

# THE IMPACT OF THE TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT ON COLUMBUS & THE STATE OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA PLANNING ASSOCIATION  
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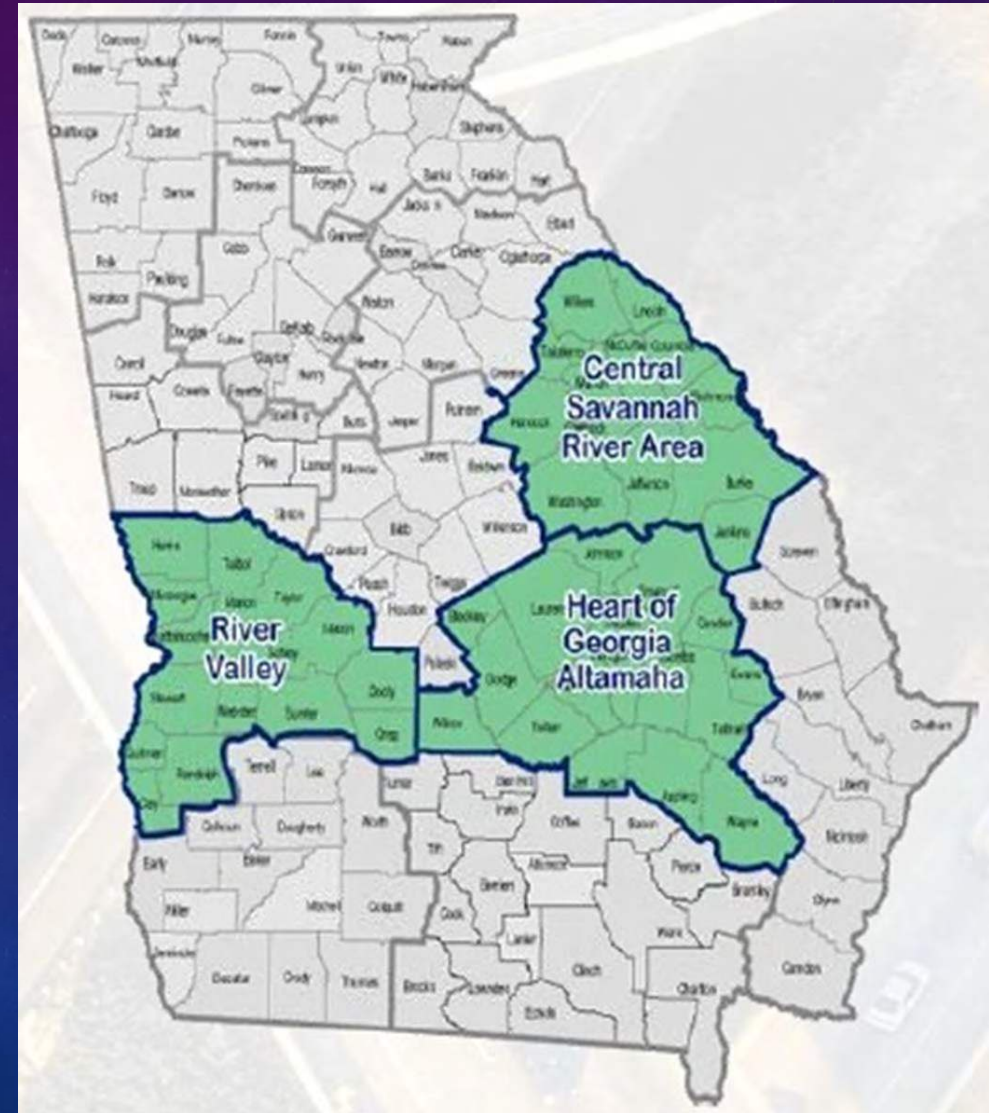
# Brief History of TIA in Columbus

- HB 277 – The Transportation Investment Act
  - Approved by the Georgia Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2010
- Regional Roundtables were formed in 2011
  - Two representatives from each county
  - Roundtable – with public input – selected the projects
  - Projects were selected to reflect the projected revenue of \$594 million
- 75% of the funds were to fund the final project list
- 25% to fund discretionary projects among the region's local governments

# Brief History of TIA in Columbus

On July 31, 2012

- Voters in three of the twelve regional planning commission areas adoption a regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax
- Never done before in the history of Georgia
- 16 counties banded together in the Columbus region (River Valley) to adopt a ten year transportation budget worth over \$594 million dollars



# Brief History of TIA in Columbus

“Shall Muscogee County’s transportation system and the transportation network in this region and the state be improved by providing for a 1 percent special district transportation sales and use tax for the purpose of transportation projects and programs for a period of ten years?”

