



NEWS RELEASE

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Wakulla County Completes Road Paving Projects in Panacea

Crawfordville, Florida – The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners and the Public Works Department recently completed the paving of Fishing Fool Street, Tower Road, and Chattahoochee Street, in the Panacea area.

In 2002, the road paving matrix was developed as a guiding document used by Public Works to determine the order of road paving projects. As the County's population has increased, paving projects have become more complex due to the cost of construction and right of way issues. Since that time a significant number of paving projects have been completed.

Wakulla County is excited to see the progress being made in this area. These three roads were included in the top 20 roads to be paved in the road paving matrix and were selected by the Board at an August 20, 2008 Board Meeting be paved in FY08/09. This paving project consisted of 2.55 miles of paving, clearing, widening of right of ways and implementing drainage improvements. This project was funded from the one cent sales tax in the amount of \$257,820.

“Wakulla County is a fiscally constrained county and it is challenging for us to fund infrastructure. The citizens voted to tax themselves whereby the one cent sales tax paid for the paving of these neighborhood roads. The citizens now benefit and will continue to see their tax dollars put to good use. The completed road paving of Fishing Fool, Tower and Chattahoochee Roads is another example of how the County is responding to its citizens' needs”, commented Commissioner Kessler.

Wakulla County residents should also be aware of other road and bridge projects that are currently in progress and nearing completion. Replacement of the Skipper Bay Bridge and the paving of Lawhon Mill Road are such projects. The Skipper Bay Bridge was destroyed by Tropical Storm Dennis in 2004 and the Board received \$30,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to replace the wooden bridge. This project is 85% complete and is estimated to be open to traffic by March 1, 2009. The Lawhon Mill Road project is 65% complete and is estimated to be completed in early April 2009. Stay tuned for additional information on these and other projects currently in progress.

For additional information related to this story, please contact Jessica Welch, Policy & Public Information Coordinator at (850) 926-0919.