

Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council was held Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Eva Galambos presiding.

Discussion of Force Account Agreement Contracts for Signals Cabinets and Intelligent Transportation Equipment and authorization for the City Manager to execute the contracts

Director of Public Works Angelia Parham stated this contract is for the signal cabinets and Intelligent Transportation Equipment. This is reimbursable through the Force Account Grant received through the Department of Transportation.

Federal and State contributions total \$852,186.64. The City will be responsible for the \$1,070.36 which exceeds the agreement with GDOT. The Public Works Department will oversee the act through its completion.

There was a consensus by City Council to move forward with this item.

Presentation of the Capital Improvement Program – Transportation Quarterly Update Including an Update on the Sidewalk Program

Director of Public Works Parham stated this is an update of the Capital Improvements Projects and will also highlight some updates on the City's major programs in Public Works.

Quarterly Project Updates

Deputy Director of Public Works Jon Drysdale gave updates on the following projects:

Capital Improvement Program Update Summary – Under or Near Construction – 8

- T-0001 – Johnson Ferry/Abernathy Widening
- T-0002 – Abernathy Greenway
- T-0005 – River Valley Road Sidewalks
- T-0006 – Sandy Springs Circle Ped Imp – Phase 1
- T-0008 – Roswell Rd Streetscape (Cliftwood-Hammond)
- T-0016 – Dunwoody Club at Spalding
- T-0020 – Windsor Pkwy
- T-0028 – Hammond Interchange

Capital Improvement Program Update Summary – Designs - 5

- T-0010 – Johnson Ferry/Sandy Springs Circle Intersection
- T-0011 – Johnson Ferry/Glenridge Corridor Improvements
- T-0012 – Roswell Road Streetscape (Johnson Ferry north to Abernathy)
- T-0013 – Roswell Road ATMS
- T-0029 – Island Ford Trail

Capital Improvement Program Update Summary –Concepts - 5

- T-0021 – Peachtree Dunwoody at Lake Hearn
- T-0023 – I-285 Tunnel – Sandy Springs Circle Extension
- T-0024 – Hammond Widening
- T-0025 – Dunwoody Place Improvements
- T-0026 – Peachtree Dunwoody Improvements

Capital Improvement Program Update Summary – On Hold - 4

- T-0014/15 – Sandy Springs Circle Phase 2/3 Design
- T-0017 – Riverside Drive – future design as local project
- T-0019 – Roswell Road Streetscape – phased project
- T-0027 – Jett Road Bridge – awaiting GDOT prioritization

Capital Improvement Program- Transportation (Cip-T)

T-0001 Johnson Ferry - Abernathy Widening

- **Status:**
 - GDOT Let – January 2009
 - GDOT including streetscape (brick strips) in bid document
- **Schedule:**
 - Construction – 2009-2012
 - Recommendation:
 - Continue to support GDOT
 - Evaluate lighting and signal equipment upgrades in future FYs

T-0002 Greenway - Abernathy Road Section

- **Status:**
 - Demolition of remaining houses nearly complete by GDOT
 - One condemnation remaining
 - Will finalize acquisition cost report in early 2009
- **Schedule:**
 - Phase 1 construction plans – FY 2009
 - Award construction contract – FY 2010 if funded
 - Recommendation:
 - Continue with Phase 1 construction plans

T-0005 River Valley Road Sidewalks

- **Status:**
 - Under construction
- **Schedule:**
 - Sidewalk/walls/curb and gutter to be complete in Spring 2009
 - Resurfacing to follow
 - Recommendation:
 - Continue as planned

T-0006 Sandy Springs Cir and Hammond Dr - Pedestrian Enhancements (Phase I)

- **Status:**
 - Working design right-of-way and utility issues
- **Schedule:**
 - Preparing for bid and award in June 2009
 - Recommendation:
 - Continue as planned

T-0008 Roswell Rd Streetscape (Cliftwood To Hammond)

- **Status:**
 - Working design right-of-way and utility issues
 - Schedule:
 - Preparing for bid and award in June 2009

- **Recommendation:**

- Continue as planned

T-0010 Johnson Ferry Rd At Sandy Springs Circle Intersection Improvement

- **Status:**
 - Being designed with T-0011 (Johnson Ferry – Glenridge)
- **Schedule:**
 - Detailed design to begin in early 2009
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue design consultant activities as part of T-0011
 - Execute this improvement in phase 1

T-0011 Johnson Ferry–Glenridge – Earmark

- **Status:**
 - Concept design nearly complete
 - Looking at phased implementation options
- **Schedule:**
 - Detailed design to begin in early 2009 for portion
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue design consultant activities
 - After concept, finalize funding estimates and sources
 - After concept approval, can execute as funds allow
 - Execute approach intersection improvements as Phase 1

T-0012 Roswell Road Streetscape - (Johnson Ferry To Abernathy)

- **Status:**
 - Design underway
 - TE funds programmed
- **Schedule:**
 - ROW plans in January 2009
 - Construction bid in 2010 or earlier depending on ROW
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue with design

T-0013 Roswell Road - Advanced Traffic Management System (Atms)

- **Status:**
 - Concept design underway
- **Schedule:**
 - Concept design complete in early 2009
 - Move to detailed design and right-of-way
 - Award construction in FY 2010
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue project execution with GDOT and other Cities

- Proceed with design consultant activities
- After concept design, finalize funding estimates and sources

T-0014/15 Sandy Springs Circle - Pedestrian Enhancements (Phase Ii/Iii)

- **Status:**
 - Project approved by ARC as qualified for LCI funding
 - Project not selected for concept funding last submittal
- **Schedule:**
 - On hold
- **Recommendation:**
 - Hold on design
 - Resubmit for concept funding – next project call

T-0016 Dunwoody Club At Spalding Drive - Intersection Improvement

- **Status:**
 - Design nearly complete
- **Schedule:**
 - Bid construction in February 2009
 - Award in March 2009
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue with FY 2009 execution

T-0017 RIVERSIDE DRIVE SIDEWALKS - (OLD RIVERSIDE TO HEARDS FERRY)

- **Status:**
 - On hold as local project
- **Recommendation:**
 - Hold for funding
 - Consider for FY 2010

T-0019 Roswell Road Streetscape - I-285 To Atlanta City Limits)

- **Status:**
 - Project broken into 3 Phases
- **Schedule:**
 - Phase I construction FY 2010
 - Phase II construction FY 2011
 - Phase III construction FY 2012
- **Recommendation:**
 - Consider Phase I for design and construction in late FY 2009 or early FY 2010
 - Submit Phase II and III for LCI funding when available

T-0020 Windsor Parkway Sidewalks - (Roswell To High Point)

- **Status:**
 - Design nearly complete
- **Schedule:**
 - Bid construction in February 2009
 - Award in March 2009
- **Recommendation:**

- Continue with FY 2009 execution

T-0021 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd At Lake Hearn Intersection Improvement

- **Status:**
 - Concept design underway with Arcadis via PCID
 - No programmed City funds at this time
 - Construction programmed in TIP for FY 2010
- **Schedule:**
 - Concept report submitted and being finalized
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue coordination as needed with PCID and GDOT

T-0023 I-285 Tunnel – Sandy Springs Circle Underpass

- **Status:**
 - Concept design underway
- **Schedule:**
 - Executing City review of concepts
 - Next public meeting planned for Spring 2009
 - Concept report due after concept meetings
- **Recommendation:**
 - Prepare concepts for funding
 - After concept, finalize funding estimates and sources

T-0024 Hammond Widening (Roswell To Glenridge)

- **Status:**
 - Working with PCID and Dekalb on section to the east
 - PCID funded intersection study complete
 - Traffic and initial environmental complete
 - Finalizing concept scope and fee with Gresham Smith
- **Schedule:**
 - Continue concept design in January 2009
- **Recommendation:**
 - Move forward with concepts (discuss funding with PCID)
 - After concept, finalize funding estimates and sources

T-0025 Dunwoody Place Improvements

- **Status:**
 - Concept design complete
- **Schedule:**
 - On hold for funding
- **Recommendation:**
 - Submit for State Aid funding for phase 1
 - Finalize concept and discuss funding with SRTA and GDOT
 - Consider local project phase 1 for FY 2010

T-0026 Peachtree-Dunwoody Rd Improvements (Abernathy To Spalding)

- **Status:**

- Concept design complete
- **Schedule:**
 - On hold for funding
- **Recommendation:**
 - Finalize concept and discuss funding with SRTA and GDOT
 - Consider local project phase 1 for FY 2010

T-0027 JETT ROAD BRIDGE UPGRADE AT LONG ISLAND CREEK

- **Status:**
 - GDOT design activities on hold
 - GDOT re-evaluating bridge program and funding
- **Schedule:**
 - ROW and CST Long Range
- **Recommendation:**
 - Execute bridge repair under bridge repair program
 - Continue to work with GDOT as funds allow

T-0028 Hammond Interchange

- **Status:**
 - Bid documents out, due in December 2008
- **Schedule:**
 - Award design/build construction - early 2009
 - Estimate two year construction period
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue to support GDOT and PCID

T-0029 ISLAND FORD TRAIL EXTENSION

- **Status:**
 - Design layout complete
 - Environmental report in review
- **Schedule:**
 - Completion date is not later than December 31, 2009
- **Recommendation:**
 - Continue as planned

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerly questioned if the City had enough money now to complete the trail.

