



## CITY OF DUNWOODY

41 Perimeter Center East

Dunwoody, GA 30346

Phone: 678.382.6700 • Fax: 678.382.6701

www.dunwoodyga.gov

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### MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Michael Tuller, Community Development Director

Date: November 9, 2009

**Subject: Livable Centers Initiative Application**

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The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Board adopted policies in the Regional Transportation Plan proposal in May 1999 to provide funding for investment studies and transportation projects located in activity and town centers. This program of studies and projects has become known as the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI). In July of 2009, the ARC Board extended the program for three additional years of study funds. These studies are awarded on a competitive basis to local governments for producing plans to define future center development strategies and supporting public and private investments.

One eligible study area category is a town center. As defined by ARC, town centers typically represent the historic center of a municipality. These areas are historically the center of the community and have a mix of commercial and civic uses within a recognizable boundary. The Dunwoody Village has a mix of commercial and civic uses and a well defined boundary established by the Dunwoody Village Overlay District.

City staff has met with ARC staff and we have been encouraged to submit only one LCI application in this round of applications. The City of Dunwoody has expressed interest in submitting a second LCI application for the Georgetown/Shallowford Road redevelopment area on behalf of the city. While the Georgetown/Shallowford Road area is a top priority for the City of Dunwoody, the LCI program requirements are a better fit for Dunwoody Village. The City still intends to fully fund (\$125,000) a redevelopment study for Georgetown/Shallowford Road early in 2010. The planning process for these two studies will likely run concurrently.

**Staff recommends applying for a Livable Centers Initiative study for the Dunwoody Village.** If awarded, this would complement the budgeted Master Plan, preserve historical characteristics, create stronger community identity, and increase the desirability of redevelopment.

One of the application requirements is the identification of a source of matching funds, in terms of a resolution from the City, acknowledging commitment to develop the study and provide a cash match equivalent to at least 20% of the total funds requested.

In an effort to enhance the candidacy of the LCI application, staff recommends Mayor and Council increase the local share amount above the required 20% to 46.66% or \$70,000 which exhibits the City of Dunwoody's commitment to a well-developed master plan effort for the Dunwoody Village.



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This \$70,000 cash match would pull from the already budgeted \$250,000 for the two redevelopment studies for FY 2010. If awarded an LCI grant for Dunwoody Village, the City may either reduce its investment into that plan or maintain its planned investment and create a more comprehensive and in depth redevelopment plan for both areas.

If applying for a LCI study for the Dunwoody Village pleases the Mayor and City Council, the attached resolution would support and complete the application.

**Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan**

2010 LCI Study Application

**LCI Application Form**

**Date:** 11/09/09

**Name of responsible organization:** City of Dunwoody

**Name of contact person:** Michael Tuller

**Title:** Community Development Director **Department:** Community Development

**Address/City/State/Zip:** 41 Perimeter Center East, Suite 250, Dunwoody, GA 30346

**Telephone:** (678) 382-6700 **FAX:** (678) 382-6701

**E-mail:** michael.tuller@dunwoodyga.gov

**Non-profit designation:** N/A

**Study area name and location:** Dunwoody Village

**Total study budget:** \$150,000 **Funds requested:** \$100,000

**Cash Match:** \$70,000

**Is the study proposal consistent with the adopted local Comprehensive Plan? If not, explain:**

Yes – adopted DeKalb County 2025 Comprehensive Plan and Dunwoody 2030 Plan to be adopted in 2010

