

# 3rd Infantry Division Highway Corridor Study

## PROJECT FACT SHEET

### What is the 3rd Infantry Division Highway Corridor Study?

The 3rd Infantry Division Highway is a congressionally mandated study of a proposed highway that would connect the cities of Savannah, Augusta and Knoxville (refer to the map on page 2). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is currently studying potential routes, steps and costs that would be necessary to designate and construct a highway between these cities.

### Will FHWA be recommending a preferred alignment (i.e., location and roadway type)?

No. FHWA will not be recommending a preferred alignment. The purpose of this study is to present a range of potential options for the 3rd Infantry Division Highway. No particular design, including Interstate design, will be recommended. In addition, FHWA will not be recommending whether or not to build the highway.

### Is there any funding to support planning, environmental review or construction?

No. There is currently no funding identified to support long-range planning, environmental review or construction. These activities must be initiated at the state or regional level.

### Why is the 3rd Infantry Division Highway being studied?

In the federal transportation legislation known as SAFETEA-LU (Public Law 109-59), Congress directed various studies be conducted. One of the studies is the 3rd Infantry Division Highway. The study is taking a big-picture look at how the project might be approached, what steps would be necessary to move the project forward, and what it would cost to construct.

#### For More Information

##### Website

[www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/section\\_1927](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/section_1927)

##### Submit Comments

##### Email

[3rdinfantry@dot.gov](mailto:3rdinfantry@dot.gov)

##### Mail

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SE E74-313, Washington, DC 20590

### What does the study involve?

The 3rd Infantry Division Highway Corridor Study involves:

- Collecting and analyzing existing transportation, environmental and socioeconomic information
- Developing potential study alignments
- Determining conceptual cost estimates
- Documenting the steps involved in constructing highways
- Conducting stakeholder involvement
- Recommending additional studies, if needed
- Submitting a report to Congress

### How are the study alignments being developed and analyzed?

The study team is developing potential study alignments to connect the cities of Savannah, Augusta and Knoxville. The study team is considering the transportation network, existing and planned improvements, environmental and cultural resources, military facilities, economic generators, stakeholder input and more during the development of alignments.

Sensitive environmental resources will be avoided to the extent possible, such as protected state and federal lands (e.g., wilderness areas), areas with geologic issues (e.g., challenging terrain, high rockslide potential) and protected wildlife habitats. Other considerations include land use, socioeconomic conditions and environmental justice issues.

### What happens after the report is submitted to Congress?

Once the report has been submitted to Congress, the U.S. Department of Transportation will determine whether to proceed with additional studies. Additional studies may include a detailed analysis of potential benefits and impacts related to safety, environmental resources, social justice, economic development and other issues if the highway was constructed.

### How is the study being funded? Can this funding be used for other projects?

Congress provided High Priority Project funding for the 3rd Infantry Division Highway Corridor Study in SAFETEA-LU. These funds cannot be used for any other purposes unless specified in new legislation. Once the study is complete, any remaining funds will remain in the Highway Trust Fund in the U.S. Treasury until otherwise directed by Congress.

## How are stakeholders being engaged in the process?

An Expert Working Group (EWG) was formed in fall 2010 to help plan and guide the study. The EWG is comprised of representatives from regional, state and federal transportation agencies, local and regional planning organizations, environmental resource agencies and an advocacy group. Four EWG meetings will be held.

FHWA is also coordinating with the public during the planning process. Visit the study website to view reports and other materials, ask questions and submit comments. You may also e-mail comments to: [3rdinfantry@dot.gov](mailto:3rdinfantry@dot.gov). Your comments will be reviewed by the study team and considered during the development of a Conceptual Feasibility Report. A copy of your comments will be maintained in the project record and submitted with the report to Congress.

