

Staff Report

Subject: Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding – GDOT Project PI# 0020739 (I-16 Widening)

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Department: Procurement, Engineering

Meeting Date: February 17, 2026

Item Description: Consideration to ratify a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Georgia Department of Transportation for utility coordination related to the I-16 widening project.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends ratification of the signed MOU with GDOT related to water utility adjustment work associated with the I-16 Design-Build project.

Executive Summary / Background:

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is widening I-16 from SR 67 in Bulloch County to I-95 in Chatham County. As part of this project (PI# 0020739), Effingham County Water Resources (ECWR) has water facilities within the project area that may conflict with the new design.

The executed MOU establishes coordination responsibilities between GDOT, ECWR, and the design-build contractor. The County has elected to have design and construction of necessary utility relocations performed by pre-approved contractors and consultants under GDOT's contract, with the work incorporated directly into the project scope.

No costs are anticipated to fall on the County unless betterments are requested outside the scope of utility adjustment work. The executed MOU ensures the County's facilities will be protected or adjusted as needed and maintained after construction.

This item was signed to meet GDOT's deadline and is now submitted for Board ratification.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Ratify the executed MOU with GDOT.
2. Deny the agreement and provide staff with guidance.

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2

Department Review: Engineering and Procurement

Funding Source: N/A

Attachments: GDOT MOU and Utility Analysis