

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV
Location: Pensacola, FL
Quarter ending: June 30, 2006

ISSUE/description: 5. GROWTH MANAGEMENT. Planning for the needs of the future.
Balancing growth versus preservation of lifestyle and environment.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News at 6PM	04/13/06	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	*
* We reported on the meeting of the Escambia County Commission this morning, where commissioners directed staff to start basic research again on expanding Interstate 110 northward. Many residents along the proposed route were at the meeting to protest the route; others were concerned on how the county would pay for the expansion; but most agreed that project is needed to help with hurricane evacuations and accommodate area growth.				
2. Channel 3 News at 10PM	04/16/06	10:03PM/3 minutes	News	**
** Dan Thomas reported on Downtown Pensacola's attempt to expand its boundaries to more properly define "downtown", to include many areas considered as "downtown" but not actually within the city boundaries. The move would bring in more property tax and allow for more marketing of "downtown" in an effort to draw in more business, tourists and residents.				
3. Channel 3 News at 6PM	04/19/06	06:08PM/2 minutes	News	***
*** Okaloosa Reporter Cam Johnson reported on a plan by Okaloosa County Commissioners to adopt an additional one cent sales tax, specifically for road and stormwater upgrades.				
4. Channel 3 News at 10PM	04/24/06	10:00PM/4 minutes	News	****
**** In our first report, we detailed Santa Rosa County's plans to renew their six-cent-per-gallon tax on gasoline, a move that helps fund county road projects. But the Commission is facing resistance this year from citizens who are paying record high gas prices and want a break from the tax. Our second report featured the Downtown Improvement Board's final proposed new boundary line for downtown. The proposal still must face a vote from property owners in the areas to be annexed. A third report was on local beach and county leaders planning to send a resolution to the federal government asking that State Road 399, connecting Navarre Beach to Pensacola Beach, be repaired. They fear that if either bridge connected the island to the mainland were damaged by hurricanes or barge accident, then residents of the island would be stranded.				

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5. Channel 3 News at 6PM	04/27/06	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****

***** We reported the debate is heating up on where to locate the Interstate 110 expansion route. The County Commission revived a plan to expand the highway to help evacuation efforts when hurricanes threaten. Commissioner Mike Whitehead says the route chosen is the least expensive and least intrusive because it's along a right of way where only power lines run. Residents in neighborhoods along the proposed path are resisting the plan.

6. In Focus	04/30/06	09:00AM/30 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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***** This week's topic was the proposed Interstate 110 extension. Guests were County Commissioner Mike Whitehead and local Realtor Alexis Bolin. This issue has come up several times, but with renewed interest after the hurricanes of the last 2 years. The need is for a better hurricane evacuation route to the north. The issue was voted down in 2000-2001. This time, to meet federal government guidelines, 5 routes were discussed, with the winning route being from the end of the current I-110, through Jernigan Road on to the new commerce park above Cantonment at Quintet Road. In conjunction with this project would be a separate joint project with Santa Rosa County to build a 4-laned, limited-access highway from Buleah in a loop through Quintet Road over to Santa Rosa County, to give an alternate east-west route to take some of the pressure off 9-Mile Road. Whitehead discussed the county's reasons for supporting the designated route, while Bolin opposed the route, saying the tolls proposed for the extension would not support repaying construction loans.

7. Channel 3 News at 6PM	05/23/06	06:01PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** Northwest Florida was the big winner in the base realignment process, and now the region is anticipating a population explosion. Area leaders at Eglin's "Vision 2015" summit today are preparing for this phenomenal growth by making sure there is proper communication between all parties involved. While Eglin Air Force Base prepares for three new missions as a result of BRAC, the surrounding communities have a mission of their own, preparing for twelve thousand new residents that will provide a major boom to the local population and economy. Dr. Rick Harper of the UWF Hass Center projected an economic impact on the order of \$450 to \$500 million a year. In order to handle the growth, Eglin is hosting this Vision 2015 Summit to brainstorm with over 800 people from Pensacola to Panama City. Major General Jeff Riemer, the Eglin AAC Commander, wanted to bring everyone together to one place and start discussing plans to handle the growth, forming committees to work to improve housing, transportation and infrastructure both inside and outside the base gates. They will have to decide where and how to get funds to pay for the improvements and develop a master plan. The area is short on time; the first arrivals will start hitting the base in a few months.

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8. Channel 3 News at 6	05/30/06	06:03PM/2 minutes	News	*****
***** We prepared an in-depth report on the huge population growth in north Okaloosa County, and spoke with Wayne Harris of the Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce about planned commercial development projects to catch up with the new residents, and help the economy and quality of life grow.				
9. Channel 3 News at 10PM	06/08/06	10:02PM/2 minutes	News	*****
***** We interviewed Jim Lawson, Director of Community Development for Orange Beach, AL, about the new Alabama law that allows cities in Baldwin County to assess impact fees, making developers partially pay for roads, utilities and other infrastructure improvements.				
10. Channel 3 News at 6PM	06/12/06	06:03PM/1 minute	News	*****
***** In following the story of the BRAC impact locally, we reported on the first meeting of the Eglin Installation Growth Committee, whose job is to find the best way to prepare for the 12,000+ new residents set to arrive at Eglin Air Force Base in the next 10 years. Their growth management study is expected to take about 18 months.				
11. Channel 3 News at 10PM	06/13/06	10:07PM/3 minutes	News	*****
***** We interviewed Fred Cook, City Engineer for Crestview, about plans to create "connector" roads, running north and south, to relieve the pressure on the only current route, Highway 85. A total of 5 of these "connectors" are planned, to handle the explosive growth in the area.				