

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 326; 42 U.S.C. 4331, 4332; 23 CFR 771.117.

Sean McMaster,

Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

[Docket No. FHWA–2026–0959]

Application From the State of Georgia to the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program and Proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Assigning Environmental Responsibilities to the State

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed MOU and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that FHWA received and reviewed an application from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) requesting participation in the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program (Program). This Program allows for FHWA to assign, and States to assume, responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and all or part of FHWA's responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other actions required under any Federal environmental law with respect to one or more Federal highway projects within the State. FHWA has determined the application to be complete and developed a draft MOU with GDOT outlining how the State would implement the Program with FHWA oversight. FHWA invites the public to comment on GDOT's request, including its application and the proposed MOU, which includes the proposed assignments and assumptions of environmental review, consultation, and other activities.

DATES: Please submit comments by November 2, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To ensure you do not duplicate your docket submissions, please submit them by only one of the following means:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, West Building

Ground Floor Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.

Hand Delivery: West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (E.T.), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the Agency name and docket number at the beginning of your comments. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For FHWA: Sabrina David by email at Sabrina.David@dot.gov, by telephone at 404–562–3630. FHWA Georgia Division Office's normal business hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (E. T.), Monday–Friday, except for Federal holidays.

For GDOT: Amber Phillips by email at aphillips@dot.ga.gov or by telephone at 404–631–1100. State business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (E. T.), Monday–Friday, except Federal and State holidays, although State holidays may not completely coincide with Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

You may submit or retrieve comments online through the Federal eRulemaking portal at: www.regulations.gov. The website is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. Please follow the instructions. Electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines are available under the help section of the website.

An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's home page at: www.federalregister.gov and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's web page at: www.gpo.gov.

Background

On September 2, 2026, FHWA received an application and supplementary materials from GDOT requesting participation in the Program. Under the Program, pursuant to Section 327 of Title 23, United States Code (U.S.C.), the Secretary of the DOT is allowed to assign, and a State to assume, the responsibilities under the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and all or part of the responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other actions required under certain Federal environmental laws with respect to one or more Federal-aid highway projects within the State. FHWA is authorized to act on behalf of the Secretary with respect to these matters and implements

this authority through execution of a MOU with the State.

Under the proposed initial MOU with the State of Georgia, FHWA would assign to the State, through GDOT, its responsibility of making project-level decisions in relation to NEPA on highway projects within the State of Georgia that are proposed to be funded with Title 23 funds or otherwise require FHWA approval, and that require preparation of a categorical exclusion (CE) determination, environmental assessment, or environmental impact statement with the exception of the following: (1) Federal Lands Highway projects authorized under 23 U.S.C. 202, 203, or 204, unless such projects will be designed and constructed by GDOT; (2) projects that cross State boundaries; (3) projects that cross or are adjacent to international boundaries; (4) Recreational Trails projects under 23 U.S.C. 206; (5) Project DeRenne which includes the following Project Identifier (PI): (i) PI 0008358; West DeRenne/Hampstead Avenue Connector, (ii) PI 0008359; East DeRenne from Abercorn Street to Harry S. Truman Parkway, (iii) PI 0010236; State Route (SR) 21 From CS 346/Mildred Street to SR 204; (6) Projects advanced by direct recipients of Federal aid highway funds other than GDOT, including but not limited to: (i) Competitive grant programs, (ii) Direct recipient Tribal project, and (iii) Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Credit Program.

The assignment would give the State the responsibility to conduct environmental review, consultation, and other related activities for project delivery including, but not limited to the following laws and requirements:

Air Quality

- Clean Air Act (CAA), 42 U.S.C. 7401–7671q, with the exception of any project level conformity determinations (42 U.S.C. 7506)

Noise

- Noise Control Act of 1972, 42 U.S.C. 4901–4918
- FHWA noise regulations in 23 CFR Part 772

Fisheries and Wildlife

- Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. 1531–1544
- Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 1361–1423h
- Anadromous Fish Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 757a–757f
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 U.S.C. 661–667d
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 U.S.C. 703–712

- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 668–668d
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1801–1891d, with Essential Fish Habitat requirements at 16 U.S.C. 1855(b)(2)

