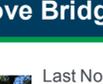




[About Us](#) [Projects](#) [Contact](#)

## March 2021 Newsletter

Keep up with Metro South CID on Facebook and LinkedIn! Click the icons below.



### Cedar Grove Bridge Update



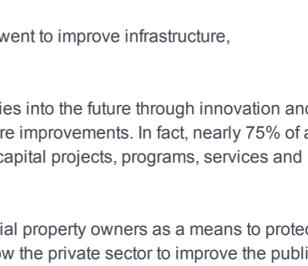
Last November, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners approved \$4.1 million for the Cedar Grove Bridge construction and the necessary improvements along the alternate route that will be temporarily used during the bridge closure. The bridge repair will be a design-build project to help construction move as efficiently as possible.

The Metro South CID board of directors, DeKalb County officials, law enforcement and business owners within the district met on Monday, March 22, to determine the next steps to continue the project's progress. The replacement bridge is currently being designed by AECOM Engineering and DeKalb County public works director Richard Lemke roughly estimated the project will be complete in one and a half to two years, pending any potential weather delays. The County is also working with its SPOST committee to secure the funding needed to begin repairs to the alternate route used during the bridge closure, pulling from the County's on-call contractor to expedite the repairs once funding is approved. While these repairs are taking place, the CID has requested detour signage be placed throughout the area to better inform and direct truck drivers, as well as speed detection devices to stop unsafe traffic speeds through residential areas.

Visit the MSCID [website](#) to view the list of road network improvements submitted to DeKalb County and a map that details the preferred alternate route for traffic based on the bridge closure.

### How Community Improvement Districts are Building the Future

A recent report released by Georgia Tech and Lexicon Strategies found that Community Improvement Districts, like Tucker Summit, have a significant economic impact on metro Atlanta. The 34 legal CIDs operating around Atlanta had a total assessed value of \$16 billion in 2019, roughly equating to \$41 billion in fair market value. Georgia CIDs levied an estimated \$875 million in total tax assessments between 1988 and 2019 that went to improve infrastructure, transportation, security and beautification.



The study showed that CIDs help propel cities into the future through innovation and by having clear goals regarding infrastructure improvements. In fact, nearly 75% of a CID's annual budget is typically allotted to capital projects, programs, services and planning to improve infrastructure.

"CIDs are a powerful tool used by commercial property owners as a means to protect and grow real estate investments. CIDs allow the private sector to improve the public realm and public infrastructure through efforts typically under the purview of governmental entities," the study stated.

[Read More in the Atlanta Business Chronicle](#)

### Let's Keep Moving, Together as a Community

As we seek federal funding for infrastructure improvements and support from DeKalb County, Georgia DOT and other entities, it is important that we show a united front from both residents and commercial business property owners coming together to establish a common goal for the district's future.

The MSCID is currently running a membership campaign and would love to speak with you about how the CID can help elevate your business! MSCID assists property owners and businesses enhance the safety, general appearance and suitability of the area.

If you have any questions regarding the Metro South CID, its projects or how the CID can further improve the district, please reach out to a member of the MSCID board of directors. They are here to help!



Joel Gross  
Chairman  
[Email](#)



Wayne Smith  
Vice Chairman  
[Email](#)



John Kranjc  
Executive Director  
[Email](#)



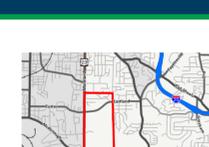
Emory Morsberger  
President  
[Email](#)



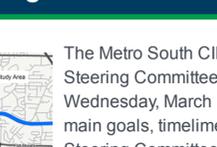
Rob Roark  
Secretary and Treasurer  
[Email](#)



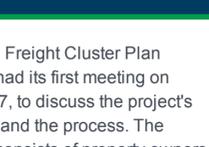
Lindsay Williams  
Board Member  
[Email](#)



Beverly Dabney  
Board Member  
[Email](#)



Ryan Millsap  
Board Member  
[Email](#)



Virginia Montgomery  
Board Member  
[Email](#)

### Metro South CID Freight Study Steering Committee Formed



Area covered by the MSCID Freight Cluster Plan

The Metro South CID Freight Cluster Plan Steering Committee had its first meeting on Wednesday, March 17, to discuss the project's main goals, timeline and the process. The Steering Committee consists of property owners, local government officials, freight providers, multiple businesses and neighborhood leaders.

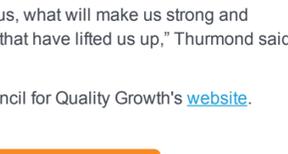
The CID would like to thank the members of the Steering Committee for their participation and dedication to help the district's businesses and residents.

