

DOT approves bypass plans

THE GEORGIA Department of Transportation has approved Jefferson's plans to upgrade the dangerous intersection at Old Pendergrass Road and the Damon Gause Bypass. It is one of the steps necessary to get a traffic signal at the controversial intersection.

Jefferson Public Works director Jeff Killip told the Jefferson City Council Monday night that the DOT was in the staging process for the project and had put road work signs up on both ends of the intersection on Damon Gause Parkway.

According to Killip, the city had also been approved for DOT help on 23 other city streets for placement of roadway striping, rumble strips,

stop bars, raised pavement markers and standard road signs. He said the city was able to get additional DOT help by applying with other Jackson County municipalities and the county.

Councilman Bosie Griffith said the city needs to do more to get additional city streets repaired each year. Council member Philip Thompson agreed, saying that more city dollars will have to be budgeted for street repairs since SPLOST funds weren't enough to "catch up" on repairs.

Thompson also suggested the council look into the implementation of a road rating system similar to the DOT to track road repairs that are needed.