

## **CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE OF PRIVATE DIRT ROADS**

- A petition must be signed by 75% of the parcel owners on the private dirt road requesting Lowndes County to accept the private road into the County's inventory for maintenance
- Lowndes County Engineering will review the petition for accuracy and completeness
- If less than 75% of all parcel owners on the private road sign the petition requesting Lowndes County to accept the private road for maintenance, County staff will not pursue the acceptance any further.
- Upon review of the petition, Lowndes County Engineering will have a survey plat developed of the entire road and easement for each parcel owner to sign.
- Lowndes County Engineering staff will assess the road to determine where drainage easements may need to be obtained.
- Lowndes County Engineering Staff will develop drainage easements as needed for the private road.
- Until 75% of all parcel owners sign the easements and drainage easements, Lowndes County Engineering staff will hold the request from presentation to the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners
- Lowndes County Engineering will present the completed petition, easements, and drainage easements to the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners for acceptance into the County's dirt road inventory for maintenance once 75% of the easements are signed.
- Upon acceptance of the private road into the Lowndes County Dirt Road Inventory for maintenance by the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners, Engineering staff will record the easements and drainage easements in the Lowndes County Clerk of the Courts office.
- Each individual parcel owner will be required to relocate any fences, shrubbery, trees, decorative mail boxes, wells, septic tanks, etc that are currently located inside of the new easement as needed. If these items are not relocated before County Public Works Staff begins maintenance, such items will be removed and discarded.
- Lowndes County Public Works Staff will maintain an approximately 40-60 foot wide easement. This will include the driving surface, roadside ditches and clear zone.
- Lowndes County Public Works staff will widen the road, build up the road, install drainage ditches, drainage culverts, install signs and remove vegetation as needed.
- Upon completion of the initial upgrade of the dirt road, Lowndes County Public Works staff will place the road on a routine maintenance grader route. Staff's goal is to grade each dirt road twice per month.