



THE CARN'S CHRONICLE

ISSUE 3

Jim Carns Explains the Facts

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for sharing your concerns about the County's sewer debt situation with me. Please allow me to address some of the questions and fears about the solution we currently propose.

First, the Jefferson County Commission will not use any of the \$1.05 billion raised in a bond issue for schools to pay its sewer debt. In fact, the County paid every cent of that money to its schools between November 2006 and April 2007. The proposed financial plan to repay the sewer debt only allows use of future revenues from the education tax over-and-above those needed to repay the education bonds.

Furthermore, I agree with you that our rate payers currently bear too much of the sewer debt repayment burden. In 1996, U.S. federal courts placed Jefferson County under a consent decree ordering complete remedy to all violations of the Clean Water Act. Although the court declared all 670,000+ residents "guilty", only the 140,000 sewer customers have been paying the penalty for the past decade. That penalty, onerous for all, reached intolerable levels for many.

I am a lifelong resident of Jefferson County and represented a significant number of its residents in the Alabama House of Representatives for sixteen years. As you, I became increasingly concerned about the spending and related debt I saw acquired by prior County officials. Therefore, I gave up my legislative seat and ran for County Commission in 2006...and have since been tirelessly pursuing all possible cures to the County's financial ills.

While I can not honestly claim the current proposed debt repayment plan achieved my greatest hopes, I can assure you it represents the best (perhaps only) solvency path available to Jefferson County at this time. Also, please understand that I can not guarantee the associated financial institutions will accept the proposal. However, should Jefferson County be fortunate enough to secure their approval, I do pledge that my efforts to take the County to even greater fiscal responsibility will not end there.

I appreciate your thoughts, concerns, and continued support.

Sincerely,
Jim Carns

Education Bonds: Schools Disbursement List

Date	BOE	Amount
11/10/2006	Mountain Brook	\$41,310,562.99
11/14/2006	Birmingham	\$336,774,542.34
11/17/2006	Homewood	\$32,117,015.03
1/29/2007	Tarrant	\$14,151,969.13
1/29/2007	Vestavia Hills	\$55,120,976.52
1/29/2007	Bessemer	\$43,005,143.35
1/30/2007	Jefferson County	\$404,021,513.34
2/7/2007	Leeds	\$13,623,912.21
2/12/2007	Fairfield	\$23,864,089.82
2/13/2007	Midfield	\$12,322,601.79
2/21/2007	Hoover	\$85,579,828.06
4/26/2007	Mountain Brook	\$2,935,312.26
		\$1,064,827,466.84

**Commissioner
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