

EXHIBIT “A”

NOTICE OF CALL OF ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

1. Notice is hereby given by the Board of Commissioners of Effingham County (the “Board of Commissioners”), the governing body of Effingham County (the “County”), and by the Effingham County Board of Elections and Registration (the “Election Superintendent”), that on the 7th day of November, 2023, an election will be held at the regular county polling places in all the election districts of Effingham County, Georgia (the “County”). At the Election, there will be submitted to the qualified voters of the County for their determination the following question:

ONE PERCENT TSPLOST

“() Yes.

Shall a special one percent sales and use tax be imposed in the special district of Effingham County for a period of time of five years and for the raising of an estimated amount of \$120,000,000.00 (One Hundred Twenty Million Dollars) for funding transportation purposes for Effingham County, the City of Guyton, the City of Rincon, and the City of Springfield?

If imposition of the tax is approved by the voters, such vote shall also constitute approval of the issuance of general obligation debt of Effingham County in the principal amount of \$60,000,000.00 (Sixty Million Dollars) for the above purposes.

() No.”

2. All qualified voters desiring to vote in favor of the question propounded shall vote “Yes” and all qualified voters desiring to vote in opposition of the question propounded shall vote “No.”

3. General obligation debt, if authorized, shall be general obligation debt of the Effingham County and shall be issued in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$60,000,000.00. The maximum rate or rates of interest on such debt shall not exceed five percent (5.00%) per annum. The maximum amount of principal to be paid in each year during the life of the debt shall be as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Principal Amount Maturing</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2024 | <u>\$10,450,000.00</u> |
| 2025 | <u>\$11,485,000.00</u> |
| 2026 | <u>\$12,070,000.00</u> |
| 2027 | <u>\$12,675,000.00</u> |
| 2028 | <u>\$13,320,000.00</u> |

The aggregate principal amount of general obligation debt which may be issued shall not exceed \$60,000,000.00. The County may issue aggregate general obligation debt which is less than \$60,000,000.00 and reduce the principal amounts maturing which are shown above.

To the extent available, the County may combine available funds from the State of Georgia with proceeds from the general obligation debt and proceeds received directly from the Sales and Use tax, and any other available funds, to pay the costs of the transportation projects. Plans and specifications for these projects have not been completed and bids have not been received. Depending upon acquisition and construction costs and available funds, the County may choose which capital outlay projects to undertake or not undertake, or to delay until additional funding is available, to the extent that proceeds of the general obligation debt and Sales and Use tax proceeds together with other available funds actually received by the County, are insufficient to complete any of the projects. Such general obligation debt shall be payable from the proceeds of the Sales and Use tax and from an *ad valorem* tax to be levied within the County.

4. Reference is hereby made to O.C.G.A. § 36-82-1(d), which provides in part that any brochures, listings, or other advertisements issued by the Board of Commissioners or by any other person, firm, corporation or association with the knowledge and consent of the Board of Commissioners shall be deemed to be a statement of intention of the Board of Commissioners concerning the use of bond funds.

5. The last day to register to vote in the election is **Tuesday, October 10, 2023**. Anyone desiring to register may do so by applying in person at the voter registration office located at the 284 GA Highway 119S, Springfield, Georgia, 31329, or by any other method authorized by the Georgia Election Code.

6. The election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

7. The initial publication of this notice in the legal organ of the County shall constitute the call of the election, and subsequent publications shall serve as additional notice of said election as may be required by the laws of the State of Georgia.

This ___ of September, 2023.

Election Superintendent of the Effingham County
Board of Elections and Registration