

Special Announcement
City of Tifton – August 22, 2005
Community Development Block Grant

The City of Tifton has received notice from Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue that Tifton will receive a \$500,000 allocation of Community Development Block Grant Program funds from the Georgia Department of Housing and Urban Development to be used for improvements for Southeast Tifton in storm drainage infrastructure to eliminate problems associated with uncontrolled runoff of storm water in the Brookvale Neighborhood, a low and moderate income area in Southeast Tifton off the Lower Brookfield Road, consisting of 131 households. The primary Streets in the area include Evergreen Drive, Brookvale Drive, Valley Drive and Hillside Drive. The current storm drainage system in the area consists of an open drainage ditch through the middle of the neighborhood with smaller open ditches along-side the streets to direct runoff to the larger ditch. There is no curb and gutter and existing cross-drains under streets are in eroded and heavily silted conditions. Residents must contend with a range of problems from flooding and standing water to damage to properties as water runoff enters under homes fostering wood rot, mildew and termite infestation. There is also noted deterioration and erosion of street road bases with subsequent paved road surface damage that will continue without improvements.

Project funds totaling \$673,968 will be invested by the City to eliminate all open ditches, install curb and gutter and underground piping to handle storm runoff in the neighborhood. In addition to the C.D.B.G. Grant, The City of Tifton will provide engineering design and inspection valued at \$30,548 and cash matching support for the project in the amount of \$143,420.

Mayor Paul Johnson indicated that the dedication of Councilman Roosevelt Russell played a prominent role in the approval of the C.D.B.G. grant for District 3. Tifton's local legislative delegation, consisting of Joseph Carter, Jay Roberts and Austin Scott supported and assisted in the approval of the grant. The City of Tifton has selected the grants management firm of Bob Roberson and Associates, Inc. to provide day-to-day project management with policy direction from City of Tifton Mayor and Council and support from City management and staff.

Planning for this important project will begin at a Grant Recipients' Workshop with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs on September 20, 2005 in Savannah, Georgia. Construction is scheduled to begin in November of 2006 with estimated completion of the project by July 2007.

For information contact Larry Riner, Assistant to the City Manager 391-3861 or Dave Bosse, Communications Director 391-3992.