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Exclusive: Biden to join Perdue for stimulus announcement

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Vice President Joe Biden will be in Georgia on Thursday to make an stimulus-related announcement with Gov. Sonny Perdue, the vice president's office told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Sunday.

Few details were available Sunday but would be released in the coming days, Biden's office said. President Barack Obama, who championed the stimulus act, has charged Biden with overseeing its implementation.

"We are looking forward to Vice President Biden's visit on Thursday," Perdue communications director Bert Brantley said. "He was very gracious to come to Georgia during the aftermath of the flooding earlier this year, including spending time at a shelter talking with families that lost their homes. We are glad to welcome him here this week under better circumstances to announce some good news for our state."

Brantley said the vice president's office would release details about the announcement later this week.

Georgia has received nearly \$7 billion from the federal law known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, of which \$3.8 billion has already been spent.

Federal records show the \$787 billion stimulus act has created nearly 25,000 jobs in Georgia. But an AJC investigation in November found that number to be overstated by at least 1,500.

A major impact of the stimulus in Georgia has been to plug massive holes in the state budget. The state is using an estimated \$1.4 billion in stimulus funds in its current budget, according to the [Georgia Budget and Policy Institute](#). That created or saved 13,000 jobs in the state, the institute said in a report last week.