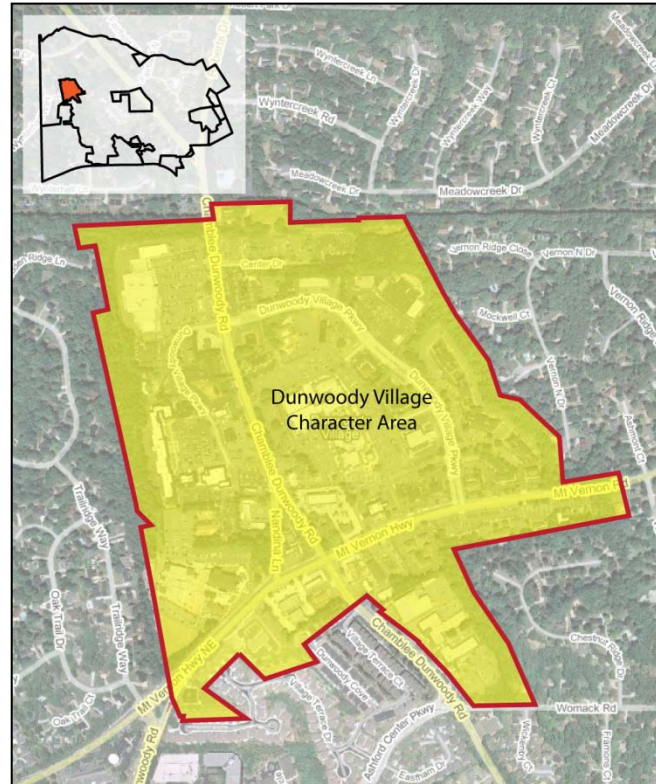
**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

### Dunwoody Village – Map

The Dunwoody Village has clearly established boundaries pursuant to the established Zoning Map. These established boundaries also mirror the boundaries for the Dunwoody Village Character Area as established by the current Comprehensive Land Use Planning Process.

The Dunwoody Village represents the historic center of the municipality. This area is historically the center of the community and has a mix of commercial and civic uses including local stores and the Dunwoody Village Post Office.



Property owners and businesses in the Dunwoody Village include the following:

- Regency Centers
- Simpson Organization
- Dunwoody Village Post Office
- Texaco Express Lube
- Bank of North Georgia
- IronStone Bank
- CVS
- Dunwoody Veterinary Clinic
- Smoothie King
- Dunwoody Animal Hospital
- Dunkin Donuts
- Starbucks
- Old Hickory House
- Burger King
- Dunwoody Chevron
- Mellow Mushroom
- Dunwoody United Methodist Church
- Publix

**Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan**

- Fresh Market
- Moe's

Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

STATE OF GEORGIA  
CITY OF DUNWOODY

RESOLUTION 2009-11-59

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION FOR THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION'S LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE PROGRAM

**WHEREAS,** The City will encourage and provide opportunities to the citizens, city officials, and civic groups to participate in the planning process and support the Livable Centers Initiative study's goals and objectives; and

**WHEREAS,** the City seeks to foster pedestrian use of the Dunwoody Village and connectivity of travel modes, thereby, integrating walking, transit, bicycle, and vehicle travel; and

**WHEREAS,** the City seeks to utilize planning funds to showcase the integration of land use policy and transportation with urban design tools to increase the desirability of redevelopment of the Dunwoody Village; and

**WHEREAS,** the City is committed to reduce automobile dependency and provide better linkages with and between alternative modes of transportation within the Dunwoody Village; and

**WHEREAS,** the City seeks to create a quality, balanced environment by establishing policies to encourage mixed use development in the Dunwoody Village area such as combined office, retail and residential, live-work units, civic institutional, local and unique business, boutique retail, public assembly and entertainment; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dunwoody, that the City of Dunwoody supports the application for the Atlanta Regional Commission's Livable Centers Initiative Program, and will provide a cash match equivalent to \$70,000.

**SO RESOVLED AND EFFECTIVE** this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Wright, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Lowery, City Clerk

Seal

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

**Issue Statement:** On December 1, 2008 the City of Dunwoody was officially incorporated as Georgia’s newest municipality. However, the effort to incorporate Dunwoody is far from a recent concept. The historical area of Dunwoody officially became a city at midnight on December 1, 2008 following a community-led movement to incorporate the City. Although not formally recognized as a City prior to 2008, the residents in this area have always identified themselves as living in “Dunwoody”, with a unique history separate from other areas and cities in DeKalb County. The Dunwoody Village itself was first legally recognized with a strong Zoning Overlay District adopted by DeKalb County in the 1990s to protect the character and integrity of the area. The Dunwoody Village Overlay District establishes architectural regulations, guidelines for sidewalks and pedestrian walkways, landscaping, lighting, parking, public areas, street furniture, and signs. In October 2009, the Dunwoody Village Overlay District was readopted and a Design Review Advisory Committee was added in order to allow committee members with qualifications and design experience to make recommendations to the Community Development Director.

