



Georgia Department of Transportation

Bridging the Digital Divide DOT Right of Way Utilization

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U.S. Telecommunications Act of 1996



encourage deployment of advanced telecom capabilities, including broadband to all Americans
Goal: "intramodal" competition – voice over circuit switched net, local/long distance

skype



emerging "intermodal" competition –
wireless vs wireline
VoIP vs wireline and wireless
IPTV vs cable TV



growth in broadband Internet
access to U.S. homes

CABLE



GDOT UAM Circa 2016

5.11 Wireless Facilities





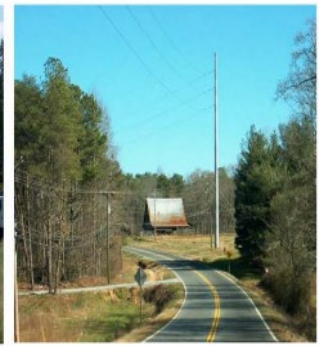
“In no case will wireless telecommunications facilities and/or antennas be allowed or permitted on limited access or interstate rights-of-way. Additionally, the *installation of new pole(s) or pole lines, cell towers, and/or monopoles will not be allowed within highway right-of-way or on surplus property owned by the Department.*”

5.11.C. 1. Non-Department Facilities

The Department shall permit applicant to place antennas and other associated equipment on existing poles, not owned by the Department within the Department’s right-of-way...

5.11.C.2 Department Facilities

The Department shall permit applicant to place antennas and other associated equipment on existing poles, not owned by the Department within the Department’s right-of-way...


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<p>Utility Accommodation Policy and Standards</p> <p>2016</p>	
	

Considerations by GDOT & the Public

- Co-location 1st priority
 - Avoid fixed Hazards in the ROW (poles)
 - 60% of fatal crashes result from cars running off the road (1,500+ fatalities in GA)
- Impacts on Construction
 - Fiber companies often lack local presence
 - Facilities not installed in accordance with permits
- Utility Risks
 - Directional drilling
 - Haste to market


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Utility Accommodation Policy and Standards

2016



Georgia Legislation

SR 876 [2016]

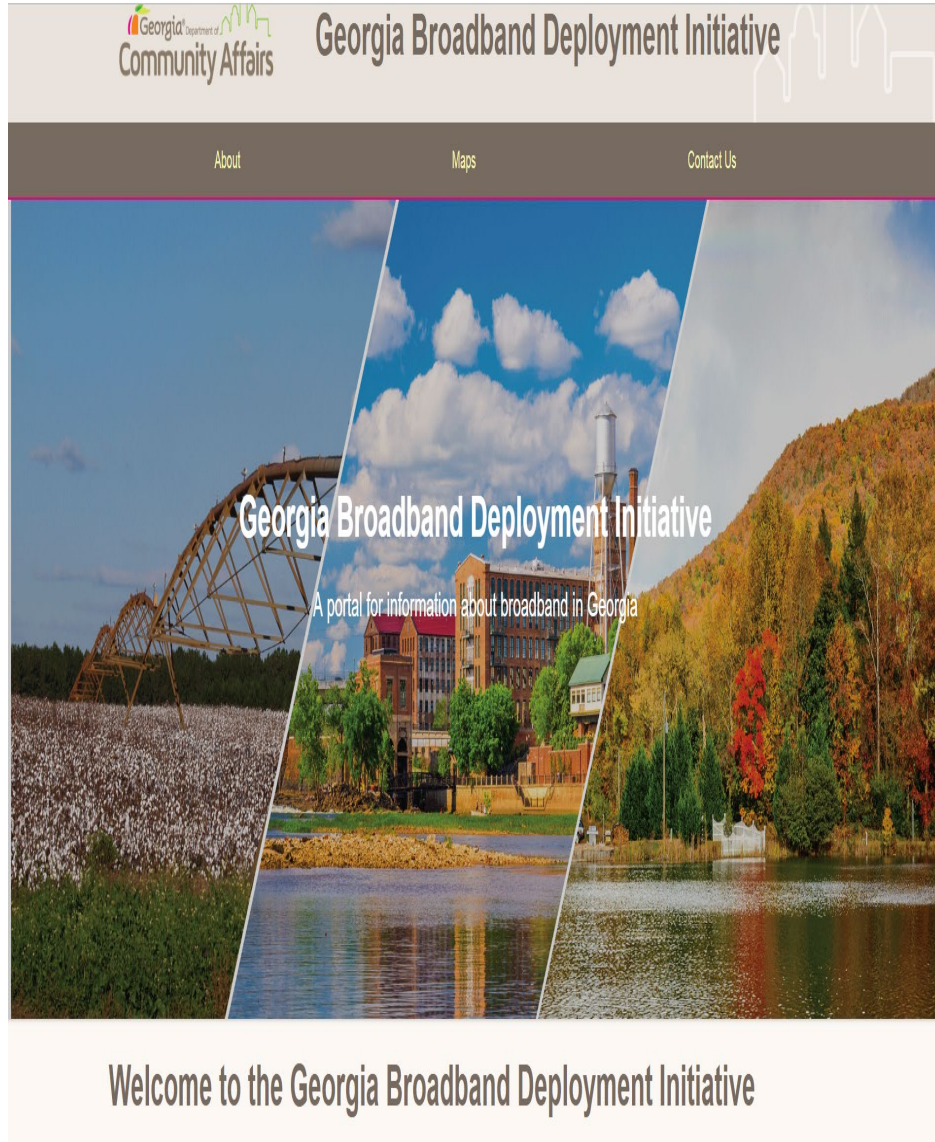
- Committee on High Speed Broadband Access Explore how GDOT can lease excess fiber
 - Require GDOT to open right of way for conduits and fiber on rural roads

