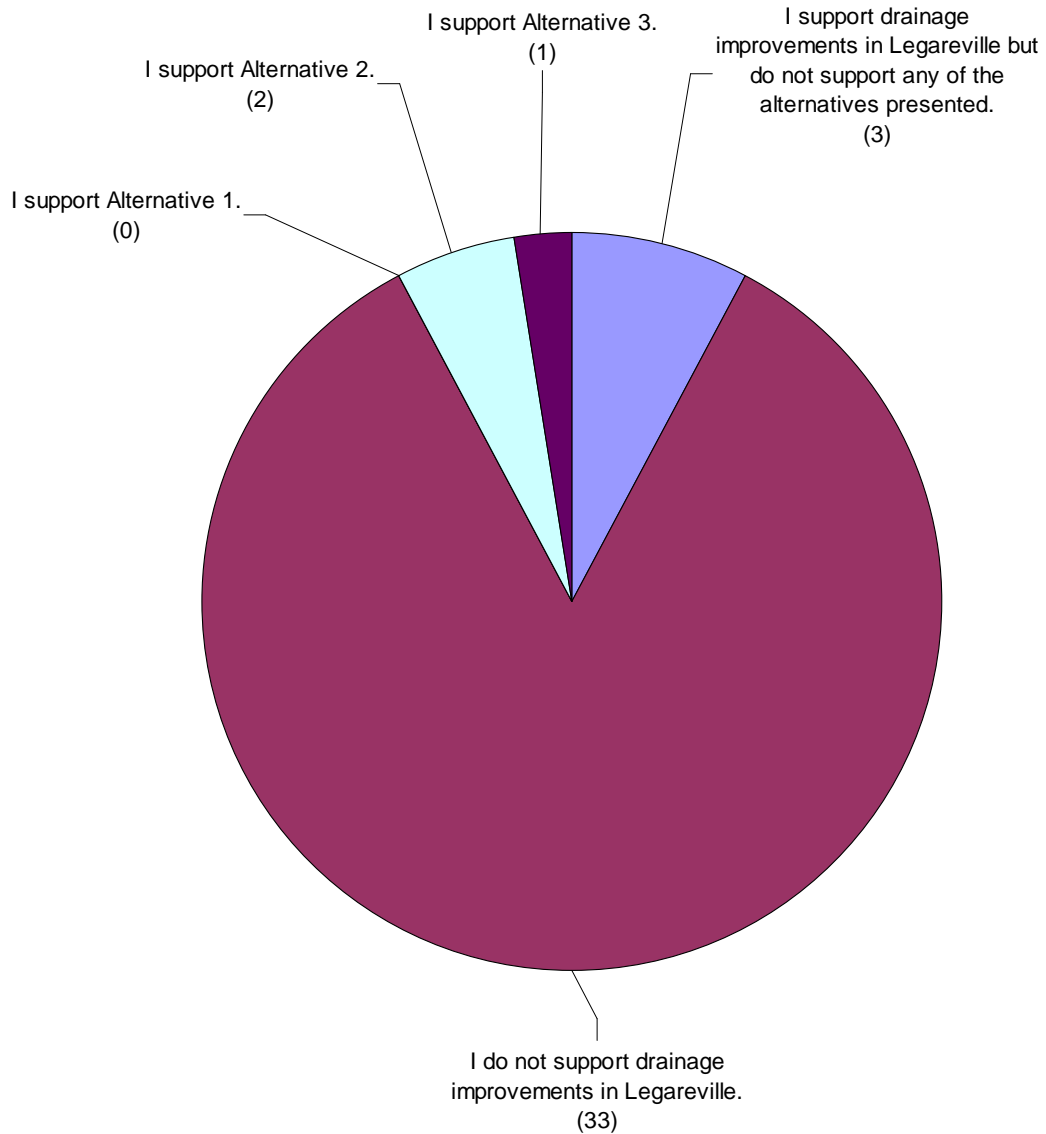
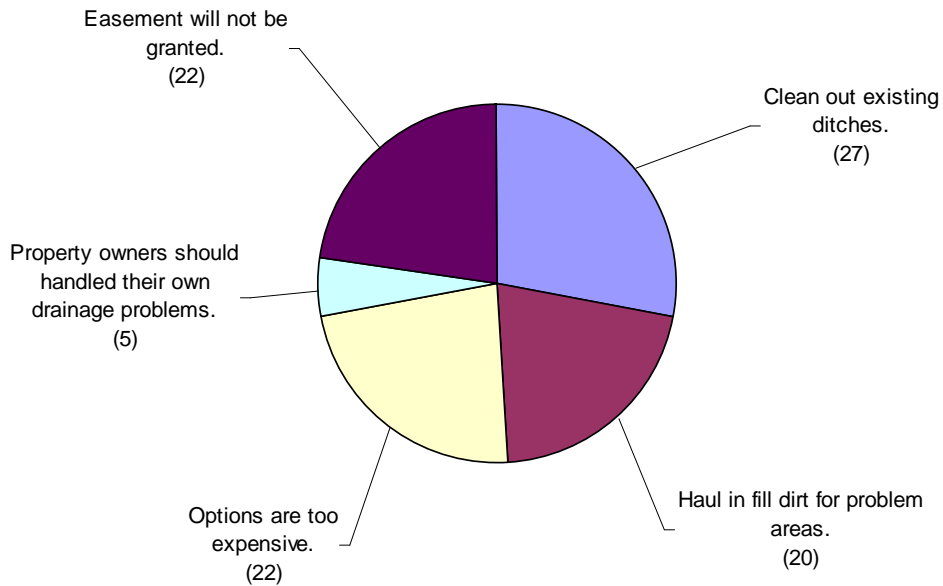