*Region passed the TIA  
with 54% to 46%*

## **Editorial**

Is Columbus  
winner or loser  
in sales tax vote?

# River Valley

Congressional Districts: 2, 3, 8

GDOT Districts: 3, 4

Counties: 16

Population:

- 377,877

Annual Revenue:

- \$50.7M



\* 2011 DOLLARS

# TSPLOST Projects (TIA)

Project	Description	Status	Schedule	Budget
<b>Follow Me Trail</b>	<b>Pedestrian/Bike Trail</b>	<b>Under construction awaiting the installation of pedestrian bridge</b>	<b>Fall 2017</b>	<b>\$3,500,000</b>
Columbus Riverwalk Bibb Mill/ City Mill	Completion of key sections of the Riverwalk	Under Construction	Late Fall 2018	\$10,000,000
Intercity Bus Improvements	Improvements to scheduling/ bus stops and expanded services	Initial phase of establishing new routes/buses has been completed	Ongoing for the next 10 years +	\$22,400,000
US 27/Custer Road Improvements	Construction of new interchange to service underutilized area	Under construction	Late 2017	\$20,000,000

# Follow Me Trail

- Two miles of abandoned rail line in south Columbus
- Will offer recreational opportunities for walking/running/biking
- Provides safe access connection to neighborhoods/schools
- Expected completion – Late Fall, 2017



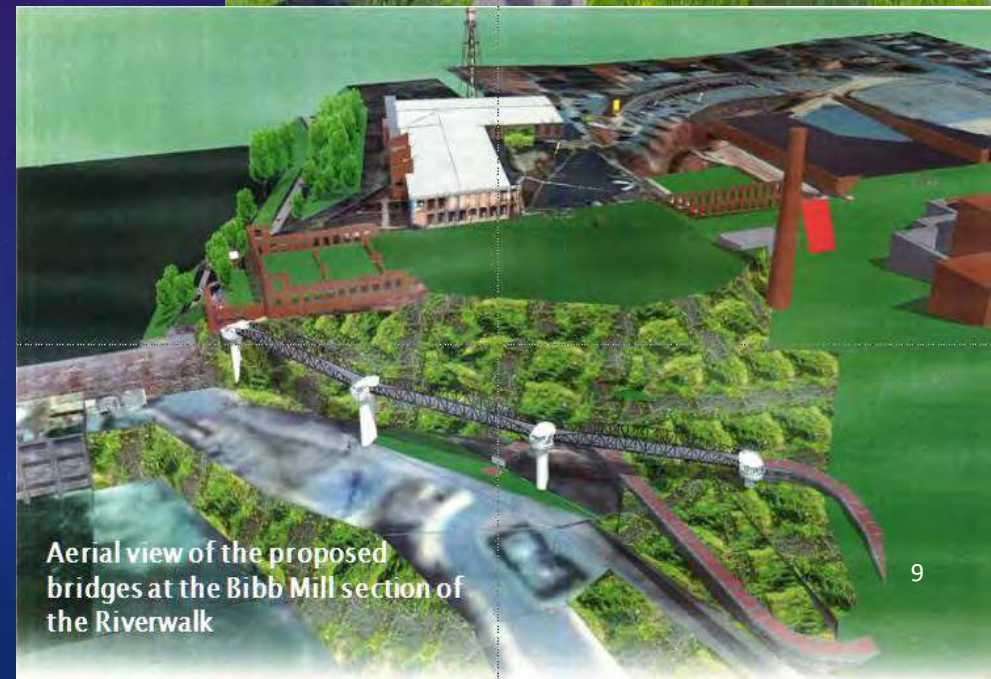
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# Riverwalk Completion

- Two sections of the Columbus Riverwalk to be completed:
  - Section at Bibb Mill
  - Section at City Mills
- Upon completion the Riverwalk will extend for 22 miles from the north part of the city to Ft Benning
- Completion of the project will allow
  - Runners/walkers/bikers new recreational opportunities
  - Scenic views of water
  - Interaction with whitewater activities





