

Office of Communications & Engagement 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, Suite 2200 • Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Ericka B. Davis Chief Communications Officer 404-893-3033, office 404-226-9339, cell edavis@srta.ga.gov Tiffany L. McCall Communications & Media Relations Director 404-893-3025, office 470-249-7531, cell tmccall@srta.ga.gov

For Immediate Release: October 24, 2022

SRTA To Accept Grant and Loan Applications for Transportation Infrastructure Improvement Funding

Up to \$14.5M in transportation funding available for projects statewide

ATLANTA - The State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA) announced today that up to \$14.5 million in grant and loan funding is available for local, regional, and state governments as well as community improvement districts through the Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB) program.

GTIB is a revolving infrastructure investment fund that awards loans and grants to help jumpstart or complete much-needed transportation improvement projects in Georgia. Now in its tenth round, the GTIB program continues to improve mobility and enhance communities throughout the State of Georgia. The GTIB application window opens October 24th and closes on Friday, January 20, 2023.

"The GTIB program has been an essential resource for local governments in building and supporting Georgia's transportation infrastructure for many years," said SRTA's Interim Executive Director Heather Aquino. "SRTA is pleased to support these innovative transportation solutions that have a significant impact on our growing economy and transportation needs."

Since its inception in 2010, the GTIB program has provided \$182 million in grants and loans, which has supported more than \$1 billion in total project value for transportation infrastructure improvements. GTIB has funded various projects including an interstate gateway project in Bulloch County, a road widening project in Athens-Clark County, and diverging diamond

interchanges in the Perimeter, Gwinnett Place, Jimmy Carter Boulevard and Cumberland/Cobb areas.

GTIB is a competitive program, with each loan and grant application evaluated based on transportation merit, economic merit and project specifics. For grant requests of \$2 million or more, the maximum that can be applied for is 33 percent of the total project value. There is no cap for grant requests under \$2 million, but applicants are encouraged to provide as much local match as possible for the project to be competitive. There are no caps for loan applications since the loan payback serves as the local match. Loans can be repaid with Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) funds.

Loans will receive first priority for funding as will projects for which both a loan and grant are requested. When a loan is combined with a grant the loan serves as part of the applicant's matching funds making the grant more competitive for funding. Preference for grants will be given to projects providing economic development benefits and a high degree of matching funds. SRTA will also make every effort to balance awards throughout the State.

GTIB is currently funded through state motor fuel taxes, which means applications are limited to transportation projects that are eligible to be paid for from this source of funds. Details and information on how to apply for a GTIB grant or loan can be found at <u>http://www.srta.ga.gov/gtib.</u> Final loan and grant approval is made by the SRTA Board.

About the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA)

SRTA is a state-level, independent authority created to operate tolled transportation facilities within Georgia and act as the transportation financing arm for the state. SRTA manages the collection of tolls on Georgia's Express Lanes System through the use of Peach Pass. In 2017, SRTA combined with the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) to jointly provide the services of both state authorities. The GRTA board continues to oversee developments of regional impact, air quality reporting and regional transportation plan approval.

###