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For Immediate Release: Friday, August 30, 2013 **Contact:** Kimberly Larson 706.741.3439 Mobile

HARRIS COUNTY ...

GEORGIA DOT ANNOUNCES ROAD CLOSURE WITH DETOUR FOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER FLAT SHOALS CREEK

Thomaston, GA – Georgia DOT announces a detour will be installed on September 9 to facilitate the replacement of Flat Shoals Creek Bridge on SR 103. This bridge is located approximately 3 miles southwest of West Point, Georgia.

State Route 103 will be closed for approximately 9 months, beginning Monday, September 9.

An analysis of various detour options was performed to determine that the only feasible alternative was to place motorists on an offsite detour. The decision to use this option was made primarily to reduce the construction timetable for building the new bridge. The use of the offsite detour also reduces the costs of construction and right-of-way and limits environmental impacts to the area.

The proposed offsite detour consists of traffic north of the project traveling through SR 18 to reach SR 219 and traffic south of the project travelling down SR 103, which intersects SR 219 to the southeast of the project.

Each day, hundreds of Georgia Department of Transportation employees and contractors work on dozens of highway, bridge and intersection improvements throughout the state. Their work often brings them and heavy machinery in close proximity to travel lanes. Fifty-seven Georgia DOT personnel and many more motorists, passengers and contractors' workers have been killed in highway work zone accidents since 1973. Please help us prevent these tragedies by slowing down; being especially attentive and cautious as you pass through construction work zones; and always driving responsibly. Safer Driving; Safer Work Zones; For Everyone. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit <u>www.dot.ga.gov</u> or subscribe to our Press Release <u>RSS</u> <u>feed</u>. You also may follow us on <u>Facebook</u> (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) and <u>Twitter</u> (http://twitter.com/gadeptoftrans).

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Five-hundred, forty-five fewer people died on Georgia roads in 2012 than in 2005. Highway fatalities have declined in each of the seven years since 2005. The 2012 total-recently finalized in a report to federal officials-was 1,199. By comparison, 2005 deaths were a record high 1,744.

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