**Aerial view of the proposed  
bridges at the Bibb Mill section of  
the Riverwalk**



**View looking north at proposed  
new bridges at Bibb Mill**



**View from inside the proposed  
bridges at Bibb Mill**



**Proposed Riverwalk  
through the Bibb Mill site**

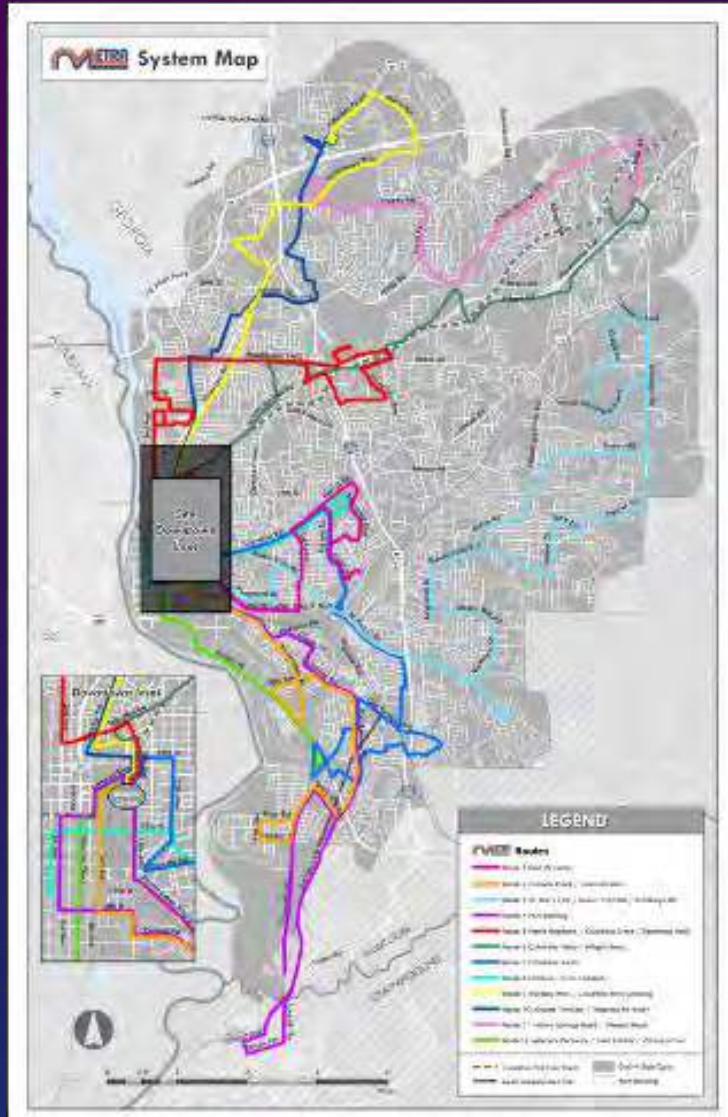


**Proposed Riverwalk  
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# Intercity Bus Improvements - METRA



Authorized \$22.4 million in transit improvements

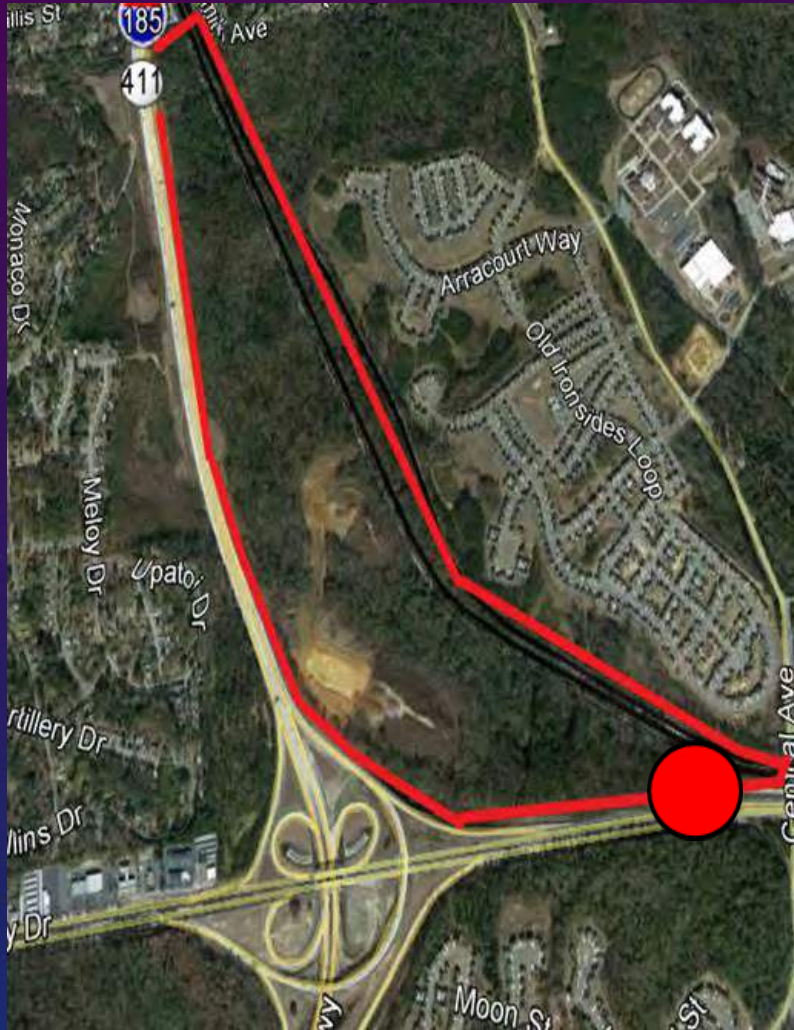
- Park & Ride sites
- Extend Night Service
- Improve transit service
- Establishes new routes/services to better serve our citizens
