

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Resolution Authorizing Condemnation Proceedings – Blue Jay Water Main and Road Project, Parcel 70

**Author:** Tre Wilkins, Project Manager

**Department:** Engineering

**Meeting Date:** June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

**Item Description:** Consideration to approve a Resolution authorizing the County Attorney to institute condemnation proceedings through the Declaration of Taking Method for acquisition of Parcel 70 associated with the Blue Jay Water Main and Road Project.

### **Executive Summary / Background:**

Effingham County is advancing the Blue Jay Water Main and Road Project to improve utility infrastructure and roadway conditions within the County. In order to proceed with construction activities associated with the project, the County must acquire the necessary right-of-way and temporary easement interests for Parcel 70.

County representatives have attempted to acquire the required property interests through negotiated conveyance; however, those efforts have been unsuccessful. Due to project timelines and the necessity of securing the property interests to avoid delays to the project, staff and legal counsel recommend proceeding with condemnation through the Declaration of Taking Method pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 32-3-1 et seq.

The proposed acquisition includes approximately 0.189 acres (8,252.68 square feet) of required right-of-way and approximately 0.125 acres (5,430.31 square feet) for a temporary easement associated with the project improvements. The temporary easement will expire upon completion and final acceptance.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the Resolution Authorizing Condemnation Proceedings
2. Do not approve
3. Provide staff with direction

**Recommended Alternative:** 1

**Other Alternatives:** 2, 3

**Department Review:** Engineering, County Attorney

**Funding Source:**

**Attachments:** Resolution Authorizing Condemnation Proceedings, Exhibit “A” Legal Description- Parcel 70 Required Right-of-Way, Legal Description – Parcel 70 Temporary Easement, Exhibit “B” Plat Map