

White County Commissioners

The following letter, which "does not endorse, and, in fact, does oppose" Interstate 3 being routed "through White County or the Northeast Georgia Mountain area" was sent by White County Commissioners to:

U.S. Senators Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson
U.S. Representatives Nathan Deal and Charles Norwood
Honorable Governor of Georgia, Sonny Perdue
Honorable Harold E. Linnenkohl, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Transportation
Georgia State Senators Nancy Shaefer and Chip Pearson (Secretary, Transportation Committee)
Georgia State Representatives Ben Bridges, Charles Jenkins and Stacey Reece
Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, U.S. Secretary of Transportation
Honorable J. Richard Capka, Federal Highway Administration

At the White County Board of Commissioners' meeting held August 2, 2005, there was a great deal of opposition to the proposed Interstate 3 and its projected route through the Northeast Georgia area.

As Commissioners, we recognize that adequate transportation is one of the greatest needs in our rural but fast-growing area. However, the Northeast Georgia Mountains are unique and a haven for vacationers and retirees, as well as home to many irreplaceable historical sites. We must be both planners for the future and protectors of our environment — and heritage.

Proposed major changes, such as the I-3 project, deserve much study and contemplation before any action should be taken that could have devastating effects on our beautiful rural area. With those thoughts in mind and based on the current information and the needs currently expressed, the White County Board of Commissioners does not endorse and, in fact, does oppose any Interstate 3 project that would have a route through White County or the Northeast Georgia Mountain area.

On behalf of White County, we ask that you keep us informed and that we be involved in the process, plans, studies, etc. on this very controversial project. I am sure you can understand our concerns.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter.

Chris Nonnemaker, Chair
Dennis Bergin
Craig Bryant

White County Board of Commissioners