#### Steering Committee Members:

Tom McQueen, GDOT; Vivian Canizares, GDOT; Phil Peevy, GDOT; Kaycee Mertz, GODT; Kathy Zahul, GDOT; Paul DeNard, GDOT; Josh Higgins, GDOT; Daniel Studdard, Atlanta Regional Commission; Sandy Lake, Georgia Center for Innovation and Logistics; Richard Lemke, DeKalb Infrastructure; David Pelton, DeKalb County DOT; Patrece Keeter, DeKalb County Public Works - Transportation; Sylvia Smith, DeKalb County Planning and Sustainability; Keith Rohling, Clayton County DOT; Josh Rowan, City of Atlanta DOT; Nate Hoelzel, City of Atlanta Department of City Planning; Don Williams, MARTA; Emory Morsberger, MSCID; Larry Kaiser, Collaborative Infrastructure Services; Wayne Smith, MSCID Board / FEPCO Container; Rob Roark, MSCID Board / All South Warehouse; Patricia Culp, Cedar Grove Neighborhood Association; Ingrid Buxbaum, Starlight Heights Neighborhood; Ben Harris, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; Ed Crowell, Georgia Motor Trucking Association; Jason Allen, National Institute of Trucking Association; Jeff Short, American Transportation Research Institute; Nick Smith, UPS; Conner Poe, Norfolk Southern; Ryan Millsap, Blackhall Studios; Jeff Weber, Blackhall Studios; Mychal Pickens, Schneider Trucking; Lindsay Williams, McKenney's; Vincent Muse, Bowman Industrial; Price Muir, WPM Commercial Real Estate Development; Mike Amin, Real Estate Investor

### State of DeKalb County 2021 Recap

DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond took the opportunity during the February 24 State of DeKalb County Address to thank the first responders and frontline healthcare workers for their efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.



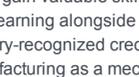
Thurmond urged everyone to stay vigilant and to keep going as the community will survive and come out stronger on the other side.

"At this time, what will fuel us, what will fortify us, what will make us strong and successful, is that we have to love the people that have lifted us up," Thurmond said. "That is my message, that is my commitment."

Watch the full State of DeKalb County on Council for Quality Growth's [website](#).

[Watch the State of DeKalb County](#)

### Georgia Piedmont Technical College Mechatronics Apprenticeship Program



**GEORGIA  
PIEDMONT  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

Is your business looking to strengthen your workforce? Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC)'s Mechatronics Apprenticeship Program provides participants with education and training in technical maintenance.

Apprentices will gain valuable skills through a combination of classroom instruction and on-the-job learning alongside an industry mentor, gaining knowledge, technical skills and industry-recognized credentials needed for a successful career in advanced manufacturing as a mechanic technician.

Apprentices must be at least 18 years old at the start of the program on June 1, 2021. If you are interested or would like more information, please email [Irvin Clark](#), vice president of economic development at GTPC.

[Learn More about GPTC](#)

### DeKalb County COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

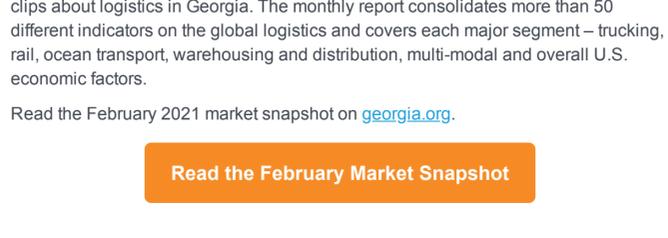
Earlier this month, the DeKalb County Board of Health announced a transition to a new vaccine appointment system. Those with existing vaccination appointments will receive a new appointment confirmation email. Read more about the DeKalb vaccine appointment system in this Decaturish [article](#).

Governor Kemp recently announced the expansion of vaccination qualification for the current phase of distribution to those 55+ and those with high-risk conditions. All remaining adults will become eligible in April.

Pre-register and get notified for COVID-19 vaccine availability in your area at [myvaccinegeorgia.com](#) or call the new vaccine scheduling hotline at 888.457.0186.

[Pre-Register or Learn More Information](#)

### Logistics Market Snapshot: February 2021



**U.S. MARKET:**  
The U.S. GDP increased at an annual rate of 4.0% in the fourth quarter of 2020, according to the advance estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis in late January. This increase reflects both the continued economic recovery from the sharp declines earlier in the year and the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including new restrictions and closures that took effect in some areas of the United States. In the third quarter, real GDP increased 33.4 percent. (Source: US BEA) As of February 17, the latest GDPNow model forecast for real GDP growth (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the first quarter of 2021 is 9.5%. (Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta) (The GDPNow forecast aggregates statistical model forecasts of 13 subcomponents that comprise GDP.)  
The U.S. goods and services trade deficit decreased 2.5% in December 2020 to \$66.6 billion. Exports and imports from the sharp declines earlier in the year. The full economic effects of the pandemic cannot be quantified in the trade statistics because the impacts are generally embedded in source data and cannot be separately identified. The Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis continue to monitor data quality and have determined estimates in this release meet publication standards. (Source: US DOC & Census Bureau)

The Georgia Centers for Innovation Market Snapshot is a one-stop shop for global and national industry data with info on trends affecting supply chains and key news clips about logistics in Georgia. The monthly report consolidates more than 50 different indicators on the global logistics and covers each major segment – trucking, rail, ocean transport, warehousing and distribution, multi-modal and overall U.S. economic factors.

Read the February 2021 market snapshot on [georgia.org](#).

[Read the February Market Snapshot](#)

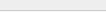
Share this email:



Manage your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™  
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
View this email [online](#).

1485 Chinoak Road  
Lilburn, GA | 30047 US

This email was sent to .  
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.