

More Public Input Sought On Potential SPLOST VII Project Categories

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Two additional public input meetings have been scheduled to garner more input from residents about what potential categories of projects should be included in the next proposed Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST VII).

Officials with Hall County will host the meetings, which will be held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13 and 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11. Both meetings will be held at the Hall County Government Center, 2875 Browns Bridge Road in Gainesville and will precede the regularly scheduled voting meeting of the Hall County Board of Commissioners.

The meetings will consist of a presentation made by government officials and an opportunity for the public to ask questions and give feedback and input regarding potential SPLOST VII projects. These meetings follow three similar public input meetings held earlier this year at various locations throughout the county.

In conjunction with the public input meetings, the county will also be receiving input at the county website (www.hallcounty.org) beginning Monday, Nov. 10 at 12 p.m. Citizens may also give written feedback about potential SPLOST VII categories by filling out comment cards, which will be available in the Administration offices on the 4th floor of the Hall County Government Center, for those unable to attend the public input meetings or access the online survey.

A SPLOST is an optional 1 percent county sales tax used to fund capital outlay projects proposed by the county government and participating qualified municipal governments. SPLOST funds can be used for capital outlay projects, which are major projects of a permanent, long-lived nature, such as land and structures. They also include roads, streets, bridges, police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, garbage trucks and other major equipment. SPLOST funds cannot be used for maintenance and operation costs, however. A SPLOST is imposed for a specific period of time and for a specific purpose.

More information about SPLOST, including a history of Hall County's six previously approved SPLOST referendums, can be found at <http://www.hallcounty.org/gov/splost.asp>.