- Creates three park and ride areas
- Calls for new amenities/infrastructure
- Develops three mini-hubs for transfers
- Provides additional Dial-A-Ride service opportunities



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# US 27/CUSTER ROAD INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION



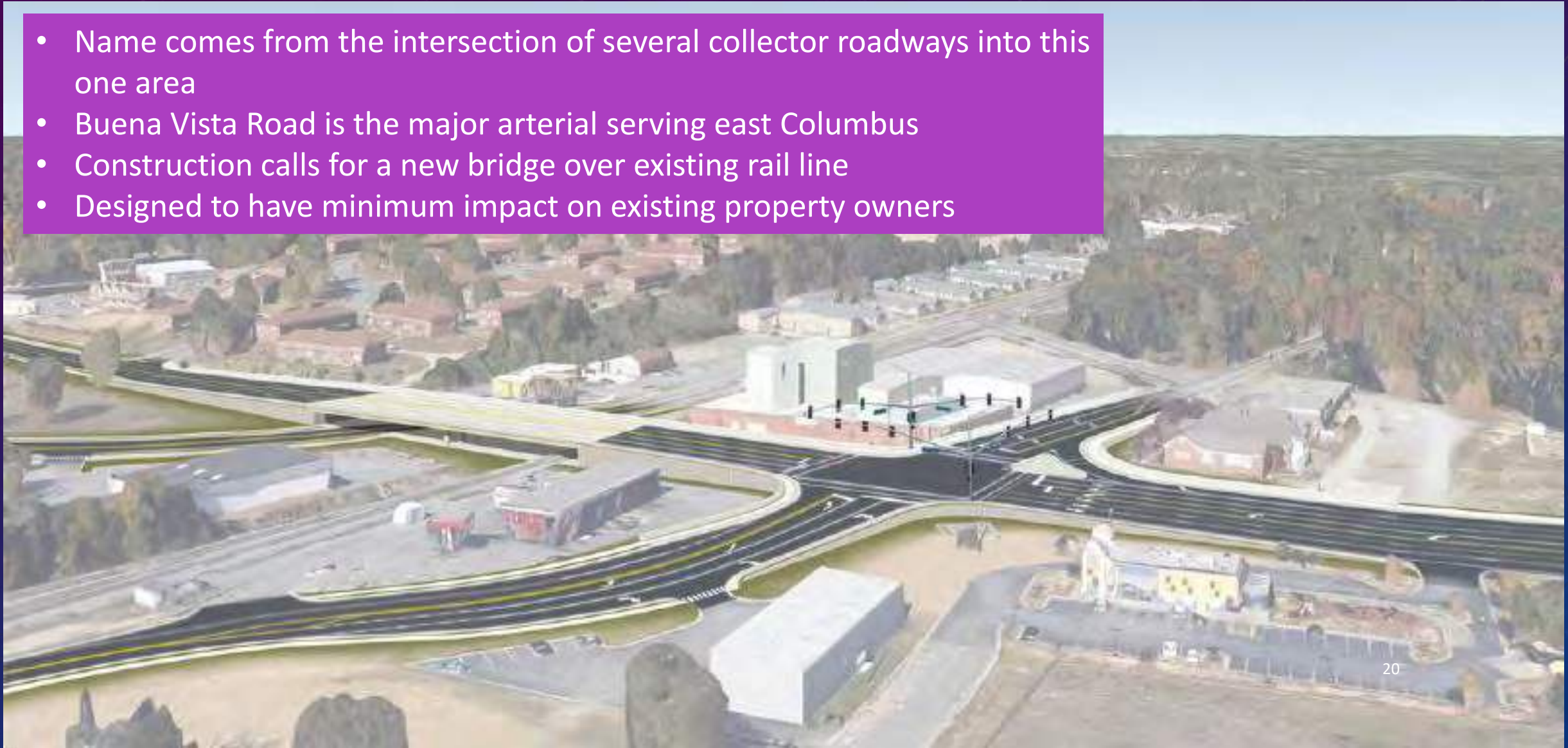
- Project provides public access to landlocked property bounded by US 27 to the south, I-185 to the west, and Cusseta Road to the north and east, which is the western boundary of Fort Benning
- Land is located in a Tax Allocation District
- Site is proposed for development as a military business park