Mr. Drysdale stated yes, through the volunteer effort in grant money.

Mayor Galambos questioned the time frame on this.

Mr. Drysdale stated that Island Ford would be constructed by the end of next year.

Mayor Galambos responded it was taking four years from the time we started.

City Manager McDonough stated that it is completely out of the City's control. If staff tried to withdraw this money and put it somewhere else, they would not let us do it. This is not Sandy Springs doing; this is on the

National Park's own property. The assessment has to be done. Then it has to go through two or three layers of review within their own department before they will approve it.

Program Director/Assistant City Manager Crace stated that when the City first applied for this, the Park Service explained that they understood it to be a clean and clear project ready to go. After going half way in, all documents signed, then they said a ruling came down that they had to take it through this process. It killed the whole thing.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerny questioned what the story is on the Roswell Road Streetscape being on hold.

Mr. Drysdale stated that is on I-285 south of the city limits and is three pieces. City Council did not authorize it for design this year, although staff is going to request City Council consideration in 2010.

Councilmember Fries stated that the City has a Streetscape Plan already and questioned what design needed to be done.

Mr. Drysdale stated all utilities, utility locations, curb, gutter and driveways have to be done.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerny questioned if, in next year's budget, staff would recommend the City spend the design work for the 3,000 feet on both sides of Roswell Road to approximately Mystic Place, Mystic Drive?

Mr. Drysdale stated yes.

FY 2009 Major Program Updates

Sidewalk Program Update

Sidewalk Projects

<u>SITE</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
FY 08		
■ 1. Sandy Springs MS	\$249,000	Complete, 8000'
■ 2. Dunwoody Springs ES	\$134,000	Complete, 4200'
■ 3. Lake Forrest ES Design	\$160,000	Design, PIM 12/10
FY 09		
■ 4. Lake Forest ES Construction	\$750,000*	Bid later this FY, 2600'
■ 5. Woodland ES	\$38,000	Construction, 670'
■ 6. Riverwood HS	\$142,000	Construction, 3870'
■ 7. Spalding ES	\$248,000	Design on hold
Brandon Mill, 4968', Dalrymple, 5211'		
■ 8. Ridgeview MS Design	\$148,000	Design underway, 3500'

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerny questioned if staff had looked at not putting a sidewalk directly on Lake Forrest but run it down Allen Road and then to Sandy Springs Circle where there is a sidewalk already so as to get the kids out of the heavy congestion.

Public Works Manager Marty Martin explained staff did consider this with the consultant. There are challenges there with going immediately adjacent to the school on Allen Road as well. There is a very minimal road shoulder with retaining wall construction required to provide adequate clearance for sidewalk.

Mayor Galambos stated this would have the same problem as Lake Forrest does.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerny questioned what would be the safest way to get the children from Northwood to the school.

Mr. Martin stated there is some pedestrian desire along that road shoulder on Lake Forrest at this time. There are worn paths on that shoulder and people are using it.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerny stated it is south of Northwood predominately where a lot of people walk on the west side of Lake Forrest.

Mr. Martin stated that the neighborhoods have expressed the desire to be connected to Lake Forrest.

Councilmember Paul questioned staff on why the design was put on hold at Spalding Woods Elementary. Based on the email received by staff, he told the community that construction on sidewalks would start in the spring.

City Manager McDonough stated that the City does not have funding for those two stretches of road, Brandon Mill or Dalrymple.

Councilmember Paul explained that when he asked Public Works when the sidewalks would be underway, he was told April. That is what he told that community.

Mayor Galambos stated that she believes he was talking about the design funding which is a totally different thing from building funding.

Councilmember Paul explained the question was, when are they were going to be constructed.

Mayor Galambos stated the funding is not in the budget.

Mr. McDonough stated there is no funding in the FY-09 budget. Staff's estimates are somewhere in the neighborhood of about \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000 for those two segments.

Councilmember Paul explained this is what puts him and others in an embarrassing position.

Mr. McDonough stated that he cannot account for the email that was sent to him and why it was stated to him that we have \$2,500,000 in our budget to construct those sidewalks. He is not aware of it and not sure who would have sent him that information.

Councilmember Jenkins addressed the Sidewalk Policy and Spalding Elementary School. The policy states the laying of sidewalk is to be one half mile around the schools. Sandy Springs Middle School has 8,000 feet of sidewalk, Dunwoody Springs 4,200, Woodland 670 feet and North Springs has no sidewalk. Until the policy is changed, you have to keep that on there. Council can vote and say every single school except Spalding Elementary School due to funding or whatever the reason that might be. Right now, she does not think the design can be put on hold when the City's policy states we are going to lay sidewalk a half mile around the schools. Spalding Elementary School is one of Sandy Spring's schools.

Mr. McDonough agreed with Councilmember Jenkins. Staff has not changed the policy about constructing sidewalks within a half mile of our schools. Essentially, what we are saying is this is a \$2,500,000 expenditure that Council has not yet supported that would come forward in the year 2010. Essentially, we are looking at a cost

benefit now of having contracts in hand and the ability to use that \$250,000 that we do not know will ever be funded because the City Council has yet to make a determination or pledge in support of putting down additional sidewalk within half miles of schools in another location. Essentially, this is what we are talking about doing. The question is, do we proceed with programming and spend the \$250,000 for a design that does not have Council authorization yet. This is the dilemma we are in. If Council wants to proceed with this, we can program the design & construction dollars all in one year. This would be his recommendation to Council for the year 2010. If it is a priority project, do the work all at one time. But to spend \$250,000 this year to put on the shelf not knowing if we will ever get Council's support to spend \$2,500,000 makes no sense.

Mayor Galambos stated when this policy was adopted Council did not have this much information. If you look at most of the sidewalk projects for the schools, they are on collector streets where there is a good bit of traffic and half a mile from the school in most instances is on collector streets where we need them. When you look at a half mile from Spalding there are tiny residential streets that would be included and they do not necessarily require the same kind of effort as you would put into a school that's reached mostly by collectors.

Mr. McDonough stated that another thing to remember is that until we get into the program, we do not know how much it is going to cost, in some cases to do the design work. When a proposal is received with a cost of \$250,000 to do a design for a project that has no authorization to fund, it seems to him that Council authorization is needed to spend that amount of money and then some type of obligation that we are going to follow through and spend X numbers of millions to actually construct it.

Councilmember Jenkins explained that Dalrymple is a collector street and has 5,211 feet on it and that gets us down to Brandon Mill Road where the City just bought a 22 acre Park.

Mr. Martin stated it is about \$40 to \$50 per linear foot.

Councilmember DeJulio stated 5,200 linear feet is a mile.

Mayor Galambos requested a calculation on what it would cost to design the Brandon Mill portion that is outside of the bus route. If the children are riding the bus on these streets then we really do not need a sidewalk. She does not think it would be safe for a kid to walk on Brandon Mill or Dalrymple.

Mr. McDonough stated that we are talking about a multi-million dollar expenditure. It is not his recommendation to spend money in support of a project that has not yet been authorized.

Councilmember Fries stated that it is her understanding that it would be cheaper to continue using the same contractor already at the Dunwoody Place location to do this paving work.

Mayor Galambos questioned if there was a consensus of Council to have an evaluation of the design cost for a smaller sidewalk project for this school which does not include the side streets within a half mile radius.

Mr. McDonough stated it would not be a problem. He emphasized that this is a multiyear program prioritized starting with the schools. The City has sidewalk needs across the City and because we do not do it in 2009, does not mean that it will not be done.

Councilmember Jenkins stated the policy adopted by the Council says "half mile around the schools".

Mr. McDonough stated the City would continue to provide funding in support of the policy. These funds will not be programmed for anything other than sidewalks within a half mile of the schools.

Mayor Galambos stated that all the constituents have been promised something and we should proceed in some way. We should proceed in a rational manner that fits the problem instead of this huge project.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery agreed with Mayor Galambos. Staff is looking for policy guidance of when to expend funds for design work when the future project has not been approved by the Council. City Council has indicated that sidewalks are needed around the schools by spending the money on design on a regular basis. We will have better information for the next calendar year or fiscal year when the City will fund the program. Design work does not go out of style. They can go ahead and do the design and when the money is available to build it, we will build it. Every school is getting the attention for their sidewalk.

Mr. McDonough stated that this is his maximum threshold and he does not feel comfortable authorizing an expenditure of \$250,000 for something that does not have Council's support on to take to construction. Staff will go back and look at it and bring some numbers to Council.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated this would just be preliminary work.

