

CAPITAL PROJECT FAQ

Quacco Road Improvements, Phase I (~1.5 miles)

Q: Why does it cost \$19.2 million for just 1.5 miles of roadway?

A: The \$19.2 million reflects the construction contract only. The total project budget is \$25 million, which includes design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and regulatory compliance. This is a full reconstruction, not a simple repaving. Key components include:

- Widening to four travel lanes
- Acceleration and deceleration lanes
- Dedicated left-turn lanes
- Multi-modal shared-use paths
- Stormwater infrastructure upgrades
- Signal and intersection improvements
- Major underground utility relocation

Costs are also influenced by market conditions, such as material prices, labor rates, and permitting requirements.

Q: How was the contractor selected?

A: The project went through a competitive bidding process. Four contractors submitted proposals:

- Astra Group, LLC \$19,229,000 (selected)
- C.W. Matthews Contracting \$21,181,373
- Platinum Paving and Concrete \$20,874,590.75
- McLendon Enterprises \$25,940,056.76

Astra Group, LLC was selected as the lowest responsible and qualified bidder.

Q: Why is only 1.5 miles being done in this phase?

A: This is Phase 1, focusing on the segment with the most immediate safety and congestion concerns. Future phases will follow as additional funding becomes available. Phasing also allows for better resource management, grant opportunities, and incremental reduced traffic disruption.

Q: Who's paying for the project?

A: Funding comes from multiple sources:

- SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax)
- City of Pooler general funds
- State and federal transportation funding

SPLOST funding is critical, as it provides the local match needed to secure state and federal dollars.

Q: How is the City ensuring taxpayer dollars are used responsibly?

A: The project follows a transparent, competitive procurement process to ensure fair pricing and qualified contractors. The City is committed to balancing cost-efficiency, safety, long-term durability, and compliance with regulations.