Legareville Drainage Study Public Meeting Comment Summary Report

A public meeting was held at the St. John's Fire Station on March 11, 2009 with 23 registered citizens in attendance. The comment period lasted for two weeks, and 40 comment forms were received. The comment forms included a survey regarding citizens' preferences for the alternatives prepared for the Legareville Drainage Study. The chart below illustrates the number of people that support or do not support one of the alternatives.



Several general comments were received and each comment was reviewed and tallied. The top five comments are illustrated in the charge below, with the number of that type of comment received.



The following list is a transcript of general comments received from citizens during the comment period after the public meeting. These comments have not been edited.

Web site comments:

<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3 :I do not support Alternative 1 and I am not willing to give any sort of easement over my property. General Questions or Comments :There has to be a better way. The options listed are too extensive and too expensive. Why not simply clean out the ditches?</p>
<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: I do NOT support Alternative 1 and I am unwilling to give any kind of easement over our property. General Questions or Comments: There has got to be a simpler way to solve this problem (add fill to the affected yard, clear former drainage ditches, etc.)The solution should not involve property outsideof the affected area.While I sympathize with the involved property owner, I feel that the options presented are overkill and expensive.</p>

<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3 :If redigging existing and filled in ditches is not an alternative, then #2 is the choice.</p> <p>General Questions or Comments :#1 Redig existing and filled in ditches.Look at drainage across road about at 079 across from 030 prior to making a decision about the above proposals to make sure the flooding that occurs from time to time is not connected or contributing to the other. Otherwise, Roadwise will be revisiting this problem again.</p>
<p>General Questions or Comments: I feel there are several alternatives than to cut new drainage ditches all the way down Legareville Road, disrupting property that does not have a drainage issue. I would suggest hauling in dirt first and if this does not work; clean out the existing drainage ditches down Daniel Fludd Road and keep them maintained. Obviously the County has the money to do both since they are suggesting cutting a new drainage ditch all the way down Legareville Road.</p>
<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: Why would the County spend taxpayers dollars to solve a low-lying area issue. There is sufficient drainage but the ditches are not being maintained; they are overgrown and cannot handle this situation.</p> <p>1- Try hauling in dirt to fill in the backyard of this lady; 2- Clean out the ditches along Daniel Fludd Road</p>
<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: By admission, all of the alternatives benefit only a few property owners and impact many more property owners than are benefited. In addition, it does not appear that any simple, low-budget solutions have been attempted such as searching out and cleaning existing ditches or adding dirt to the low-lying areas by the property owners themselves.</p> <p>General Questions or Comments: My family owns property in Legareville.</p>
<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3 :REGARDING ALTERNATIVE 1: THISIS A COMPLICATED, EXPENSIVE ATTEMPT TO SOLVE A RELATIVELY SMALL, LOCALIZED PROBLEM. I DO NOT SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE #1 AND AM NOT WILLING TO GIVE ANY SORT OF EASEMENT OVER MY PROPERTY.</p> <p>General Questions or Comments :I AM SYMPATHETIC TO THE PROPERTY OWNER WITH THE PROBLEM, BUT THERE ARE SIMPLER, LESS EXPENSIVE METHODS TO SOLVE IT. WHY NOT CLEAN OUT EXISTING DITCHES WHICH WORKED IN THE PAST (SHE DID NOT HAVE DRAINAGE PROBLEMS 3 YEARS AGO AND WE CERTAINLY HAVE NOT HAD AN EXCESS OF RAIN IN THAT PERIOD OF TIME). ALSO, DIRT COULD BEADDED TO HER BACK YARD AFTER THE DITCHES ARE CLEANED OUT. IT DOES NOT SEEM SENSIBLE TO INVOLVE UNAFFECTED PROPERTY AND TO SPEND SO MUCH MONEYIN THIS TRAGIC ECONOMY, ESPECIALLY WITHOUT FIRST TRYING MORE SENSIBLE ALTERNATIVES.</p>
<p>Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: REGARDING ALTERNATIVE 1: WE DON'T SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE #1 AND ARE NOT WILLING TO GIVE ANY KIND OF EASEMENT OVER OUR PROPERTY.</p> <p>General Questions or Comments: THE DRAINAGE PROBLEM IS BETWEEN GIBBES RD AND DANIEL FLUDD RD. THE RESIDENTS/ PROPERTY OWNERS IN THAT AREA NEED TO DECIDE IF THEY WANT TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY OR SOLVE THE PROBLEM THEMSELVES - POSSIBLY RAISING THE ELEVATION OF THE AFFECTED</p>

