

**Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council was held Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 4:00 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem DeJulio presiding.**

**Staff Discussion Items**

**John McDonough, City Manager** gave an overview on the Long Range Fiscal Planning of the Operating and Capital needs the city has.

**Goals of Presentation**

- For Council to come away with a comprehensive understanding of the City's short and long term needs
- Prepare Council to make mid-year budget decisions

**Overview of Needs:**

**Public Safety – Police Department**

Police Staffing  
Police Staffing (equipment)  
Police Vehicles (equipped)  
Fuel/Maintenance Cost  
Jail Services

**Fire Department**

Quick-Response Vehicles (AEDs/jump kits)  
EMS Budget Request

**Public Works**

Road Repaving  
Transportation Improvement  
Drainage Improvement  
Bridge Repair/Maintenance  
Intersection Improvement  
Sidewalk Improvement

**Recreation & Parks**

Abernathy Land Acquisition  
Abernathy Park Development  
Existing Parks Improvement  
Gift Park Acquisition  
School IGA Program

**General Operations**

Fund Balance Resolution  
City Hall Security  
Impact Fee Study  
Stormwater Management Study

**Facilities**

Police Station  
Fire Station Renovation  
Court  
City Hall

**Sandy Springs FY-2007**

**Mid-Year Budget Review**

**Budget Approach for FY-2007**

- Budget – Financial Plan enacted to support the City Councils adopted goals and priorities
- Conservative estimates based on lack of historical information available
- Cash position consistent with end of fiscal year estimate

**Budget Goals for FY-2007**

- Enhance Public Safety; police & traffic enforcement; increase personnel and focus on crime hot spots
- Ensure financial stability; emphasis on long-term stability; revenue enhancement; financial priorities and discipline
- Update comprehensive land use plan; economic development and transportation plan
- Develop a systematic approach for the implementation of police, fire and E-911 services for Sandy Springs
- Allocate resources for implementation of a road and capital improvement program

**Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council**

**November 16, 2006**

**Page 2 of 9**

**FY-07 Financial Forecast:**

**Mid-Year Budget Highlights for FY- 2007**

- (20) additional police officers to improve response time, investigative follow-up and visibility
- Police Vehicle Take-Home Program
- Funding to cover increase Jail Services cost
- Establishment of a EMS Program
- Funding for (3) Quick Response Vehicles that will improve response times to emergency medical calls
- Funding for AEDs and First Aid Kits that will improve survivability in the case of medical emergencies
- Bonus program for Paramedics and EMT-I's
- Funding to train all public safety personnel and city employees in CPR and use of AED's
- Funding to train up to 1,000 citizens in CPR and AEDs

**FY-2007 General Fund**

**Mid-Year Budget Summary**

Revenues	\$2,086,322
Expenditures	\$2,086,322
Fund Balance	\$0

**General Fund**

**Expenditures by Category**

<u>Description</u>	<u>2007 Budget</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Police Department	\$1,503,812	72.1%
Fire Department	\$472,510	22.6%
City Hall Security	\$110,000	100%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,086,322</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Discussion of Resolution approving and authoring an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Roswell for Mutual Aid for Fire and Emergency Medical Services.**

**City Manager John McDonough** stated that this is a standard agreement of Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Sandy Springs and the City of Roswell to render supplemental assistance in providing local emergency, fire suppression, protection, prevention and emergency medical services to the other party in the event of a fire. The two Chiefs will work out the protocol. This Mutual Aids Agreement will commence on December 1, 2006 and will continue for one year. If any changes are made to this agreement it would need to go before the City of Roswell for approval. Everybody is responsible for their own cost and there is no hidden cost in this agreement. Staff recommends approval of this agreement.

**Executive Session-To discuss potential litigation**

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Paul moved to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. Councilmember Meinzen McEnery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Executive Session began at 5:10 p.m.

Councilmember DeJulio reconvened the Work Session at 5:50 p.m.

