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**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

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**TO:** Mayor & City Council

**DATE:** October 30, 2014

**FROM:** John McDonough, City Manager

**AGENDA ITEM:** Resolution to Support a Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)  
Supplemental Study Application and Study Funding

**MEETING DATE:** For Submission onto the November 4, 2014, City Council Regular Meeting Agenda

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*BACKGROUND INFORMATION: (Attach additional pages if necessary)*

See attached:

Memorandum  
Resolution

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CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: **11/4/2014**

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL REQUIRED: (  ) YES (  ) NO

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_



TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Angela Parker, Community Development Director

DATE: October 27, 2014 for submission onto the Council Consent Agenda of the November 4, 2014 City Council Meeting

ITEM: Resolution to Support a Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Supplemental Study Application and Study Funding

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**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that:

- Mayor and Council support a resolution to submit an application to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for a LCI Supplemental Study to develop a detailed Perimeter Zoning District to assist in implementation of the 2011 *Perimeter at the Focus LCI Study, 10-Year LCI Update*
- Commit to provide the required local matching funds.

**Background:**

The City of Sandy Springs coordinated with the Perimeter Community Improvement Districts (PCIDs) in development of a LCI Study to direct transportation investments and land use planning with the adoption of the *Perimeter at the Focus LCI Study, 10-Year LCI Update* in October 2011 (Resolution 2011-10-94). Annually, the ARC provides an opportunity to seek Supplemental Study funding to assist LCI Sponsors in implementing its adopted LCI Plans. Funding assistance is available through a competitive application process for up to \$200,000 in federal funding with a twenty percent local match of up to \$50,000. The Supplemental Study application is due to ARC by noon on November 10.

**Discussion:**

The City adopted the following land use and regulatory tools to direct land use development within the Perimeter District: *2008 Zoning Ordinance, 2027 Comprehensive Plan, Development Ordinance*, and the *Perimeter at the Focus LCI Study*. In the *2027 Comprehensive Plan*, a majority of the land area within the Perimeter District is designated as Live Work Regional. While the Comprehensive Plan provides general guidelines for development within areas designated as in Live Work Regional, it lacks specificity on the placement and desired uses of future development in relation to infrastructure investments, including the three MARTA heavy rail stations in Sandy Springs (Medical Center, Sandy Springs, and North Springs).

The primary purpose of seeking an LCI Supplemental Study for the Perimeter LCI area is to further refine future Land Use Plan and Zoning Overlay District to balance land use and transportation assets through development of a Perimeter Zoning Form-Based Code. The Proposed update to the Zoning Code would provide the implementation tool to guide future development within the Perimeter District which achieves the vision of a vibrant, economically sustainable live-work-play regional center, balancing transportation and land use investments.

PUBLIC WORKS

**Alternatives:**

The Mayor and Council can elect not to submit an application for a LCI Supplemental Study to ARC at this time.

**Financial Impact:**

If the City is successful in competing for LCI Supplemental Study funding from ARC, it will require the City to provide for at least 20 percent in local funding (up to \$50,000) to match a 80 percent federal grant (up to \$200,000) for total study funding up to \$250,000.

**Attachment:**

- I. Resolution

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF FULTON

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC) FOR A LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE (LCI) PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTAL STUDY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A DETAILED PERIMETER ZONING DISTRICT AND PROVIDE REQUIRED LOCAL MATCH FOR THE STUDY**

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted a Future Land Use plan, an element of the adopted 2027 Comprehensive Plan;

**WHEREAS**, Article XII of the Zoning Ordinance includes the Perimeter Community Improvement Design District;

**WHEREAS**, the Perimeter Community Improvement District (PCID) completed a 10-year Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) update in 2011, and the City adopted the Perimeter LCI with Resolution 2011-10-94 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October, 2011;

**WHEREAS**, the LCI process provides a master plan combining land use, transportation, and market evaluation to direct future development and transportation investments;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council seek to collaborate with PCID along with the Cities of Dunwoody, Brookhaven and other stakeholders to develop a cohesive land use and transportation plan for the PCID area;

**WHEREAS**, ARC annually provides a competitive application for LCI Supplemental Studies which are intended to assist jurisdictions implement its adopted LCI Study, and the current application period closes on November 10;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA**

That they approve submitting an application for a LCI Supplemental Study for the Perimeter area within Sandy Springs to develop a detailed Perimeter Zoning District; and

That the City will provide the local share of study funding of 20 percent or up to \$50,000 for total study value of up to \$250,000, with 80% share eligible through the competitive application process (up to \$200,000), should the study be awarded.

**RESOLVED** this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

Approved:

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Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:

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Michael Casey, City Clerk  
(Seal)