

Quarterly Project Newsletter

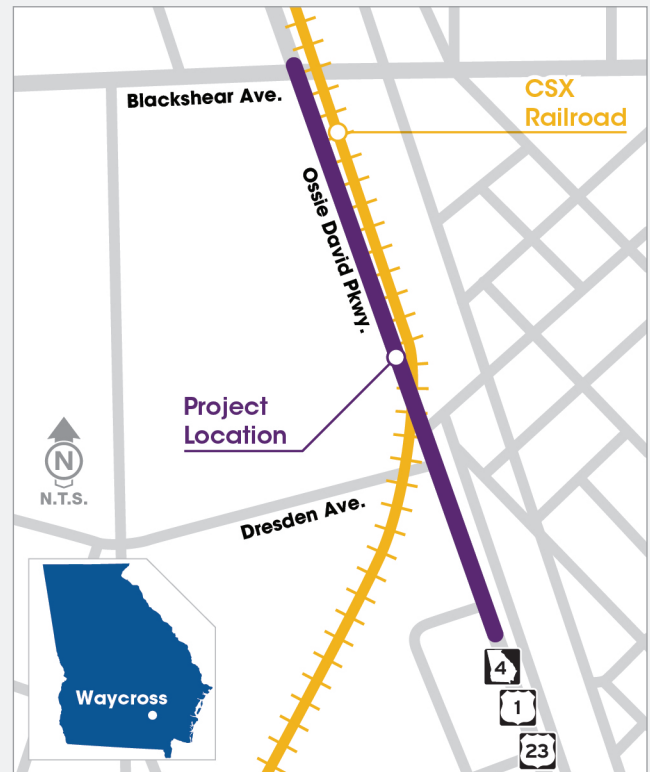
July 2021

GDOT PI No. 0013539

Project Overview

State Route (SR) 4 Business (BU) /US 1BU/US 23 BU (Ossie Davis Parkway) is currently a four-lane road with two lanes in each direction. The project is in the City of Waycross, Ware County, Georgia. The project along Ossie Davis Parkway has two at-grade railroad crossings within its limits. The proposed project would:

- Provide a grade separation between Ossie Davis Parkway and the two CSX rail lines by constructing a bridge along approximately 0.5 mile of Ossie Davis Parkway.
- The project would reduce the significant traffic delays on Ossie Davis Parkway due to trains blocking the existing at-grade railroad crossings.
- More information about the project is available on the project website at: <https://sr4-us1-us23-0013539-gdot.hub.arcgis.com/>



Completed Milestones

Environmental Screening

- The proposed project area was screened for historic, archaeological, ecological, and other environmental resources that could affect concept development.
- Further environmental studies are expected to begin in Summer 2021 as part of preliminary design.

Concept Development

- The project team and stakeholders held an Initial Concept Team Meeting on December 10, 2019 and a Concept Team Meeting on June 12, 2020. The project team presented and discussed the proposed project and concept alternatives.
- The Concept Report was approved on March 26, 2021.

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Completed Milestones

Stakeholder Outreach

- Two stakeholder meetings were held with the public via Zoom Webinar on November 17, 2020. The first meeting was held with state and local government entities and officials, including schools and emergency management services, GDOT representatives, and the consultant design team. The second meeting included local businesses and business organizations, neighborhood organizations, nearby churches, and adjacent property owners.
- The stakeholder meetings included a presentation regarding the problems in the project corridor, the benefits of the project, the existing conditions, the alternatives under consideration, and the potential detours. The meeting also included a question and answer session with participants.
- Following the meeting, a survey was provided to participants, which allowed them to provide additional feedback on the proposed project.

Public Information Open House

- A virtual Public Information Open House (PIOH) was recently hosted on <http://www.dot.ga.gov/AboutGDOT/PublicOutreach>, and the comment period closed on April 1, 2021. The public was notified of the opportunity to comment on the proposed project through postcard mailings, and newspaper advertisements, as well as notifications to local officials. During the virtual PIOH, the public had the opportunity to review the proposed project design and offsite detour route. In addition, the public was able to provide feedback about the project. All comments have become part of the project's official record, and GDOT provided an official response letter on June 3, 2021.

Upcoming Milestones

Preliminary Design

Preliminary design and environmental studies are expected to begin on the project in summer 2021.