

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: Mayor & City Council

DATE: March 28, 2013

FROM: John McDonough, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of a Resolution regarding the Future of Heards Ferry Elementary School

MEETING DATE: For Submission onto the April 2, 2013, City Council Regular Meeting Agenda

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: (Attach additional pages if necessary)

See attached:

Memorandum
Resolution

APPROVAL BY CITY MANAGER: JMM APPROVED

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: 4/2/2013

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL REQUIRED: () YES () NO

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL: AM

REMARKS:



To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
From: Mayor Eva Galambos
Date: For Submission onto the April 2, 2013 City Council Meeting Agenda
Agenda Item: Resolution regarding the future of Heards Ferry Elementary School.

Mayor's Recommendation:

The Mayor recommends that City Council approve the attached Resolution.

Background and Discussion:

The Fulton County Board of Education is considering the location of a new elementary school in Sandy Springs, which could have significant implications for the City, such as impact on traffic, transportation infrastructure needs, stormwater and tree canopy; however, the Board of Education has not communicated with the City regarding this matter. There is no indication that the Board of Education has considered renovation of the existing Heards Ferry Elementary School.

There are a number of questions, including those stated in the attached resolution, which must be answered for the City by the Board of Education regarding the possibility of major changes in school location. I request City Council approve the attached resolution, as this matter is of the highest priority for the City, and communication with the Fulton County Board of Education must take place before further plans for the placement of a school proceed.

Attachment:

Resolution.

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE FUTURE OF HEARDS FERRY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

WHEREAS, it appears the Fulton County Board of Education is considering the potential location of a new elementary school in the City of Sandy Springs (“City”); and

WHEREAS, the location of a new elementary school in the City has significant implications for City government including, but not limited to, impact on traffic, transportation infrastructure needs, stormwater and tree canopy, all of which are under the auspices of the City ; and

WHEREAS, because of these significant implications to the City, it appears natural and reasonable to expect the Fulton County Board of Education to communicate and consult with the City regarding possible locations for a new school; and

WHEREAS, no such communication from the Fulton County Board of Education has been forthcoming; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the City receive responses from the Fulton County Board of Education to a number of questions regarding the possibility of major changes in school location impacting the City including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Why does Riverwood High School desire the land on which the current Heards Ferry Elementary School is located?
2. If the need for more land for Riverwood High School is motivated by projected enrollment numbers, what are the projections for enrollment? What is the basis for these projections?
3. What is the number of students at Riverwood High School who are not residents of the district?
4. If the condition of the current Heards Ferry Elementary School building is causing the move for another elementary school, what consideration has been given to renovation of the existing school? Renovation of existing schools was successfully accomplished in the City of Atlanta for Morris Brandon, Jackson, Sarah Smith and E. Rivers Elementary Schools. What effort has the Fulton County Board of Education made to assess the possibility of renovating Heards Ferry School? What consultants or contractors, if any, have been consulted?
5. What provisions has the Fulton County Board of Education made for infrastructure improvements on roads and bridges necessitated by locating a new school, given that no provision for the financing of any such infrastructure improvements has been included in any City of Sandy Springs financial projections?

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Sandy Springs that:

1. Communication by the Fulton County Board of Education with elected officials of the City of Sandy Springs regarding future plans for Heard's Ferry elementary School is of the highest priority; and
2. Such communication must take place before plans for the placement of a new school proceed.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Approved:

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Casey, City Clerk
(Seal)