



## *Schuster Enterprises, Inc.*

A member of the Burger King family since 1967

December 15, 2023

The Honorable Burt Jones

Lieutenant Governor

240 State Capital

Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Lieutenant Governor,

As Chairman of the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act, I am writing this letter pursuant to OCGA 48-8-251.

Enclosed is the update on the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel consisting of a letter from Kenneth Franks, TIA Administrator as a cover along with a copy of the Annual Project Status Report and minutes of the three meetings of the Review Panel for your review.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to express our appreciation to GDOT personnel for another successful year of service, support and results to the River Valley Region. The end of 2023 marks the eleventh year of TIA 1 and the Review Panel couldn't be more excited over the projects that have been completed during TIA 1. As of the end of this year, 17 of the approved 23 projects have been completed with the remaining 6 at some stage of the process. These 6 will complete in the next 5 years as was originally planned. During a portion of the TIA 1 program there were many obstacles which the team has overcome including serious supply chain issues and significant timing issues relating to the acquisition of right-of-way. In every instance, the GDOT team has delivered the project professionally and timely. Thank you for your support of The Transportation Investment Act and everything you do for our great state each day.

Sincerely,

Todd A Schuster

Chairman



3530 Macon Road • Post Office Box 12029 • Columbus, Georgia 31917-2029

706-563-3066



## *Schuster Enterprises, Inc.*

A member of the Burger King family since 1967

December 15, 2023

The Honorable Jon Burns  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
332 State Capital  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Speaker Burns,

As Chairman of the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act, I am writing this letter pursuant to OCGA 48-8-251.

Enclosed is the update on the River Valley Region Citizens Review Panel consisting of a letter from Kenneth Franks, TIA Administrator as a cover along with a copy of the Annual Project Status Report and minutes of the three meetings of the Review Panel for your review.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to express our appreciation to GDOT personnel for another successful year of service, support and results to the River Valley Region. The end of 2023 marks the eleventh year of TIA 1 and the Review Panel couldn't be more excited over the projects that have been completed during TIA 1. As of the end of this year, 17 of the approved 23 projects have been completed with the remaining 6 at some stage of the process. These 6 will complete in the next 5 years as was originally planned. During a portion of the TIA 1 program there were many obstacles which the team has overcome including serious supply chain issues and significant timing issues relating to the acquisition of right-of-way. In every instance, the GDOT team has delivered the project professionally and timely. Thank you for your support of The Transportation Investment Act and everything you do for our great state each day.

Sincerely,

Todd A Schuster

Chairman



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706-563-3066



**Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner**  
One Georgia Center  
600 West Peachtree Street, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
(404) 631-1000 Main Office

December 5, 2023

Citizens Review Panel (CRP) Members  
Mr. Todd Schuster, Chairman  
River Valley Special District

RE: Transportation Investment Act (TIA) of 2010 - TIA 1: 2013 - 2022

Dear Citizens Review Panel Members:

The Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) presents the attached annual update through calendar year 2023 on the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 for the River Valley Special District. This particular report will contain information pertaining to projects in the TIA 1: 2013 – 2022 investment list only. The Transportation Investment Act of 2010 legislation requires submittal of an annual report by the CRP to the legislators by December 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

While no projects were completed in 2023, to date 17 TIA 1 projects have been completed in River Valley, five are currently under construction and one is in an operations phase.

TIA 1 construction activity in River Valley has remained steady throughout 2023. With all of TIA 1's revenue data now finalized through 2022, total receipts at the end of the decade were 13.8% less than original projections. Even so, all TIA projects are still on track to be delivered by both the Georgia DOT and our valued local government partners due to the continued cost savings and project management strategies we implemented to mitigate the effects of the prolonged revenue shortfall and other challenges that occurred throughout the term.

Please let me know if you need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Franks", is written over a light blue circular graphic element that is part of the signature.