## When will the Conceptual Feasibility Report be completed?

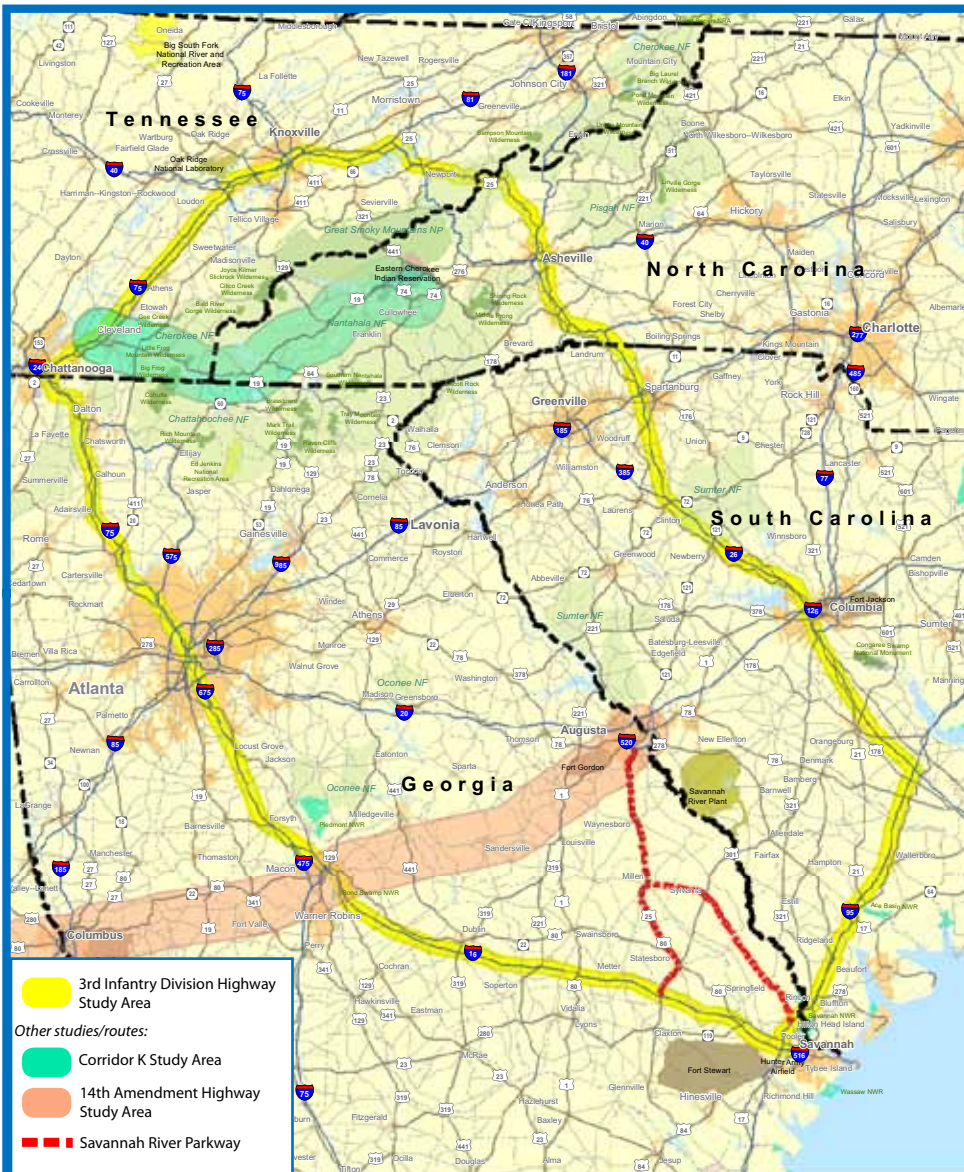
The Conceptual Feasibility Report will be submitted to FHWA in summer 2011. Recommendations will be made to FHWA concerning whether to undertake optional related sub-studies. Following FHWA review, the report will be submitted to Congress.

## Visit us on the Web

[www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/section\\_1927](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/section_1927)

- Learn more about the study
- Review EWG meeting summaries
- View maps, documents and other materials
- Submit comments

## Study Area Map



The 3rd Infantry Division Highway Corridor study area is shown in yellow. The map also shows other transportation studies and improvements in the Southeast related to the overall transportation network:

**14th Amendment Highway (orange):** The highway is proposed to extend from Augusta, Georgia to Natchez, Mississippi, servicing the cities of Macon and Columbus, Georgia, and Montgomery, Alabama. Visit: [www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/section\\_1927](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/section_1927).

**Corridor K (green):** The highway is part of the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) designed to promote economic development in the Appalachian Mountains. The 127-mile route starts at I-75 near Cleveland, Tennessee and ends near Dillsboro, North Carolina. Visit TN: [www.tdot.state.tn.us/corridork](http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/corridork) and NC: [www.ncdot.gov/projects/US74Relocation](http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/US74Relocation).

**Savannah River Parkway (red):** The 156-mile parkway lies between Augusta and Savannah by way of Waynesboro, Millen and Sylvania. A second leg extends from Millen to Statesboro and then to I-16. The parkway is open for traffic. Visit: [www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/roadimprovement/GRIP/Documents/Facts/SavannahRiverParkwayFactSheet.pdf](http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/roadimprovement/GRIP/Documents/Facts/SavannahRiverParkwayFactSheet.pdf).