AREA BY ADDING DIRT AND ALSO CLEANING OUT THE EXISTING DITCHES AND THEN WAITING TO DETERMINE IF THIS WORKS. IN ANY CASE THE SOLUTION SHOULD NOT INVOLVE PROPERTY OUTSIDE OF THAT AREA. ALTERNATIVE #1 IS MASSIVE, NOT COST EFFECTIVE, AND UNNECESSARILY & PERMANENTLY ENCUMBERS PROPERTY THAT SHOULD NOT BE INVOLVED AT ALL.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3 :I own Parcel Number 2730000028 which is situated almost due south of Wetlands A and B on the materials provided at the Legareville Drainage Study Public Meeting on March 11, 2009. While I was unable to attend the meeting I have spoken with those who did and I have reviewed at length the materials handed out and posted on the ccroadwise.com website. I understand that while a dozen or so people have signed a petition requesting Roadwise attention to an apparent encroachment by Wetlands A, the issue is principally that the owner of Parcel Number 2730000076 suffers moisture in the southernmost portion of her property after especially heavy rains. The total amount of her property affected is approximately 1,000 square feet.

In contrast, each of the three proposals set forth on the website affects several acres of property and numerous property owners. For example, Alternatives 1 and 3 would impact at least 2,000 linear feet times an average 50' width or over 2 acres. Alternative 2 would drain Wetlands A into Wetlands B thus increasing the size and depth of Wetlands B. In effect, at considerable County expense, Alternative 2 would simply benefit one set of property owners at the expense of another.

Alternative 2 would be especially problematic for me. Brewton Road, which provides access to my property and several other parcels, will someday be built over existing Wetlands A and B. As they now exist, the wetlands can be traversed with relative ease and minimal disruption. If, however, Wetlands B becomes larger and deeper, engineering and construction costs to traverse the expanded wetlands could be substantially more.

Finally, I understand that the owner of Parcel Number 2730000076 indicated at the meeting that she would be satisfied with a far less drastic alternative to dry out the affected portion of her property such as building a retaining wall to keep out the water. Wouldn't it benefit all of Charleston County to adopt that common sense approach instead of destroying large amounts of existing wetlands, condemning property and building ditches over thousands of feet of land?

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: I do not support Alternative 1 as it negatively impacts too many properties.
General Questions or Comments: As illustrated in the "cons" on each alternative presented, only a few property owners would be benefited from drainage improvements in Legareville. Conversely, these "drainage improvements" would severely detriment many other properties in efforts to drain a single yard.
It would be much simpler (and much more effective) to fill dirt in the yard concerned and clean out the existing ditches surrounding the yard. The property owners stated that the yard drained three years ago.