Kenneth Franks  
State TIA Administrator

Enclosure: Annual Project Status Report, Annual Report, Completed Projects Report, and CRP Meeting Minutes

cc: Diana Pope, Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission  
Jim Livingston, River Valley Regional Commission

**River Valley**  
**Annual Project Status Report**  
Status on November 10, 2023

Band	Project ID	County	GDOT ID	Description	Project Phase	Project Let By
01	RC08-000017	Dooly	PI-0011428	US 41 - Passing Lanes and Traffic Signals	Finance Closed	TIA Let
01	RC08-000054	Muscogee	PI-0011433	Columbus River Walk	Finance Closed	Local Let
01	RC08-000062	Muscogee	PI-0011437	US 27/Custer Road Interchange Reconstruction/Modification at Fort Benning	Complete	TIA Let
01	RC08-000058	Muscogee	PI-0012579	South Lumpkin Multi-Use Facility	Finance Closed	Local Let
01	RC08-000068	Randolph	PI-422235-	SR 1/US 27 Widening from CR 153/Carnegie Vilulah Rd to Cuthbert Bypass	Finance Closed	GDOT - OPD Let
01	RC08-000065	Randolph	PI-431530-	Bridge Replacement SR 1/US 27 @ Ga/Ala RR	Complete	GDOT - OPD Let
01	RC08-000084	Sumter	PI-0011438	Improvements to South Georgia Tech Parkway	Finance Closed	TIA Let
01	RC08-000097	Talbot	PI-0011440	Pobiddy Rd Resurfacing and Improvements	Finance Closed	TIA Let
02	RC08-000012	Crisp	PI-0012578	US Hwy 280 Bridge Reconstruction over Lake Blackshear	Finance Closed	TIA Let
02	RC08-000022	Harris	PI-0011430	SR 103 passing lane from MP 11.8 to Troup County Line	Finance Closed	TIA Let
02	RC08-000035	Macon	PI-0007042	Replace the State Route 128 Bridge over Whitewater Creek	Finance Closed	TIA Let
02	RC08-000032	Macon	PI-0011431	Passing Lanes for State Route 224	Complete	TIA Let
02	RC08-000060	Muscogee	PI-0001812	SR 219 Passing Lanes from Luther Land Bridge to Happy Hollow Road Improvements	Complete	TIA Let
02	RC08-000057	Muscogee	PI-0011436	Intersection Improvements along Buena Vista Road (Columbus Spider Web Network)	Construction	Local Let
02	RC08-000052	Muscogee	PI-0012577	Buena Vista Road Interchange	Construction	TIA Let
02	RC08-000091	Sumter	PI-0011439	District Line Road Improvements	Finance Closed	TIA Let
02	RC08-000102	Taylor	PI-0011441	Bickley Rd. at Patsiligia Creek Tributary Bridge Replacement	Finance Closed	TIA Let
03	RC08-000010	Crisp	PI-422470-	U.S. 280 Widening from Crisp County Line to SR 300 Connector	Construction	TIA Let
03	RC08-000021	Harris	PI-0006446	SR 1/US 27 Widening from Turnberry Lane/Muscogee to SR 315	Construction	TIA Let
03	RC08-000019	Harris	PI-0011429	SR 1/US 27 Northbound Passing Lane	Complete	TIA Let
03	RC08-000045	Macon	PI-0011432	Widening of East Railroad Street	Finance Closed	TIA Let
03	RC08-000055	Muscogee	PI-0011434	Cusseta and Old Cusseta Road Improvements	Construction	TIA Let
Multiple	RC08-000056	Muscogee	PI-0011435	Intercity Express Bus Park-N-Ride Service	Operations	Local Let
Multiple		Regional	PI-A000626	Program Administration		

