

To all library supporters,

On Sunday's editorial page of Florida Today (November 29) was an interview of Brevard County Commissioner Barfield about a proposal to fund the routine maintenance of county roads. In that article libraries are mentioned as being just a quality of life issue – i.e., something that easily could be cut from the budget to pay for road maintenance. Because of the multitude of services provided by libraries, they are critical for many people.

The county has a problem in that the current budget allows repaving about 8 miles of roads per year but there are 50 miles of roads that should be repaved each year. Some Commissioners are suggesting that cuts in libraries and parks would provide revenue for the additional paving.

There is a workshop scheduled for **December 10 at 1:00pm** in Building C at the Viera Government Complex to discuss this issue.

It would be beneficial to have library supporters present to tell the Commissioners that they need to find a new, on-going revenue source to fund this road maintenance, be that a gas tax, a sales tax, impact fees, or some other new revenue source. Commissioners should not cut the already reduced

library budget. There will be plenty of people arguing the other side; so, it's important that many people are there to speak up for libraries.

Also, at the regular County Commission meeting on **December 15 at 9:00am** the plan to replace the old, worn-out, temporary trailers that make up the current Mims/Scottsmoor Library building with a new, permanent structure will be presented for approval. It is important to show the Commission that this library is important to us by being in the audience, and, if possible, speaking in favor of this plan. Please thank Commissioner Fisher for his strong support of public libraries,

Please attend both of these meetings. Your support is critical to getting a new library building.

If you would like a blue T-shirt with the Friends logo, please stop by the library and ask Beth at the Reference Desk. The shirts are \$8.00 each. The money goes to Friends to support Library activities. Wear your Friends T-shirt to these meetings.