**Presentation on Volunteer Committee**

## Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council

November 16, 2006

Page 3 of 9

Volunteer Committee members; Dick Weber and Carolyn Axt gave the following presentation.

**Vision:** Sandy Springs be known as a model city which promotes volunteerism and utilizes volunteers effectively.

**Mission:** The Task Force will provide creative leadership to develop a proposal whereby the City of Sandy Springs can establish a volunteer program which will enhance our community and assist the City in achieving its goals and attaining specific objectives.

### **Methods:** The Task Force:

- Research programs in other communities
- Talked with organizations who coordinate volunteers such as United Way, Hands-on-Atlanta
- Contacted individuals who had signed up to volunteer for the city
- Visited the City of Decatur
- Discussed community needs with organizations and individuals in Sandy Springs

**Background:** Rusty Paul who convened the Task Force suggested that we develop possibilities for the 3 program types

- “bare bones”
- “a middle of the road”
- “an ultimate full blown”

### **Findings:**

- A. Ongoing volunteer programs must include the following components:
- General structure/organization – data base of volunteers and opportunities
  - Initial and continuing recruitment
  - Training for volunteers and staff (users) – both general and specific to job  
Special training is needed to assist staff in utilizing volunteers effectively.
  - Placement and Assignment
  - Supervision of Volunteers – both management and safety measures
  - Feedback from volunteers and uses
  - Recognition
  - Retention
  - A small pilot project has been initiated with call center
- B. Many Cities have “volunteer programs” but the vast majority are inactive or only service a few specific events or designated departments, i.e. Parks, Police, etc.
- C. Individuals on the City Volunteer List were interested in the following:
- Serving on Task forces, Advisory boards or lending their business experience to work within the City Departments
  - A few were looking for long term placements, once a week at the most in either: human services (had found CAC) or were referred to work with Parks and Recreation
  - A very few were interested in clerical type work and were referred to the Call Center
- D. It is unrealistic to find a long term volunteer to cover all of the requirements for establishing a volunteer program for the City. If Decatur is any example, this is a full time job and then some, so a part time person augmented with volunteers who would coordinate the volunteers would be a possibility.

**Assistant City Attorney Cecil McLendon** stated the first item will be a presented by Andy Lewis.

### **Discussion on Rewrite of Sign Ordinance**

Andy Lewis, Riley, Lewis and McLendon stated that the City of Sandy Springs sign ordinance is based on the current Fulton County sign ordinance. There are a couple of additions that need to be adopted. He stated that they tried to

## **Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council**

**November 16, 2006**

**Page 4 of 9**

streamline while maintaining as much of the standards in terms of number and size of sign. They collapsed a lot of the categories of signs into more general definitions that would be easier to deal with and make the sign ordinance a little more readable and easier to navigate. He then explained some of the changes in the ordinance; definitions of appeals, types of signs allowed and not allowed, sign by district.

Councilmember Jenkins referenced Variance Limitations and inquired about the number of signs allowed on buildings. Mr. Lewis explained that it is not set forth in the ordinance and would be limited.

Councilmember Jenkins reference the section ,”Repairs – Material Change and Grandfathering of signs” and asked if the city could not just ask them to put in a new conforming sign instead of allowing them to rebuild the nonconforming sign. If the sign is completely destroyed, they are going to have to rebuild it anyway.

Mr. Lewis explained that if somebody decided to remove all the signs in Sandy Springs, they can go out and vandalize them and forcing the owner to go through the process of putting up a conforming sign. You can not penalize the property owner on circumstances beyond their control.

**Community Development Director Leathers** explained that there really are not that many signs that are damaged in that form. She does not feel this is a very significant part of the ordinance.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery asked for clarification on duration and type of sign in a residential area.

Mr. Lewis explained that they are trying to preserve what we have right now in the city.

