

January is here and I am sure everyone is planning on a fresh start...

## District Two News

\*\* At our second board meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> I will re-introduce a task order for Livingston Lane and Veal Road. The residents of this area have been waiting well over nine years for this street problem to be fixed. I last introduced the task order for this location back in 2007, but it did not pass. Sadly, if it had passed it would be among the road projects the Obama Administration would have paid for, because in the President's proposed Stimulus Package money is budgeted for local road projects that are "ready to go" within six months after he takes office. And if the task order had passed in 2007, we would have been finished with the entire outstanding preliminaries for that project. Sometimes it's good to be proactive.

\*\*Speaking of Stimulus Projects: I am very excited at the possibility of receiving approval for the Oak Hill Road Bridge Replacement. This project has been sent to our Congressman Jim Marshall as part of our proposed Federal Stimulus Project requests.

If approved, the estimated cost is \$3,000,000.

\*\*The library board has placed a sign on Highway 212, next to the oak Hill Elementary School, to let people in the district know where the new library will be located.

\*\*The Recreation Board has also placed a similar sign across from the Oak Hill Elementary School to show where the planned Denny Dobbs Park will be. Included on this sign is a detailed drawing of what will be available within the park. As you can tell from the drawing this is going to be an enjoyable place for the residents. Preliminary construction bidding has taken place and hopefully we will begin construction very soon.

\*\*The completion of the Porter Memorial Library and the Denny Dobbs Park are top priorities for me this year, but I will also focus on trying to get a satellite substation for the Sheriff's Office. We have a newly elected sheriff and I will be meeting with him accordingly. Districts two and three have a combined population of well over 25,000 residents and needs the patrols and emergency services this substation would allow. I also want to house a tax office within the substation to offer convenience to the needs of residents who reside in district one, two and three within the radius of Salem Road, Brown Bridge Road, and Highway 212. This will save energy, effort and time for them.

\*\*I also want to look into a summer youth employment program for those who are 15-17 years old. We should give this top priority because of our growing population. They can do a variety of work around the county; such as beautify roads and streets, trash pick-up, cemetery cleanup and other public work as needed. If the school board joins us in the cost of the six-eight week program, we could possibly make this happen.

I'm looking to continue keeping you informed about my progress and I will be proactive.

Commissioner Simmons

