

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

News Release

Working together for Safety...

City of Jefferson & GDOT make plans for improvements US 129 at Old Pendergrass

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Gainesville – Georgia DOT Engineers and Officials from the City of Jefferson met last week to discuss the intersection of US 129/Jefferson Bypass at Old Pendergrass Road.

“The traffic study conducted by Street Smarts was a major topic of discussion,” explained DOT Communications Officer Teri Pope. “DOT Engineers explained to City Officials how the intersection does NOT meet the requirements for a traffic signal. The study looked at traffic count, traffic patterns and crash history and the thresholds required for a signal were not met. Therefore, a signal will not be installed at the intersection at this time. Working together DOT and City Officials have developed a plan for the intersection. Mayor Joiner and City Officials have agreed to increase enforcement of the speed limit and other traffic offences including failure to yield. After examining crash reports most crashes were caused by speeding or failure to properly yield. DOT officials agreed to install flashing beacons to remind traffic on US 129 there is an intersection ahead and to change the intersection to improve sight distance for motorists waiting on US 129 to turn left onto Old Pendergrass. We discussed additional improvements as well and will continue to monitor the intersection and pursue additional improvements as needed.”

This spring, DOT Maintenance Forces will upgrade the intersection to be “heads up.” This will offset the motorists waiting to turn left so they can better see oncoming traffic. Similar work has occurred on SR 365 in Hall and Habersham Counties.

“Working together we will do all we can to improve the safety of our roads but ultimately safety is up to motorists. Speed kills, please slow down and obey all traffic laws. Your failure to obey traffic laws creates confusion for other drivers and is hazardous for everyone on the road,” concluded Pope.

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