### **Discussion of Nuisance Abatement Ordinance and funding thereof**

**Assistant City Attorney Cecil McLendon** explained that this ordinance works in conjunction with what we already do such as Code Enforcement. The situation we are taking into consideration is the process to address the absence of a property owner with a dire emergency. The language of the ordinance is in essence a reiteration of Georgia law as it applies to establishing the procedure and extent of local governmental authority in abating nuisances and subsequently asserting a lien on the abated property for the collection of the amounts spent. The ordinance sets forth a notice and hearing process in Municipal Court to establish the nuisance and provide opportunity for the property owner to abate the nuisance prior to authorizing the local government to abate the nuisance under the ordinance.

He stated that authority is clear that the process of condemning unsafe properties is allowable with the potential of the lien being enforced after appropriate procedure. Since the language of the ordinance is mandatory under Georgia law, the City will need to pass this ordinance to provide lien authority when a nuisance has been appropriately established and subsequently abated.

**Community Development Director Leathers** stated that if we are unable to locate the property owner and unable to bring them into compliance then we could determine it is a public safety issue and we could board the windows and make it safe until those issues are addressed.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that she met with Tom a month or so ago to try and find some other options. If we go to the next step in a final search and find the owner, chances are he will take care of this.

### **Presentation by PCID on Hammond Interchange.**

**Public Works Director Parham** stated that the PCID is requesting approval of a project to construct a bridge and half-diamond interchange at Hammond Drive and GA 400. They are requesting that GDOT pay for the construction of the bridge and transitions to the adjacent intersections at Barfield Road and Concourse Parkway. The PCID would fund the design of the entire project and the construction of the ramps and auxiliary lanes.

She stated that the PCID is seeking the City's support for this project. GDOT cannot enter into an agreement with the PCID and would need the City's support to serve as the local sponsor. The project would be constructed five to ten years later as part of the GA 400 Collector Distributor Project. This is a preliminary presentation and costs have not been determined at this time.

Staff recommends that Mayor and City Council hear the PCID's presentation.

**Evyonne Williams**, representative of Perimeter Community Improvement District introduced Mr. Tom Moreland of Moreland Altobelli who gave a presentation regarding the construction for a bridge and half-diamond interchange at Hammond Drive and GA 400.

### **Hammond Half Diamond Ramps**

#### **Concept**

Increase mobility to and from of the Central Perimeter Area

- Relieve Abernathy Road as sole gateway from GA 400
- Enhance medical community traffic flow

#### **Solution**

- Construct Half Diamond Ramps (exit/entry) at Hammond Drive Bridge on GA 400
- Ramps would allow exit from GA 400 South and entry onto GA 400 North at Hammond Drive

#### **Challenges**

- Existing bridge over GA 400 is not wide enough to accommodate an eastbound left-turn lane
- Current bridge will be rebuilt to accommodate GA 400 CD System at the earliest (2011-2013)
- Hammond Drive Half Diamond ramps would be demolished in the future to accommodate the GA 400 CD System and the new bridge
- Auxiliary lanes on GA 400 between Hammond Drive and Abernathy would be required to alleviate weaving

#### **Revised Concept**

- GDOT would construct and fund a new bridge at Hammond Drive Drive/GA 400 meeting the specifications of the future GA 400 CD System
- PCID would fund the construction on the Half Diamond ramps and auxiliary lanes
- GDOT would have overall construction management responsibility

#### **PCID would be responsible for:**

1. Interchange Modification Report (IMR)
2. Concept documents
3. Update(s) to environmental documents
4. "30%" design documents
5. ROW coordination with Georgia DOT
6. Inventory of existing Public Utilities on bridge and possible utility costs related to project.
7. Construction costs of ramps and auxiliary lanes

## **Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council**

**November 16, 2006**

**Page 6 of 9**

### **GDOT would be responsible for:**

1. Acquire ROW
2. Produce Project Management Agreement (contract) between GDOT and COSS
3. Coordinate environmental documents with Federal Highway Administration and PCID
4. Issue Design/Build contract for construction in June 2007
5. Fund construction of new bridge and acquisition of ROW
6. Manage and coordinate construction