Apparently, something has stopped this drainage. By solving this problem and filling the land, the problem can be solved at minimal cost to everyone involved. Everyone benefits: the yard in concern is drained, the thousands of feet of private property owned by surrounding families will not be impacted, and the cost of filling and improving existing drainage is minute compared to the alternatives presented.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: I DO NOT support Alternative 1 and am not willing to give an easement through our property.

General Questions or Comments: If the drainage problem is between Gibbes Road and Daniel Fludd Road and the drainage worked before, you need to find the problem and talk to those property owners. If you need to get easements, it is less detrimental to get them along roadways than through the middle of people's property.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: We do not support Alternative#1 and are not willing to give any sort of easement over our property

General Questions or Comments: There has to be an easier way. How about hauling dirt into her back yard. If that doesn't work try clearing out the ditch along Daniel Fludd Road. The problem lies between Gibbes and Daniel Fludd Roads. This problem should not involve outside areas. I sympathize with the property owner who is having trouble but I feel the options provided are massive and very expensive and involve too many other property owners.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: I do not support Alternative 1.

General Questions or Comments: Is there an easier way to fix this problem?

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: I do not support Alternative 1 and am not willing to give any easement through our property.

General Questions or Comments: This whole project appears to be very expensive and affects a lot of property owners. Why not find a simpler & less expensive way to help this lady? Try putting some dirt in her yard and see if it helps. She wants to use her back yard and how will she do that with a 40' easement and ditch across the back? A lot of taxpayer dollars have already been spent on this. We need to be more fiscally responsible and find simple solutions. In addition, we should be respectful of others and not undertake projects that are detrimental to many in order to "only benefit a few" as your analysis states.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: Alt 1 - Do NOT support this alternative and would NOT be willing to give/sell an easement to the county over any of my acreage. The current ditches are irrigation ditches - not drainage ditches - and are used by the farmer renting the acreage. He adds/deletes/moves these ditches as needed to provide the needed irrigation for his crops. This type of easement will negatively impact his livelihood. In addition, the amount of land involved in the easements would be GROSSLY inappropriate for the small amount of land to benefit from these easements.

General Questions or Comments: Why hasn't a general cleaning of the existing ditches in this area been done BEFORE all of this? They seem

very overgrown and certainly are not flowing freely at this point. That certainly seems the most logical first step. Honestly, I was SHOCKED to see the amount of time and money that has already been spent just to evaluate the situation when there appears to be only one or two 1-acre lots with a problem. Surely the county can come up with less expensive alternatives - in land affected as well as dollars and cents - to solving this small of an issue. How can the county justify taking additional easements from as many as 10 to 40 other landholders to satisfy the issue of one or 2? It will be very interesting to see who on county council will vote to approve ANY of these proposed alternatives!

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3 : I do not support Alternative 1. I believe this alternative to be excessive and has a negative impact on many properties. It appears the ditch and easement under #1 alternative affects more property than what you are trying to drain. I am also concerned what impact it would have on our irrigation system which we use for farming. We are not willing to give an easement through our property.

General Questions or Comments : A better alternative would be to put fill dirt on the property that has a low area and clean out the existing ditches around it. If necessary, possibly going down Daniel Fludd Road to the marsh would have less impact than putting easements through the middle of people's property.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: I have interest through family ownership of property that option 1 crosses, and am strongly against giving an easement to the county through my family's property.

General Questions or Comments: Have the present ditches in the area been inspected, cleaned, and improved? All three options seem to be very complicated and expensive. Seems like there should be a similar way to solve the problem. How long has this property been flooding anyway?

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: We do not support Alternative 1 and are not willing to give any sort of easement over our property.

General Questions or Comments: There should be a much less complicated solution to this problem.

Since this problem is between Gibbes Rd. and Daniel Fludd Road, I feel the property owners and residents in this area need to decide if they want to work with county or take care of this problem themselves. I do not feel it is necessary to involve property outside of that area.

I sympathize with the property owner who is having drainage problems, however, I do not feel it is necessary to take such massive and expensive steps to fix this situation. This seems to be a property owner/resident problem. I feel cleaning out the present ditches, checking that the drainage pipes are of adequate size to handle the flow of water, and hauling in some dirt to her yard, would most probably fix this problem. A re-evaluation by the county can take place in 6 months to see if the problem has been resolved.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: We do not support Alternative 1 and are not willing to give any sort of easement over our property.