Redeveloping the Dunwoody Village is viewed by most residents as one of the highest priorities for the City. This priority has become almost thematic as the City of Dunwoody continues the process of creating our Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Of the five Character Areas noted in the municipal limits, the Dunwoody Village represents the historic crossroads of the city and is the area generating the most community-based interest. The Dunwoody Village evolved in the 1970’s as a neighborhood commercial center serving the surrounding residential communities with an assortment of niche restaurants, shops, offices, and services. As the Perimeter Mall area transformed into a regional activity center, a competing interest between these two divergent commercial nodes has developed.

Where access to I-285 and a successful 2001 LCI study have transformed the Perimeter Center into one of the most vital regional activity centers in the State of Georgia, the “ripple effect” of growth has not extended into the Dunwoody Village, despite its physically adjacent boundary. A Livable Centers Initiative study to both preserve the historical characteristic of this town center, further create community identity, and increase the desirability of redevelopment of the area could revitalize not only the Dunwoody Village but the City of Dunwoody as a whole. A revitalized town center would complement, rather than compete, with the premier economic engine of north Atlanta.

### Dunwoody Village – Town Center

As part of the Character Area process in the Comprehensive Planning process, the citizens have placed a priority on transforming the Dunwoody Village into a Town Center. Although the Dunwoody Village already directly aligns with the LCI definition of a *town center*, discussions of this area have revolved around the potential locating of a new Dunwoody City Hall and a governmental services center as the anchor land use in a redevelopment scenario. In recent community meetings, the public has voiced the importance of improving the vehicular circulation in the Village in any master planning initiative, which is primarily associated with the problematic Mount Vernon Road at Chamblee-Dunwoody Road intersection. The draft plan for the Village contemplates a 3-story design theme within the Dunwoody Village and up to 5-stories at the intersections, providing the design is architecturally unique, structured parking is theorized, and park/greenspace land is integrated.

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

The Character Area discussions for the Dunwoody Village have also recognized the economic necessity of establishing greater residential and commercial intensities within the district in order to promote redevelopment; through land use incentives that set-aside greenspace for community and pocket parks. In light of the aging demographics in the established residential subdivisions of Dunwoody, the city seeks to investigate multigenerational housing design options to address “aging in place” issues that are quickly evolving throughout the municipal limits. The vast majority of residential homes are two-story homes with master bedrooms on the top floor. Many of these floor plans are not entirely conducive to senior living. Redevelopment could address mobility constraints, and elevators and ADA ramps as necessary components to the needs of an aging person’s lifestyle demands.

### Alignment with LCI Program Goals

Community discussions of the Dunwoody Village have evolved about increasing multimodal transportation opportunities within the Dunwoody Village to ameliorate vehicular impacts, including increased MARTA bus route network, integration of a circulator bus/trolley system, bike lane installation, improved sidewalk/trail connections, traffic calming measures, and ITS implementation for increased operational/safety measures. This directly relates to the LCI program goal of providing a range of access to different travel modes and would complement the development of a community-based transportation investment program.

Creating a sense of place and creating a stronger community identity is a primary focal point for the Dunwoody Village in a redevelopment scenario. The combination of traditional single-story strip retail and two-story office developments have established a non-cohesive development trend that induces automobile-oriented accessibility and dangerous pedestrian movement options. The congested situation in the Dunwoody Village during the mornings and evenings has led to significant turnover within the retail and office suites, where vacancy rates are much higher than metro area averages.



## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

### Regional Significance:

Dunwoody has witnessed over a 100 year history in the Atlanta region, where it originally served as a freight distribution station location for the railroad line that extended from Atlanta, Chamblee, and Dunwoody north to the Chattahoochee River station in Roswell. A century later, the Dunwoody Village is still a crossroads community location for regional transportation and pass-through traffic. This dynamic change certainly promotes the Dunwoody Village as a LCI community with regional significance, factoring the abutting Perimeter Center Community Improvement Districts

The evolution of the Perimeter Center as one of the premiere job centers for metro Atlanta and has in turn created renewed interest in redefining the Dunwoody Village in terms of land use and transportation infrastructure investments. Employers, employees, and shoppers utilize the Dunwoody Village area for peak period travel and retail commerce. This situation has transformed the suburban village into a true Town Center location, based on new residential populations entering within the Perimeter Center and related trips being generated from this urban-scale activity center.

### Demographic Projections and Occupational Growth

The City of Dunwoody Comprehensive Plan estimates Dunwoody's current population to be 43,000 residents with an increase in population of over 10,000 individuals by 2030. Though it is likely that a majority of new Dunwoody residents will reside within the Perimeter Center area, many feel the residential ring surrounding the Dunwoody Village will be another likely area for the absorption of population increases. Similarly, by 2030 it is estimated that over 30% of the Dunwoody population will be between 55-84 years of age.

The regional initiative to tout transit along the I-285 places the City of Dunwoody directly in the path of a transportation system that will utilize managed travel lanes and either bus or light rail technologies. The relatively close proximity of the Dunwoody Village to both the MARTA line in the Perimeter Center and the proposed station at the Chamblee Dunwoody Road heightens its interest and importance as a crucial ingredient in successfully promoting regional transit integration, over and above the existing MARTA bus routes.

The PCIDs estimates another 25,000 employees entering the job market of either Dekalb and Fulton portions of the PCIDs boundaries in the next three (3) years. Current estimates approximate 100,000 employees working within the two PCIDs. Staff is of the opinion there are occupational opportunities to explore with the redevelopment of the Dunwoody Village as niche office space in the years ahead for those local residents desiring a structured occupational environment, relatively modest lease rates, and close proximity to their existing homes.

### RTP and RDP Goals

The ARC goals noted for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) are in concert with the conceptual plan to reinvent the Dunwoody Village into a vibrant mixed-use Town Center community in the near future.

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

The crossroads congestion at Chamblee-Dunwoody Road and Mount Vernon Road can reach a virtual gridlock situation during morning and afternoon peak periods, where area residents choose not to leave their homes due to the inordinate vehicular delay time that can take 15-30 minutes to travel 1-2 miles near the Dunwoody Village. A LCI Study for the Dunwoody Village would address transportation mobility and multimodal choices as the central issue in the plan development process. Aerial views of the Dunwoody Village show opportunities for a quasi-grid street pattern on both sides of Chamblee-Dunwoody Road and vehicular bypass accessibility options for peak period mobility.

The investment in the redevelopment of the Dunwoody Village as a LCI Town Center will ensure the promotion of a new roadway network through the inclusion of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) at key intersections, traffic calming techniques, bicycle/ pedestrian improvements, traffic redistribution plans, and operational improvements at congested roadway segments. The City is currently evaluating bid proposals for a TE Project on Dunwoody Village Parkway, which would create a multi-use trail and bicycle lane facilities in the concept plan. The plan will likely introduce a “road diet” to remove one travel lane on the northbound alignment, which many view does not necessitate a median divided four-lane travel lane section for essentially an access road connecting Mount Vernon Road to Chamblee-Dunwoody Road.

The City of Dunwoody’s efforts to be recognized as a Green Communities and establishment of the Sustainability Commission by researching and implementing successful “green government” techniques, policies, and programs will assist the Dunwoody Village LCI study. Any plan for the Dunwoody Village will entail greenspace/pocket parks/possible amphitheater into the commercial node, where new open space would help address stormwater runoff impacts and groundwater recharge opportunities.