11/28/2023

12:14:29 PM

**River Valley**  
**Annual Report - TIA Funds Only**  
Report covers: November 19, 2022 - November 10, 2023

Project ID	County	Band	GDOT ID	Description	Original Estimated Cost	Current Estimated Cost	Prior Years	Current Year	Corrective Action Required?	Comments
RC08-000017	Dooly	01	PI-0011428	US 41 - Passing Lanes and Traffic Signals	\$6,930,000	\$4,261,316	\$4,261,316	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000054	Muscogee	01	PI-0011433	Columbus River Walk	\$10,000,000	\$10,002,605	\$10,002,605	\$0	Yes	Project exceeded original estimated cost. GDOT managed costs to keep overruns at a minimum.
RC08-000062	Muscogee	01	PI-0011437	US 27/Custer Road Interchange Reconstruction/Modification at Fort Benning	\$20,000,000	\$17,613,393	\$17,613,393	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000058	Muscogee	01	PI-0012579	South Lumpkin Multi-Use Facility	\$3,500,000	\$3,490,773	\$3,490,773	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000068	Randolph	01	PI-422235-	SR 1/US 27 Widening from CR 153/Carnegie Vilulah Rd to Cuthbert Bypass	\$31,742,135	\$28,939,353	\$28,939,353	\$0	No	Blended Project (State Funds) - Total Project Cost \$32,691,703
RC08-000065	Randolph	01	PI-431530-	Bridge Replacement SR 1/US 27 @ Ga/Ala RR	\$813,177	\$991,568	\$991,568	\$0	Yes	Blended Project - Total Project Cost \$1,552,894. Project was let with PI-422235- as a single contract. Project exceeded original estimated cost. GDOT managed costs to keep overruns at a minimum
RC08-000084	Sumter	01	PI-0011438	Improvements to South Georgia Tech Parkway	\$15,000,000	\$10,474,419	\$10,474,419	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000097	Talbot	01	PI-0011440	Pobiddy Rd Resurfacing and Improvements	\$3,325,000	\$2,184,435	\$2,184,435	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000012	Crisp	02	PI-0012578	US Hwy 280 Bridge Reconstruction over Lake Blackshear	\$30,000,000	\$21,644,837	\$21,644,837	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000022	Harris	02	PI-0011430	SR 103 passing lane from MP 11.8 to Troup County Line	\$4,479,598	\$4,586,098	\$4,586,098	\$0	Yes	Blended Project (State Funds) - Total Project Cost \$4,876,434. Project exceeded original estimated cost. GDOT managed costs to keep overruns at a minimum
RC08-000035	Macon	02	PI-0007042	Replace the State Route 128 Bridge over Whitewater Creek	\$2,500,000	\$2,190,807	\$2,190,807	\$0	No	Blended Project (State Funds) - Total Project Cost \$7,824,481
RC08-000032	Macon	02	PI-0011431	Passing Lanes for State Route 224	\$6,875,000	\$5,337,715	\$5,337,715	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000060	Muscogee	02	PI-0001812	SR 219 Passing Lanes from Luther Land Bridge to Happy Hollow Road Improvements	\$17,690,438	\$10,389,158	\$10,227,226	\$134,806	No	Blended Project (State Funds) - Total Project Cost \$15,389,158
RC08-000057	Muscogee	02	PI-0011436	Intersection Improvements along Buena Vista Road (Columbus Spider Web Network)	\$40,000,000	\$45,000,000	\$17,259,699	\$1,660,768	No	Blended Project (State Funds) - Total Project Cost \$47,000,000. Inflation applied to Original Estimated Cost; updated Project Budget \$45,000,000.
RC08-000052	Muscogee	02	PI-0012577	Buena Vista Road Interchange	\$47,670,000	\$52,730,628	\$30,379,484	\$6,150,698	No	Inflation applied to Original Estimated Cost; updated Project Budget \$52,730,628
RC08-000091	Sumter	02	PI-0011439	District Line Road Improvements	\$10,000,000	\$9,736,489	\$9,736,489	\$0	No	Blended Project - Total Project Cost \$10,136,489
RC08-000102	Taylor	02	PI-0011441	Bickley Rd. at Patsiligia Creek Tributary Bridge Replacement	\$500,000	\$291,662	\$291,662	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000010	Crisp	03	PI-422470-	U.S. 280 Widening from Crisp County Line to SR 300 Connector	\$32,899,573	\$27,899,573	\$11,570,061	\$10,069,846	No	Blended Project - Total Project Cost \$34,374,360
RC08-000021	Harris	03	PI-0006446	SR 1/US 27 Widening from Turnberry Lane/Muscogee to SR 315	\$20,000,000	\$32,088,820	\$7,039,740	\$2,069,886	No	Blended Project - Total Project Cost \$69,723,389. Inflation applied to Original Estimated Cost; updated Project Budget \$32,088,820.
RC08-000019	Harris	03	PI-0011429	SR 1/US 27 Northbound Passing Lane	\$2,950,973	\$2,809,907	\$2,809,907	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000045	Macon	03	PI-0011432	Widening of East Railroad Street	\$209,424	\$191,874	\$191,874	\$0	No	N/A
RC08-000055	Muscogee	03	PI-0011434	Cusseta and Old Cusseta Road Improvements	\$58,269,412	\$66,899,575	\$20,992,421	\$4,177,425	No	Blended Project (State Funds) - Total Project Cost \$71,899,575. Inflation applied to Original Estimated Cost; updated Project Budget \$66,899,575.
RC08-000056	Muscogee	Multiple	PI-0011435	Intercity Express Bus Park-N-Ride Service	\$22,400,000	\$22,400,000	\$13,361,347	\$2,990,105	No	N/A
	Regional	Multiple	PI-A000626	Program Administration	\$5,676,751	\$312,526	\$5,477,563	\$1,512,500	No	Program Admin - Total Project Cost \$10,049,053
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$393,431,481</b>	<b>\$382,467,532</b>	<b>\$241,054,792</b>	<b>\$28,766,035</b>		

