

**Why We Are Here:** The proposed Spout Springs Road Widening Project aims to:

- relieve congestion;
- accommodate current and future travel demand;
- reduce crash frequency and severity; and
- improve intersection operations to an acceptable level of service.

Analysis of the projected traffic shows that the entire project area along Spout Springs Road would experience major operational breakdowns in the 2043 design year if no improvements occur.

**Project Description:** Spout Springs Road is a congested two-lane, north-south route that provides regional connectivity between the cities of Braselton and Flowery Branch in south Hall County, GA. Improvements are proposed along a 6.2-mile segment from south of Thompson Mill Road to the Interstate 985 (I-985) interchange area. Proposed improvements include widening from two lanes to four, adding a raised median, and adding facilities for bicycles and pedestrians. The west side of Spout Springs Road will include a 10' multiuse trail from Thompson Mill Road to Hog Mountain Road. The east side of Spout Springs Road will include a 5' wide sidewalk from Thompson Mill Road to Union Circle and from Elizabeth Lane to Hog Mountain Road. Due to the large number of pedestrian attractions, such as schools, a park, and a library, both sides of Spout Springs Road will include a 10' multiuse trail between Union Circle and Elizabeth Lane.

Currently, within the project limits, Spout Springs Road contains four signalized intersections (Hog Mountain Road, Elizabeth Lane, New Friendship Road/SR 347, and Thompson Mill Road), 26 unsignalized intersections, and numerous residential and commercial driveways. The proposed project would add one signalized intersection at the proposed realigned driveways for Spout Springs Elementary School and Flowery Branch High School; shift the existing signalized intersection at Elizabeth Lane to a proposed newly realigned Elizabeth Lane/Lake Sterling intersection; realign the side roads: Castlegate Drive and Forest Knoll Drive and Sherwood Mill Drive and Dove Point Lane to tie at common intersections; and realign Looper Lake Drive to directly intersect Spout Springs Road at one intersection. Spout Springs Road has an interchange at I-985 approximately 0.31 mile north of Hog Mountain Road. Operational improvements from Hog Mountain Road to the I-985 southbound ramps are proposed and include maintaining two northbound through lanes up to the interchange, adding a north bound right turn lane to enter the I-985 NB on ramp, and adding a south bound through lane under the I-985 bridge. The speed limit on Spout Springs Road is currently 45 miles per hour (mph).

Land use along the Spout Springs Road includes significant commercial areas at both ends, with a mix of residential and related community developments in between. Individual home sites, subdivisions, churches, schools, a park, a library, and emergency service facilities exist along the corridor. In addition to the project ends, pockets of commercial properties also reside along the corridor.

This project has been identified as PI 0009679 (Hall County) and is listed in the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO) 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the 2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as project GH-023.

Following this public hearing, work will continue on the Environmental Assessment, with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) anticipated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in August 2015.

Right-of-way plans and acquisition and final design is anticipated to continue to late 2017. Currently, there is no available funding for the project's construction.

**Project Location Map:**

