

Community Leaders Discuss SPLOST

On Monday March 23rd Commissioners met with other elected officials and community leaders to discuss options associated with renewal of another round of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax or SPLOST. The meeting focused on gathering input from those in attendance concerning education of the public on the value of SPLOST to our community, a thorough description of proposed projects, listening sessions, identifying key individuals to help with renewal efforts, and the benefit of SPLOST and its offset to advalorem tax dollars. The group viewed a time line associated with holding the referendum in November of 2015 and discussed it's co-incidence with scheduled City elections with a goal of making it easy on the voter. A review of the proposed project list from the November 2014 ballot was reviewed along with voting tabulations by County precincts. The group decided it best to try and continue to pursue a referendum in November. Members were asked to identify two or three individuals within their respective areas that would be willing to "champion the cause" and invite them to attend a follow up meeting on the issue scheduled for April 6th at 6:00 PM.

SPLOST has been a huge part of Liberty County's growth since 1990 and has provided over \$124,103,000 in capital improvements in Liberty County. These improvements include:

Roads/Bridges/Drainage - \$53,800,000

Recreation - \$9,865,000

Public Safety - \$11,085,000

Hospital/EMS - \$4,523,000

Public Infrastructure - \$44,830,000