
COLQUITT
SEMINOLE
DECATUR
GRADY
THOMAS
TURNER
BEN HILL
IRWIN
COFFEE
BACON
TIFT
BERRIEN
ATKINSON
PIERCE
BRANTLEY
COOK
LANIER
WARE
BROOKS
LOWNDES
CLINCH
CHARLTON
ECHOLS

ARC
15 DISTRICT
BOARD MEMBER
AT-LARGE MAP

BY REPRESENTATIVE VIOLA DAVIS

GEORGIA HOUSE DISTRICT 87

REPRESENTATIVE VIOLA DAVIS TITLE VI – ATLANTA REGIONAL COMISSION

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

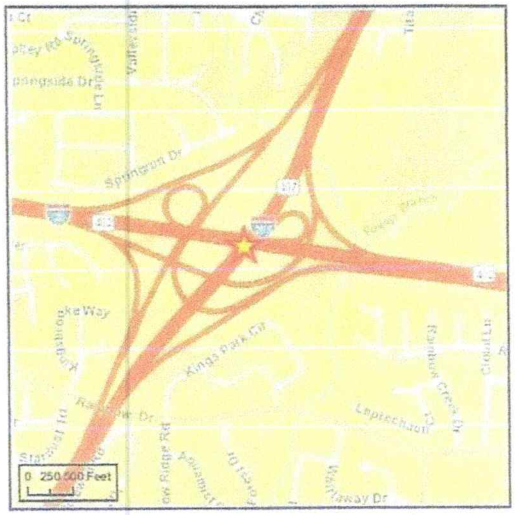
ANNUAL POPULATION ESTIMATES AND DUES CALCULATIONS

ATLANTA REGIONAL PLAN WORLD CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE
STRATEGICALLY EXPAND TRANSPORTATON SYSTEM

DK-AR-241

DRAFT Atlanta Region's Plan RTP (2020) PROJECT FACT SHEET

Short Title	I-285 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS AT I-20 EAST
GDOT Project No.	0013915
Federal ID No.	IM-0000-00(378)
Status	Programmed
Service Type	Roadway / Interchange Capacity
Sponsor	GDOT
Jurisdiction	Regional
Analysis Level	In the Region's Air Quality Conformity Analysis



Existing Thru Lane	N/A	**LCI**	
Planned Thru Lane	N/A	**Flex**	

Network Year 2030

Corridor Length 8.4 miles

Detailed Description and Justification

This project improves traffic flow and safety at the busy I-285/I-20 east interchange. Reconstructs ramps and constructs new collector-distributor (CD) lanes.

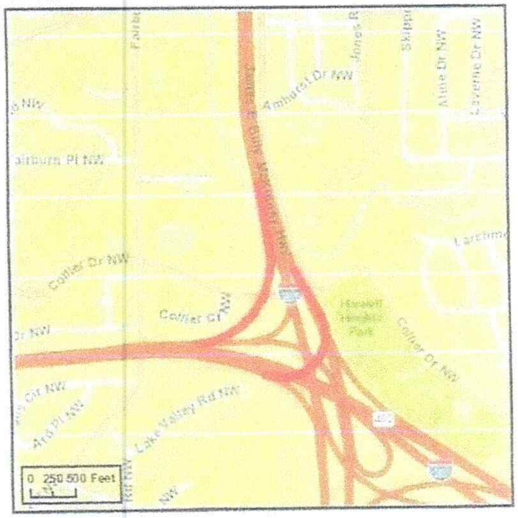
Phase Status & Funding Information		Status	FISCAL YEAR	TOTAL PHASE COST	BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL PHASE COST BY FUNDING SOURCE			
					FEDERAL	STATE	BONDS	LOCAL/PRIVATE
PE	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)	AUTH	2017	**$3,515,588**	~~$0,000~~	~~$3,515,588~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Repurposed Earmark	AUTH	2019	**$3,209,346**	~~$2,567,477~~	~~$641,869~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Repurposed Earmark (RPF9)	AUTH	2019	**$284,413**	~~$227,530~~	~~$56,883~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program - Urban (>200K) (ARC)	AUTH	2019	**$2,290,654**	~~$1,832,523~~	~~$458,131~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Highway Infrastructure – 23 USC 133(b)(1)(A) Activities in Areas With a Population Over 200,000	AUTH	2020	**$10,300,000**	~~$8,240,000~~	~~$2,060,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Highway Infrastructure – 23 USC 133(b)(1)(A) Activities in Areas With a Population Over 200,000		2021	**$4,300,000**	$3,440,000	$860,000	$0,000	$0,000
ROW	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2020	**$18,000,000**	$14,400,000	$3,600,000	$0,000	$0,000
ROW	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		2021	**$13,000,000**	$0,000	$13,000,000	$0,000	$0,000

CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2022	**$63,700,000**	$50,960,000	$12,740,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2023	**$66,000,000**	$52,800,000	$13,200,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2024	**$64,800,000**	$51,840,000	$12,960,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2025	**$60,200,000**	$48,160,000	$12,040,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	General Federal Aid - 2026-2050		LR 2026-2030	**$165,000,000**	$132,000,000	$33,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		LR 2026-2030	**$55,000,000**	$0,000	$55,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
				$529,600,001	**$366,467,530**	**$163,132,471**	**$0,000**	**$0,000**

SCP: Scoping PE: Preliminary engineering / engineering / design / planning PE-OV: GDOT oversight services for engineering ROW: Right-of-way Acquistion
UTL: Utility relocation CST: Construction / Implementation ALL: Total estimated cost, inclusive of all phases

AT-244

DRAFT Atlanta Region's Plan RTP (2020) PROJECT FACT SHEET



Short Title	I-285 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS AT I-20 WEST
GDOT Project No.	0013918
Federal ID No.	IM000-0000-00(379)
Status	Programmed
Service Type	Roadway / Interchange Capacity
Sponsor	GDOT
Jurisdiction	Regional
Analysis Level	In the Region's Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Existing Thru Lane	N/A	**LCI**		**Network Year**	2030
Planned Thru Lane	N/A	**Flex**		**Corridor Length**	0.8 miles

Detailed Description and Justification

This project will improve traffic flow and safety at the busy I-285/I-20 west interchange through lane widening and improvements on I-20 eastbound and westbound between Thorton Road and the I-285 interchange.

Phase Status & Funding Information		**Status**	**FISCAL YEAR**	**TOTAL PHASE COST**	**BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL PHASE COST BY FUNDING SOURCE**			
					FEDERAL	STATE	BONDS	LOCAL/PRIVATE
PE	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)	AUTH	2017	**$1,500,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$1,500,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Federal Earmark Funding	AUTH	2018	**$1,347,627**	~~$1,078,102~~	~~$269,525~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	AUTH	2018	**$1,066,555**	~~$853,244~~	~~$213,311~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Repurposed Earmark	AUTH	2018	**$6,803,808**	~~$5,443,046~~	~~$1,360,762~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Repurposed Earmark (RPF9)	AUTH	2018	**$736,419**	~~$589,135~~	~~$147,284~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	SAFETEA-LU Earmark	AUTH	2018	**$455,346**	~~$364,277~~	~~$91,069~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Highway Infrastructure – 23 USC 133(b)(1)(A) Activities in Areas With a Population Over 200,000	AUTH	2020	**$1,250,000**	~~$1,000,000~~	~~$250,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program - Urban (>200K) (ARC)	AUTH	2020	**$2,750,000**	~~$2,200,000~~	~~$550,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Highway Infrastructure – 23 USC 133(b)(1)(A) Activities in Areas With a Population Over 200,000		2021	**$6,300,000**	$5,040,000	$1,260,000	$0,000	$0,000

? For additional information about this project, please call (404) 463-3100 or email transportation@atlantaregional.com.

