



## **Skip Spann Connector Fact Sheet**

### **Project Type: Infrastructure and Beautification**

#### **Project Description:**

This much-anticipated project will reduce traffic congestion, increase safety for pedestrian and bike traffic, beautify road sections and include the construction of the very first lighted bridge in Cobb County. This project is expected to reduce traffic at the I-75 and Chastain Road interchange by 19%

Representing a well-coordinated and forward-thinking partnership between Kennesaw State University (KSU), Cobb County Department of Transportation and Georgia Department of Transportation, led by the Town Center CID, the Skipp Spann Connector project will provide better access to Town Center at Cobb, KSU and other local destinations, improving access and visibility for the area.

The project consists of four lanes of new connecting roadway and a 10' multi-use path on both sides of the bridge, which will enable safer pedestrian and bicycle traffic between the KSU campus, west of I-75, the KSU Sports and Entertainment Park and other area destinations. Raised planters with native shrubbery will act as a barrier between the multi-use paths and the roadway. The project also realigns Town Park Lane, and adds a roundabout at the intersection of Busbee Drive and Town Park Lane.

KSU Students will have a safer and easier commute to classes as a result of this project, which will improve access to Frey Road and the East Parking Deck at Kennesaw State. Students were also instrumental in designing a main element of the lighted bridge. Kennesaw State University ([link](#)) held a contest calling for students to submit their design ideas. The winner: a metal structure that mimics the iconic Kennesaw Mountains found nearby and in the KSU logo that will be incorporated into the bridge railing.

This project was named after a figure who inspired change in the county and the state. Skip Spann was a key influence in developing the Town Center CID, which has completed dozens of infrastructure enhancements to create one of the larger employment and shopping/entertainment destinations in Cobb County. Skip was also a main force behind the foundation of KSU's athletic program.

Under Skip’s guidance, the Town Center CID leveraged approximately \$27MM into \$106MM in local, state and federal funding for projects benefiting the entire Town Center area. Skip made a lasting and significant contribution to the community, and his advancements continue to improve the quality of life for Cobb County residents.



**Current Status:**

The Skip Spann Connector is currently under construction. The roundabout opened in October of 2015. The bridge is on schedule to open in April of 2016. All funding has been secured for this project from local partnerships with Kennesaw State University, Cobb County DOT and Georgia DOT.

Phase	TCCID Commitment	Kennesaw State University	CCDOT Commitment	GDOT Commitment	Total Cost
Engineering	\$1,471,650				\$1,471,650
Right-of-way		\$700,000	\$2,000,000		\$2,700,000
Construction			\$3,000,000	\$10,600,000	\$13,600,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,471,650</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,600,000</b>	<b>\$17,771,650</b>