Historic and Cultural Resources

- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, 54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*
- Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 [Section 4(f)], 23 U.S.C. 138, 49 U.S.C. 303 and implementing regulations at 23 CFR Part 774
- Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, 16 U.S.C. 470(aa)–470(mm)
- Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3001–3013; 18 U.S.C. 1170
- Archeological and Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 312501–312508

Social and Economic Impacts

- American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. 1996
- Farmland Protection Policy Act, 7 U.S.C. 4201–4209

Water Resources and Wetlands

- Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251–1387
- Coastal Barrier Resources Act, 16 U.S.C. 3501–3510
- Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1451–1466
- Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f–300j–26
- General Bridge Act of 1946, 33 U.S.C. 525–533
- Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. 401–406
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 U.S.C. 1271–1287
- Emergency Wetlands Resources Act, 16 U.S.C. 3901 and 3921
- Wetlands Mitigation, 23 U.S.C. 119(g), 133(b)(14)
- Flood Disaster Protection Act, 42 U.S.C. 4001–4130
- FHWA wetland and natural habitat mitigation regulations, 23 CFR Part 777

Parklands and Other Special Uses

- Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 [Section 4(f)], 23 U.S.C. 138, 49 U.S.C. 303 and implementing regulations at 23 CFR Part 774
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, 54 U.S.C. 200302–200310

FHWA-Specific

- Planning and Environmental Linkages, 23 U.S.C. 168, with the

exception of those FHWA responsibilities associated with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135

- Programmatic Mitigation Plans, 23 U.S.C. 169 with the exception of those FHWA responsibilities associated with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135

The Secretary's responsibilities for government-to-government consultation with Indian Tribes, as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(m), are not assigned to or assumed by GDOT under the proposed MOU. FHWA will retain responsibility for conducting formal government-to-government consultation with federally recognized Indian Tribes. GDOT will conduct routine consultation with Indian Tribes and understands that an Indian Tribe has the right for government-to-government consultation with FHWA upon request.

Nothing in the proposed MOU shall be construed to permit GDOT's assumption of the Secretary's responsibilities for conformity determinations required by Section 176 of the CAA (42 U.S.C. 7506) or any responsibility under 23 U.S.C. 134 or 135, or under 49 U.S.C. 5303 or 5304.

The assignment under this part does not alter the scope and terms of the proposed CE Assignment MOU under 23 U.S.C. 326 between GDOT and FHWA published in the **Federal Register** for public review and comment concurrently with this MOU. As applicable, GDOT will conduct all environmental reviews authorized under the terms of that MOU when fully executed.

On the cover page of all environmental analyses prepared under the authority granted by this MOU, GDOT shall insert the following language in a way that is conspicuous to the reader, or include it in a CE project record: The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by GDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a MOU dated [MMDDYYYY] and executed by FHWA and GDOT.

GDOT will also disclose to the public, agencies and Tribes as part of agency outreach and public involvement procedures, the above disclosure.

GDOT will not make any determination that an action constitutes a constructive use of a Section 4(f) property under 49 U.S.C. 303 and 23 U.S.C. 138 without first consulting with FHWA and obtaining FHWA's approval of such determination.

A copy of the proposed MOU may be viewed on the docket at www.regulations.gov, as described

above, or may be obtained by contacting FHWA or the State at the addresses provided above. A copy also may be viewed on GDOT's website at www.dot.ga.gov/GDOT/Pages/NEPAAssignment.aspx.

FHWA Georgia Division, in consultation with FHWA Headquarters, will consider the comments submitted when making its decision on the proposed MOU. FHWA and GDOT may revise the MOU based on substantive comments and will make the final MOU available to the public.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this Program.)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Notice of OFAC Sanctions Action

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of one or more persons that have been placed on OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List) based on OFAC's determination that one or more applicable legal criteria were satisfied. All property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of these persons are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with them.

DATES: This action was issued on September 29, 2026. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for relevant dates.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OFAC: Associate Director for Global Targeting, 202–622–2420; Assistant Director for Licensing, 202–622–2480; Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance, 202–622–2490 or <https://ofac.treasury.gov/contact-ofac>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

The SDN List and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions