



# *Gainesville - Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization*

**GHMPO**

Flowery Branch - Gainesville - Hall County - Oakwood

## **Fact Sheet on the Northern Connector Technical Study**

- The 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) serves as a placeholder for over 70 projects with timeframes ranging from short-term, mid-term, and long-term.
- Typically, projects listed in the short-term timeframe have complete or partial funding identified. Projects listed in the mid-term have minimal to no funding identified. Lastly, projects listed in the long-term have no funding identified.
- To move a mid-term or a long-term project into the short-term timeframe, an extensive citizen-based process along with approval and commitment from the respective jurisdiction is needed.
- The 2030 LRTP included a comprehensive public participation process and was approved by the GHMPO Policy Committee in August 2007. This plan includes a “Northern Connector” concept (project number: GH-066) in the long-term timeframe (referenced in the map below).
- The purpose of considering a “Northern Connector” is to address the lack of an East to West connection for traffic flow and to relieve traffic in currently and projected congested areas.
- GH-066 is the only “Northern Connector” concept listed in the 2030 LRTP document. No amendments to this concept or the 2030 LRTP have been made.
- The purpose of the Northern Connector Technical Study is to conduct preliminary technical analysis from a pure traffic flow perspective on existing roadways for the year 2030 based on the location of the connector.
- Eastern and Western termini have been identified based on the 2009 Georgia Department of Transportation’s (GDOT’s) SR 365 Corridor Study, however no route has been determined. The GDOT study identified White Sulphur Road and White Hall Road as future interchange locations on SR 365. These two locations served as the eastern termini while the Sardis Road at SR 60/Thompson Bridge Road served as the western terminus for traffic analysis only.

- The concepts presented in the PowerPoint presentation are only reference points for basic traffic analysis. They are not intended to depict routes or alignments. The only official concept listed in any of the GHMPO documents is GH-066 (referenced in the map below).
- Federal regulations mandate that our transportation plan must be updated every four-years. GHMPO needs to update the current plan before August 2011.
- Public meetings will be advertised for the upcoming 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) development process which will begin early 2010. Substantial citizen input opportunities on the “Northern Connector” concepts and several other roadway projects in Hall County and the cities will be provided to determine which ones should be planned in the next 30 years.
- Finally, any proposed roadway project would be thoroughly reviewed and analyzed by citizens, staff, and elected officials prior to any official determination being made.

