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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Rich Edinger, PE, City Engineer

Date: December 13, 2010

Subject: **Geographic Information System (GIS) Technology Update**

BACKGROUND:

Geographic Information System (GIS) technology is quickly becoming one of the essential tools in governmental operations in today's society. Through the Dunwoody incorporation process and data collection coordination with Dekalb County in the early months of cityhood, it became evidently clear the county did not have a geographic information system with a dedicated parcel-level layer. In light of this reality, the Community Development Department contracted with the firm of TerraMark Land Surveying, Inc., in an effort to create a survey-level quality parcel layer specifically for the City of Dunwoody. City staff would like to brief Mayor and City Council on our efforts to date, where we seek guidance from our elected officials as we promote this new Dunwoody technological resource in the years ahead.

DISCUSSION:

Over the past year, the consultants with TerraMark Land Surveying, Inc. have been diligently re-creating all of Dunwoody's 13,000+ parcels into a GIS layer that will serve as a platform for the creation of all additional data layers, specific to the city's jurisdictional limits. The presentation from Community Development and Public Works staff will focus on initiatives previously undertaken and "next steps" as the technology rolls-out publically. Data layers established by city staff and the consultants for TerraMark will include, parcel lines, street centerlines, topography, utilities, aerial photography, hydrology, and zoning/land use layers as these datasets evolve in the very near future. The city is also incorporating the LIDAR imagery for the creation of a topography layer, based on recent receipt of the aerial photography data for the north Fulton County area. City staff has also budgeted for GIS technological integrations that will allow Dunwoody citizens to view Dunwoody GIS map layers on their personal computers in the upcoming year.

RECOMMENDATION:

City staff recommends Mayor and City Council endorse the Geographic Information System technology as presented by city staff and respectfully request our on-going efforts in GIS integration receive support, based on City Council-sponsored priorities and budgetary allocations.