





TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Thomas Black, Public Works Director

DATE: September 7, 2010, for Submission onto the Agenda of the September 21, 2010, City Council Meeting

ITEM: Presentation of the Downtown Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) 5-Year Update/Action Plan

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***Public Works Department's Recommendation:***

Public Works staff recommends approval of the Downtown Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) 5-Year Update and Action Plan.

***Background:***

Sandy Springs Revitalization, Inc. (SSRI), in conjunction with Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and Fulton County, commissioned the original Downtown LCI study. The study's stated goals were to:

- Seek out ways to implement the Regional Development Plan following the guidelines of the LCI program,
- Identify guidelines for the creation of a town center,
- Prepare an integrated transportation and land use plan for the study area,
- Identify a wider range of housing choices appropriate for Sandy Springs,
- Prepare urban design guidelines, and to
- Identify fundable projects for implementation.

In an effort to revitalize and enhance the downtown area, SSRI applied for and was awarded one of the original Atlanta Regional Commission Livable Centers Initiative Corridor Study Grants for 2000. The LCI program stipulates that plans must be updated on a 5 or 10 year basis to remain in good standing and to allow for two projects to be submitted from the study area for priority transportation funding.

***Discussion:***

The 5-year Update and Action Plan will keep this study current and will allow the City to submit another project for priority transportation funding. The City just received \$1.8 million in construction funding for Sandy Springs Circle Phase II (T-0014/15) through this study area. It will also enable the City to be eligible for applying for supplemental study funds to engage in a full 10-Year update of the plan should this become a priority.

***Alternatives:***

The Mayor and City Council can choose not to accept the 5-year update/action plan and let the study lapse. By doing so, no other projects could be submitted for priority transportation funding through the LCI program for this area.

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***Financial Impact:***

The LCI program was funded by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) in 2000. The total program funding for planning studies is \$13 million and \$500 million for priority transportation construction funding. The acceptance of the 5-year update and action plan would allow staff to submit one additional project for consideration of receiving priority funding for the Downtown area. There is no financial impact to the City at this time unless the City wishes to apply for supplemental funds for a full 10-year update of the original study.

***Attachments:***

1. Resolution

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF FULTON

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 5-YEAR UPDATE AND ASSOCIATED ACTION PLAN FOR THE DOWNTOWN LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE (LCI) STUDY FOR THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary, from time to time, to establish policies, procedures and guidelines consistent with the administration of a municipal government consistent with the US Constitution, Federal Statutes, alignment with Federal, Georgia's State Constitution, and the Charter for the City of Sandy Springs and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Works, in response to the guidance provided by the City Council and City Manager, completed the preparation of the 5-Year Update for the Downtown Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Study,

**WHEREAS** the City Manager directed the Department of Public Works to develop transportation plans consistent with future land use, to provide analysis for future transportation needs, and to provide a long-term vision for capital investment the city's transportation infrastructure; and

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

That they accept and adopt the 5-Year Update and associated Action Plan for the Downtown Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Study, as presented to the City Council on September 7, 2010.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** on this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2010.

Approved:

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Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

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Michael D. Casey, City Clerk

(Seal)