



**CITY OF DUNWOODY**  
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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**From:** Warren Hutmacher, City Manager

**Date:** September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

**Subject:** Special Event Parking Issues – Marcus Jewish Community Center

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Several months ago I initiated the process with the City Council and the community regarding citizens' complaints about parking problems in the neighborhoods surrounding the Marcus Jewish Community Center (JCC). I sent out a letter two months ago to the neighbors of the JCC for their input into this issue and I suggested that one possible solution would be the erection of "No Parking" signs on certain streets to prohibit parking on one side of the street.

There is a compelling public safety issue associated with keeping the streets reasonably clear so that a fire or rescue truck could safely arrive at its destination in an emergency situation. However, the erection of "No Parking" signs 365 days a year may be unreasonable given that the JCC only holds events that impact neighborhood streets a few days a year.

The overwhelming response the City has received is to request that the City not erect "No Parking" signs on a permanent basis. I have weighed the public safety issues and the neighborhoods concerns and am prepared to make a recommendation at this time on this issue.

I do not recommend that the City erect any "No Parking" signs.

However, there remain two issues that require a solution. The first is a public safety issue regarding access to homes for the DeKalb Fire and Rescue services and the second is the general inconvenience of having so many cars parked on neighborhood streets that are not built to accommodate the volume of traffic and parking that occurs during large events.

My solution to this issue is as follows: The Dunwoody Police Department and the Public Works Department will limit parking to one side of the street during large JCC events. We will accomplish this with a combination of temporary signage (to be put up at the onset of the event and taken down at the conclusion of the event) along with the presence of the Dunwoody Police Department (to monitor parking on one side of the road and help direct traffic). We will be working with the JCC leadership on this to ensure coordination of effort and to share costs appropriately.

I am confident that this compromise will be acceptable to all of the neighbors in that area. This solution represents the middle ground between having uncontrolled parking (potentially causing a public safety problem) and having year round signs that would upset the homeowners and unnecessarily restrict parking during the 360 or so days that the JCC can easily accommodate all of their patrons and guests.