

program. He stated he believes there is a gross misrepresentation as to what this program is, and it is not a halfway house, nor is it a flophouse. It is more of a transitional house for continued recovery of each man in the program. Mr. Young detailed a typical day in the program. He stated the men in the program are not criminals. The community and the Commissioners are welcome to visit and examine the program. Brent Moore, 3850 C L Moore Road, spoke in favor of the request. Mr. Moore stated he hoped to clear up some misconceptions regarding the program. He stated the petition with 500 signatures is accurate and since that petition was signed, he has spoken to those petitioners and clarified some of their concerns. He stated there is not a board member that has been compensated for their participation. He compared existing facilities to the subject property and their proximity to churches, schools, etc., which treat a multitude of illnesses, not just drug and alcohol recovery. He stated background checks are performed on each applicant before accepting them. Further, he stated there is a registered sex offender living in the community, and several of the people that signed the petition live less than 2.5 miles from that person. He concluded that at the last meeting, he was physically and verbally threatened, and a client of the program was struck in the parking lot by a vehicle owned by a woman in opposition to the request. Commissioner Griner asked if the men that will live in this facility have already successfully completed a drug or alcohol rehab program; Mr. Moore stated yes, and their counselor would have to recommend them to this program. Commissioner Griner asked if this program would assist with successful reintegration in to society; Mr. Moore stated yes. Mr. Moore closed by stating this is a long-term plan and will not be built overnight. This is a ten plus year, \$3 million dollar investment.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Adopt Resolution Accepting Infrastructure for The North Acres Subdivision Phase I, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated The North Acres Subdivision, Phase I, is located off of Val Del Road, and consists of 24 lots. Engineering staff has made the final inspection, and all work is complete, along with all the paperwork. Commissioner Evans made the motion to accept the request as presented, Commissioner Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Briggston Road Paving Project Agreement with Valdosta Railway, L.P., Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the design engineer and staff have been working with Valdosta Railway, L.P. on an agreement for the railroad crossing to be upgraded during the project. Valdosta Railway will complete the work to upgrade the crossing and Lowndes County will pay Valdosta Railway. The work will include all engineering services, new surfaces (including new ballast, ties, crossties, rail, OTM), installing new lights and gates, bells, control bungalow, and other necessary circuitry to provide advanced train warning to the traveling public. The total cost for the upgrade is \$438,537.00. Commissioner Wisenbaker made the motion to approve the request as presented, Vice Chairman Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.