The Developed Area Policies included as part of the Regional Development Plan (RDP) Policies additionally fall into alignment with the future plans espoused by the community members in Dunwoody. A new Town Center for the Dunwoody Village would serve as a catalyst for economic development, in particular with a concept to create a Dunwoody City Hall complex and Village Green within the Dunwoody Village area in the future. A plan for redevelopment would be concentrated on the Chamblee-Dunwoody Road and Mount Vernon Road arterial corridors with likely designs incorporating a walkable village streetscape theme.

As noted earlier in the documentation, the Dunwoody Village is a unique resource to Dekalb County and the Atlanta metro area. Due to this fact, the plan for the Dunwoody Village would include streetscape and roadway improvements that would certainly be complimentary to the wonderful efforts put forth by the PCIDs through the LCI program previously; yet the designs for the Dunwoody Village would be distinctly different than the urban design-scale employed within our regional activity center location.

Preservation of established residential neighborhoods is a core value for Dunwoody and is stated specifically in the draft Vision Statement for the Comprehensive Plan. Existing buffers around the boundaries of the Dunwoody Village commercial district abutting residential uses will be maintained where new construction would be a transitional zone approach, “terracing vertically” away from residential districts.

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

Aging in place residential design options will be one of the greatest challenges to the residents of the City of Dunwoody over the next 20 years. A substantial amount of the housing stock in Dunwoody is 2,500-3,500 square feet in size, two-story wood construction, which is not ADA compliant and likely very costly to retrofit in a majority of these older homes. The creation of multigenerational housing developments in the Dunwoody Village would be a necessary component to a sustainable village concept. The ability for community members in a 55 and older demographic to live and congregate comfortably in the Dunwoody Village is an essential ingredient in a viable and engaging Town Center. The housing stock would be contemplated for young professionals, empty nesters, seniors, physically challenged, and alike with varying floor plans and price points for those individuals on a defined budget.

As evident on the City Seal for the City of Dunwoody, historic preservation and recognition of Dunwoody's historic resources will be an overriding theme of any design options evaluated in a redevelopment proposal. Whether or not a historic period or design theme or if a more modern neo-traditional design theme will be conceptualized in the re-creation of the Dunwoody Village Town Center is unclear at this time.

Managing congestion within the Dunwoody Village will arguably be the biggest challenge in master planning the Dunwoody Village as a LCI Town Center. As previously mentioned, the impact of the trip generation levels from the Perimeter Center employees and shoppers has overlapped into the Dunwoody Village proximity. This been one reason for the instability of leasing retail and office space. Problematic vehicular ingress and egress movements have caused patronage to diminish in this activity center and a resultant decline in the marketability of these commercial spaces. The likelihood of a local bus and/or trolley service has been mentioned by members of the community, where local service could potentially interconnect with the Perimeter Center and transit providers, thus reducing peak period congestion.

The City of Dunwoody understands the importance of preserving and enhancing our regional transportation routes, in particular the cross-county routes that tend to be deficient region-wide in comparison to previous radial roadway infrastructure investments. The Regional Strategic Transportation System (RSTS) map highlights both Mount Vernon Road and Chamblee-Dunwoody Road as important regional corridors in the RSTS GIS map. Staff is of the opinion investments to the transportation infrastructure within the Dunwoody Village would be beneficial to the operational mobility characteristics of both arterial corridors from a regional perspective, where vehicular congestion at the Chamblee-Dunwoody Road and Mount Vernon Road is viewed by many as an operational failure during morning and afternoon peak vehicular periods.

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

### Scope of Work:

Mayor and City Council have allocated local match amounts for the Dunwoody Village LCI Town Center Plan in the spring 2010 with a proposed completion date of December 2010. The work program will be designed in a manner to promote the Dunwoody Village into a proposed mixed-use community with businesses and services that cater to residents and area shoppers surrounding the Dunwoody Village.