ARC

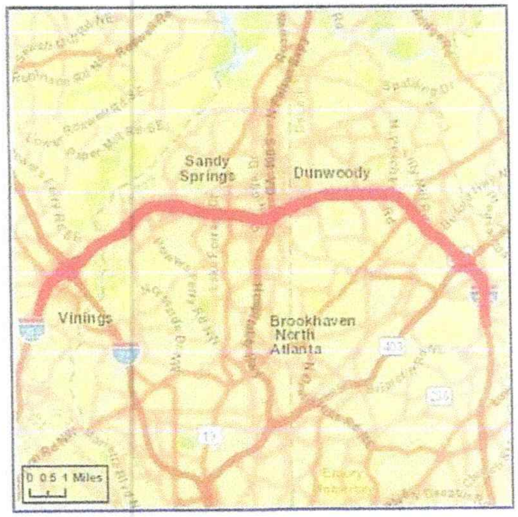
PE	Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program - Urban (>200K) (ARC)		2022	**$4,500,000**	$3,600,000	$900,000	$0,000	$0,000
ROW	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2020	**$5,000,000**	$4,000,000	$1,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
ROW	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2021	**$5,000,000**	$4,000,000	$1,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2023	**$58,300,000**	$46,640,000	$11,660,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2024	**$60,500,000**	$48,400,000	$12,100,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2025	**$59,400,000**	$47,520,000	$11,880,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	General Federal Aid - 2026-2050		LR 2026-2030	**$200,000,000**	$160,000,000	$40,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		LR 2026-2030	**$55,000,000**	$0,000	$55,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
				$469,909,755	**$330,727,804**	**$139,181,951**	**$0,000**	**$0,000**

SCP: Scoping PE: Preliminary engineering / engineering / design / planning PE-OV: GDOT oversight services for engineering ROW: Right-of-way Acquistion
UTL: Utility relocation CST: Construction / Implementation ALL: Total estimated cost, inclusive of all phases

AR-ML-200

DRAFT Atlanta Region's Plan RTP (2020) PROJECT FACT SHEET

Short Title	TOP END 285 - I-285 NORTH EXPRESS LANES AND COLLECTOR/DISTRIBUTOR LANE IMPROVEMENTS FROM I-75 NORTH TO I-85 NORTH AND NORTH ALONG SR 400 FROM I-285 TO NORTH SPRINGS MARTA STATION
GDOT Project No.	0001758
Federal ID No.	N/A
Status	Programmed
Service Type	Roadway / Express Lanes
Sponsor	GDOT
Jurisdiction	Regional - Perimeter
Analysis Level	In the Region's Air Quality Conformity Analysis



Existing Thru Lane	0	**LCI**		**Network Year**	2030		
Planned Thru Lane	4	**Flex**		**Corridor Length**	15.79	miles	

Detailed Description and Justification

This project provides travel options and more reliable trip times by adding two new Express Lanes in each direction across the top end of I-285.

Phase Status & Funding Information		**Status**	**FISCAL YEAR**	**TOTAL PHASE COST**	**BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL PHASE COST BY FUNDING SOURCE**			
					FEDERAL	STATE	BONDS	LOCAL/PRIVATE
PE	National Highway System	AUTH	2003	**$1,000,000**	~~$800,000~~	~~$200,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	National Highway System	AUTH	2006	**$21,192,897**	~~$16,954,318~~	~~$4,238,579~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Interstate Maintenance	AUTH	2007	**$1,250,000**	~~$1,125,000~~	~~$125,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Interstate Maintenance	AUTH	2007	**$2,701,631**	~~$2,161,305~~	~~$540,326~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Transit Project Bond (2007) - State	AUTH	2007	**$217,190**	~~$0,000~~	~~$217,190~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)	AUTH	2017	**$9,000,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$9,000,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	AUTH	2018	**$2,678,210**	~~$2,142,568~~	~~$535,642~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Repurposed Earmark	AUTH	2018	**$2,021,790**	~~$1,617,432~~	~~$404,358~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)	AUTH	2019	**$4,400,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$4,400,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)	AUTH	2020	**$19,700,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$19,700,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
PE	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		2021	**$3,000,000**	$0,000	$3,000,000	$0,000	$0,000