Mr. McDonough stated that the issue is the City is out of funding for construction this year. We are down to the last of the money that was allocated for FY-09.

Councilmember Jenkins inquired about North Springs High School stating there is a 50 foot stretch between Jolly Development and the Shell Station. She had asked for it to be included when this was being done. It is only 50 feet that needs sidewalk.

Mr. Drysdale stated staff would get the contractor that did Woodland, get a cost estimate on it and submit it to the City Manager.

Stormwater Maintenance Update

Deputy Director of Public Works Jon Drysdale stated staff went out to bid on Stormwater and selected three contractors with pricing projects turned in to expedite the execution of \$560,000 in the contract right now, up to a \$1,000,000 by the end of December and \$1,500,000 in February.

Overall Program Status

- \$560k under contract – work to be completed November 2008-January 2009
- \$1,000,000 under contract by December 31, 2008
- \$1,500,000 under contract by February 2009

- Contractors
 - JJE Constructors, Inc.
 - Blount Construction, Inc.
 - Reynolds, Inc.

- FY-08 – Bid Package 1 - Northside Drive – JJE (Start Dec 08)
- FY-09 – Bid Package 1 – Glenlake Drive – JJE (Start Jan 09)
- FY-09 – Bid Package 2 – Misc Repairs – JJE (Start Nov 08)
Errol Place, Landmark Dr, Whispering Trail +
- FY-09 – Bid Package 3 – TV Inspection, Rehabilitation (Just Bid)
Huntley Dr, Spalding Dr, Spalding Hills, Northgreen Dr +

- FY-09 – Bid Package 4 – Erosion/Channel Protection (Bid in Dec)
 Multiple Locations
- FY-09 – Bid Package 5 – Design Services (Bid in Dec)
 Thornhill Drive, Scott Valley Road, Scott Valley Road

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimate Cost</u>	<u>Projected Completion Date</u>
FY08-1-Northside Dr	Culvert Replacement	\$208k-\$230k	January 2009
FY09-1-Glenlake Dr	Culvert Replacement	\$242k-\$260k	January 2009
FY09-2-Multiple Locations	Misc. Repairs	\$70k	January 2009
FY09-3-Multiple Locations	TV, Lining, Repair	\$200k	January 2009
FY09-4- Multiple Locations	Channel Protection	\$150k	March 2009
FY09-5-Survey/Design- Thornhill / Scott Valley Dr	Survey/Engineering- Drainage systems	\$50k	December 2009
FY09-6-Thornhill Dr- Scott Valley Dr	Construction-Drainage system improvements	\$150k	Spring 2009
Long Island Drive	Hydrologic Study	\$35k	Spring 2009
Epstein, Easterly	Drainage system repair	\$150k-\$170k	March 2009
Carriage Drive	Flood proofing home	\$20k	January 2009
Windsor Pkwy Culverts	Culvert replacement at two locations	\$200k	February 2009
<u>Totals</u>		<u>\$1,535,000</u>	

Bid Package 1 (2008)

Northside Drive – Under Construction

- **Description** – Undersized metal culvert which is corroded and failing. The roadway slopes have partially failed, and there is a potential for flooding of a large residence located upstream.
- **Project Scope** – Replace existing culvert with a pre-cast concrete box culvert. The project will require an open-cut of Northside Drive. The road will be closed to traffic and detoured for approximately three weeks.
- **Status** – Contracted. Start Date early December, 2008. Construction is projected to be completed in January 2009.
- **Estimated cost** – \$220,000

Bid Package 1 (2009)

Glenlake Drive

- **Description** – Corroded/Collapsed metal culvert. Potential basement flooding upstream. Located in rear portion of two residential properties.
- **Project Scope** – Remove and replace existing 42” metal culvert with 60” concrete pipe culvert
- **Status** – Contracted. Start date January 2009. Completion February 2009.
- **Estimated cost** – \$22,000

Bid Package 2 (2009)

Miscellaneous System Repairs – Multiple Location

- **Description** – Repair Damaged Drainage Structures.
- **Locations Include:**
 - 1) Errol Place

- 2) Landmark Drive
- 3) Whispering Trail
- 4) Wing Street Townhomes
- 5) + Others
- **Status** – Contracted. Work to start November 2008
- **Estimated cost** – \$70,000

Bid Package 3 (2009)
TGV Inspection, Rehabilitation – Multiple Locations

- **Description** – Investigate structural integrity of storm drain system and make necessary repairs – Scope includes TV monitoring, lining, pipe replacement.
- **Locations Include:**
 - 1) Huntley Drive (800 lf)
 - 2) Spalding Drive (150 lf)
 - 3) Spalding Hills Drive (150lf)
 - 4) Northgreen Drive (180lf)
 - 5) Others
- **Status** – Bids due November 5, 2008
- **Estimated cost** – \$200,000

Pavement Management Program Update
2009 Capital Paving – Phase II

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Mile</u>	<u>Status</u>
Trowbridge Rd	Spalding Dr	Roswell Rd	0.56	Completed
West Spalding Dr	End	Brandon Mill Rd	0.92	Deferred
South Trimble Rd	Peachtree Dunwoody Rd	End	0.72	When Weather Permits
Mount Vernon Hwy	Heards Ferry Rd	Roswell Rd	1.19	Complete
River Exchange Pkwy	Holcomb Bridge Rd	Roswell Rd	0.43	Complete
Huntcliff Trace	The 5 th Green	Hightower Trl	2.02	Complete
North River Pkwy	Roswell Rd	Colonel Dr	0.79	Complete
Heards Ferry Rd	Mount Vernon Hwy	Northside Dr	2.18	Complete
Windsor Pkwy	Roswell Rd	Peachtree Dunwoody Rd	1.61	Complete
Total Miles			10.41	

Accomplishments

- **2005-2006 LARP**
 - May 2007 –Resurfaced 7 mile of streets
- **2007 LARP**
 - Completed January 2008
 - Resurfaced 4 miles of street
- **2008 LARP**
 - Completed October 2008
 - Resurfaced 4.5 miles of street
- **2008 Capital Paving**
 - Completed June 2008
 - Resurfaced 22 miles of streets

- **Phase I 2009 Capital Paving**
 - Completed October 2008
 - Resurfaced 16 miles of streets

Resurfacing costs in FY 09

- 2008 LARP - \$882,260.00 (GDOT) - \$228,689.67
- 2009 Capital Paving Phase I - \$4,285,293.70
- 2009 Capital Paving Phase II - \$2,246,274.12

2008 LARP Progress

Street Name	Beginning	End	Status
Foxridge	Riverside Dr	Cul-de-sac	Completed
Riverhall Ct	Brandon Hall Dr	Cul-de-sac	Completed
West Battery Pl	Northland Dr	Cul-de-sac	Completed
Glenairy Dr	Glenridge Dr	Aberdeen Dr	Completed
Old Powers Ferry Rd	Northside Dr	Dupree Dr	Completed
Duncourtney Dr	Dalrymple Rd	West Spalding Dr	Completed
Riley Place	Powers Ferry Rd	Cul-de-sac	Completed
North Mill Ct	North Mill Rd	Cul-de-sac	Completed
Merlendale Ct	Forest Lake Dr	Cul-de-sac	Completed
Chestnut Hall Lane	Whitner Dr	Cul-de-sac	Completed
Hilderbrand Dr	Roswell Rd	Boylson Dr	Completed
Central Park West	Peachtree Dunwoody	Central Pkwy	Completed
Chaparral Dr	Chaparral Place	Chervon Dr	Completed
Read Lane	Kayron Dr	Garber Dr	Completed
Aberdeen Dr	Glenairy Dr	Glenairy Dr	Completed
Mystic Dr	Kitty Hawk Dr	End	Completed

2009 Capital Paving – Phase I

Street Name	From	To	Status
Hammond Dr	Roswell Rd	GA400	Completed
Riverside Dr	Johnson Ferry Rd	Mount Vernon Pkwy	Completed
Barfield Rd	Abernathy Rd	Hammond Dr	Completed
Powers Ferry Rd	Northside Dr	Mount Vernon Pkwy	Completed
Nesbit Ferry Rd	Spalding Dr	Meadowgate	Completed
Jett Ferry Rd	Dunwoody Club Dr	Butler Rd	Completed
Roberts Dr	Northridge Rd	Spalding Dr	Completed
Glenridge Dr	Abernathy Rd	Johnson Ferry/Glenridge	Completed
Mount Vernon Hwy	Johnson Ferry Rd	Peachtree Dunwoody	Completed
Mount Vernon Hwy	Mount Vernon Pkwy	Heards Ferry Rd	Completed
River Valley Rd	Johnson Ferry Rd	Long Island Dr	Sidewalks Under
Way!			
Londonberry Rd	Powers Ferry Rd	Long Island Dr	Completed
Spalding Dr	Jett Ferry Rd	Wickley Way	Completed

Summary

- Pave On continues!

