

\$601,480 with a 50% increase to \$952,481 for counter offers and condemnation increases. Mr. Sims negotiated a total City payout for land and improvements of \$639,000 which fell \$313,481 below the \$952,481 ceiling. Given the City will be reimbursed up to \$1 million for acquisition costs associated with right-of-way, the \$313,481 is in effect additional cost savings the City can apply towards appraisal and Attorney's fees and other acquisition costs.

Lastly, it was initially estimated by GDOT that as many as 23 parcels would need to be condemned yet only was one parcel was condemned. Mr. Sims spent many hours negotiating, answering property owner questions, and documenting his work for GDOT. He often would meet with property owners after business hours to accommodate their schedules.

It is for those reasons and many more, that Pat Collins, City Engineer, nominated William Sims for the City-wide employee of the month and he asked the Employee of the Month Selection Committee to support the nomination based on the following findings:

- (1) Mr. Sims met the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for reaching agreements with owners of every parcel.
- (2) He met this deadline despite three time-setbacks beyond his control, meeting the deadline in 17.5 months (6.5 months less than originally programmed).
- (3) He demonstrated superb organization and negotiation skills throughout the acquisition period.