**River Valley Regional Commission  
Citizen Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act  
TIA-1 Meeting Minutes  
Columbus, Georgia  
August 15, 2023  
10:30 A.M.**

**TIA CRP Members**

Todd Schuster, Chairman  
Joseph Brannan, Secretary  
Kathy Carlisle

**City of Columbus**

Lynda Temples, Planning

**RVRC**

Jim Livingston, Executive Director  
John Morgan, Regional Planner

**GDOT**

Kenneth Franks, GDOT, TIA Administrator  
William Eastin, GDOT, TIA Regional Coordinator  
Penny Brooks  
Jason Floyd

**Others**

Cathy Williams, GDOT Board Member  
Rayetta Volley, Sumter Co. Administrator  
Jimbo Littlefield, Sumter Co. Public Works

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**Call to Order and Welcome**

Todd Schuster, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes\***

Joseph Brannan presented the December 6, 2022 minutes.

Kathy Carlisle made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Schuster seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Revenue Collections and Cash Flow of Projects**

Kenneth Franks, TIA Administrator, gave the update to the Citizen's Review Panel on the final TIA-1 collections and timeline.

Mr. Franks noted that the TIA-1 program collected \$512,301,207 through the end of the 10 years of the program. This was behind the original forecasts by 13.8%, but revenue forecasts were behind forecasts by as much as 19.2% in June of 2019. There was some discussion about the work done earlier to mitigate this anticipated shortfall to the program.

Ms. Carlisle asked about contingencies and what happens to the final projects that are currently being constructed. Mr. Franks responded that concerted efforts to manage the program and deliver projects on budget and early provided what was expected to be sufficient budget for the remaining projects. Funding was being supplemented by GDOT for certain projects such as

US 27 widening. He also noted that any remaining funds at the end of the program would be dispersed back to the local governments using the LARP formula for distribution.

The timeline for projects through TIA-1 will continue through 2027. This is for project construction and financial close-out. Other regions will be through the final close-out process prior to River Valley which will provide some help in determining steps and process for our region.

