{audio}files/preroll.mp3;files/Shows/2011/071111_SGR_Exclusive_Conti.mp3{/audio}

State Secretary of Transportation Dr. Gene Conti tells host Barlow Herget that the Department of Transportation came out "pretty well" in the recent budget bill. DOT, he says, must cut 400 jobs but Conti expects to do that with attrition rather than sending employees into the unemployment lines. He says his department is following recommendations from Governor Perdue's task force to incorporate the State Ports Authority and the Global Transpark onto the DOT structure, and he believes the Transpark will benefit in jobs from new jet airplane orders by Airbus at the recent Paris Air Show. Conti also estimates that the federal stimulus in 2009 put 20,000 to 30,000 construction workers to work on North Carolina road projects, and he reveals that $200 million of the $812 million total has yet to be spent although it is committed.