### **COSS would be responsible for:**

1. Supporting the concept
2. Acting as the local governmental entity in all matters
3. Entering into a Project Management Agreement (PMA) with Georgia DOT

### **Next Steps**

- Moreland Altobelli Associates, Inc., to assist the PCID in meeting its responsibilities to GDOT (On-going)
- PCIDs Board to approve Moreland Altobelli contract for services (11/15/2006)
- Present concept to Sandy Springs City Council Work Session (11/16/2006)
- Develop a Steering Committee
- Conduct two Community Input Meetings before December 15, 2007
- City Council approval of project and intent to enter into PMA with GDOT (12/19/2006)
- PCIDs Board to approve funding for construction (1/2007)
- Sandy Springs City Council to approve Project Management Agreement (3/2007) or as early in 2007 as possible
- GDOT to award Design/Build contract (6/2007)
- Start construction (9/2007)

Ms. Williams stated that this is just a conduit of local government and state agency requirement.

### **Discussion of Right-of-Way Donation for PCID Project**

**Transportation Planning Manager Drysdale** stated that this is to approve a Resolution is to obtain the right-of-way being donated by the owner of the property, DDR MDT Perimeter Pointe, LLC. He explained that the PCID Perimeter Center West Intersections and Sidewalks project will include 10-foot wide sidewalks, in most areas, decorative lighting, decorative benches and trash receptacles, decorative pedestrian crosswalks, pedestrian friendly landscape improvements, ADA compliant crosswalks, and some traffic operational upgrades. The boundaries of the PCID West Project extend from Mount Vernon Road (Sandy Springs) to Ashford Dunwoody Road in DeKalb County.

### **Quarterly update on CIP-T**

**Planning Manager Drysdale** gave a quarterly update on the Transportation Capital Improvement Plan. He updated Council on the following projects:

## Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council

November 16, 2006

Page 7 of 9

1. T-0001 - Johnson Ferry - Abernathy Widening
2. T-0002 - Greenway – Abernathy Road Section
3. T-0003 - Roswell Road at Dunwoody Place Intersection Improvement
4. T-0004 - Roswell Road at Northridge Intersection Improvement
5. T-0005 – River Valley Rd Sidewalks – Pond and Company
6. T-0006 – Sandy Springs Circle Phase 1 – QK4
7. T-0007 – Mt. Vernon Parkway Sidewalk and Traffic Calming – Street Smarts
8. T-0008 – Roswell Road Streetscape (Cliftwood to Hammond) – QK4
9. T-0009 – Roswell Road & Johnson Ferry Pedestrian Link – closed into T-0011
10. T-0010 - Johnson Ferry Road at Sandy Springs Cir Intersection Improvement
11. T-0011– Johnson Ferry - Glenridge - (Earmark) - Concept Design & PE
12. T-0012 – Roswell Road Streetscape (Johnson Ferry to Abernathy)
13. T-0013 – Roswell Road Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS)
14. T-0014– Sandy Springs Circle Phase 2 – QK4
15. T-0015– Sandy Springs Circle Phase 3 – QK4
16. T-0016 – Dunwoody Club at Spalding Drive - Concept Design
17. T-0017 – Riverside Drive Sidewalks – Clark Patterson
18. T-0018 – Mt. Vernon Highway Sidewalks (Powers Ferry to Lake Forrest) – HDR/JJG
19. T-0019 – Roswell Road Streetscape (I-285 to City Limits)
20. T-0020 – Windsor Parkway Sidewalks (Roswell to High Point)
21. T-0021 – Peachtree Dunwoody Road at Lake Hearn
22. T-0022 - USACOE National Ecosystem Restoration Plan – not active
23. T-0023 - I-285 Tunnel - Sandy Springs Circle Underpass - Concept Design
24. T-0024 - Hammond Widening (Roswell to Glenridge) - Concept Design
25. T-0025 - Dunwoody Place Improvements - Concept Design
26. T-0026 - Peachtree-Dunwoody Rd Imp (Abernathy to Spalding) - Concept Design

He stated that the next update will be in February.

