



CITY LEVERAGING ONE PERCENT SALES TAX FUNDS TO “DO MORE, FASTER”

The city of Jackson has collected nearly \$34 million in the two years since voters approved a special municipal sales tax to help finance road, bridge, waterline and other needed infrastructure improvements. Mayor Tony T. Yarber said analysts anticipate the amount will grow to between \$225 million and \$270 million during the 20 year life span of the program.

But the problem, he said, is that to modernize the City’s infrastructure requires over \$2 billion. “So we have to decide how to leverage your money so that we can do more, faster,” Yarber explained to residents gathered at the Jackson Medical Mall for a September 22 luncheon sponsored by the group Working Together Jackson.

The City is currently working with an international banking institution to leverage the funds and has already been successful in using the money to help bring in federal funds, including a \$16.5 million TIGER Grant to improve West County Line Road and State Street. “That money required some matching funds that we had to pull out of the One Percent Sales Tax,” Yarber said. “And we used \$600,000 of your one percent

money to provide a match for a grant that Hinds County received to repave sections of Watkins Drive, Lynch Street Extension, Forest Hill Road and McCluer Road.”

The road work is among the first of more than 30 projects approved under Year One of the One Percent Sales Tax program. Yarber said the City has also filled more than 65,000 potholes, replaced the Hanging Moss Road Bridge, started waterline replacement projects and repaved sections of over 40 streets with money from the sales tax. “And we are doing drainage replacement in places like Brookhollow Circle, where there are 40 homes that are cut off from access whenever the creek in the area floods. In the event of an emergency, emergency personnel and vehicles can’t get to them. So projects like this are a priority.”

Working Together Jackson Lead Organizer Perry Perkins said the group was elated to hear of the progress being made. “When people vote for something like this, they expect something to happen; and we think the Mayor came out today and made a very clear showing of what the City is doing.”



Crews are finalizing the installation of a new 5,500 LF, 16” ductile iron pipe waterline along Eastover Drive. The new line will replace the existing cast iron pipe installed in the 1950s.

EASTOVER DRIVE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT NEAR COMPLETION

Imagine turning on the faucet in your kitchen and not knowing if you will have water, or even worse, questioning whether it's safe to drink. That is what life was like for residents in the Eastover Drive area; but soon those concerns will be relegated to the past.

Crews have spent the last three months installing a new waterline along Eastover Drive from Ridgewood Road to Frontage Road and are expected to complete the work later this month. The new 12 inch lines will replace a nearly 60 year old water main that has busted dozens of times in the last year alone, causing a loss of water pressure and boil water notices. “We have heard our residents’ concerns and have made getting this line fixed quickly a priority.” said Jackson Mayor Tony T. Yarber.

The replacement project cost approximately \$1.14 million and is being paid for with money for the City’s One Percent Sales Tax fund. Other problem waterlines to be replaced in the coming months with One Percent Sales Tax dollars are: Woodell Drive between McDowell Road and Oak Forest; Hanging Moss Road between North Beasley Road to Meadowbrook Road; and Lawrence Road between Manhattan Road and Durfrey Street. Consultants have already been hired for each project and are currently designing the improvements.

MAJOR STREET WORK TO GET UN- DERWAY THIS MONTH

Resurfacing will begin later this month on sections of seven of the most heavily traveled streets in Jackson.

Superior Asphalt, Inc. has been hired by the City to repair Ridgewood Road from Old Canton Road to County Line Road; Briarwood Road from State Street to Ridgewood Road; Northside Drive from Medgar Evers to Methodist Farm Road, Raymond Road from Forest Hill Road to McDowell Road, McDowell Road to Robinson Road Ext., Robinson Road Ext. to Hospital Drive and Hospital Drive to Castle Hill Drive; McRaven Road from Maddox Road to the City Limits; Greenway Drive from East of Hwy 18 to West of Hwy 18; and Gallatin Street from Porter Street to South Street.

Once construction begins, traffic in the impacted areas will be reduced to one lane. Motorists are urged to use caution while traveling in work zones.

The work, which will cost nearly \$4.5 million, is being paid for with One Percent Sales Tax funds. It could take up to 6 months to complete.

JACKSON CONTRACTOR TO RECOMMEND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS



The City of Jackson has long struggled with storm flooding that causes erosion and other damage to infrastructure and property. Mayor Tony T. Yarber and City Council members are now investing \$374,000 in One Percent Sales Tax funds to find a solution to the problem.

They agreed during their September 20 City Council meeting to pay that amount to Allen Engineering and Science, Inc. to develop a Stormwater Management plan for the City's priority drainage basins, as well as identify other funding sources and future framework for watershed and green infrastructure planning.

Stormwater that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, paved roads and parking lots carry pollutants which can get into storm drains and local tributaries. To keep pollution under control, the City is required to have a discharge permit. Jackson's existing Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit expires June 2017.

