

Staff Report

Subject: Resolution Authorizing Condemnation Proceedings – Goshen Road Widening Project, Parcel 9

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Department: Engineering

Meeting Date: September 15th, 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 property interests required for Parcel 9 of the Goshen Road Widening Project.

Executive Summary / Background:

Effingham County is advancing the Goshen Road Widening Project to improve the County roadway system. In order to proceed with construction, the County must acquire the property interests necessary for Parcel 9.

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 for Parcel 9 includes approximately 0.03 acres of required right-of-way and approximately 0.01 acres of temporary driveway easement. The temporary driveway easement will expire upon completion and final acceptance of the project by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners.

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: Capital Improvement Budget

Attachments: Resolution Authorizing Condemnation Proceedings; Exhibit “A” – Parcel 9 Legal Description; Exhibit “B” – Goshen Road Right-of-Way Plans