

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with GDOT for Right-of-Way Funding – Stillwell Road at Ebenezer Creek

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Department: Project Management, Procurement, Engineering

Meeting Date: April 15, 2025

Item Description: Consideration to approve an agreement with GDOT for Effingham County to contribute toward right-of-way costs for the Stillwell Road at Ebenezer Creek project and to sign a required immigration compliance certification.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the MOA with GDOT and authorization to remit \$50,000 in local funds for the ROW phase of the project, along with execution of the required Certification of Compliance with immigration-related statutes.

Executive Summary/Background:

The project at Stillwell Road @ Ebenezer Creek (PI No. 0018234) has been included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). As part of this inclusion, GDOT is requesting a local match of \$50,000 from Effingham County to support costs associated with right-of-way acquisition.

The agreement outlines that:

- The County must remit the funds to GDOT within 30 days of receiving an invoice.
- Any unused funds will be returned to the County after GDOT audit.
- Nonpayment may result in project delay or cancellation.

In addition to the funding, GDOT requires Effingham County to sign a Certification of Compliance with Annual Immigration Reporting Requirements / No Sanctuary Policy / Federal Law Enforcement Cooperation, affirming:

1. Submission of a compliant Annual Immigration Report to the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.
2. No adoption of a sanctuary policy.
3. Cooperation with federal immigration enforcement authorities.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider

1. Approve the MOA and required Certification, and authorize payment of \$50,000 to GDOT.
2. Do not Approve.

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2

Department Review: Project Management, Engineering, Procurement

Funding Source: Capital Budget FY25

Attachments: GDOT Memorandum of Agreement – PI No. 0018234, Certification of Compliance – Immigration / No Sanctuary Policy