

"My Perspectives"  
July Newsletter

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As we head into the early summer months, the county has proposed a fiscal year budget of \$55,106,581.00 that will become final on July 1st. Our millage rate will include County M&O, Hospital Indigent Fund, Emergency Medical Services and the State of Georgia. It will come to a final total of 11.631. The fire district millage rate is 0.792 for 2008 and 0.792 for 2007. Last year our budget was just over \$53 million, so we are still in a growth mode. In the June Perspective I covered all district two's appropriations.

At a recent commission meeting, I sponsored and presented a motion to ask the Georgia Department of Transportation to do a Signal Warrant Analysis for the Intersection of Highway 212 and Oak Hill Road. The motion stressed the urgency of a traffic light to be placed at this location because of the frequency of accidents and near accidents that occur at this intersection because of the limited site distance.

I also want to mention that over the last year DJ's Country Kitchen on Magnet Road and Brown Bridge Road has graciously put up a wooden barrier to prevent its drive-thru customers automobile lights from shinning onto on coming traffic coming north from Magnet Road. This was a problem because the restaurant opens at 6:00 a.m. and in winter months it's still dark outside.

I met with departing Georgia Department of Transportation Commissioner, Harold Linnenkohl, along with John Lunsford and John Douglas to get the SMART Light System installed on Salem Road. The SMART Light System is an electronic monitoring and flow system for moving traffic efficiently. We also talked about placing Livingston Lane and Veal Road on the State's priority list of local roads that need state assistance. The SMART Light System was well received.

In other news we rezoned the property next to the BP Station and across from the CITGO Gas Station for commercial/restaurant (Hwy. 20 & Oak Hill Road), and we hope to have a nice, tasteful, restaurant emerge. We are looking at rezoning some property on GA Highway 20 to be a commercial business center that will eventually produce a variety of services.

Next month I look to have more news. Wishing you and yours a very happy and safe Independence Day.

Commissioner Simmons