

## BRYAN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INPUT SESSIONS WELL ATTENDED BY RESIDENTS

**RICHMOND HILL**, **GA – Nov. 20, 2017 –** Two public input sessions held last week by Bryan County attracted engaged groups of residents, eager to weigh in on the county's comprehensive land use plan.

The county's 10-year comp plan consists of maps, text, data and support documents that form the foundation of Bryan County's planning program. The plan provides guidance for the county's physical growth through its various elements and related goals, objectives, and policies. In the weeks leading up to the sessions, the Bryan County commission had encouraged all community members to come share their thoughts and ideas, which they'll take into consideration when sculpting the plan.

The south Bryan session, held Wednesday, Nov. 15 at the Bryan County Administrative Building in Richmond Hill, attracted between 50-60 attendees, according to Commission Chairman Carter Infinger. The north Bryan session, held Thursday, Nov. 16 in the Commissioners Meeting Room in Pembroke, drew between 20-30 people. Certain issues sparked more conversation than others, with special attention paid to transportation-related projects, the chairman said.

Two traffic studies (one in the north end, and one in the south) recently were conducted jointly by Thomas and Hutton and the City of Richmond Hill. The studies took a scientific approach to traffic and pointed to the need for several important projects, which the county then asked Thomas and to prioritize by year. The projects are slated to be covered by SPLOST and T-SPLOST funds, as well as impact fees.

Infinger expected much of the conversation to center on transportation issues, which he says the county is focused on.

"There's an estimated \$167 million worth of projects needed for transportation in this community. Intersections need improving and increased access points are necessary. Bryan County is responsibly planning for future transportation needs, and we appreciate everyone who attended our public input sessions to weigh in on those matters and others of significant importance to area residents," Infinger said.

T-SPLOST (Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) is slated for a vote in May 2018. The county plans to hold additional informational sessions and forums leading up to that election in order to educate Bryan County residents about other projects that would be made possible by T-SPLOST.

For more information on the public input sessions or Bryan County's comprehensive plan, please visit www.bryancountyga.org or call 912-653-5252 or 912-756-3177.

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