- 2009 Capital Paving – Phase II:
 - Completed 93% before weather changed!
 - South Trimble Road paving, striping and signal detection work remain

Councilmember Jenkins stated that in the second phase of this paving all of those roads are starting to see problems. Holes are developing and the gravel is coming up.

Mr. Drysdale stated that sometimes there is a section of the mix that is not good. The City has a one year warranty and will make sure everything is taken care of. Staff will also be doing the IMS Survey of all the roads in the City again.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that Mount Vernon was just finished and is not looking good and already has problems. Trowbridge and Heards Ferry are the same.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that Mystic Drive has problems as well.

Councilmember Paul questioned how long West Spalding would be deferred.

Mr. Drysdale explained the funding was short for this project so it would be next year when the money is authorized.

Councilmember Paul questioned how it is prioritized as to what gets paved and what does not.

Mr. Drysdale explained that it is by the score plus the bids for the sections of the roads. We were short this amount of money in the budget. Mr. Rapson did a review and found it had to be deleted.

Councilmember Paul requested staff keep him informed when these types of things are done.

Councilmember DeJulio questioned when a road is built and cannot be paved due to the weather, would it cause the underlying road to deteriorate? If so, the road needs more repair on it. Would it be the City's responsibility or the responsibility of the contractor?

Mr. Drysdale explained that it would still be under warranty and would be the contractor's expense.

Councilmember Fries expressed her concern with all the problems with the roads mentioned. She requested staff to inspect the roads carefully.

City Manager McDonough requested that City Council email him at the time they see issues like this on the roads.

Councilmember DeJulio questioned what percentage of our roads the City has redone.

Mr. Drysdale stated he would find out and let him know.

City Manager McDonough stated the City should be able to finish the arterial and collector streets next year and then begin to focus a lot more on the neighborhood roads beginning in the year 2010.

Mayor Galambos stated overall the City has made remarkable progress.

Intersection Improvement Program Update
FY09 Intersection Improvements

■ **Construction**

- T-7118 Roswell Road at Cliftwood Drive
- T-7117 Riverside Drive at River Valley Road
- T-7133 Roswell Road at Sandy Springs Circle
- T-7158 Glenridge at Hammond – 95% Completed

■ **Survey: 50 % complete**

- T-7105 Peachtree Dunwoody Road at Windsor Parkway
- T-7107 Hammond Drive at Lake Forrest Drive
- T-7113 Mount Vernon Highway from Glenridge to Barfield
- T-7108 Peachtree-Dunwoody Road to Mount Vernon Highway
- T-7129 Roswell Road at Ison Road – Pitts Rod
- T-7103 Glenridge Drive at Johnson Ferry Road – Glenairy Drive

Overhead Street Name Sign Program

■ **Initial phase:**

- 33 signalized intersections
- Upgrade a majority of Roswell Road intersection signage
- Installation to begin in January 2009

- Estimated cost for the initial phase: \$105,500

Traffic Services Manager Jeff Messer gave the following presentation:

Traffic Management Center (TMC) Update

■ **FY09 Budget \$500,000**

■ **Signals and Cameras under TMC Control in 2009**

- Roswell Road
- Abernathy Road (Roswell Road east to Peachtree Dunwoody)
- Dunwoody Place (Roswell Road to Hightower)
- Sandy Springs Circle
- Boylston (Mt. Vernon to Hammond)
- Peachtree Dunwoody (Abernathy south to Central Parkway)

■ **Schedule**

- Complete in FY 09 with existing installation contracts

Future Enhancements

- Additional cameras and fiber runs
- Signal cabinet alarms that can be sent to a cell phone
- Traffic management software: GIS compatible
- Alternate timing plans for evacuation plans and emergencies (Issued NTP to consultants)
- Traffic Adaptive (GDOT Pilot project on Roswell Road)
- Emergency traffic signal pre-emption for Fire Department (E-Views)

Expenditures

- City \$1,500,000
- State- Pending \$852,186
- Federal \$1,235,000

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery questioned what part of the city it would cover.

Traffic Services Manager Jeff Messer stated that it would cover all of Roswell Road and a total of 17 cameras would be placed along Roswell Road.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery questioned if this adaptive portion of the state funding included going to all the three lights even though two are in the City of Atlanta. The three lights relate together.

Mr. Messer stated staff has met with the City of Atlanta and they would like to have an IGA in place to have their system to hook into Sandy Springs system so that we can keep their clocks for them.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that those three lights all run with each other.

Mr. Messer stated staff can communicate this with them.

2009 State Aid Grant

Transportation Planner Garrin Coleman gave the following presentation:

Mr. Coleman explained this program is run by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Background

- Maximum award is \$750,000 per local government per year
- Application is due by 12/31/08
- Categories include: dirt roads, economic development, bridges, intersection, turn lanes, rehab/repair, sidewalk, minor widening and safety
- Up to 8 applications are allowed per jurisdiction
- Application is evaluated on a cost benefit ratio basis
- Maximum of 30 months to complete project

Proposed Projects

- T-0025 Dunwoody Place Option #4 - \$736,932 construction
- Abernathy Road sidewalk project (north side) between GA 400 and Peachtree Dunwoody Road - \$500k+ construction
- Dunwoody Place Option #4
- Abernathy Sidewalk Project

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery explained she is not discrediting the merits of the two projects that were just described. Dunwoody Place just had a lot of GDOT funding, and got a wonderful intersection at Northridge and Roswell Road. She questioned what other projects staff looked at throughout the City that did not make this list.

Mayor Galambos explained she sat in on that meeting and the prime consideration had to do with time in that they wanted it done fast. Secondly, it had to be construction, not design. We had to look at projects that were ready where the design had already been completed. That cut out a lot of things.

Mr. Coleman stated that Peachtree Dunwoody, the intersection at Spalding and Abernathy, were discussed as well as the restriping of Roswell Road.

City Manager McDonough explained staff will be giving City Council the complete list right after this presentation. Virtually everything staff felt was constructible within this period of time is on the list.

Mr. Garrin stated the second project is a section of sidewalk on the north side of Abernathy between Peachtree Dunwoody Road and the ramps on Georgia 400, about 1,000 feet.

Councilmember Jenkins stated she did not know if this project could be extended since it is only \$500,000 but the only spot on Abernathy that does not have sidewalks is in front of the Sandy Springs Tennis Center. Then another place is the five (5) feet by a tree between Jolly's other project at Roswell and Abernathy. These are the only two places on Abernathy that are not included in the expansion.

Mr. Coleman stated it could be added and explained it is only one road per application so as long as they are on the same road.

Councilmember Jenkins asked staff to add the two sections on Abernathy.

Mayor Galambos questioned if the funds were available.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated if these are state funds it is very likely that the City will not get anything. The Commissioner today addressed the Legislative Group regarding GDOT having a major deficit and is cutting out LARP Programs and State Aid Grants. What may happen though, from the Federal level stimulus package, a 13 page, single line listing of items as far as state programs has been created. Hopefully, these are things that will be included in that.

Mr. Garrin stated in the application guideline, anything over \$250,000 awarded through state aid would have to apply with GEFA.

Councilmember Jenkins stated the AJC posted a story today saying the governor was going to do an economic stimulus plan in the state of Georgia (bonds) for road construction, sidewalks and schools.

Mr. Willard stated that it would not be seen until early January.

Infrastructure Stimulus Plan Projects

Background

- President-elect Obama has unveiled a massive infrastructure spending proposal
- Major component to be spent on Public Works
- Would like congressional action in January/February 2009
- Amount estimates range from \$600B to \$1T
- Likely would be administered by state Departments of Transportation – “Use it or lose it”
- Start work on projects in 90 days and have complete by end of 2009
- Detailed rules not set yet

Transportation Projects

- T-0016 - Dunwoody Club
 - Option #1 – \$500k
 - Option #2 – \$2.0M

- T-0026 - Peachtree Dunwoody Intersections
 - Spalding – \$2.2M
 - Abernathy – \$2.3M
- T-0031 –Roswell Road Overpass @ I-285 Restriping – \$500k

Sidewalks Projects

- T-0020 - Windsor Parkway Sidewalks - \$1.7M
- T-0006 - Sandy Springs Circle Streetscape - \$1.8M
- T-0008 - Roswell Road Streetscape (Cliftwood to Hammond) - \$1.4M
- Lake Forest Sidewalks - \$750k
- Sidewalk Program – Arterials and Collectors - \$20M
- Sidewalk Gap Program - \$5M
-

Intersections, TMC and ATMS Projects

- Intersection Improvements Package – \$5M
- Riverside Ramp Signal – \$250K
- TMC Enhancements/Fiber/Cameras – \$3.5M
- T-0013 – ATMS for State Route 9/Roswell Road - \$4M

Roads/Bridges/Stormwater Projects

- Paving - \$35M backlog (using IMS report and to date work)
- Bridges – 22 bridges need maintenance and upgrades
 - Estimate \$100K per bridge - \$2.2M
 - Guardrails, maintenance, repair, approach slabs
 - Pedestrian upgrades - \$1M
- Stormwater - Work Request Backlog - \$5M

Parks Projects

- T-0002 – Abernathy Greenway Phase 1 - \$2M
- Morgan Falls
 - Upper Section - \$4M
 - Lower Section - \$3M

Next Steps

- Refine project list as more details are known about the program
- Contact local legislatures and GDOT personnel regarding project priorities
- Advance projects from concepts if needed

City Manager McDonough stated this is a list of suggested projects in the short term work program staff felt might qualify. He suggested that City Council prioritize the list.

