

****Press Release****

May 29, 2014

Issued by: John Bell Crosby, District 1 Supervisor

In response to the letter by Mr. Mike Smith to the residents of Madison County I would like to clear up some misconceptions that Mr. Smith has pointed to in his letter. First of all I want to let the resident of Madison County know that I am working very hard to make sure that South Madison County gets all of the money from the board of supervisors that I can possibly deliver by working with my constituents on the Board. As history has shown over the past 10 years that if we don't work together then South Madison County suffers. Addressing each of Mr. Smith's issues below I hope this clears up any misconceptions.

- South Highland Colony mill and overlay work (\$3.5 million). This money was shifted to the section of Highland Colony with the highest traffic count. At this point in time the highest count is on the North end of Highland Colony Parkway. These counts were furnished by the Mississippi Department of Transportation. I am currently working with my fellow board members to program the South Highland Colony overlay in this years upcoming budget. So to be clear this work is important and will be done.
- Wheatley Road \$100,000 for mill and overlay. It was decided that \$100,000 is not nearly enough money to properly fix Wheatley road, therefore it was decided that we consider this project later in the year.
- Rebah plans for six ridgeland streets totaling \$100,000. In this years road budget I have programmed \$100,000 for ridgeland streets that will be spent in the next 4 months.
- \$1.9 million for Lake Harbour. This money is budgeted and in accordance with the agreement Madison County has with Ridgeland the money will be paid when the project is "Substantially Complete". Nothing has changed in my commitment to fund this project.
- Forfeiture of \$40,000 ridgeland has paid for design studies on south Highland Colony Parkway, \$215,000 in federal funding, and \$3500 the county was to reimburse Ridgeland under a Memorandum of Understanding. These expenditures were never presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration, so how could they be lost when they were never presented to the board for consideration.
- State Aid funding for Rice Road and Pear Orchard (\$1,500,000), Livingston Road (\$470,000), and \$240,000 in additional costs. This money has not been lost. This money was suspended until clearing and grubbing could be performed around bridges in North Madison County, and striping of county roads in North Madison County was commenced. Action has been taken by

the Board of Supervisors to release these funds, which I expect to be released within the next 60 days.

Mr. Smith states that Ridgeland has lost \$8,068,500, however the truth is that none of the money has been lost.

In closing I would like to point out that over the past 2 years I have worked with my fellow board members to fund the following projects;

- Steed Road Bridge Rehab
- Old Agency Bridge Rehab
- Rice Road from Old Canton to City Limits
- Lake Harbour Drive
- Various maintenance overlays

The total for the money spent in the past 2 years is over \$2,000,000. There is a lot more work to be done in Ridgeland and South Madison County, work that will only be accomplished by working together on the Board of Supervisors. One Supervisor can't accomplish the work that is needed in South Madison County, but if we work together we can accomplish almost anything.

In closing I want to thank all of the residents for contacting me for an accurate update of where we are and where we are going. It is a pleasure to speak with the people of Madison County and to know that like me they truly do care about our future.

John Bell Crosby
District 1 Supervisor