General Questions or Comments: I feel there is most certainly an easier, much less complicated, and less costly solution to this problem. Why not clean out the present ditches and verify that drainage pipes are working and are large enough to handle the flow of water; bring in dirt to fill the low lying areas; then wait six months to see if this takes care of the problem.

This problem is between Gibbes Rd. and Daniel Fludd Road. I feel the property owners and residents in this area need to decide if they want to work with the county or take care of this problem themselves. I do not feel it is necessary to involve property outside of that area.

While I sympathize with the property owner who is having trouble with drainage the last 3 years, I do not feel it is necessary to take such massive and expensive steps to fix this situation. Clean out the present ditches, haul in some dirt, and reassess in 6 months.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: Alternate 1 solves very little and involves too many owners and I know the owners will not give an easement.

General Questions or Comments: I say dig a ditch along back of 076 & 030 to Daniel Flud Rd and clean out ditch along this road to the river. This should have been an alternate instead of Alternate 1, which was the most expensive to survey.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: This does not affect our property, but does affect our family's and an easement would not be given by the owners and could damage the farming of the property.

General Questions or Comments: alternate 3 seems to solve the problem

General Questions or Comments: There should be a much less complicated solution to solving the problem. (The simpler the better!) Why not haul some dirt into the property owner's back yard and give it 6 months to see if it solves the problem. If not, come back and clear out the ditch along Daniel Fludd.

The problem is between Gibbes Rd. and Daniel Fludd Road. The residents/property owners there need to decide if they want to work with the county or do it themselves. In any case, it should not involve property outside of that area.

While we sympathize with the property owner who is having trouble with the drainage in the last 3 years, the options presented are massive and expensive. Why not go in on a one-time basis: put dirt in the back yard and clean out the existing ditches without having to dig new ones.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: This is a large tax cost that benefits few people. Would it not be better to try fill dirt or revamping existing drainage first?

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: Of the alternatives suggested, only alternative 2 keeps from infringing on other property owner's rights. It is ridiculous to suggest that surrounding property owners should give up rights of way through their properties to allow a few people's yards to drain. Furthermore, connecting any wetland or ditch system to a tidal creek creates a jurisdictional wetland, which means that these peoples yards could fall under wetlands regulations, something they should be made aware of before any action is taken. In any event, there are insufficient funds at this time for the county to be spending money to help a few people's yards drain; there are more important projects that have greater impact for the public good at this time. Unfortunately for these property owners, now is simply not a good time to be asking for money, and they should probably look into fixing the problem themselves.

General Questions or Comments: I am not a resident of Legareville, but the property through which the proposed rights of way would run is family property to which I am an eventual heir. Furthermore, I am a resident of Charleston County whose funds are being proposed to pay for this project.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3:We do not support Alternative 1 and are not willing to give any sort of easement over our property

General Questions or Comments: We believe every property owner should handle the drainage on their own property. If the county feels they would like to help this property owner it should not involve other land owners. We sympathize with the property owner but feel the options are very expensive. Would the problem be solved if the surrounding ditches were cleaned out without having to dig new ditches.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: We do not support Alternative 1.

General Questions or Comments: There is sympathy for the property who is currently having draining issues (3 years now), yet further options must be explored as well as more COST efficient resoluuons.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: Comments regarding Alternative 1:

I do not support Alternative 1 and am not willing to give any sort of easement over our property on Legareville Road.

General Questions or Comments: There must be a better solution in solving this problem - it appears to me that the simpler solution is the better solution!

1- clean out the ditches and maintain them along Daniel Fludd Road; along with,

2- haul dirt into this lady's back yard for a period of time (6 months or so) and see if this solves the problem.

The problem is between Gibbes Road and Daniel Fludd Road. The property owners in that location need to decide if they want to work with the county or do it themselves. In any case, it should not involve property outside of that area.

I sympathize with the property owner who is and has been having trouble with drainage for the last three years. I don't understand why this has just now become an issue the the county when the problem began 3 years ago.

Why hasn't the county maintained the drainage ditches?

This practice may have alleviated this problem in the beginning.

It absolutely makes no sense to spend money unnecessarily before trying these alternatives.

Comments regarding Alternative 1, 2 or 3: If the county insist on spending our money friviously, I choose alternative 1. I have walked the entire EXISTING ditch and I would propose to clean out this ditch using a more environmentally friendly way - by hand. All land owners affected by this solution have already agreed.