There was a consensus of City Council to have Intersection Improvements on Peachtree Dunwoody, Dunwoody Club, Dunwoody Place and Roswell Road.

Mr. McDonough stated there are some things under intersections TMC and ATMS that may qualify for submittal: Intersection Improvement package, continue to move that program forward. The City will have to pay \$5,000,000 on that for the next several years. Council should look at this in two phases. The City has been asked from GDOT to provide them with a list of transportation related projects. However, the stimulus package when it comes out in late January may be broader than just these things.

There is a Work Session in January 2009 before Obama is sworn in and City Council can discuss it again then.

Discussion of potential revisions to the Morgan Falls Peninsula Park Master Plan

City Manager John McDonough stated most everyone is familiar with the existing design of the dog park. The City purchased the property at the end of Morgan Falls Road from Fulton County and has identified this as a site for a dog park. City Council adopted the Master Plan and set out with the grading plan which has been done. There was a tremendous amount of bamboo that had to be removed from that site. When the bamboo was removed it revealed a very stunning view of the lake and an old home that had collapsed. All that is left is a chimney. Staff has made many site visits and has realized that there is something here, a view like this that is nowhere else in the City of Sandy Springs.

This is a nice piece of property and the grading work that had been done. There is a road that goes down, has a lot of asphalt, some parking and a dog run area on the east side and another one on the west side. Walking the property, staff realized there is a Peninsula area that was being completely unutilized. The public would never be able to use it because the grade elevation change for the circle was about 12 feet higher than the Peninsula point where the house was discovered. Staff asked Lowes & Associates if they would take a look at this to see how the City could improve it. All the City has in this project right now is the grading work. Nothing has been lost at this point in time that would cause a need to look for other possibilities. Staff requested a couple of options be drawn up and shared with City Council. Staff asked questions about impervious surface. What would ARC and DNR allow us to do out on that point area? Mr. Dettwiler will walk through this process with what our options and flexibilities are and then that will lead us into our options now.

Assistant Director of Land Development Dettwiler stated staff met with Jim Santo, ARC several weeks ago on the site. As the bamboo and wisteria were cleared it was obvious to us that a large portion of the site had not been considered. Getting Mr. Santo to come out and look at what we found gave us the opportunity to see what we could really do with the Peninsula.

Councilmember Meizen McEnerny questioned if he envisioned the ability to have either a similar size or larger size parcel for the small and large dog park below the dam.

Mr. Dettwiler answered yes and that water would also be available.

Chris Hoitink, Lose & Associates, stated that Lose was tasked to take some of the programming elements that they originally presented for the River Park below the dam to see what would fit on this site. There are a lot of restrictions with the 150 foot impervious setback. The plan shows a terrace parking lot, give or take 120 spaces of this terrace. Just off the parking lot is the drop off area with two boat houses as presented before, one for the Georgia Kayak Club and one that will be used publically. Moving the boat houses away from the parking lot is the drop off area. Many times they will come in with big trailers that have multiple boats.

Councilmember Jenkins asked where it would be possible to move the two boat houses.

Mr. McDonough replied in the parking lot.

Mr. Hoitink stated they generally like to locate the restroom a little bit away from the playground. You come along the sidewalk to the playground. The playground is plenty big enough for two to five year olds structure, five to twelve year olds structure swing set. Beyond the playground is an open lawn area with adult hanging, swinging benches. There is a large open air pavilion.

The re-vegetation would be over story / under story, native plants and trees. In their vision it would go back to natural and would not be maintained.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated there is a lot of open area; lawn area, playground area, lawn for kayaking and it gets mighty hot out there in the summer. We might want to think about having trees in the playground area, similar to what is at Chastain Park.

Mr. Hoitink stated they would provide plenty of shade trees around the playground and the lawn area for picnicking and relaxing.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery questioned if the Sandy Springs Conservancy has been involved in this. They had an idea of the pavilion being on top.

Mr. McDonough stated yes and they have funding that they would like to pledge in support of this, especially for the pavilion.

Mr. Hoitink stated that in the other plan the footprint of the playground and lawn areas have been removed and added the dog park. They have also added the shape nodes of the dog park which is a hot commodity in dog parks. The good thing about this dog park is that you do not cross the parking lot to get from one Dog Park to the other. They are next to each other, so it is a lot safer. A smaller shelter has been added on top of that footprint. There are bench swings looking over the water.

Mayor Galambos explained that she could not judge between this and the plan of moving it to the river without knowing how it is going to be at the river.

Mr. McDonough stated that we have all the flexibility that we need if the recommendation after presenting these two plans is Plan A clearly would be preferable to Plan B from a family standpoint. We have three (3) plus acres below the dam. Given the site constraints with the utilities issue down there it would be much better suited for the Dog Park. We can move very quickly based on our in house ability to evaluate this and to permit it to put up two dog areas down there and to provide water.

Councilmember MacGinnitie questioned the financial impact.

Mr. McDonough stated he is not talking about any additional financial impact in this FY budget. Council has approved \$1,700,000 for the lower part of the Morgan Falls Complex, which is the area below the dam. It is staff's recommendation, if Council decides to move forward to design and construct, to reallocate the \$1,700,000 minus whatever we need which may be \$15,000 - \$25,000 to put the fencing down below the dam. We have \$1,700,000 already programmed in the FY-09 budget and it can be used for the implementation of either of these plans.

Mayor Galambos states she remembers when the presentation was made on the area where the boat ramp is below the dam. It sounded elegant, boardwalks and beautiful benches. To her, it sounded first class. To mix the dogs with the boardwalks and the elegance to her does not make sense. She would prefer to keep the dogs out of the area. She hopes to have a lot of ramp races someday and a pavilion. She wants it to be elegant and can see the City having Easter Parades.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that she agrees with her totally but she thinks the temporary Dog Park that we are thinking about putting down there will be potentially a temporary thing. We cannot do both. The \$1,700,000 for the below the dam park is going to be moved to above the dam so we do not have that kind of money to put in an elegant pavilion anymore and will have to spend \$50,000 to \$70,000 into the Dog Park down there. We can always move the Dog Park later.

Councilmember Jenkins agreed with Mayor Galambos about not having the dogs mixed up with the elegance. The elegance is going to be at the Peninsula point. Down below the river is a good spot for the Dog Park. It is a better spot for it. This is the most gorgeous front view in the City.

Mayor Galambos questioned if the Dog Park was going to be adjacent to the river. Before making these final decisions, she would like to see the design for what it will look like below the dam.

Councilmember Paul stated some of the largest pieces of green space in the City are crossed by high transmission wires. Across on the other side of Roswell Road is a huge piece of green space. He is concerned about having the park for people with dogs being so small. The Dog Park construction costs are relatively minor compared to the rest of it. Why not approach Georgia Power and inquire if the City can use the other side of the transmission area on Roswell Road as an area for the Dog Park. Then we can have the best of all these worlds by taking this very unusual, rare priceless piece of property, let it be what we all want it to be, which is really be the jewel for the City.

Councilmember Fries stated she likes the idea of having this beautiful parcel utilized, as the Mayor said, in an elegant fashion. She can envision big groups having picnics and parades here. Her concern about the property below the dam is that the power lines cannot be moved and there goes the elegance. There was talk with the Conservancy about having a pavilion for weddings there. No one is going to have a wedding when you cannot hear over the hum of the power lines. Once we cleared it and saw the view and found out we could not move the power lines, it makes it a real easy decision for her of where we do it. It was mentioned several times that this is an expensive view for a Dog Park because there is so much grading that needed to be done. We will not have this issue down at the bottom because most of the grading has already been done. The money can be moved up the hill to the Peninsula Park and still get the Dog Park done. It will be a minimum cost to get that facility done.

Councilmember DeJulio stated we didn't realize what we had and said this would be used for a Dog Park. Once we realized this property is too valuable and has too much beauty to be wasted for a Dog Park. There are families in Sandy Springs that need to have an area they can go to and have a picnic, play and enjoy. There is no reason we can't have this all the way down to the river and have the whole thing. The Mayor can still have her boardwalks and pavilion, our fire pit and have it all.

Councilmember Fries stated he is getting into cost now and looking at double dipping on how much it's going to cost because the lower Park was always going to cost a lot more because there are pavilions to build and things like that.

Mayor Galambos questioned if staff was asking to shift the money from one Park to the other.

