



# Gwinnett County Government Communications Division NEWS RELEASE

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## CITIZENS COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEETING

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Sept. 10, 2013) – The work of the SPLOST Citizens Project Selection Committee for transportation will get underway during the group’s first meeting that will take place on Monday, Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. in the DOT Central Facility, located at 620 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. The meeting is open to the public and will be attended by the representatives of six major interest groups who were selected to serve on the committee—homeowners (one each from the four commission districts), the business community, environmental stakeholders, schools, civic organizations and Gwinnett County’s seniors.

Gwinnett Transportation Director Kim Conroy said, “During this first meeting, the committee will get information about project categories that will be funded by the SPLOST renewal if voters approve it in November. We’ll ask them to start thinking about how to allocate funding to these various categories.” The committee will also likely set their meeting schedule for the remainder of the year, added Conroy.

Members of the committee were selected from among peer groups during an organizational meeting that was held on Aug. 26. Georgia Power Company facilitator Del Clark moderated the meeting. Participants were split into groups and selected representatives from among themselves. The representative for the civic organizations interest group later resigned from the committee. At the same time, some of the participants in this group were found to have been ineligible to participate in the selection process. As a result, the remaining participants were asked to select a new representative and alternate. The peer-selected members of the CPSC are:

| <b>Interest Group</b>   | <b>Member</b>     | <b>Alternate</b>   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| District 1 Homeowner    | Marlin Knapp      | Billy Wise         |
| District 2 Homeowner    | Scott Hilton      | Jim Kwater         |
| District 3 Homeowner    | Jerry Oberholtzer | Greg Cantrell      |
| District 4 Homeowner    | Renee Byrd-Lewis  | Jody Everette      |
| Business Community      | Laurie McClain    | Glenn Park         |
| Civic Organizations     | Curt Thompson     | Jacqueline Frazier |
| Environmental Community | Art Sheldon       | Tommy Loggins      |
| Schools                 | Alan Kaplan       | Daniel Jardine     |
| Seniors                 | Davida Baker      | John Winters       |

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A referendum going before voters on Nov. 5 will ask whether they wish to renew the one-cent special purpose local option sales tax, or SPLOST, after the current program ends next March. If approved, the SPLOST program will focus primarily on transportation but will also include funding for other purposes such as public safety, parks, libraries, and senior facilities. The new program will end in March 2017 and raise an estimated total \$498 million. According to an intergovernmental agreement between Gwinnett County and the 16 cities, county government will receive 78.9 percent of the proceeds and the cities will receive 21.1 percent. The County has determined that 70 percent of its share, or an estimated \$275 million, will be dedicated to transportation projects such as roads, bridges, intersection improvements, and sidewalks.

For more information about the upcoming CPSC meeting, visit [www.gwinnettcountry.com](http://www.gwinnettcountry.com) or call the Gwinnett Department of Transportation at (770) 822-7400.

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