



Board of County Commissioners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Camden County Partners with Plimoth Plantation,
Donating Live Oaks to Historic Mayflower II
Restoration Project**

WOODBINE, GEORGIA – May 10, 2017 – Camden County is pleased to announce a strategic partnership with Plimoth Plantation, a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit museum, to repurpose a selection of live oak trees located along the Kingsland Bypass Project. With construction of the first phase underway, there are approximately eight live oak trees, estimated to be at least 150 years old, which must come down.

“There are some beautiful, historic trees located along the Kingsland Bypass route,” said Camden County Administrator Steve Howard. “We were pleased to recently learn about a massive effort underway to restore and relaunch the Mayflower II by Plimoth Plantation. It’s an incredible opportunity for our historic oaks to live on and restore this ship.”

The live oaks would be repurposed for the Mayflower II, a replica of the original Mayflower tall ship. The Mayflower II was built from 1955-57 in England. The square-rigged vessel that is about 25 feet wide and 106 feet long serves as an interactive maritime museum of the 1620 Mayflower voyage. Until 2019, the ship will be at Mystic Seaport receiving a full restoration ahead of Plymouth's 400th commemoration of the Pilgrims' arrival on New England's shores.

Camden County citizen Gwendolyn Edenfield, who serves as Regent for the Earl of Camden Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, first approached county officials with the idea. “It is gratifying to be able to help in having some of the beautiful Colerain Road live oaks be used on the Mayflower II at Mystic Harbor, Connecticut,” said Edenfield.

“Leadership that Listens”

STEVE L. HOWARD
County Administrator

JOHN S. MYERS
County Attorney

LANNIE E. BRANT
Commissioner, District 1

CHUCK CLARK
Commissioner, District 2

JIMMY STARLINE
Commissioner, District 3

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Commissioner, District 5

“The federal dollars tied to the urban road design of this important highway project for Camden County require us to clear the trees, and the new bypass will provide Camden County citizens a great benefit,” said Scott Brazell, project coordinator for phase one of the Kingsland Bypass. “I’m very happy with the partnership we’ve worked out with Plimoth Plantation.”

Whit Perry, director of Maritime Preservation and Operations at Plimoth Plantation, will be on hand during the clearing of the trees this week to work directly with Norton Irrigation, the clearing and grubbing contractor, to harvest the trees in a manner that is used specifically to refurbish tall ships such as the Mayflower II.



Mayflower II, Plimoth Plantation

About Plimoth Plantation: Founded in 1947, Plimoth Plantation is a living history museum in Plymouth, Massachusetts, that exhibits the original settlement of the Plymouth Colony established in the 17th century by English colonists. It is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit museum supported by admissions, contributions, grants, and volunteers. For more information about Plimoth Plantation, please visit www.plimoth.org.

About Camden County: Located in the extreme southeast corner of Georgia, Camden County truly is “Georgia’s Coastal Community of Choice.” Originally formed in 1777, Camden County is best known for its rich history, natural scenic beauty and Southern hospitality. Our vision is helping to make this the best place to live by preserving and enhancing the history and quality of life, while promoting smart growth and providing an efficient, effective and responsive government.

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