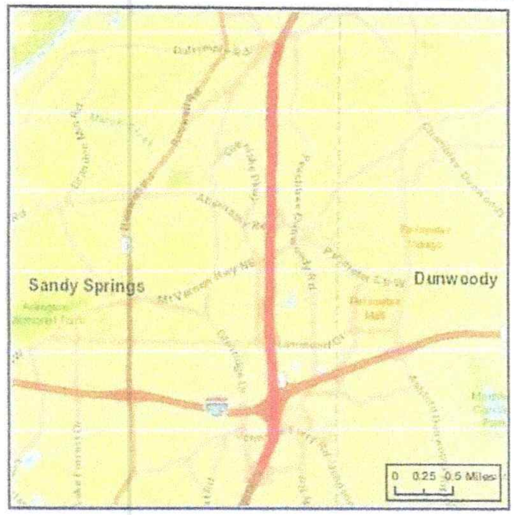
PE	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2022	**$2,000,000**	$1,600,000	$400,000	$0,000	$0,000
ROW	State Bonds (42234)	AUTH	2018	**$60,000,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$60,000,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
ROW	State Bonds (42235)	AUTH	2018	**$15,000,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$15,000,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
ROW	Grant Anticipation Revenue Bond		2020	**$100,000,000**	$0,000	$0,000	$100,000,000	$0,000
ROW	Grant Anticipation Revenue Bond		2021	**$75,000,000**	$0,000	$0,000	$75,000,000	$0,000
ROW	Grant Anticipation Revenue Bond		2022	**$125,000,000**	$0,000	$0,000	$125,000,000	$0,000
ROW	Grant Anticipation Revenue Bond		2023	**$150,000,000**	$0,000	$0,000	$150,000,000	$0,000
ROW	Grant Anticipation Revenue Bond		2024	**$150,000,000**	$0,000	$0,000	$150,000,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		2023	**$49,700,000**	$0,000	$49,700,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2024	**$66,500,000**	$53,200,000	$13,300,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		2025	**$74,900,000**	$0,000	$74,900,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	General Federal Aid - 2026-2050		LR 2026-2030	**$851,300,000**	$681,040,000	$170,260,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		LR 2026-2030	**$88,100,000**	$0,000	$88,100,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	General Federal Aid - 2026-2050		LR 2031-2040	**$2,885,000,000**	$2,308,000,000	$577,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		LR 2031-2040	**$100,000,000**	$0,000	$100,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	General Federal Aid - 2026-2050		LR 2041-2050	**$3,200,000,000**	$2,560,000,000	$640,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)		LR 2041-2050	**$100,000,000**	$0,000	$100,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Design Build Finance (DBF) Repayment - Federal		LR 2051+	**$4,320,000,000**	$3,456,000,000	$864,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	Design Build Finance (DBF) Repayment - State		LR 2051+	**$120,000,000**	$0,000	$120,000,000	$0,000	$0,000
				$12,599,661,718	**$9,084,640,623**	**$2,915,021,095**	**$600,000,000**	**$0,000**

SCP: Scoping PE: Preliminary engineering / engineering / design / planning PE-OV: GDOT oversight services for engineering ROW: Right-of-way Acquistion
UTL: Utility relocation CST: Construction / Implementation ALL: Total estimated cost, inclusive of all phases

