



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORSYTH COUNTY OPENS NEW FIRE STATION 3

Fire station is funded by SPLOST VI and Impact Fees

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – On Thursday, July 25, Forsyth County officially opened new Fire Station 3 with a ceremonial uncoupling of a fire hose. New Fire Station 3 is located at 6495 Wallace Tatum Road in the Matt area of northwest Forsyth County.

District 4 Commissioner Cindy Jones Mills, the district commissioner for the Matt area, addressed the officials, staff, citizens and guests gathered at the event.

“This is a facility that this community can certainly be very proud of,” said Mills. “The Matt area is where I call home and where many generations of my family have called home, so I could not be happier to be here today to open this new fire station that will serve the residents of the Matt area and northwest Forsyth County for many years to come.”

Construction of the new two-bay, approximately 7,333-square foot facility was funded by the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) VI program and Impact Fees. It replaces the previous Fire Station 3 which was located nearby on Doctor Bramblett Road.

Fire Chief Danny Bowman expressed his appreciation to those involved in making the new station a reality.

“First and foremost, we say thank you to the citizens of Forsyth County, whose approval of SPLOST VI helped to fund this new fire house, and we thank the development community for the Impact Fee funding for this project,” said Bowman. “We also extend our sincerest appreciation to the Board of Commissioners and County Administration for their unwavering support of the Forsyth County Fire Department.”

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New Fire Station 3 was designed for 24-hour occupancy, which the old station, constructed in 1981 when the department was a volunteer force, was not. The new facility has increased bay capacity better suited to house the station's fire apparatus and includes a ventilation system to clean the air in the station's bays, helping protect the health of firefighters.

The new fire station was constructed on property Forsyth County acquired in December 2008 for the future Matt Community Park at Settingdown Creek. Approximately 185 acres of property was acquired by the county to serve as a northwest community park and green space, through the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond approved by voters in 2008. The conceptual master plan for Matt Community Park at Settingdown Creek reflects 52 acres for use as an active park and 125 acres for use as green space, as well as five acres for the potential location of a future library on the property. In November 2011, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners approved for the Fire Department to acquire three acres of the property to serve as the location of new Fire Station 3, with the purchase funds for those acres going back into the Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond account. The timeline for development of the park will depend upon future availability of funding.

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