General Questions or Comments: All proposals will cost in excess of a million dollars. Including litigation of wetland removal. The combined value of the affected properties are worth less than the cost to drain them.

Lastly, In November of 2004 we voted for half cent sales tax to be used for the purpose of TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS, GREENBELT FACILITIES & MASS TRANSIT. No part of the Legraeville Project has ANYTHING to do with any of the stated purposes.

Can't believe all this, which will negitively effect so many people, is being done accomodate one person who inherited or bought property on an existing wet land. I would like to help her but I think a small pond or filling in her yard would be best.

Plan 1 invades too many peoples property

Plan 2 would only make wetland B larger and stress existing drainage for B causing several other properties to flood.

Plan 3 would benifit the most people and there are some existing ditches in place(If no one is opposed)

The idea of going down Daniel Fludd Road will not work due to houses and yards being close to the road and there is no existing ditch except to drain the road. It would also make the small undeveloped lots on this road worthless.

Comment forms mailed in or received at the meeting:

I do not support alternative 1 and am not willing to given an easement over our property.

While I sympathize with Sylvia Hege's problem, it seems the county has over-reacted to the situation. She said that water drained fine until 3 years ao. Why not clear out the existing ditches and let it drain like it did before? If you go with any of thse alternatives, she won't get her yard back- she will have a 40' easement and ditch across the back of it.

In addition, if you want the community to choose between options, you should provide cost estimates. The public does care about budgets and so should the county. In this day and age who can just decide what they want without checking the price tag first???

I do not support alternative 1 and are not willing to give any sort of easement over my family's property. I'm responding to this because my family owns tracks 047,113, and 116.

There should be a much less complicated solution that will solve the problem such as hauling dirt into the owners back yard, clean out the existing ditch along Daniel Fludd. The problem is between Gibbes and Daniel Fludd Road. The residents/property owners there need to decide if they want to work with the county or do it themselves. It should not involve property outside of that area.

We do not support alternative 1 and are not willing to give any sort of easement over our property.

There should be a much less complicated to solving this problem. The problem is between Gibbe's Road and Daniel Fludd Road. The residents property owners there need to decide if they want to work with the County or do it themselves. In any case, it should not involve property outside of that area. While we sympathize with the property owner who is having trouble with the drainage in the last 3 years, the options presented are massive and expensive. Why not go in on a one-time basis; put dirt in the back yard and clean out the existing ditches without having to dig new ones.

You are asking for a 60' easement through our property - which we are not will to give.

While I sympathize with the owner of the mentioned property - this problem is too be expected from time to time when you live in a country area. We all should be responsible for keeping surrounding ditches as clear and free of trash as possible. Be aware of this condition if they get stopped up beyond cleaning by the property owner, he should ask the county to clear them! If the county used to do this periodically when necessary, why not now? Certainly since they have complaints like this one. how much money will the county spend on this project to solve 2 residents problem?

I do not support alternative 1 and not willing to giving any sort of easement. As I understand this issue, it only affects one or two properties. If this is correct, then it seems to me there is a simpler and better and less costly way to solve this issue. Why not just haul in some direct and see what happens.

Please consider alternative 4 brought up at the meeting.

I do not support alternative 1 and am not willing to give an easement. I have an ownership/interest on property on legareville road. Would it not be more cost effective to fill in the low lying area in question and clean and maintain the existing neighborhood ditches?

I do not support alternative 1 nor am I willing to give easements over my property. Have any simpler less costly alternatives been considered? I certainly sympathize with the homeowner who has the drainage problem- but from the appearance on the map, alternative 1 appears to take up more property than the lady's own yard measures. Also have the ditches been cleaned and maintained properly in the owners close proximity? If the property drained adequately before Hugo, perhaps it would be less costly to the taxpayer if the county considered an option to return the are to "pre-Hugo" condition - certainly less costly than alternative 1.

I do not support alternative 1. I would not be willing to grant easements over this property. Alternative 2&3 affects property where the drainage property exit.

All the water problem that is on the land on Daniel Fludd Road came from ditches being filled in on the land on the left when you turn off Legareville Road to Daniel Fludd. A ditch was on the line of the fence that was maintained by the County, and there were three ditches on the right that the water also flowed to and this came from a 52 year resident that knows where the ditches were, but the present land owner said at the meeting he filled the ditches, so the problem will end if the ditches were open again and cleaned because the County still scrapes the road.