AR-957A

DRAFT Atlanta Region's Plan RTP (2020) PROJECT FACT SHEET

Short Title	I-285 INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION AND COLLECTOR/DISTRIBUTOR AT SR 400
GDOT Project No.	0013546
Federal ID No.	N/A
Status	Programmed
Service Type	Roadway / Interchange Capacity
Sponsor	GDOT
Jurisdiction	Fulton County (North)
Analysis Level	In the Region's Air Quality Conformity Analysis



Existing Thru Lane	N/A	**LCI**	
Planned Thru Lane	N/A	**Flex**	

Network Year	2030
Corridor Length	4.6 miles

Detailed Description and Justification

This project is to reconstruct the I-285/SR 400 interchange. It improves existing ramp connections between I-285 east and west and SR 400 north and south, in addition to constructing collector-distributor lanes on I-285 east and west and SR 400 north. The project does not preclude the addition of managed lane connections between I-285 and SR 400 in the future. Funding for this project is a mixture. GDOT will make payment to a private firm to cover Construction (CST). The funding noted in the RTP/TIP, labeled P3 Repayment (Private Public Partnership) indicated the funding (a mixture of federal and state sources) that GDOT will us to re-pay the private firm's initial financing of the project. The project is also included within the scope of revive285 top end. Revive 285 top end is the name given to the improvement project on I-285 North from I-75 to I-85. Revive 285 serves as an umbrella for a number of isolated but critical near-term fixes in the project corridor, guiding these efforts in a way that provides the most benefit for the corridor and anticipates the transportation needs of future generations. This project will identify, evaluate, and possibly enhance the most appropriate projects and programs that provide safe and efficient travel along the I-285 corridor.

Phase Status & Funding Information		Status	FISCAL YEAR	TOTAL PHASE COST	BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL PHASE COST BY FUNDING SOURCE			
					FEDERAL	STATE	BONDS	LOCAL/PRIVATE
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)	AUTH	2016	**$39,420,000**	~~$31,536,000~~	~~$7,884,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	Local Participation	AUTH	2017	**$1,000,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$1,000,000~~
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)	AUTH	2017	**$19,660,000**	~~$15,728,000~~	~~$3,932,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	Local Participation	AUTH	2018	**$11,000,000**	~~$0,000~~	~~$11,000,000~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)	AUTH	2018	**$47,943,634**	~~$38,354,907~~	~~$9,588,727~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	AUTH	2018	**$94,055,261**	~~$75,244,209~~	~~$18,811,052~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	Repurposed Earmark (RPF0)	AUTH	2018	**$253,938**	~~$203,150~~	~~$50,788~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	Repurposed Earmark (RPS0)	AUTH	2018	**$2,249,750**	~~$1,799,800~~	~~$449,950~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	Transportation Funding Act (HB 170)	AUTH	2018	**$3,768,831**	~~$0,000~~	~~$3,768,831~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)	AUTH	2019	**$54,116,571**	~~$43,293,257~~	~~$10,823,314~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~

? For additional information about this project, please call (404) 463-3100 or email transportation@atlantaregional.com.

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CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	AUTH	2019	**$70,327,821**	~~$56,262,257~~	~~$14,065,564~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)	AUTH	2020	**$50,404,423**	~~$40,323,538~~	~~$10,080,885~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	AUTH	2020	**$80,340,128**	~~$64,272,102~~	~~$16,068,026~~	~~$0,000~~	~~$0,000~~
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)		2021	**$50,908,466**	$42,861,857	$8,046,609	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)		2021	**$59,209,107**	$59,209,107	$0,000	$0,000	$0,000
CST	National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)		2022	**$22,949,588**	$18,359,670	$4,589,918	$0,000	$0,000
				$607,607,518	**$487,447,854**	**$119,159,664**	**$0,000**	**$1,000,000**

SCP: Scoping PE: Preliminary engineering / engineering / design / planning PE-OV: GDOT oversight services for engineering ROW: Right-of-way Acquistion
UTL: Utility relocation CST: Construction / Implementation ALL: Total estimated cost, inclusive of all phases