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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kimberly Greer, Assistant to the City Manager

Date: December 13. 2010

Subject: Resolution of Support for IBM Smarter Cities Challenge

BACKGROUND

IBM is currently accepting applications for their Smarter Cities Challenge competitive grant program. Although IBM has stated that "cities with populations between 100,000 and 700,000 will gain the most from the experience," cities of all sizes are eligible. Staff believes that Dunwoody's track record of innovative problem solving and commitment to the use of technology and open data make us a competitive applicant.

If awarded, an IBM team will work with City leaders to help analyze and prioritize our needs, review strengths and weaknesses, and learn from the successful strategies used by other cities. IBM estimates the approximate value of the Smarter Cities Challenge grant is equivalent to \$250,000 - \$400,000 of services or technology.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff believes a Resolution of Support from the City Council would strengthen our application to IBM for the Smarter Cities Challenge competitive grant program.

Ken Wright Mayor

Denis Shortal City Council Post 1 Adrian Bonser City Council Post 2 Doug R. Thompson City Council Post 3 Robert Wittenstein City Council Post 4 Danny Ross City Council Post 5 John Heneghan City Council Post 6

<u>A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATIONFOR THE IBM SMARTER CITIES</u> <u>CHALLENGE COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM</u>

- **WHEREAS,** as a new City, Dunwoody is well positioned to utilize the resources of technology to substantially enhance our capacity to act on key issues; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Dunwoody seeks to use technology to analyze, compare, and visualize data across systems; and
- **WHEREAS**, the City of Dunwoody appreciates the importance of technology in providing innovation and creative approaches necessary to tackle tough issues and plan for the future; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Dunwoody has a track record of innovative uses of technology including the Police-to-Citizen Portal, the interactive website for the Dunwoody Village and Georgetown Master Plans, and the See/Click/Fix web application; and
- **WHEREAS,** the City of Dunwoody seeks to creates an environment to foster cross-sector partnerships and address critical challenges to apply data-driven analysis to provide a road map for the future; and
- **WHEREAS,** the City of Dunwoody looks forward to working with IBM and their Smarter Cities Challenge to enhance our capacity to collect, analyze, and act upon information across multiple core systems.

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 IBM's Smarter Cities Challenge competitive grant program and hereby authorizes the City Manager and staff to execute all appropriate documents in pursuit thereof.

SO RESOVLED AND EFFECTIVE this 13th day of December, 2010.

Approved:

Ken Wright, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk

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