

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION



JIM CARNS

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2008

RIGHT-to-KNOW RALLY

Public Invited

Homewood Public Library

1721 Oxmoor Rd / Homewood, AL 35209

6:00pm

Birmingham, Alabama, August 5, 2008 – I will hold a *Right-to-Know Rally* on Thursday, August 7, 2008, at the Homewood Public Library beginning at 6:00pm.

This open, candid meeting confirms my commitment to provide the public opportunity to question the details of all proposed solutions to Jefferson County's financial crisis.

Without my support or that of Commissioner Bobby Humphries, the other three members of the Jefferson County Commission continue to move forward with a refinancing plan that includes approximately fifty million dollars of new taxes charged to our citizens each year. These taxes represent "non user fees" broader and more expensive than most Jefferson County residents can imagine. With automatic property tax increases, Jefferson County home owners could see a repeat in property taxes similar to the 300% sewer rate increases.

The tax paying citizens of Jefferson County ultimately pay the bill for any decision the Commission makes. Therefore, I believe it imperative our citizens have their questions and concerns about the impact of restructuring the sewer system debt answered freely and truthfully, unscripted and uncensored.

I welcome and encourage all questions from the public regarding how proposed solutions to Jefferson County's current financial troubles affect their property taxes, business fees, sales taxes, jobs and school systems – and the future of Jefferson County as a whole.

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If you would like more information please contact the Office of Commissioner Jim Carns at 205.325.5503.