

construction. The developer has requested Lowndes County to accept the infrastructure, which includes the roads and right of ways, stormwater infrastructure, and utilities infrastructure.

### **FY 2026 Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) Application**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated as a part of the Georgia Department of Transportation LMIG Grant Program, Lowndes County has been allocated \$1,546,704.65 for FY 2026. As a part of this grant program, Lowndes County will be responsible for a minimum 10% match in local funding, which is allocated in SPLOST VIII. The grant money is being proposed to be used for drainage improvements on Lake Alapaha Boulevard and resurfacing/restriping the roads listed in the attachment in the board packet. Commissioner Marshall asked how far are the draining improvements, Mr. McLeod responded only a few thousand feet, but there is a lot of piping work, which is why the budget is so high. This will be tedious work due to the amount of utilities involved. Commissioner Smith asked if the drainage is water on the road or in the ditches, Mr. McLeod responded on the road. Commissioner Marshall asked if this would be concrete piping. Mr. McLeod responded piping and drainage boxes.

### **Transportation Investment Act (TIA) - Hickory Grove Road Widening and Skipper Bridge Road Widening**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Board approved submitting the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Government Application for project delivery at the December 9, 2025 commission meeting. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) approved the application and sent staff the Local Delivery Agreement to be approved. The Local Delivery Agreement is required to be executed prior to beginning work. Once the agreement has been executed, a written Notice to Proceed from GDOT is also required prior to beginning any project phase.

### **Transportation Investment Act (TIA) - Val Del Road Widening Local Agreement**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Board approved submitting the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Local Government Application for project delivery at the December 9, 2025 commission meeting. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) approved the application and sent staff the Local Delivery Agreement to be approved. The Local Delivery Agreement is required to be executed prior to beginning work. Once the agreement has been executed, a written Notice to Proceed from GDOT is also required prior to beginning any project phase.

### **PI 0016280, Just Compensation, Twin Lakes Road Right of Way Parcel 3**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated for purposes of the Twin Lakes TSPLLOST project, the County needs to acquire from the owners of Parcel 3 (i.e., tax parcel 0171 090) certain areas of fee simple ROW totaling 0.15 +/- acres in the aggregate, plus 0.07 +/- acres for a drainage easement. Parcel 3 is owned by Virginia G. Tyson, Charles F. Hobby, and Nancy G. Hobby. Staff has attempted to negotiate the purchase of the Right of Way and Drainage Easement from the owners, but no agreement has been reached. To avoid delays with the underlying project, staff has determined that acquisition by condemnation may be required. An initial step in the condemnation process is the determination of just compensation for the property being acquired. Kristen Johnson with Kunes Real Estate & Appraisals has prepared an appraisal that values the proposed taking at \$12,400.00, consisting of \$1,200.00 for the ROW areas, \$280.00 for the drainage easement, \$2,851.00 for the loss of existing fencing within the ROW areas, and \$8,040.00 for installation of new fencing. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked about the condemnation process and