### **Discussion of acceptance of Project Management Agreement with GDOT for Hammond Drive Sidewalk Project**

**Transportation Planning Manager Drysdale** stated that this project is funded by the PCID and includes sidewalk construction along Hammond Drive. This project is currently in the Georgia Department of Transportation's Construction Work Program and the Atlanta Regional Commission's Transportation Improvements Program. Fulton County was the original sponsor of the Project Management Agreement. The City of Sandy Springs needs to approve the Program Management Agreement as the new sponsor. Staff recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the Project Management Agreement (PMA) between the City of Sandy Springs and the Georgia Department of Transportation to construct sidewalks on Hammond Drive from Glenridge Drive to GA 400.

### **Discussion of approval to Submit Trail Grant to Department of Natural Resources**

**Transportation Planning Manager Drysdale** stated that the funding for the trail grant is appropriated by the United States Congress; the Federal Highway Administration manages the grant program, and is administered at the state level by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The trail program is designed provide and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities identified in, or that further a specific goal of, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. If the grant is accepted the City will be asked to provide the 20% match. All we are doing now is submitted the project by the end of this month and part of that is the approved Resolution Council to resubmit the application. Staff recommends approval of authorization to prepare and submit the application for a trail and related resolution.

## **Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council**

**November 16, 2006**

**Page 8 of 9**

### **Update on LARP paving projects**

**Transportation Planning Manager Drysdale** discussed options to accelerate and fund resurfacing of the City's streets based on the Pavement Condition Index which ranks the structural condition of the City's streets. When we first did this in November-December DOT normally allocates this in August through October. We had to make a choice on how we thought things were going to be. In December we thought there was going to be one year start up in the general government program and the next year police and fire. You can use your LARP money in one or two ways. You can decide to you will manage the construction if you doing a larger program. If you are a smaller government then you go head and let all of that and you manage it and DOT will actually do the work. In hindsight we made the wrong choice. We had it brought to us and by the time we worked through all that the police start up, all the capital money for police and fire you made the right choice that \$5,000,000 Capital Program for the was the right choice.

**Public Works Director Parham** said that the Capital Projects will take \$4,025,000 per year with a 10 year program and bring all the streets up to an acceptable level and illustrates the different categories going from good to worse.

### **Discussion of a Resolution authorizing the submittal to the Atlanta Regional Commission for a Livable Centers Initiative Study Grant**

**Transportation Planning Manager Drysdale** stated that the submittal goes to ARC tomorrow, a study application for a new LCI here. This will be an LCI study to look at the Roswell Road corridor south of I-285 between The proposed study corridor covers the areas between Glenridge Drive and the Atlanta City Limits along Roswell Road, extending between Lake Forrest Road to the west and GA 400 to the east. Completion of the LCI study would qualify the area to apply through ARC for priority funding of transportation projects identified in the study. The City will be applying for the grant based on the total budget of \$150,000. If awarded, 80% would be grant funded with a 20% local match of \$30,000 due by the end of the calendar year 2007. Study must be completed no later than December 14, 2007.

### **Development and Environmental Protection, Article 3, Floodplain Management/Flood Damage Prevention.**

**Community Development Director Leathers** introduced Bennett White, who is our new Assistant Director of Building and Development.

**Assistant Director of Building and Development Bennett White** stated that the Sandy Springs Floodplain Management/Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance was last updated on July 5, 2006 in response to the Georgia DNR's request that the Ordinance be updated to comply with current FEMA terminology inherent in the current metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Model Floodplain Management/Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Since the update, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Office has requested three additional revisions to the current to Sandy Springs Management/Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

He stated that the requested revisions are to 1) cite the May 7, 2001 date for the current Fulton County Flood Insurance Study, 2) cite the July 5, 2006 date of the latest revision of the Sandy Springs Ordinance as the date that establishes whether construction, subdivisions, and manufactured home parks fit the definitions for "new" or "existing"; 3) add page numbers to the ordinance. Revising the Ordinance in response to the Georgia DNR's requested revisions does not result in a change in how the Ordinance will be enforced.