SR 1019 [2018]

- Committee on State and Local Government Right of Way Policy Modernization
 - Encourage GDOT to review current fee structure

SB 402 [2018]

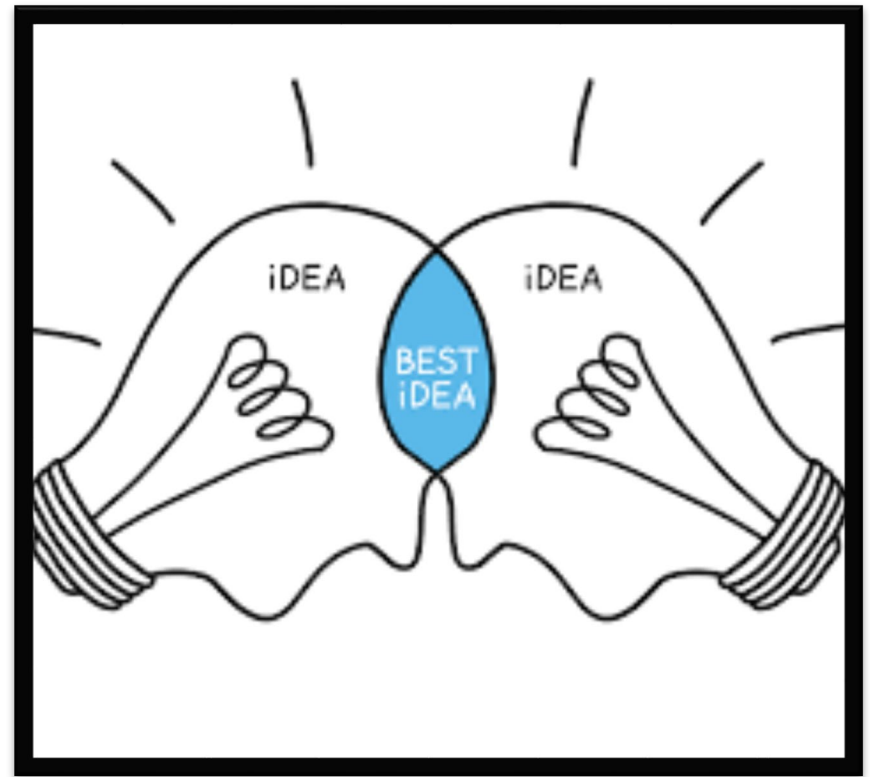
- Achieving Connectivity Everywhere (ACE) Act
 - Statewide Broadband Deployment along Interstate



Georgia Legislation

SB 66 [2019]

- Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act
 - Municipalities and Counties
 - Established fee caps and “shot clocks”
 - Collaboratively developed with industry and local agencies
 - **Excludes GDOT Rights of Way**



Stakeholder/Industry Outreach

Wireless Facility Owners

Pole Owners

Local Partners

GDOT Staff Recommendations

DOT Liaison Committee- GUCC

GDOT Management

FHWA

Published 2019 UAM Update

GDOT UAM 2019

- ✓ Collocation Remains Priority
- ✓ Established Height, Spacing and Clear Zone Requirements
 - ✓ Urban – 500’ radially
 - ✓ Rural - 750’ radially
 - ✓ Max Height 65’
- ✓ Considerations for Local Ordinances
 - ✓ Aesthetics
- ✓ Definitions
 - ✓ Antenna
 - ✓ Small vs. Micro
 - ✓ Wireless Support Structure
- ✓ Installation Specifics
 - ✓ Lat/Long
 - ✓ Loading
 - ✓ RF emissions

