

THE I-20/I-85/I-20 INTERCHANGE GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PILOT PROJECT

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REFERENCE: *Proceedings of the 2017 Georgia Water Resources Conference*, held April 19-20, 2007, at the University of Georgia

Impervious surfaces in the vicinity of Turner Field generate a significant volume of stormwater runoff that contributes to recurring flooding of downstream communities. As part of the Turner Field Neighborhoods Livable Centers Initiative, American Rivers completed a feasibility study in July 2016 that identified several opportunities to implement green stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) within Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) rights-of-way at the I-20/I-75/I-85 Interchange. Once implemented, these projects will reduce runoff, improve water quality, help alleviate downstream flooding and serve as visible demonstration projects. American Rivers, GDOT, the Atlanta Downtown Improvement District and other project partners have collaborated to develop plans for a demonstration green infrastructure project located within the GDOT right-of-way at the I-20/I-75/I-85 interchange. The proposed green infrastructure practices include bioretention and enhanced swales designed to capture and treat the 95th percentile storm event. The project also includes plans to incorporate interpretive features to engage the public, as well as future research and monitoring of the green infrastructure performance and maintenance requirements. This demonstration project will create a beautiful and functional stormwater management feature that establishes a precedent for GDOT's commitment to green infrastructure and will help reduce stormwater impacts in the Turner Field neighborhoods.

Program reference: 5.1.1