Mr. McDonough stated that he wanted to see if there was an interest in even pursuing the idea. If there is a consensus to do that, his recommendation would be to hold on the River Park, allocate the \$1,700,000 which is believed to do the majority of the work. We will not know until we get into detail cost estimating which will happen as part of the construction drawing process. That will at least get Phase One started to do the infrastructure and do some of these improvements up here. The City will be in the position in the FY-10 budget to allocate additional funding for Parks and would probably be able to complete this as well as the River Park area in FY-10. If there is a consensus among Council, staff will proceed with this. We will have the construction drawings and probably do a design build with whatever we've got of the \$1,700,000 after the design cost and try to move to construction this spring.

Mayor Galambos questioned if the \$1,700,000 is what would be moved from the River area to the area discussed tonight.

Mr. McDonough stated that would be staff's recommendation.

Councilmember Paul stated he would take the dogs out of here. It's a jewel and we need to treat it as a jewel and get the maximum we can out of it.

Mr. McDonough stated that he and Mr. Willard will talk with Georgia Power about Councilmember Paul's idea.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery supports moving the money and building the upper park. We need to have a Plan B for where we are going to put the dogs. Big Trees sometime ago talked to Georgia Power about the power lines that run south or east of Roswell Road and one of the things that came up is that Georgia Power has an easement for that property to put power lines. That may or may not allow dogs and that is just one issue. Council needs to go back to the people that we told we are going to build a dog park and give them an alternative of where we are going to build the Dog Park and a timeline. That is the constituency that is being left out if we don't put them below the dam.

Councilmember Paul suggested it be explored as an option.

Mr. McDonough stated that time is of the essence. We can move quickly to put a temporary facility in and get it up and running within 30-45 days at the latest below the dam. For long term, we are talking at least seven or eight months.

Councilmember Fries stated what it would show is how much use is done before a lot of money is spent.

The consensus of Council is to build a temporary facility below the dam and look for a long term solution.

Update on Morgan Falls Ball Fields Design/Build Project

City Manager McDonough gave an update on the Morgan Falls Design/Build project.

Morgan Falls Design/Build submittals were due on October 29, 2008. There were twenty-five vendors that attended the pre-bid meeting resulting in four submittals. The Morgan Falls Design/Build committee reviewed the proposals and shortlisted the top three qualified vendors Jordan, Jones & Goulding, Georgia Development Partners and Astra Group.

Presentations were conducted November 19, 2008 which resulted in the top two firms being Jordan, Jones & Goulding and Astra Group. These cost proposals are being evaluated with an anticipated recommendation for the design/build for Morgan Falls Ball Field at the next Council Meeting.

Director of Recreation & Parks Ronnie Young explained that the scope is for two lighted fields and a small youth complex. The playground area will be taken out. The football area will have adjustments, dugouts, removing old bleachers and replacing them with stands, light adjustments, and have new streetscape walk areas. Budgeted amount approved FY-09, \$3,000,000.

Councilmember Fries questioned if all of this could be done in that amount.

Mr. Young stated it is not known at this point and we will need to start the design and move through the process.

Mr. McDonough stated that there will be some impact. The City will work with the Youth Sports people to minimize the impact. It is not anticipated the lower fields will experience much impact.

Councilmember Jenkins suggested staff speak with Joe Roach and others about the impact so that they limit the number of teams now so that they do not get into a situation of having too many kids signed up.

Mr. Young stated that would be something the Steering Committee would be doing.

Update on Hammond Park Master Plan

City Manager McDonough stated that a significant amount of progress has been made. Materials have been put on the City website for public feedback. Three Council members serve on the Steering Committee; Councilmember DeJulio, Councilmember Jenkins and Councilmember MacGinnitie. A recommendation to City Council will be made sometime in January 2009.

Director of Recreation & Parks Ronnie Young gave the following presentation:

- **Concept A**

- Competition Pool w/Bulkhead - Change to Length of Swimming
- Therapy Pool
- Three Diving Boards
- Spectator Seating
- Leisure Pool
- Weight Room

This entire concept deals 90 % w/Competitive Swimming.

- **Concept B**

- Large Pool – w/Bulkhead – 25 meter competition
- Three Diving Boards
- Leisure Pool w/ Three Lanes
- Water Activity for Children
- Whirlpool for Senior Adults
- Lap Lane's w/Water Depths for Water Aerobics
- Lazy River
- Three Hydrotherapy Bench Seating Areas
- ADA/Ramp Entry
- Spectator Seating
- Office
- Concession
- Lounge
- Zero Depth Entry w/ Climbable Play Structure and Spray Features

- **Concept C**

- Competitive Pool w/ Ten Racing Lanes, 25 yards x 25 meters
- Three Diving Boards
- Separate Therapy Pool w/Water Slide & Steps go outside of building and end in recovery area, area used for Swim Lessons

- **Concept D**

- Same as Concept C
- Interactive Area & Water Slide Outside of Building

Steering Committee will review all four concepts on December 15, 2008.

City Council Comments and Questions:

Councilmember Fries expressed her concern regarding the Therapy Pool and the kiddy area. The two do not mix. The Therapy Pool is for older folks.

Mr. McDonough stated the slide is not in operation when the therapy session is going on.

Councilmember DeJulio stated that some of these things have double use like the Lazy River. It becomes a water feature for the kids to play in the afternoon. In the morning it becomes a therapy feature where people can walk with the resistance of water or walk against the resistance of water for therapy.

Mayor Galambos stated that people may question if the City is building a water park, which is a private enterprise and not public. We need to be very careful and not build a water park.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery applauds all efforts of the citizens and Steering Committee members on coming up with some great alternatives. There is an obvious lack of parking, but evidently the parking is going to be underneath.

Mr. Young stated the latest number for parking at this time is 375 and is under this building.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated the outdoor leisure pool, Concept D, which segregates the children in the water park to the outside is very compatible with the time that children use water parks which is in the summer. It also would mean that the building itself would be smaller and less expensive to operate on a long term basis. That has merit. There is a tremendous need for the schools to have space for their water activities. She questioned which plan will meet this unmet need the best.

Councilmember Jenkins stated there have been a lot issues and she has asked for clarification from the water person appointed to the board. All of the private schools would have to commit in order to do the 50 meter pool, for competitive swimming. When she spoke with the head of school at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian she was told that they would not come unless the rates are better and unless the City does x, y and z. She is not going to design a plan with only the hope of having eight schools come here. That would be a mistake and a bad use of taxpayer money.

Councilmember DeJulio stated that the conflict within the committee is the question of intent. Is the intent to build a facility for competitive swimming or is the intent to build a facility for the public? The two are not the same. You can have them both together. We are trying to balance how a pool the schools can use for their competition and training needs and also a recreation facility for the other 90,500 people in Sandy Springs can be used. Residents can use leisure pools 12 months a year. The Committee is trying to balance the two; give the schools something they need but also give the residents, the families of Sandy Springs what they need.

Councilmember Fries questioned what the schools need and what is the difference between Concept A and Concept D?

Councilmember Jenkins explained the schools need 25 yards.

Councilmember DeJulio stated that the difference with the big pool is that 15 to 20 teams can go at the same time because they can go sideways.

Councilmember Fries stated Concept C allows competition.

Councilmember Paul questioned how this facility would be funded.

Councilmember DeJulio stated that other communities charge user fees paid monthly or quarterly. This is something the City would need to set policy on.

Councilmember Paul questioned if this could be bonded in such a way that the user fees would pay for it.

Councilmember MacGinnitie stated at best the user fees would cover the operating cost.

Mayor Galambos asked when interested outside parties would be brought in to be partners with the City.

Mr. McDonough stated efforts are being made.

Mayor Galambos stated one of the original ideas was the City would partner with the YMCA. YMCA would also do fundraising too, but right now would be a terrible time to suggest it.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that Dynamo may still be interested.

Councilmember DeJulio stated when the committee met with the YMCA initially, we were told to forget it with the old idea of building the rectangular pool. A representative from the YMCA told them that these type pools do not exist anymore and are not built because people do not just want to go to a pool and swim but want to go and play.

Mr. McDonough stated once further into the process, staff will bring back detailed recommendations in February on funding sources, bonding and this type thing.

Councilmember DeJulio stated that the overall redoing of this Park is going to be a showplace. It will be so much nicer with bigger play areas, outside bathrooms, more pavilions and an absolute showplace for Sandy Springs.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that walking paths are going to be throughout the park. The playground is all in one area now. This is something the people definitely want. We have kept the same number of surface parking spaces off of Glenridge Drive for the mom's that just want to go to the playground. The basketball and tennis courts have been separated due to requests from those groups.

Discussion of consideration of renewal of Sandy Springs Tennis Center Operating Agreement

Assistant City Manager Steve Rapson stated we looked at the Tennis Center renovation; actually spoke with Ivo, who ran the facility for three years. We have done substantial renovations for that over the last two years. Staff's recommendation is that we continue the existing contract; enter that agreement for another year, evaluate it during the course of the next year and have a two year option in case we decide we want to keep that the same.