Of the 23 construction projects in River Valley, 4 are under construction and one is to be awarded by GDOT. 12 projects are financially closed. Including GDOT contribution for projects, \$410,754,730 million is available for projects (this is a final number) and \$248,409,060 has been expended.

### **Update on Current Projects**

William Eastin, TIA Regional Coordinator, spoke about the projects that are in construction.

US 27 widening in Harris and Muscogee Counties will be awarded with a Notice to Proceed (NTP) issued at the end of April. Property acquisition continues on this corridor with 125 of 180 parcels acquired. Construction will begin on the south end of the project where most parcels have been acquired and continue north. Land clearing needs to be completed by September because of concern about the Tri-Color Bat nesting in forested areas. This project should be completed in 3 years from the NTP.

Construction updates were given for Buena Vista /I-185 Interchange. CW Mathews is the contractor and based on pay draws, the project is 38% complete. It is expected to be completed in June, 2024. There was some discussion on the Divergent Diamond Interchange (DDI) and the impact it will have on the flow of traffic.

US Hwy 280 construction continues in Crisp County with an expected completion date of October, 2023.

Robinson Paving was the low bidder on the Old Cusseta Rd @ I-185 interchange for \$39,683,951. One railroad property remains for Right of Way acquisition. There are asbestos issues with the old Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church property that will need environmental clearance. Clearing and construction has begun on this project.

The Spiderweb construction has been split into two phases. It is currently being administered by the City of Columbus. GDOT will assume administration of the construction process from the city once the project has been successfully bid. Phase 1 is substantively complete and phase 2 will be readvertised with new specs to potentially lower the cost.

Funding for METRA as an ongoing operation continues. The park and ride facility is under construction.

There were no further questions from Board Members or members of the public.

Meetings for the remainder of 2023 will be as follows:

August 15 at 10:30 AM in Columbus (RVRC Office)

December 5 at 10:30 AM in Cordele (South Georgia Technical College – Tentative)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



**River Valley Regional Commission  
Citizen Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act  
TIA-1 Meeting Minutes  
Columbus, Georgia  
August 15, 2023  
10:30 A.M.**

**TIA CRP Members**

Todd Schuster, Chairman  
Joseph Brannan, Secretary  
Kathy Carlisle

**RVRC**

Jim Livingston, Executive Director  
Naomi Masuoka, Student Intern

**GDOT**

Kenneth Franks, GDOT, TIA Administrator  
William Eastin, GDOT, TIA Regional Coordinator  
Penny Brooks  
Jason Floyd

**Others**

Cathy Williams, GDOT Board Member  
John Renfroe, City of Columbus

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**Call to Order and Welcome**

Todd Schuster, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Joseph Brannan presented the April 11, 2023 minutes.

Mr. Schuster made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Kathy Carlisle seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Revenue Collections Final Report**

Kenneth Franks, TIA Administrator, gave the update to the Citizen's Review Panel on the final TIA-1 collections and timeline.

Mr. Franks noted that there was no change in the final TIA-1 program collections of \$512,301,207 through the end of the 10 years of the program.

The timeline for projects through TIA-1 is still expected to continue through 2027. This is for project construction and financial close-out.

Of the 23 construction projects in River Valley, 5 are still under construction. Including GDOT contribution for projects, \$410,754,730 million is available for projects (this is a final number) and \$261,149,268 has been expended.

Mr. Franks also noted that staff will be able to transition to TIA 2 projects.

### **Update on Current Projects**

William Eastin, TIA Regional Coordinator, spoke about the projects that are in construction.

The projected start date of the US 27 widening in Harris and Muscogee Counties is August 15, 2023. Construction will begin on the south end of the project where most parcels have been acquired and continue north. There was some discussion on the increase of homes being built in North Columbus areas that demonstrates a need for this construction due to more traffic. This project should be completed about 40 months from the Notice to Proceed (NTP).

