

Public Input Sought On Potential SPLOST VII Project Categories

5/30/2014

Three public input meetings have been scheduled for next month to garner 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 and the cities of Gainesville, Oakwood, Flowery Branch, Lula, Clermont, Gillsville, Buford and Braselton will host the meetings, which will be held at various venues across the county to provide greater access for citizens regardless of their location. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10 at Spout Springs Library, located at 6488 Spout Springs Road in Flowery Branch. The second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17 at the Clermont Chattahoochee Center, located at 639 Main Street in Clermont, and the third meeting will be held Thursday, June 19 at the Gainesville Civic Center, located at 830 Green Street in Gainesville. Each public input meeting is set to begin at 6 p.m.

The three separate and independent meetings will consist of a presentation made by government officials and an opportunity for the public to ask questions. The public will also be provided an opportunity to give written feedback and input about potential SPLOST VII projects.

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>.