

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement Between Chatham County and Effingham County for the Old River Road Preliminary Engineering Phase

**Author:** Brooke Sutherland, Engineering Project Coordinator

**Department:** Procurement, Engineering

**Meeting Date:** July 21st, 2026

**Item Description:** Consideration to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Chatham County and Effingham County establishing responsibilities and cost sharing for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase of the Old River Road Improvement Project.

**Summary Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Chatham County to establish project administration, cost sharing, and each county's responsibilities for completion of the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase of the Old River Road Improvement Project.

### Executive Summary / Background:

The proposed Intergovernmental Agreement establishes the partnership between Chatham County and Effingham County for the Preliminary Engineering phase of the Old River Road Improvement Project. The approximately three-mile project extends from State Route 204 to Interstate 16, with each county responsible for approximately 1.5 miles within its jurisdiction. Chatham County will serve as the project sponsor and administer the Preliminary Engineering phase, while Effingham County will participate in consultant selection, project coordination, and plan reviews.

The estimated cost for Preliminary Engineering is \$2,050,000, requiring a \$410,000 local match. Effingham County and Chatham County will each contribute 50% of the local match, for an estimated contribution of \$205,000 each, with any additional Preliminary Engineering costs shared equally. This agreement applies only to the Preliminary Engineering phase; separate agreements will be presented for future right-of-way, utility relocation, and construction phases.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement
2. Do not approve
3. Provide staff with direction

**Recommended Alternative:** 1

**Other Alternatives:** 2, 3

**Department Review:** Procurement, Engineering

**Funding Source:** Capital Improvement Budget

**Attachments:** Intergovernmental Agreement Between Chatham County and Effingham County for the Old River Road Preliminary Engineering Phase