



Thomas County Board of Commissioners
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Sales Tax Dollars Will Fund Road Improvements

Thomasville, Georgia, 8 February 2011 --- The Thomas County Board of Commissioners approved \$1,000,000 of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) dollars to fund four road resurfacing projects. The SPLOST was approved to begin in January 2007 and runs until December 2012. Up until now sales tax dollars have been used to fund the construction of the new Judicial Center on Madison Street and upgrade the county-wide 800 Megahertz radio system. Even though sales tax revenues declined about 10% over the past three years enough funds are on hand to begin the rehab of the Historic Courthouse and county road resurfacing.

At current asphalt prices, it costs the County \$80,000 to resurface one mile of road, so \$1,000,000 will resurface about 12 road miles. The County maintains 433 miles of paved roads. According to Public Works Director **Tony Wooten** about 65% or 281 miles need to be resurfaced now at a total estimated cost of \$22,480,000. Chairman **Elaine Mays** states, "Without the sales tax for road improvements either we would have to raise property taxes or sit back and watch our road system crumble apart". The current sales tax is expected to generate about \$6,000,000 more for additional road resurfacing projects before it runs out at the end of 2012.

The approved projects are as follows: Dillon Road, 3.2 miles; McMillan Road, 0.50 miles; Stage Road, 4.57 miles; and Egg & Butter Road, 3.51 miles. County crews do the road work which is expected to begin in 30 days. For more information on the county's road improvement program please contact **Tony Wooten** at 229-226-4389 or tcpwtony@rose.net.

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