# TSPLOST Projects (TIA)

Project	Description	Status	Schedule	Budget
<b>Buena Vista Road/Spiderweb Improvements</b>	<b>Bridge over railroad and 3 lanes from Iliges to Wynnton</b>	<b>In design</b>	<b>Out to bid in late 2018 – construction 24 months</b>	<b>\$40,000,000</b>
Buena Vista/I-185	Interchange and bridge improvements	In concept	TBD	\$46,470,000
Cusseta/I-185	Interchange and bridge improvements	In concept	TBD	\$58,269,412

# Buena Vista Road/Spiderweb Concept

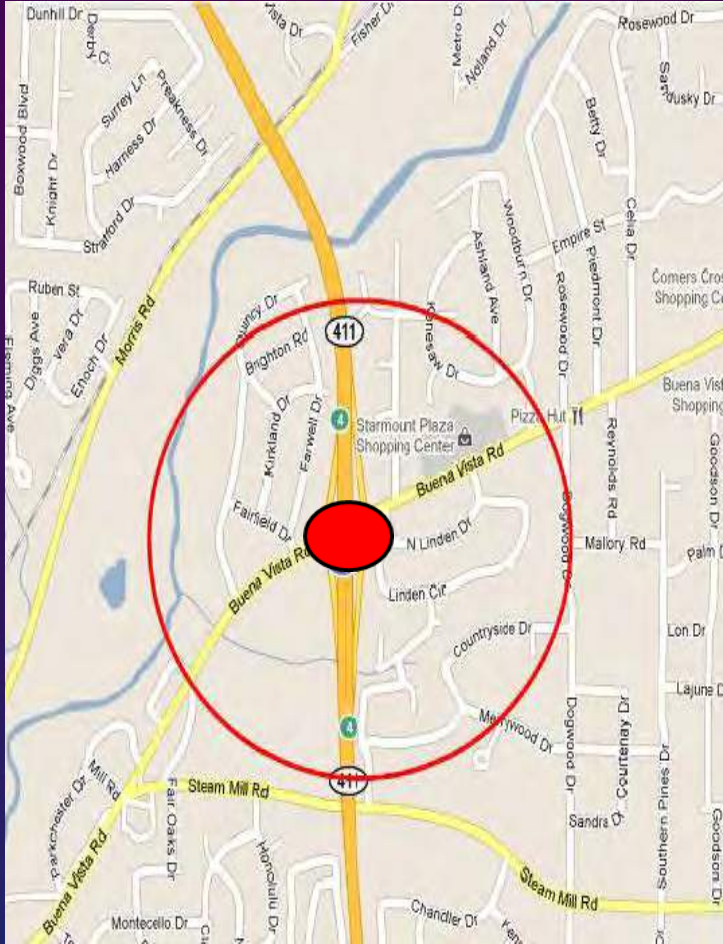
- Name comes from the intersection of several collector roadways into this one area
- Buena Vista Road is the major arterial serving east Columbus
- Construction calls for a new bridge over existing rail line
- Designed to have minimum impact on existing property owners



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# Buena Vista Road Interchange/I-185