### LCI Deliverables:

1. Consideration of new zoning districts and ordinance language that would promote village-scale mixed-use scenarios.
2. Establishing transitional zoning abutting existing residential districts to protect these established communities from future development impacts.
3. Develop bicycle and pedestrian trail alignments that interconnect existing/planned commercial centers, extend towards Perimeter Center area, and provide a travel mode alternative for single occupancy vehicles.
4. Establish a system of greenspace areas that may include pocket parks, linear parks, village green, and/or amphitheater locations.
5. Consider multigenerational housing options for all age groups of Dunwoody citizens within the Village proximity.
6. Develop traffic calming techniques that may include on-road transportation facilities, roadway cross-sectional improvements, and landscaping enhancements.
7. Explore bus or rubber tire trolley cars for integration into the Dunwoody Village that would serve existing transit systems and regional office/retail uses.
8. Incorporate ITS improvements within the Dunwoody Village that inter-relate with the traffic signalization systems within the Perimeter CID.
9. Preserve historic character and existing structures through any redevelopment initiatives, theorizing potential design/period themes from these cultural resources.
10. Creation of a comprehensive public involvement process that incorporates stakeholder involvement, design charrettes, community meetings, and public hearings as part of the planning process.
11. Address existing/future market conditions in an effort to develop land use proposals with the Dunwoody Village that complement the Perimeter Center uses and do not compete for a similar market share.

The City of Dunwoody recognizes the end of the study process will contain the following, at a minimum:

- Description of study process and methodology, data gathering techniques and findings, and general outcomes.
- Description of public participation process used to achieve a community supported program for a Town Center development typology.
- Maps and graphic depictions to support the plan recommendations.

## **Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan**

- Market or other fiscal feasibility analysis.
- A 5-year schedule of actions that are planned within the study area related to transportation improvements, housing strategies, and changes necessary within the comprehensive plan.
- Housing data, employment data, and additional Town Center study requirements will be established.
- Research, data collection and analysis.
- Assessment of current and future needs.
- Recommendations for the future.

Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

**Budget**

A total of \$100,000 LCI study funds are requested with a City match of \$20,000 or 20% of the total planned \$100,000 study budget.

**Dunwoody Village - LCI - Study Budget  
(Option A)**

I	Public Involvement	Budget
1	Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings	\$12,000
2	Public Meetings	\$12,000
3	City Council Meetings	\$6,000
II	Study Development	
4	Research/Data Collection/Analysis	\$10,000
III	Study Deliverables	
5	Graphics and Mapping	\$30,000
6	Implementation/Action Plan	\$30,000
IV	Funding Allocation	
7	ARC LCI Funding (providing 80% of \$100,000 request)	\$80,000
8	City of Dunwoody Funding Match (20% of \$100,000 study)	\$20,000
9	<b>Total Funding Allocation</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

Funds will be allocated to the Consultant selected for planning services through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

**Budget**

A total of \$100,000 LCI study funds are requested with a City match of \$70,000 or 46.66% of the total planned \$150,000 study budget and 70% of the total funds requested. This \$70,000 cash match exhibits the City of Dunwoody’s commitment to a well-developed study for the Dunwoody Village.

**Dunwoody Village - LCI - Study Budget  
(Option B)**

<b>I</b>	<b>Public Involvement</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1	Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings	\$12,000
2	Public Meetings	\$12,000
3	City Council Meetings	\$6,000
<b>II</b>	<b>Study Development</b>	
4	Market Study	\$30,000
<b>III</b>	<b>Study Deliverables</b>	
5	Graphics and Mapping	\$30,000
6	Implementation Strategies	\$30,000
7	Implementation/Action Plan	\$30,000
<b>IV</b>	<b>Funding Allocation</b>	
8	ARC LCI Funding (providing 80% of \$100,000 request)	\$80,000
9	City of Dunwoody Funding Match (46.66% of \$150,000 study)	\$70,000
10	<b>Total Funding Allocation</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>

Funds will be allocated to the Consultant selected for planning services through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