Council members and the City Attorney discussed the need to put the contract out for bid.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnerny asked Mr. Rapson how much we have spent on capital over the last three years on the tennis center.

Mr. Rapson stated that over the last three years we have spent close to a quarter of a million dollars.

Mayor Galambos questioned Council on who would like the one year with the two year option. No one from City Council spoke.

City Manger McDonough stated that staff will execute the one year deal and prepare a Request for Proposal to bid out six (6) months from now.

Discussion of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 58, Article I of the City's Code of Ordinances to add a new Sec. 58-7 to establish license requirements and fees, impound facility requirements and for other purposes relating to nonconsensual towing carriers and to implement a public electronic notification system to enhance the ability of the City and its citizens to locate vehicles towed within the City.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated this Ordinance refers to towing companies. Other cities have had the problem of not knowing where to locate a vehicle after it has been towed. The City does not require nonconsensual towing companies making tows within the City to obtain a permit or license to do business in the City. Therefore, the City has no effective way of knowing which nonconsensual towing carriers are operating in the City. The Georgia Public Service Commission is authorized by O.C.G.A § 44-1-13 (the "Code") to regulate and control the towing of vehicles on private property; however, in addition to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission, the Code provides that the governing authority of each municipality having towing and storage firms within its territorial boundaries may require and issue a license or permit to engage in private trespass towing within its corporate municipal limits to any firm meeting the qualifications imposed by the governing authority. The Code also provides that the governing authority shall also set the fee for the license or permit. The licensing or permitting of nonconsensual towing carriers and the imposition of certain minimum qualifications will enable the City to determine which towing companies are operating in the City and to assist its citizens with information relating to nonconsensual towing of vehicles within the corporate municipal limits.

The City also has no effective way of tracking tows within the City limits. Effective July 1, 2008, a Georgia law became effective that would allow direct access to motor vehicle registration records by people and entities legally required to notify owners of towed or impounded vehicles. This law removes an unnecessary step and burden on law enforcement in the nonconsensual towing notification process and delivers costs savings to the towing industry and citizens. By law, storage and impound lots are required to notify the registered owner and lien holder via registered mail for any nonconsensual towed vehicle unrecovered after 72 hours. The Georgia Department of Revenue maintains this notification information and disseminates it only through law enforcement. The newly enacted law amends provisions in the Georgia Code to provide direct access to records for use in providing notice to the owners of towed or impounded vehicles. By enacting this ordinance, the City's agents and personnel can participate in a central public electronic notification system which will enhance the ability of the City and its citizens to locate vehicles which have been towed by nonconsensual towing companies. It will allow the release of impounds on a 24\7 basis and it will prevent the City's police department from writing stolen auto reports for vehicles that have in fact been taken by private tow.

Councilmember MacGinnitie stated that he has a significant problem with the way this contract is written. The contract needs to address one, if cars have been towed away and two, where they are located. This contract goes way beyond that and regulates the operation of towing companies in this business including things like people driving the trucks and where impound lots have to be. It has a huge layer of regulations. He gets the idea of the police not having to waste time figuring out if someone has been towed or not but, what he does not get is setting up a whole layer of regulations when he does not understand the benefit for it.

Mayor Galambos asked if these are new regulations.

Mr. Willard replied that these are new regulations that do go into a great deal more explicit requirements for the people who are driving these towing company trucks and what their abilities are as they are doing business in the City on the public streets.

Page Porter, CEO of A Tow of Roswell, stated A Tow contracts for the City of Sandy Springs Police Department and also does towing for the City of Atlanta Police Department. This ordinance somewhat uses the ideas of City of Atlanta and the reason they have the regulations for permitting. What happened in the City of Atlanta when there was abuse, there would be towing companies that were in Douglasville or Cartersville or somewhere remote from the City itself. The citizens would have to go to these far locations to retrieve their vehicle. A lot of times, when it was out of their jurisdiction they would lose the ability to enforce those fees. Whatever fees would be set by the City of Sandy Springs, if they are in Douglasville then they could charge \$200.00 or \$300.00. This was in an effort to curtail these types of activities as such. She supports this ordinance. Typically companies do not want to be regulated by somebody else telling them how to do their business, but in the convention of putting everybody on the same playing field, the PSC has already started to regulate the towing industry back in 2004. They already have a layer of government that regulates the industry. What they do not have is the enforcement arm. What they would ideally like to see is the PSC and the local municipality partner together. Towing Companies have to register with PSC and provide employee/driver information. However, the City of Atlanta requires regulation on the drivers themselves such as the amount of points they have and how many moving violations they are allowed to have and still operate on the street.

Councilmember Fries stated she had issues in a parking lot two years ago and could not be towed. It was explained to her that the property was posted by who it would be towed by. Where is the problem of knowing where your car went? There is a sign right there.

Mr. Willard stated a car could be abandoned on a piece of property for several days, and one can go through having the car towed off the property and it not be posted.

Chief of Police Terry Sult stated that this ordinance addresses one of the issues he has and that is gypsy towers out there you have to be wary of. There is a problem out on the Interstate when you break down on Georgia 400 or any of our streets. A gypsy tower comes in, no markings on the cab, no regulations associated with it. They hook up to the vehicle and are gone. You have no idea if they are justified or not justified. This ordinance addresses some of those things.

Councilmember Fries questioned if they would be assigned a sticker that says "Sandy Springs approved".

Mr. Willard stated the towing companies would get a permit.

Councilmember Fries questioned how one would know if the tow company was an approved permitted company or a gypsy?

Chief Sult stated the records could be checked via web interface which will allow determination if a company is legitimate or not. He is not one in favor of a lot of regulations that have to be enforced, but this one seems to be written in such a manner the department can enforce it over the course of business. If there is a lacking in this ordinance, it would be the requirement of companies that if they operate a wrecker inside the City limits of Sandy Springs they have the name of the business written on the side of the wrecker. That would be something that would also help as far as a snapshot. Most reputable towing companies have this.

Councilmember Fries questioned when the company is issued a permit if it could be placed inside the window of the vehicle.

Chief Sult stated he would have to defer to the legal department on whether or not this could be done.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery questioned Chief Sult if what he just said meant that when someone breaks down and leaves the car on the side of the road, a gypsy tow truck comes along and steals the car. She questioned if this is the issue we are addressing.

Chief Sult stated it would be part of the issue and is a very important part of this ordinance. Whether the intent was to address it or not, it does address part of that issue.

Mayor Galambos stated that it would also address a breakdown where the police and victim might be there and the vehicle not abandoned.

Chief Sult stated the department would use a Sandy Springs Wrecker or A Tow. If the victim requests a certain company then that is who will be called. The issue is when a vehicle is left there prior to the officer tagging it and saying in X number of hours it will be towed. Somebody drives by and sees that, hooks it up to a wrecker and no one really thinks anything about it. This is a very serious problem in North Carolina. He is very much into preventing it before it occurs rather than waiting till it occurs. It is a serious problem across the country.

Mayor Galambos stated Council could not reach a consensus tonight and requested City Council read the Ordinance between now and next week and look at the section with the electronic notification because everyone agrees that it is very important. Also, look over the other sections to see what is necessary and be ready to vote on this at the next Council meeting.

Ms. Porter stated the company is also working with the Public Service Commission as this is a Georgia Statewide initiative. It is not just a marketing ploy for the towing company. A Tow already does this for Georgia Tech and Fulton County and works with the Georgia State Patrol as well as the PSC that is creating the statewide footprint. This provides an electronic repository for any towed car. Any towing company will report to this repository.

Chief Sult stated when you think about the number of hours officers spend tracking down these vehicles once reported stolen, that is a lot of man hours that could be spent out in the neighborhood.

Discussion of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 58, Article I of the City's Code of Ordinances to add a new Sec. 58- to establish the requirements for an individual, business, private contractor or other entity to obtain a permit before utilizing the services of an off-duty public safety officer to direct traffic in a public right-of-way within the City of Sandy Springs (the "City").

City Attorney Willard stated the direction of traffic in the City by off-duty public safety officers employed by private entities can and has created unnecessary traffic congestion on the City's roads. The ordinance, as proposed, is a way to regulate traffic flow in the City and a way to prevent dangerous traffic situations caused by off-duty public safety officers hired by private entities to direct traffic on behalf of their employees, guests, clients and others. The adoption of this ordinance would require individuals, businesses, private contractors or other entities to obtain a permit from the City before engaging the services of an off-duty public safety officer to direct traffic. An application for a permit will be submitted to the City's revenue department, and is subject to the approval of the public works department with the concurrence of the police department. The public safety officer hired to direct traffic will be subject to all applicable rules, regulations, and guidelines of the City's police department. Any permit granted for an off-duty public safety officer to direct traffic in the City will be subject to annual review and may be modified or cancelled by the City at any time with seven days notice.

Councilmember Fries questioned if in the case of Special Events, do they have to get a separate permit or would an Event permit cover this?