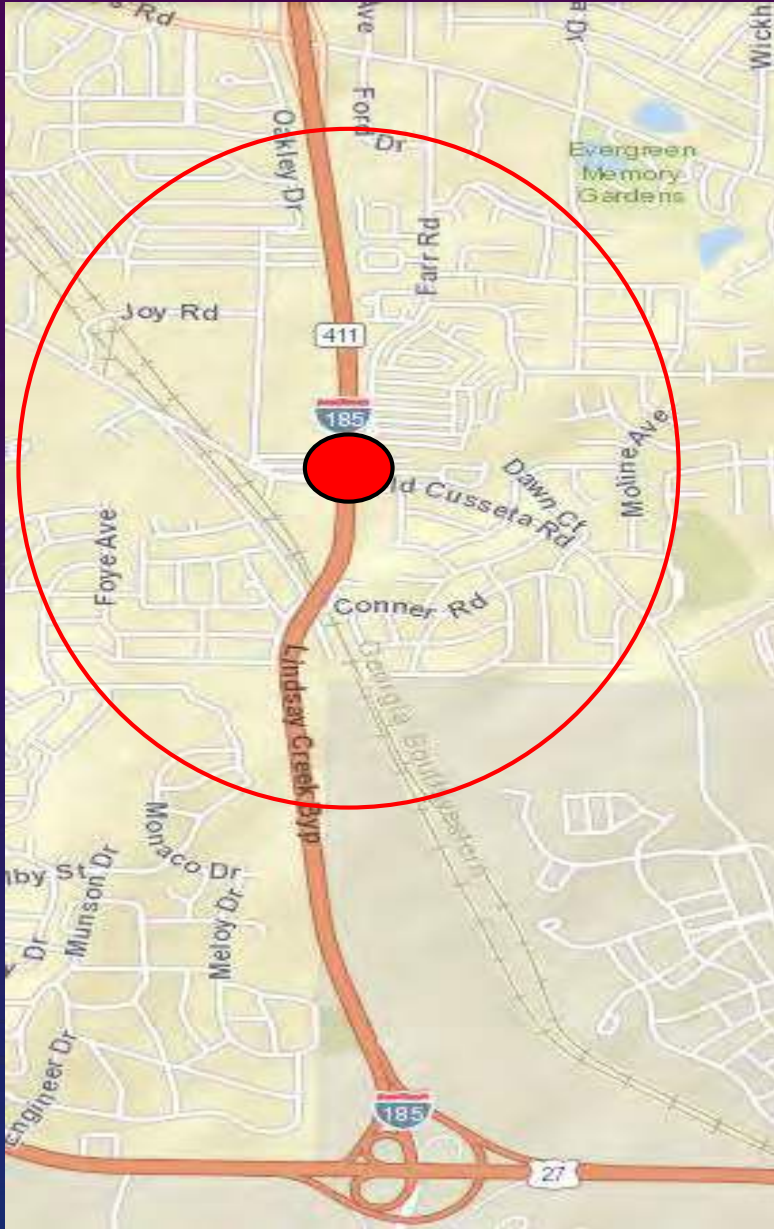


- Interchange and bridge improvements
  - Project was originally explored in 2001 with federal funds
    - Cost prohibited due to logical termini and ROW needs
- Highly congested interchange area at peak times
- Buena Vista is a major east/west arterial for the community
- Proposed to be developed as a Diversified Diamond Interchange (DDI)
  - DDI design should help lessen the need for additional ROW

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# Cusseta/Old Cusseta Road Improvements



- This section of the community has no direct access to the interstate
- Project was originally proposed in late 1990's/2000's
- Proposal calls for the construction of a new interchange
- Potential to open the area of the community to new housing and job opportunities
- New high school and stadium complex is currently under construction in the area



# DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

- 25% of the funds go to discretionary transportation projects
- Columbus has chosen to spend its money for:
  - Road Improvements
  - Bridge/Culvert Repair
  - Maintenance and Safety Improvement
  - Future Operations and Matching Funds
  - Alternative Transportation Projects
- Since 2013 Columbus has received \$11,470,750

# SUMMARY

- All 7 projects are either under construction or design today
- Anticipating that all projects will be either complete or under construction by 2022
- Without TIA, projects would still be in the LRTP or not funded at all
- \$154,169,412 in construction dollars
- \$11,000,000 in discretionary dollars