



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:**

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## Praise for CONNECTING SAVANNAH

**A public decision-making process to develop transportation solutions for the Savannah metropolitan area.**

In October and November of this year, the Chatham Urban Transportation Study (CUTS) hosted two meetings in a series of public discussions to listen and search for real understanding on what the transportation challenges and solutions are for the region. A combined total of **135** participants attended the meetings. When participants were asked what they liked best about the meetings, what they had experienced and whether or not the meeting objectives were achieved, this is what they had to say:

### **Open Public Participation Process**

- "Everyone can participate"*
- "Citizens feel they have been heard"*
- "Citizens are being given the opportunity to have open dialogue and input about what is happening with our tax dollars"*
- "Cross-section of stakeholders and citizens listening to each other"*
- "Ability to freely participate...all ideas were accepted"*

### **Identification and Consensus on Issues**

- "We are making progress"*
- "We are identifying problems"*
- "New ideas and concerns are being brought to the fore front"*
- "I realize that the transportation plan and land use must be linked [in order] to work"*
- "The fact that [the meeting] was well attended, so I felt comfortable with the results"*
- "The unified consensus of the different break-out groups"*
- "Great ideas, many opinions, good venting...good articulation of many problems"*
- "Glad we kept focus on problems --if we move too early to solutions, we miss things"*
- "The east-west mobility problem is multi-faceted...the solution will have to be multi-faceted as well"*

### **Structured Process with Grassroots Feel**

- "Keep up the good work"*
- "Very impressed with grassroots quality of effort and making sense of disparate thoughts and ideas"*
- "Getting ahead of engineers, so that citizens and leaders will be together"*
- "I feel good about what is happening with our groups...we must stay the course and see it through"*
- "People have a real sense of urgency to address these issues"*

### **NEXT MEETING:**

*Connecting Savannah Working Group Session*  
Tuesday, November 30, 2004  
Coastal Georgia Center, 305 Fahm Street  
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Light refreshments will be provided beginning at 5:30 p.m.  
The meeting will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.

### **MEDIA RSVP:**

If you plan to attend, send a representative, or would like to interview participants or staff, please contact Mignon Allen at **(404) 223-1660** or email **mallen@dovetailconsulting.net**.

