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**CITY CLERK**  
Vivian Woods

**CITY ATTORNEY**  
Edward M. Hughes

## **CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND**

PRESS RELEASE:  
For immediate release

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### **Tybee Island Awarded Transportation Enhancement Grant by Georgia Department of Transportation**

Tybee Island, Ga. – (January 8, 2008) The City of Tybee Island has been awarded a grant by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) as part of the federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) program. The City will use this grant along with local matching funds to restore the southernmost two blocks of Highway 80 on Butler Avenue to have a tree lined median, angled parking, and brick pedestrian walkways.

The TE program was established in 1991 by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, and continued by the Safe, Accountable, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users enacted in 2005. The TE program is administered by the Georgia DOT's Planning Office for the state. TE funds are used to provide multi-use facilities, such as: walking and biking trails and paths; streetscaping and landscaping projects in cities and towns; historic preservation of transportation-related facilities such as railroad depots; and scenic preservation of views and scenic byways.

Tybee's award of \$125,000 in federal moneys is for the Historic Butler Avenue Pedestrian Safety Project which retrofits two blocks of the highway to a 1960's, historic beach-town streetscape design. The palm trees, wax myrtles, and oleander shrubs in the median will match the landscaping of medians on other parts of Victory Drive in the Savannah area.

The project will also incorporate additional catch basins and run-off capacity that will help to control flooding and allow sediments and some oils and suspended elements to be removed before the run-off is discharged. Pollution control will also be helped by the replacement of the road surface with the pervious surfaces in the planted median.

There will be a reduction from two lanes to a single lane of traffic in each direction which will help to ease the traffic flow into the business and residential areas and provide a safer environment for bicycle traffic and pedestrians crossing the street in the downtown business area. The traffic realignment will also allow approximately 27 additional, diagonal parking places to be added in the two block area.

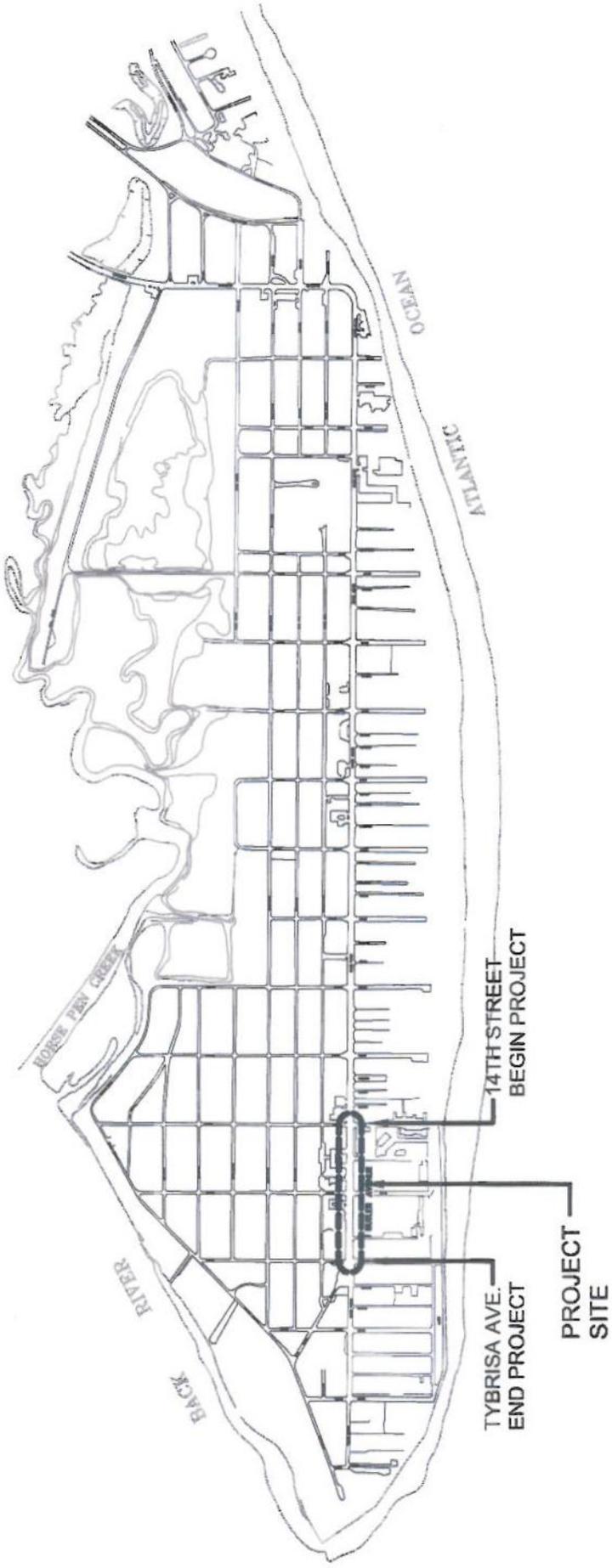
Research and planning for these improvements will take place during 2008, with the project expected to take place in the fall of 2009.

*Information about the City of Tybee Island is online at <http://www.cityoftybee.org>, and the TE program can be found on the web at <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/dot/plan-prog/planning/projects/te/index.shtml>.*

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Attachments: Map showing affected area; Historic drawing showing median on Butler Avenue in the past

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**[www.cityoftybee.org](http://www.cityoftybee.org)**



# SITE MAP

SCALE: 1" = 1,200'

MAIN DRIVE ON SAVANNAH BEACH, SAVANNAH, GA.—2