Mr. Willard stated they would only need the event permit.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Article I, of the City of Sandy Springs (the “City” Code of Ordinances to add a new section 2-2 to provide for the establishment and implementation of a records management system for the effective and efficient maintenance, retention, preservation, and disposal of records generated by the City in the performance and administration of its official duties, pursuant to the Georgia Records Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-18-90, et seq.

City Attorney Willard stated the Georgia Records Act requires each state agency to establish and maintain an active and continuing program for the economical and efficient management of records. Each local government is required to approve, by resolution or ordinance, a records management plan which shall include: (1) the name of the person or title of the officer who will coordinate and perform the responsibilities of the governing body under the Georgia Records Act; (2) each retention schedule approved by the governing body and (3) provisions for maintenance and security of the records.

The City receives volumes of records in a variety of shapes, sizes and types, such as forms, plans, plats, surveys, etc., and should have an effective, manageable and predictable means of handling such records to protect the rights of present and future users to have access to the records. The proposed ordinance provides for the adoption by the City of the records management plan and record retention schedules recommended by the Georgia Secretary of State. The City Clerk is designated in the ordinance as the person responsible for administration of the records management program and to coordinate all records management for the City, including storage, archiving, and destruction of records.

Councilmember DeJulio questioned if the City’s records are disposed of properly.

Mr. Willard explained the policy states that personal information must be destroyed.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia and the City of Smyrna, Georgia for the Housing of Prison Inmates.

City Attorney Willard stated at the last meeting the Mayor and City Council approved the Intergovernmental Agreement with Doraville for the incarceration of the City’s prisoners. This is a second agreement to place prisoners in Smyrna. The Agreements are basically the same but Smyrna’s cost is less. Should there be an overcrowding of Doraville; the City can look to Smyrna as another means of incarceration.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of Reconsideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Fulton County Board of Education for the use of Woodland Charter Elementary School

City Attorney Willard stated the conversion of the Hammond Park Gym to a Gymnastic Center resulted in the displacement of our youth basketball program. In order to accommodate the longstanding program, the department presented the principal and Governance Board of the Woodland Charter Elementary School with a request on September 12, 2008. After receiving a positive response we moved into development of an agreement which will allow the department to utilize the school facilities to provide for this program. The Agreement was negotiated to allow for the continuation of the basketball program at the Woodland facility.

A prior consideration of this item was had by the Mayor and Council. However, this item incorporated an earlier version of the Agreement considered during negotiation between the parties. The two major deviations are that the recreational fields are not included in the final Agreement and the mutual indemnification provisions were dropped, each side to be responsible for their own actions.

The recreational field provision was dropped since, upon review of the facilities, it was determined that the field did not fill an immediate need for the department, and the school board attorneys requested that should the use of the field ultimately be negotiated, additional terms may be required regarding that use. The indemnification provisions were dropped based upon the mutual agreement of the attorneys.

Based upon the inadvertent inclusion of the wrong version of the Agreement, staff is asking that the Mayor and Council approve the Agreement discussed.

City Attorney Wendell Willard commented on a separate issue. He stated at the last meeting the City was donated a piece of property on Long Island Drive. He has been working with the owner and should have this before Council next week. Jennifer Steele contacted him. One issue has come up and that is the City needs to accept the property with a covenant that it is to be for green space in perpetuity. He expressed his reservations that anytime you get that kind of condition and covenant on a property, it cannot be removed. He requests direction from Council.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery questioned what the intention was of putting the covenant on this property. She questioned if it was to protect Cherokee Park from in the future the City selling the property?

Jennifer Steele stated everyone in her neighborhood had a different point of view of what they wanted done with the property. This is a small parcel, 25 feet by 250 feet, what can really be done? One of the biggest questions and concerns of the Board was there are so many easements on it now, realistically what can they build? However, there are neighbors that are directly affected by anything that would be built or placed on this property. The neighbors want this to be green space and do not want anything to be put on it. They do not want to see it made into a place that would encourage loitering of any kind. There is also a safety issue in the neighborhood. This gentleman was so nice in coming forward with this. There was also a concern that the neighborhood should take it in. That was not his intent. His intent is that the City takes it and he wants a clean straight line donation.

Councilmember Paul stated that the only potential purpose could be a possible widening of that street at some point in the future. That would be the only likely use.

Councilmember DeJulio questioned by taking this property, is the City taking on a liability? There is nothing the City can do with the property and if it is only for green space, why would we want it?

Ms. Steele stated that Cherokee Park was trying to acquire the property to turn it around as a donation to the City for green space. That was our intent. If the neighborhood could have financially afforded it, we would have brought it to the City as a donation. We are a Civic Association. If you look at any Civic Association in Sandy Springs that does not operate under the structure of a HOA, we do not have the ability to necessarily assess for maintenance, upkeep and insurance. If the neighborhood was to take it in, we would have to go to their neighbors every year and ask them to "pony up". Their dues are voluntary every single year. We do not have the capability to take this in. I kept a dialogue open with the donor. There are little slivers of property that are very important buffers to protect a neighborhood such as my own. We are doing everything that we can to keep the neighborhood together.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that the donor is trying to get a tax write off. She does not see what the problem is in making it green.

Mayor Galambos commented that Councilmember Paul brought up a good point about would this ever be needed for widening. This should be green space except if it were to be used for some public use.

Councilmember Jenkins questioned if it could be written this way.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery reiterated Ms. Steele's comment. The concern of the neighborhood in which she lives, if it's a park, it is going to have loitering, etc. As mentioned, the neighborhood is in support of having a covenant for green space, subject to road widening. That would meet all their needs. The history of this little piece is that it used to be a lot, 75 feet wide. Kitty Hawk was cut through so it aligns with the Fountain Oaks entrance onto Long Island. In terms of maintenance for the City, it is only a few trees and would require a little bit of mowing.

Ms. Steele stated that Cherokee Park has an informal agreement with Piedmont for maintenance on this property. She has lived in Cherokee Park for almost four years and her neighbors have taken care of mowing the property.

Councilmember Fries stated there is a time line issue with this owner and that is having this property given to the City before the end of the year. Council can decide at a later date if one of these things is going to be done.

Councilmember Fries mentioned covenants and that they usually run with the neighborhood. The owner just wants to give it to the City. On the maintenance issue, there are lots of properties in Sandy Springs that Garden Clubs take care of. The City needs to get it in our hands in the next three weeks.

Councilmember MacGinnitie stated Council needs to think long and hard before agreeing to anything that goes on forever.

Ms. Steele stated that she cannot provide financially for this property.

Mayor Galambos stated the City wants to cooperate but does not want to tie someone else down for 50 years.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of an Ordinance to Amend, Chapter 109, Article II: Floodplain Management Ordinance of the Code of the City of Sandy Springs

Assistant Director of Land Development Blake Dettwiler stated this is to include a list of Special Hazard Prone Permitted uses that currently exist in the Zoning Ordinance. The Council adopted a new Development Ordinance that has been incorporated into the Code of the City of Sandy Springs. Council also approved a resolution to initiate text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to remove any related development regulations. The floodplain management related regulations removed from the Zoning Ordinance already exist in Chapter 9, Article II of the Code of the City of Sandy Springs, with the exception of the Special Flood Hazard-Flood Prone Permitted Uses being added by this ordinance amendment.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of RZ08-024, An Ordinance to Amend Article III, Definitions, of the Sandy Springs Zoning Ordinance

Discussion of RZ08-025, An Ordinance to Amend Article IV, General Provisions, of the Sandy Springs Zoning Ordinance

Community Development Director Nancy Leathers stated that these two items are almost exactly the same thing. These are two amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. You have already placed these matters in the Development Ordinance and staff is requesting that Council omit this text from the Zoning Ordinance.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of a Resolution to Rename Birkenhead Drive to Sewell Drive

Community Development Director Nancy Leathers stated that staff has reviewed the material and determined that all property owners immediately affected by the proposed street name change have given their permission to the change. In addition, the staff has reviewed the Fulton County Street Name Database and determined that there is currently no Sewell Drive within the County. Based on these points and the concerns referenced by the petitioner, the staff supports the subject street name change.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of a Resolution Appointing Members to the Design Review Board

Mayor Galambos stated that two appointments are up, Post 3, Andy Porter and Post 6, Erick Gregory. She reappointed both members to the Design Review Board.

There was a consensus of City Council to move forward with this item.

Discussion of a Resolution to Adopt the City of Sandy Springs 2009 Planning and Zoning Schedules

Community Development Director Nancy Leathers stated this resolution is for the adoption of the 2009 Planning and Zoning Schedules. Staff recommends approval of this schedule.

City Manger McDonough stated that there are two vacant Major positions in the Police Department. Chief Sult has recommended the two positions be combined into a Deputy Chief position. He supports Chief Sult's recommendation. He will proceed with this recommendation.

Adjournment

After no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Date Approved: April 7, 2009

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Michael D. Casey, Interim City Clerk