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) requires a draft 5-year stormwater management plan be submitted at least 6 months prior to the expiration date. Allen Engineering will assist the City in meeting MDEQ requirements as well as submitting annual reports and an application for a new permit.

The Jackson based company will also develop stormwater management plans for the City's drainage basins as well as the conceptual design documents for selected watershed improvement projects for flood and erosion control.

As part of the contract, Allen Engineering will also oversee community outreach and education efforts. The firm will host community events to both educate residents and receive their input on any plans, projects and other stormwater improvement activities.

OPERATION ORANGE CONE UPDATE

Sections of nearly 20 more Jackson streets were paved last month under the City's Operation Orange Cone initiative, funded with One Percent Sales Tax dollars. The work occurred in Wards five and six. To-date, sections of the following streets have been resurfaced since the City kicked off the initiative in May:

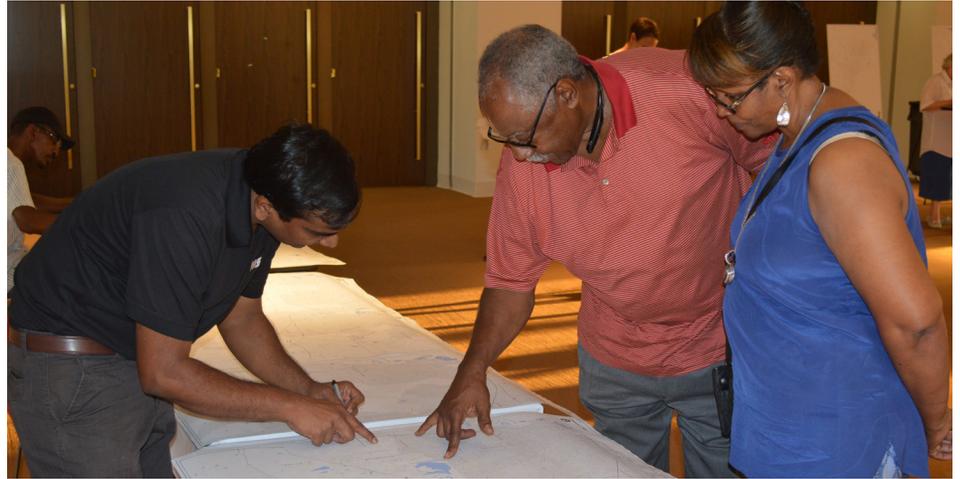
Highland Place Dr.	Sundew Pl.	Burton St.
Canton Heights Dr.	Cherrie Ave.	Dixie Dr.
St. Charles St.	Ronald Rd.	Williams Dr.
Claiborne Ave.	Rainey Rd.	Montgomery St.
Valley St.	Woody Dr.	Montgomery Ave.
Garden Park Dr.	Winn St.	Heloise St.
Fairhill Dr.	Maddox Rd.	Wynwood Dr.
Poole St.	Lindbergh	Wilton St.
Cooks Ave.	Veterans Blvd.	Hickory Dr.
Wildwood Cir.	Montgomery St.	Valley St.
Old Lake Rd.	Brookhollow Dr.	Belle Glade St.
Wingfield Dr.	Johnson Ct.	Kimwood Dr.
Twin Oaks Dr.	Sharp St.	Northcliff Dr.
Barberry Ave.	Segura Ave.	





JACKSON
Department of Public Works

MEETING GIVES RESIDENTS CHANCE TO SEE WHERE ONE PERCENT MONEY IS GOING



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MAYOR
The Honorable Tony T. Yarber

The City of Jackson has collected nearly \$34 million through its One Percent Sales Tax Program. On Thursday, September 1, Jackson Mayor Tony T. Yarber explained to residents exactly how and where those dollars are being spent.

Yarber said the City had, among other things, used some of the funding to purchase a pothole patching machine, resurface sections of nearly 20 streets under the Operation Orange Cone initiative, replace the Hanging Moss Road Bridge and to replace a waterline on Eastover Drive. "I'm excited y'all because we are finally delivering on some things that we have been working on for some time," Yarber told the crowd gathered at Thalia Mara Hall for the Public Information Meeting.

But he said the program was more than about roads, bridges and other infrastructure. "It's about how do we get our people back to work." Yarber said the City has partnered with groups like Working Together Jackson and Hinds Community College to train local residents for jobs specifically created as a result of the One Percent Sales Tax program.

Interim Public Works Director Jerriot Smash also spoke at the meeting and said Jackson's infrastructure needs are great and will take some time to complete. "While there is still much work to be done, it is safe to say that by all efforts going on now, we are bearing fruit," he added.

Mayor Yarber said residents can track the progress of One Percent Sales Tax funded projects online at data.jacksonms.gov. "You will be able to see every project that this one percent sales tax is paying for, and see the stage that the project is currently in."

Following their speeches, residents were able to view ward maps identifying locations where One Percent Sales Tax related work is occurring, speak with engineers about those specific projects, and provide suggestions.