Construction updates were given for the Buena Vista Road Divergent Diamond Interchange (DDI). Traffic will be moved to the new bridge as a demo begins on the remaining bridge. It is expected to be completed in June 2024.

The Old Cusseta Road @ I-185 Interchange project has just begun. It is estimated to take about 36 months to complete.

The US Hwy 280 construction continues in Crisp County with an expected completion date in the year 2024.

The Spider Web construction is split into two phases Phase 1 is substantially complete. Phase 2 bids have been rejected and will be readvertised with new specs to potentially lower the cost. This project bid is being managed by the City of Columbus.

Operations and maintenance are ongoing for METRA, and substantial progress has been made. The parking lot is now paved and striped.

There were no further questions from board members or members of the public.

The final meeting in 2023 will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in Columbus.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**River Valley Regional Commission  
Citizen Review Panel for the Transportation Investment Act  
TIA-1 Meeting Minutes  
Columbus, Georgia  
December 5, 2023  
10:30 A.M.**

**TIA CRP Members**

Todd Schuster, Chairman  
Joseph Brannan, Secretary  
Kathy Carlisle

**RVRC**

Jim Livingston, Executive Director  
Naomi Masuoka, Student Intern  
Allison Slocum, Assistant Planning Director  
Mariyana Kostov, GIS Manager

**GDOT**

Kenneth Franks, GDOT, TIA Administrator  
William Eastin, GDOT, TIA Regional Coordinator  
Penny Brooks  
Aynsley O'Brian  
Jason Floyd

**Others**

Cathy Williams, GDOT Board Member  
Will Johnson, City of Columbus  
Vance Beck, City of Columbus  
Greg Gantt, Harris County Commissioner  
Harry Lange, Harris County

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**Call to Order and Welcome**

Todd Schuster, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Joseph Brannan presented the August 15, 2023 minutes.

Kathy Carlisle made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Todd Schuster seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Revenue Collections Overview**

Kenneth Franks, TIA Administrator, reminded the Citizen's Review Panel on the final TIA-1 collections and timeline. Total collected amount in TIA-1 was \$512,301,207 through the end of the 10 years of the program.

The timeline for projects through TIA-1 may extend beyond 2027 for project construction and financial close-out of all projects in TIA-1.

Of the 23 construction projects in River Valley, 5 are still under construction. The METRA project continues to be locally managed.

**Update on Current Projects**

William Eastin, TIA Regional Coordinator, spoke about the projects that are in construction.

US 27 widening in Harris and Muscogee Counties is currently in the clearing phase. Clearing of right-of-way has begun on the south end of the project and will continue north. There remain a small number of properties to acquire, including property at the US Post Office which will require approval from Washington, DC.

Construction updates were given for the Buena Vista Road Divergent Diamond Interchange (DDI). The bridge and ramp work is in progress. Traffic will be moved to the new bridge as a demo begins on the remaining bridge. It is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

The Old Cusseta Road @ I-185 Interchange project is underway. The roads and ramps are being graded. Clearing and utility relocations are underway, and there are some wall design challenges to be worked through regarding the sewer and water lines.

The US Hwy 280 construction continues in Crisp County. Final items are being coordinated with Veterans Memorial Park, and guardrail extensions are in progress. The expected completion date is mid-2024.

The Spider Web construction updates remain the same. The construction is split into two phases. Phase 1 is substantially complete, but Phase 2 bids have been rejected and have been readvertised with new specs to lower the cost. This project bid is being managed by the City of Columbus. The construction will be managed by the GDOT TIA office.

Operations and maintenance are ongoing for METRA. The Park and Ride facility is now complete.

### **End of Year Reporting**

Kenneth Franks presented the Annual Project Status Report for TIA 1 in 2023. Joseph Brannan made a motion to approve the Report. Todd Schuster seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There were no further questions from board members or members of the public.

The first meeting in 2024 will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Columbus.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.