

TRIP releases 'Moving Georgia Forward' partnership with Georgia Transportation Alliance

by Gabrielle Nelloms | Friday, November 13, 2020



MACON, Ga. -- The Georgia Transportation Alliance has announced its recent partnership with TRIP.

TRIP is a national transportation research nonprofit based in Washington, DC. Their purpose is to examine road and bridge conditions, traffic safety, travel and population trends, congestion, and transportation funding needs in seven Georgia regions.

The reports include regional pavement conditions, highway

fatality data, transportation funding needs, bridge conditions, and a list of the most deficient bridges in each region.

Rocky Moretti, Director of Policy & Research with TRIP says that out of the 12 regions of Georgia, 22 percent of roads are in poor condition. He continued on to say that 33 percent of roads are in fair conditions.

Moretti also spoke on the bridge conditions in Georgia: "Ten percent of bridges are deficient or are in need of immediate repair, meaning they can't carry large commercial or safety vehicles."

He says this can have a negative impact on a region's economy. As far as traffic safety, on average, he adds that 1,438 people are killed in traffic accidents.

With this partnership, TRIP and GTA can implement paving shoulders and add turn lanes on Georgia roads, with the goal of keeping people safe.

Representative Kevin Tanner, Chairman, Georgia State House Transportation Committee says these changes come with growth but they can also bring challenges.

Overall, many representatives with Georgia Transportation Alliance are excited about the new partnership. Chris Clark, President & CEO, Georgia Chamber of Commerce says, "we've got to invest in roads, airplanes and it's not bad to do it during the middle of a recession. It's vital and important."

Clark says in order for Georgia to restore their economy, they've got to invest in the infrastructure first.

"We've been involved with local TSPLTs. We've been involved with HB170, deepening the ports of Savannah, building our inland ports. So our community has been engaged every step of the way because we know in order to grow the economy, we've got to invest in our infrastructure," Clark says.

A series of five reports for the remaining Georgia regions will be issued on Monday, November 16.

Source: WGXAnews