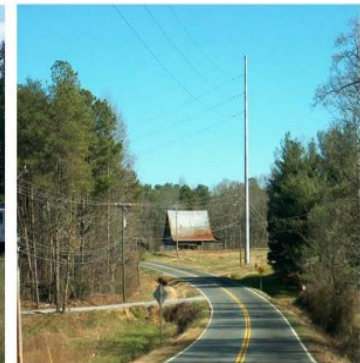
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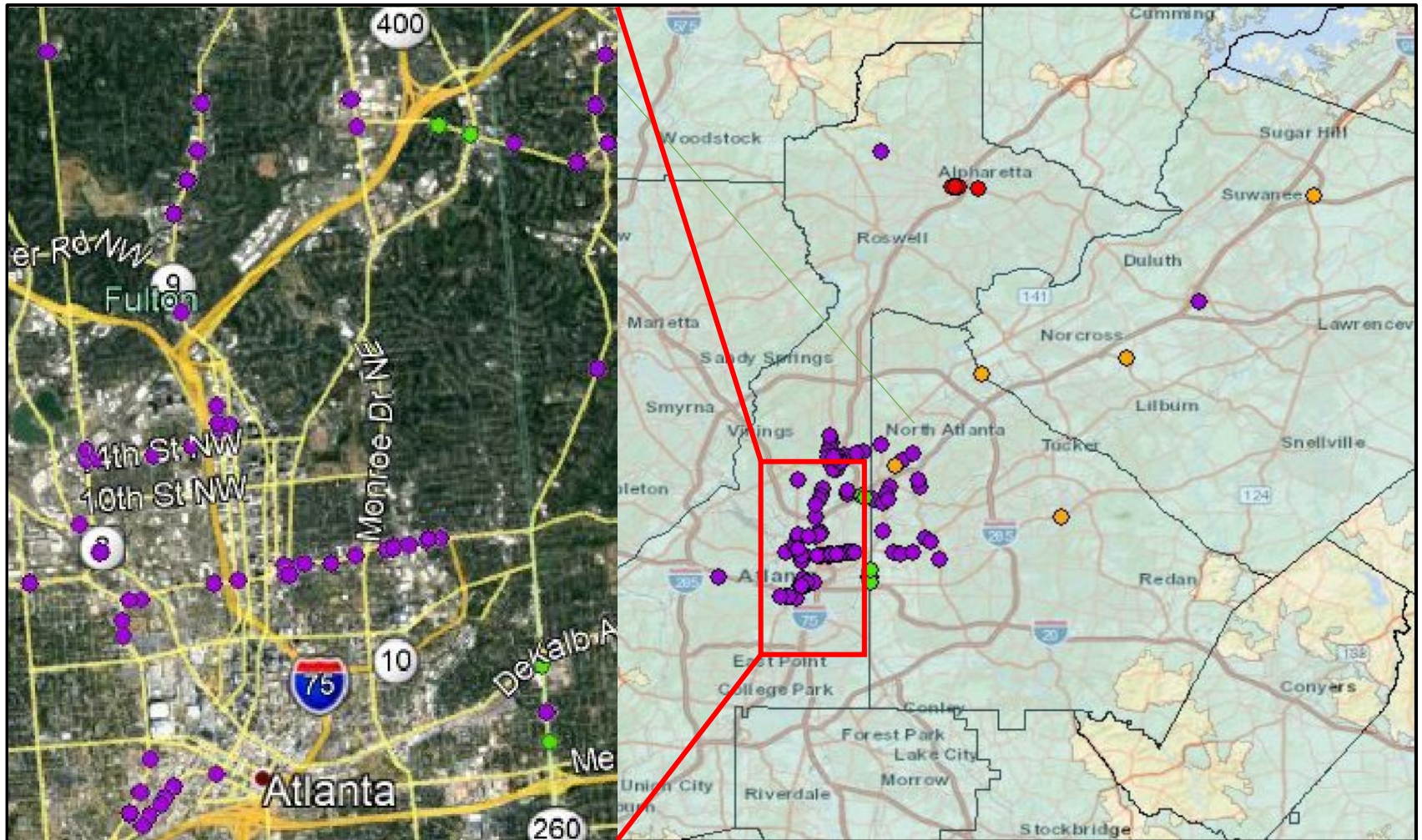