### **Discussion of Resolution to Adopt the City of Sandy Springs 2007 Planning and Zoning Schedules**

**Community Development Director Leathers** stated this is item is for approval of a Resolution to adopt the City of Sandy Springs 2007 Planning and Zoning Schedules to include the Rezoning and Use Permit, Rezoning and Use Permit for Development of Regional Impact Projects, Text Amendment,, Zoning Modifications, Variance and Design Review Board schedules. In order to conduct the planning and zoning processes for the City and coordinate compliance with required legal deadlines. Staff has developed the schedules. Staff request approval of Resolution.

**Mayor and City Council Discussion Items**

**Proposed IGA with Fulton County for a 25 acre "shared park".**

**Councilmember Meinzen McEnery** handed out photos of Marsh Creek property. The property was Fulton County owned and is about 23 acres. It is partly underutilized by Fulton County. It was originally a sewer treatment plant and the plant became outdated. In a couple of years the county is scheduled to update the existing station. They would put the entire lift station underground so there would be no odors. We can then utilize most of the property. She described the site and said that 40 to 60 cars could park.

**City Manager McDonough** talked with Tom Andrews about this particular site. Mr. Andrews notified Tom Lowe and Ralph Daniels. Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that she would like to move forward with the City Manager to explore an IGA, to create a passive park, notify neighbors and get community input. Because so much of that site has already been disturbed it might be a good location for some sort of activities like a child's playground.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that they have valued the property at \$4,000,000 and Mr. Daniels told her that if they bought it with Enterprise Funds then they would need their money back but they are researching it and if they got it with water/sewer money then they could lease it to us on a long term basis.

Councilmember Fries asked if we could explore the possibility of purchasing this in the next couple of weeks. City Manager McDonough explained that they would only lease at a low cost lease.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated that her idea is similar to Big Trees. She is looking for community involvement. This park has been the source of dumping similar to the Johnson Ferry Road Greenspace. There is a chain across it to prevent dumping. This park needs to be protected and monitored and it can come into this group that is going to be adopting, managing the Old Riverside Park. She would like to discuss this at the City Council meeting.

Councilmember Fries stated that she would like for us to look at some very contemporary type things to do with these parks, like a dog park. There are a lot of things we can do than just have trails. Trails are nice but we have a lot of national forest in our city.

**City Manager McDonough** stated his recommendation to Council would be to get some type of community input process before we go too far out with this and try to negotiate some long term lease deal for something the neighborhood may or may not want. He suggested holding meetings with the neighborhood to find out if they are in favor of it and what they would like to see there.

Councilmember DeJulio stated that we need more active park facilities because we have a lot of younger families moving into Sandy Springs, sport enthusiasts here.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Paul moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Fries seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

After no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Approved: December 5, 2006



Christina Rowland, Interim City Clerk



---

Tibby DeJulio, Mayor Pro Tem

**CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GA**

STATE OF GEORGIA  
FULTON COUNTY

November 16, 2006

**AFFIDAVIT FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Personally comes Eva Galambos, Mayor of the City of Sandy Springs, who on oath says that to the best of her knowledge and belief, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2006, in the city aforesaid, a meeting of the Council was closed to the public for the following reason(s):

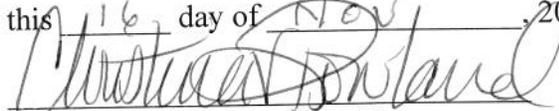
Attorney/client privilege in order to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency or any officer or employee or in which the agency or any officer or employee may be directly involved, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(1).

and that except for the foregoing, no portion of the closed meeting involved discussion, presentation, or action on any other matter.



Eva Galambos, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me,  
this 16 day of Nov, 2006.



Notary public (SEAL)

CHRISTINA V. ROWLAND  
Notary Public, Fulton County, GA  
My Commission Expires Oct 30, 2010