## Dunwoody Village - LCI - Schedule

I	Award and Contract Execution	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	Execution of awarded LCI contract									
2	Prepare and advertise RFP									
3	Interview and select consultant for planning services									
II	Research									
4	Consultant conducts research and data analysis									
5	Citizen Advisory Committee Kickoff Meeting									
6	1st Public Meeting									
III	Conceptual Design and Action Plan									
7	Consultant prepares conceptual design and drawings									
8	Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting									
9	2nd Public Meeting									
10	Consultant prepares implementation/action plan									
11	Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting									
12	3rd Public Meeting									
IV	Finalization and Presentation									
13	Consultant finalizes plan, designs, and recommendations									
14	Presentation of final report to City Council									
15	Submission of final report to ARC									



## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

### **Specific Stakeholders**

Due to the regional significance of the Dunwoody Village, the City would make efforts to engage a network of community organizations, businesses, and small groups to serve as both a source of input as well as a channel for distributing information to the broader community as a whole. These groups will be engaged in order to distribute meeting notices and agendas to broader groups.

Through our comprehensive plan efforts, the City has already gathered contact information for many civic groups and businesses, including:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dunwoody Mayor and City Council</li><li>• Dunwoody Homeowners Association</li><li>• Perimeter Community Improvement Districts</li><li>• Dunwoody Preservation Trust</li><li>• Dunwoody Chamber of Commerce</li><li>• Convention and Visitors Bureau of Dunwoody</li><li>• Georgia Perimeter College</li><li>• Dunwoody High School Parent Teacher Student Organization</li><li>• Dunwoody Community Council</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dunwoody Planning Commission</li><li>• Dunwoody Zoning Board of Appeals</li><li>• Dunwoody Sustainability Commission</li><li>• Design Architectural Review Committee</li><li>• Latin American Association</li></ul> <p>Religious Community – including Dunwoody United Methodist, Marcus Jewish Community Center, St. Luke’s Presbyterian, Congregation Beth Shalom, St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church, Congregation Ariel, First Baptist Church of Atlanta, and many more.</p> |
|---|--|

Additionally, the City would form a citizen advisory committee to review documentation and provide feedback based on community input. The advisory committee would meet regularly throughout the study, both prior to and after the community meetings.

### **Anticipated Methods of Community Participation**

The City of Dunwoody will engage the community in a minimum of three (3) community meetings and will educate and outreach to the community for these meetings using a variety of techniques, including:

- Website – a web link will be created on the City web page ([www.dunwoodyga.gov](http://www.dunwoodyga.gov)) with draft documents, meeting notices, and opportunities for receiving direct citizen feedback.
- Lobby displays—maps, fliers, and other information will be posted at City Hall in the lobby area.
- Printed and e-mail bulletins—fliers and newspaper advertisements will be distributed both electronically and in hard copy.
- Media and press releases—the City will work with the *Dunwoody Crier* to advertise meetings and the status of the study to the community.

## Dunwoody Village - Livable Centers Initiative – Study Plan

### **Commitment and Ability to Implement:**

As the City of Dunwoody is less than a year old, our record of accomplishment related to transportation and land use programs at the Atlanta Regional Commission is still evolving.

Dunwoody is moving forward with our inherited TE grant award. Evaluation of proposals has finished and the City is in the process of awarding the contract to begin a comprehensive planning process to initiate this bicycle/pedestrian project on Dunwoody Village Parkway. This TE project will complement the Dunwoody Village LCI study.

Now the citizens in Dunwoody have an elected body that represents the vision and planning priorities of the community-at-large, many feel there will be political will to implement infrastructure projects and programs that were previously viewed cautiously by the citizenry under the control of the Dekalb County Board of Commissioners.

The City of Dunwoody has some of the most involved community members in the Atlanta region evaluating and promoting land use and transportation initiatives; whether it is from homeowner's associations, religious groups, civic groups, business community, or environmental advocacy group. As stated earlier, tapping into these key stakeholders will strengthen the LCI study.

The City of Dunwoody is approximately six (6) months from completion of our Comprehensive Plan. Initially planned to be completed by the end of 2009, the City Council directive to add five (5) Character Area Meetings to the Community Agenda process has extended the planning process into the early months of 2010. This extension of the Community Agenda is evidence of the City's commitment to develop a thorough and highly engaged planning process that provides numerous opportunities for public participation and ultimately community-based endorsement.