Utility Accommodation Policy and Standards

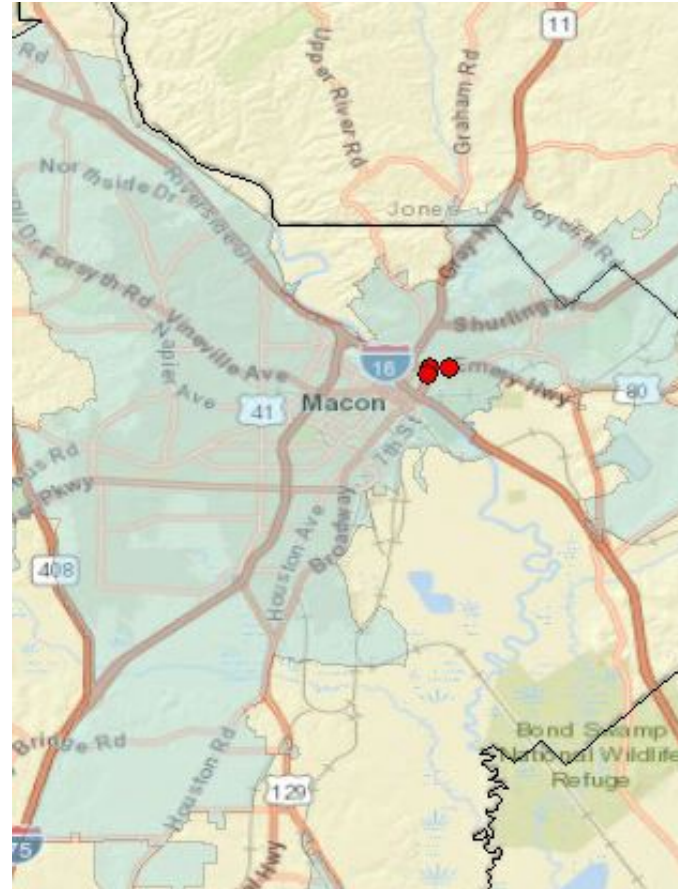
2016



Permitted Small Cells - Metro Atlanta



Permitted Small Cells - Columbus/Macon



Small Cells in GA



Chapter 672-11

Maintenance, Relocation, etc. of Facilities of Public Utilities

672-11-.01 Definitions

672-11-.02 Long Distance and Trunk Communications Cables, Issuance of Permits

672-11-.03 Long Distance and Trunk Communications Cables; Permit Fee Schedule

672-11-.04 Alternate Procedure for Assessing Fees



GDOT Office of Utilities

- **Statewide Permit Program**
 - ~11,000 reviewed annually
 - Over 6,700 approved annually
 - **5-day average turnaround**
- **GA Utility Permitting System (GUPS)**
 - Account management for over 4,800 users and members
 - 100% paperless
- **Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) Program**
 - Utilization on ~70% of GDOT projects
- **Utility Coordination Consultants**
 - Statewide Staff Augmentation

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Utility Accommodation Policy and Standards

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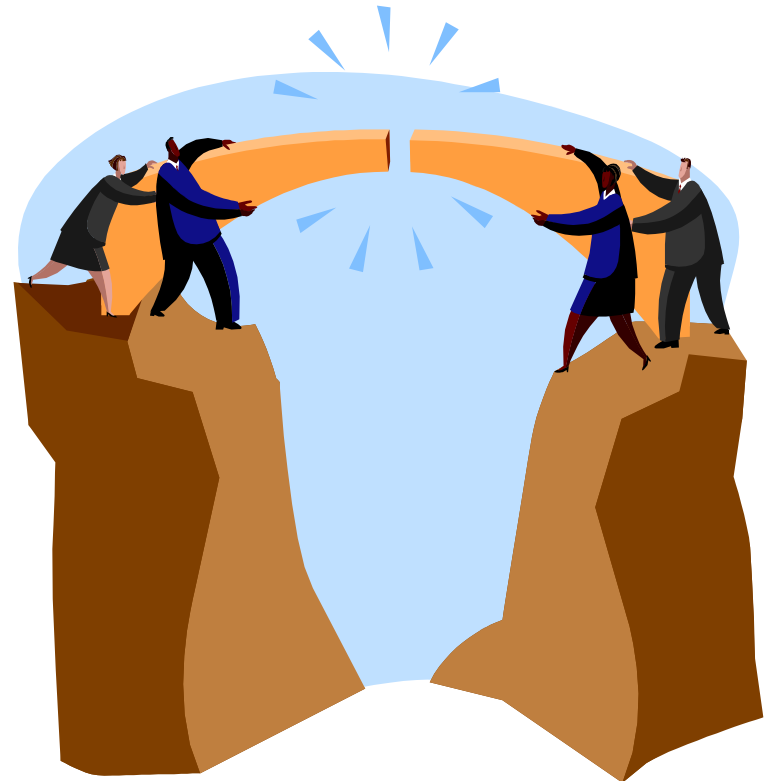
Utility Accommodation

- Direct benefit: access to public ROW - no easements to purchase
- Indirect benefit: access to services and work performed by Utility Office staff (i.e. SUE/Utility Coordination)
- Technology changes accommodated within the legacy fee structure
 - Telephone - Cable – Backhaul - Wireless



Keys to Success/Considerations

- Industry Collaboration
- Local Agency Outreach
- Consider what's in it for us (DOT)?
 - Utilities Program
 - Resource Sharing
 - Project Delivery
- Policy/Legislative Impacts
 - How are utilities defined in your state?
 - Utility Accommodations Policy



Questions?

