



Bob Riley
Governor

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Joe McInnes
Transportation Director

December 7, 2006

Mr. Pete Johnson
Federal Co-Chairman
Delta Regional Authority
236 Sharky Avenue
Suite 400
Clarksdale, Mississippi 38614

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my comments regarding the Delta Development Highway System (DDHS) plan and its benefits to the State of Alabama. I agree that the priority projects consisting of U. S. Route 43 from Interstate 65 in Mobile County to Interstate 20/59 in Greene County, U. S. Route 80 from Interstate 20/59 near the Mississippi line in Sumter County to Montgomery and from Interstate 85 in Macon County to Phenix City and U. S. Route 84 from the Mississippi line to Interstate 65 in Conecuh County should be designated DDHS Routes.

I am aware of the importance of the need for improvements on these routes and the major impact it will have on the economically distressed areas involved along with the potential growth to industry. Improvements in these routes should also provide major relief during periods of disaster related to hurricanes and other factors.

The Department is very appreciative of those involved in this planning study and your efforts to finalize the results as the plan nears completion.

I respectfully request your assistance in securing all available funds for improvements on these designated routes.

Sincerely,


D. J. McInnes
Transportation Director

cc: Jeff Carroll, Wilbur Smith Associates

DJM/CRP/ask

4. ALABAMA

There are 19 counties in Alabama that are a part of the DRA region. Alabama is the only member state where the DRA counties are not contiguous. There are a total of 383 DDHS miles identified in Alabama, which constitutes 10 percent of the total DDHS miles, and of these 259 miles are currently 2-lane facilities. The Alabama DDHS improvements consist of widening and upgrading portions of US 43, US 80, and US 84. **Table 5** provides a project description, priority and cost estimate details on each DDHS corridor in Alabama while **Figure 7** shows the Alabama DDHS.

Table 5 – Alabama DDHS (planning-level cost estimates are in millions)

Corridor/Route	Project Description	Cost Estimate	Priority
US 43 Corridor	Add lanes from 5-lane north of Thomasville to Marengo County - Includes Relocation	18.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes from Clarke/ Marengo County line to Mud Creek	10.0	Medium-Range
	Dixon Mills Bypass from Mud Creek to 1500' south of CR 55	16.0	Short-Range
	Add Lanes from 1500' south of CR 55 north to CR 47	21.0	Long-Range
	Add lanes from CR 47 north to Approximately 1.14 mile south of SR 69	18.0	Long-Range
	From 1.14 miles south of SR 69 to SR 28 east	37.0	Short-Range
	From SR 28 east to 2500' north of Chickasaw State Park	5.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes from 2500' north of State Park to 2500' north of CR 35	18.0	Long-Range
	Add lanes 2500' north of CR35 to 1000' south of B&N railroad	17.0	Long-Range
	US 43 Bypass in Demopolis - Corridor Study	151.0	Short-Range
	US 43 Bypass from south of US 80 to US 43 south of Warrior River	7.0	Long-Range

US 43 Corridor from Demopolis to I-59	From King Bridge at Demopolis to I-59 at Eutaw - Corridor Study	1.0	Medium-Range
	(New Location) from US 11N to Approximately 500' east of I-59	5.0	Medium-Range
	(New Location) from Zion Church north to US 11	7.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes from 2000' south of Needham Cr north to Zion Church	11.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes from Approximately 2500' south of B&N railroad north to Forkland	8.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes from Forkland to south approximately 2000' S of Needham	8.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes from North King Bridge to approximately 2500' south of B&N railroad	8.0	Medium-Range
US 80 Corridor	From Mississippi State line to SR 28 southwest of Demopolis - Corridor Study for four-laning	1.0	Long-Range
	4-lane SR 8 (US 80) from SR 17 to CR 71 (Bellamy Road)	10.0	Short-Range
	4-lane SR 8 (US 80) from SR 17 to CR 71 (Bellamy Road) replace Bridges on existing 2-lanes	2.0	Short-Range
	4-lane SR 8 (US 80) from SR 28 west to SR 28 east of the Tombegbee River	43.0	Short-Range
	4-lane SR 8 (US 80) from US 11 to SR 17	24.0	Short-Range
	4-lane SR 8 (US 80) from Bellamy Road to SR 28 west of Tombigbee River	32.0	Short-Range
	Bridge replacement from CR 71 (Bellamy Road) to SR 28, west of Tombigbee River	7.0	Short-Range
	Faunsdale to US 80 at Browns	0.0	Completed
	US 80 1.5 mile west of Perry/Marengo County line 2.4 mile east of Uniontown	26.0	Long-Range
	US 80 at Coffee Creek, Mud Creek and Reliefs and Bellview Creek	1.0	Long-Range
	Relocate a section of SR 8 (US 80) into median for Historic Trail	5.0	Medium-Range

US 80 from I-85 to Phoenix City	SR 186, additional lanes from I-85 to north of US 29	11.0	Long-Range
	Additional lanes from north of US 29 to south of US 29	1.0	Long-Range
	Additional lanes from south of US 29 interchange to west of CR 24	12.0	Long-Range
	Add lanes from west of CR 24 to east of Long Branch	7.0	Long-Range
	Society Hill Bypass	10.0	Medium-Range
	Crawford Bypass west of Crawford to east of Crawford	13.0	Medium-Range
	Add lanes east of Crawford Bypass to Ladonia	22.0	Medium-Range
	Relocation from Ladonia to US 431	26.0	Long-Range
	Relocation from Ladonia to US 431 includes interchange at Auburn Road	8.0	Long-Range
US 84 Corridor	SR 12 (US 84) over Tombigbee River with relief bridges	24.0	Medium-Range
	SR 12 (US 84) relocation from CR 3 to CR 31	8.0	Medium-Range
	US 43, Grove Hill W Bypass and US 84 Connector - Corridor Study	1.0	Short-Range
	US 43 Grove Hill Western Bypass	17.0	Short-Range
	Relocation from west of Grove Hill to US 84 east	13.0	Short-Range
	West of New Clarksville Church to west of Tattilaba Cr - Passing Lanes	3.0	Short-Range
	US 84 from Bassett Creek to .38 milepost east of CR 35 south	3.0	Short-Range
	Over Alabama RR - Bridge replacement and approaches	4.0	Short-Range
	From SR 21 south of Monroeville to I-65 south of Evergreen	58.0	Long-Range
TOTAL		803.0	

Figure 7 – Alabama DDHS Corridors



4.1 Highest Priorities

ALDOT's top three DDHS corridors are:

1. 4-laning US 80 from US 11 to SR 17.

This project is scheduled to begin in FY 2007 at an estimated cost of \$23 million. The project includes purchasing right-of-way and construction of additional lanes to provide a 4-lane facility.

2. 4-laning US 80 from SR 17 to Bellamy Road.

This project is scheduled to begin in FY 2007 at an estimated cost of \$20 million. The project includes purchasing right-of-way and construction of additional lanes to provide a 4-lane facility.

3. 4-laning US 80 from SR 28 west to SR 28 east of the Tombigbee River.

This project is scheduled to begin in FY 2007 at an estimated cost of \$6.2 million. The project provides the base and pavement of the additional lanes to complete the 4-lane facility.