

# I-85 Widening Project

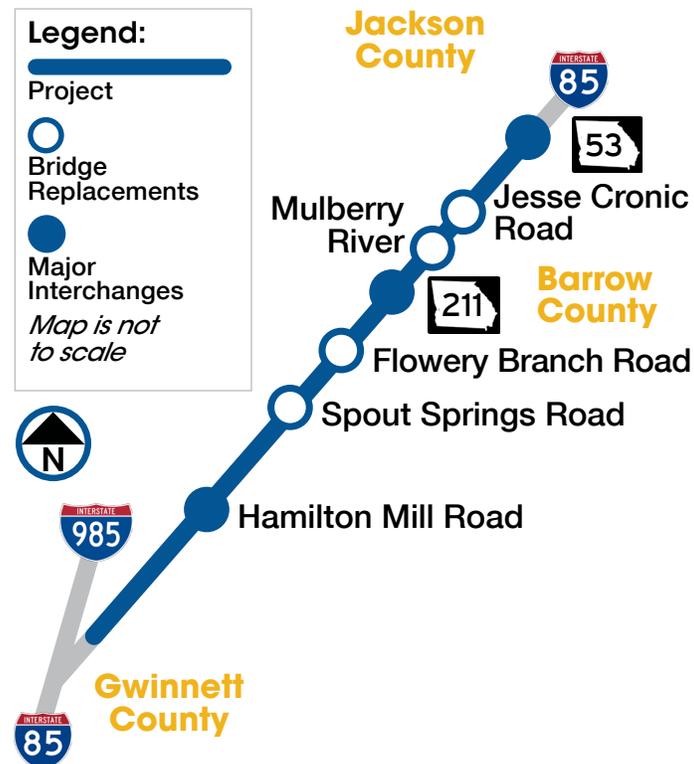
I-985 to SR 53 – PI 110610

## Frequently Asked Questions

## Project Overview

### About the Project

The I-85 Widening, Phase 1 corridor improvements will provide relief to motorists in a heavily congested area of metro Atlanta by widening I-85 from two to three lanes in both directions from I-985 to State Road (SR) 53. Additional work on the project includes replacing three overpass bridges along I-85. The project reached Substantial Completion in July 2020.



### What is the MMIP?

The Major Mobility Investment Program, or MMIP, is a grouping of projects expected to yield a significant reduction in congestion along key freight and passenger corridors. The projects will create additional capacity, improve the movement of freight provide operational improvements and efficiencies, enhance safety, and decrease travel times. More information on the MMIP is located at <http://www.dot.ga.gov/IS/MMIP>.

### What are the Project details?

The I-85 Widening, Phase 1 project consisted of:

- Expanding the interstate from two to three lanes by adding one lane in each direction in the existing median

- Replacing the grass median with a paved shoulder and median barrier
- Replacing three existing overpass bridges along I-85 at Sprout Springs Road, Flowery Branch Road, and Jesse Cronic Road
- Upgrading signing, striping, and the guardrail

### What are Georgia DOT's goals for this Project?

The I-85 Widening Project will reduce congestion on I-85 in Gwinnett, Barrow, and Jackson Counties. The project is part of Georgia DOT's Major Mobility Investment Program (MMIP), which includes large-scale projects that will build a better Georgia by enhancing mobility and safety, fueling economic growth, and improving Georgians' quality of life.

## Project Delivery Method

### What is the schedule for the Project?

Georgia DOT has selected the design-build team, C.W. Matthews Contracting Co., that will design and construct the project using an accelerated process. The project reached Substantial Completion in July 2020.

### What are the construction hours?

The project reached Substantial Completion in July 2020; however, some lane closures may still take place. Construction will take place during the day, evenings, and weekends. Nighttime construction is anticipated, and activities will be posted on the project website at <http://www.dot.ga.gov/BS/Projects/SpecialProjects/I85WideningI985SR53>.

### What improvements will the traveling public see?

The project adds new lane miles on I-85 in metro Atlanta, projected to reduce delay by 56% on I-85 between SR 53 and US 129.\* The completed project is expected to add highway capacity for over 100,000 vehicles. The improvements will reduce traffic congestion and improve safety in the area.

## What are the traffic impacts?

The project reached Substantial Completion in July 2020; however, some lane closures may still take place. Travelers will experience lane closures along the project corridor and detours when the bridge replacements are underway. Georgia DOT works diligently to minimize impacts to travelers, commuters, and businesses.

The project team will communicate proactively with stakeholders, the media, transit agencies, and local organizations about any lane changes and closures in advance of construction activity. These construction notices will be communicated through the project webpage, Georgia NaviGator 511, social media, and traditional media.

## What happens if a vehicle stalls, breaks down, or has an accident in the construction corridor?

Shoulders are available on the I-85 Widening Project corridor, so a driver can safely pull out of the lane in the event a vehicle stalls or breaks down. HERO units will be patrolling the area to help motorists and move vehicles.

## Stay Connected

### How do I stay informed about the Project?

Georgia DOT will provide regular updates through the project website (<http://www.dot.ga.gov/BS/Projects/SpecialProjects/I85WideningI985SR53>), Georgia NaviGator 511, social media, newsletters, media announcements, and community outreach events. By bookmarking the project webpage to phones/tablets and computers, travelers can stay updated throughout the project duration.

To be added to the project distribution list to receive updates, please email [85Widening@dot.ga.gov](mailto:85Widening@dot.ga.gov).

<http://www.dot.ga.gov/BS/Projects/SpecialProjects/I85WideningI985SR53>

[85Widening@dot.ga.gov](mailto:85Widening@dot.ga.gov) (sign up for updates)  
404-347-0185 (voicemail)

### Georgia Department of Transportation

One Georgia Center | 600 West Peachtree Street NW  
Atlanta, GA 30308

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