



For Immediate Release
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Get Georgia Moving Launches Public Engagement Campaign With Billboards and Web Site Alerts

ATLANTA – The Get Georgia Moving coalition today announced billboards in five metro Atlanta locations urging voters to make their voices heard on transportation via the group’s Web site.

“Tired of traffic?” the billboards ask. “Take action at GetGeorgiaMoving.com.”

On the site, members of the public can get engaged in a number of ways, including:

- sending e-mails to their legislators urging them to vote for transportation funding
- signing up to receive e-mail action alerts and legislative updates
- getting the latest news reports from around the state
- receiving updates on legislative developments
- making an online contribution to Get Georgia Moving

“We must pass a transportation funding bill this session that voters can support in 2010,” said Terry Chastain, executive director of Get Georgia Moving. “Atlanta has the second-worst traffic congestion in the country, and the state is next to last in funding levels for transportation. If we don’t take action, we could lose over half a trillion dollars in economic benefit.”

The coalition, which represents more than 100 groups across Georgia, including business leaders, government leaders, transit advocates, road builders and environmentalists, is widely regarded as the largest and most diverse transportation coalition in Georgia’s history.

“We’ve seen a real commitment this year from our state’s elected leadership to do something about transportation – but there is still a long way to go,” Chastain continued. “Now we’re giving Georgians an easy way to get engaged and to voice their support for action.”

Billboards are now in the following locations:

- I-285 @ South Cobb Drive, northbound

- I-75/85 on the Connector, north of Abernathy Boulevard across from Turner Field, southbound
- I-75 @ West Paces Ferry Road, northbound
- I-75 @ Delk Road, southbound
- I-85 @ Jimmy Carter Boulevard, northbound

The billboard campaign comes on the heels of a recent poll showing that across the state, an overwhelming majority of voters in both parties want lawmakers to take immediate action on transportation -- and 74 percent want the right to vote on whether to raise their sales tax by a penny to fund transportation improvements.

In addition, a McKinsey & Co. study commissioned recently by Governor Sonny Perdue found that Georgia could lose out on 320,000 new jobs and more than \$500 billion in economic benefits unless it can generate up to \$160 billion for new transportation investments over the next 20 years.

Georgia is the third fastest-growing state in the nation -- but spends less per person on transportation infrastructure than 49 of the 50 states. The state is now billions of dollars short of the funds it needs to build the infrastructure required to support Georgia's booming population. In addition, metro Atlanta has become home to the second-worst traffic congestion and the worst commutes in the nation.

The Get Georgia Moving coalition supports a meaningful, voter-approved funding mechanism that will relieve traffic congestion, ensure air quality and promote economic development. To that end, the coalition also supports efforts to optimize current revenue sources, streamline project delivery, invest in transit and all other modes of transportation, and develop innovative funding programs.

Participants in the coalition include:

- AAA Auto Club South
- American Council of Engineering Companies
- Association County Commissioners of Georgia
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development at Georgia Tech
- Central Atlanta Progress
- Citizens for Progressive Transit
- Civic League for Regional Atlanta
- Clean Air Campaign
- Community Improvement District Alliance
- Council for Quality Growth
- CSX
- C. W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc.
- Georgia Asphalt Pavement Association
- Georgia Association of Regional Development Centers
- Georgia Chamber of Commerce
- Georgia Concrete Pavement Association
- Georgia Conservancy
- Georgia Construction Aggregate Association
- Georgia Department of Transportation

- Georgia Economic Developers' Association
- Georgia Electric Membership Corporation
- Georgia Engineering Alliance
- Georgia Highway Contractors Association
- Georgia Municipal Association
- Georgia Policy and Budget Institute
- Georgia Power Company
- Georgia Railroad Association
- Georgia Regional Transportation Authority
- Georgia Transit Association
- Georgians for Better Transportation
- Georgians for the Brain Train
- Governor's Office of Highway Safety
- Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce
- HNTB Corporation
- Livable Communities Coalition
- Metro Atlanta Chamber
- Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority
- Norfolk Southern
- Regional Business Coalition
- Sierra Club
- Transit Planning Board
- Zipcar

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