



CITY OF DUNWOODY

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MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Warren Hutmacher, City Manager

Date: February 22, 2010

Subject: Creation of a Town and Gown Committee

Dunwoody is home to Georgia Perimeter College. The College has approximately 9,500 students on the Dunwoody campus as well as a significant amount of faculty, employees and contractors that enter and exit the campus 6 days a week. The College is located in the middle of a single family residential neighborhood.

While the College is an enormous asset to the community, its location, the traffic it generates and other issues that are incidental to an academic institution of higher learning have created tension and frustration on the part of our citizens.

There are no immediate plans for the college to reduce enrollment or relocate classroom space to another location. It is common practice for communities that are home to large colleges and universities to have a formalized methodology to deal with issues that arise that are of interest to both the college and the community. These are typically referred to as "Town and Gown" efforts.

I recommend the establishment of a formal "Town and Gown" Committee by resolution of the City of Dunwoody. The committee would be comprised of the following members:

7 representatives appointed by the City of Dunwoody to include:

- 2 members of the City Council
- City Manager
- Police Chief
- 3 citizen appointments by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council to include at least one Dunwoody High School student who is also enrolled at Georgia Perimeter College.

10 appointees from the Georgia Perimeter College (makeup of the committee at the discretion of the College)

I recommend that the Committee be instructed to meet quarterly to discuss issues of mutual interest as well as at any time that an issue is urgent

**A RESOLUTION TO FORM TO TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE BETWEEN THE
CITY OF DUNWOODY AND GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE; TO OPPOSE
INCREASED ENROLLMENT; TO SUPPORT OFF-CAMPUS PARKING SITES; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dunwoody has the responsibility to protect the health, safety, welfare and the quality of life of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Mayor and City Council of Dunwoody wishes to be a good neighbor to Georgia Perimeter College (GPC) and values the College's presence in the City of Dunwoody and the services it provides to residents of Dunwoody and other surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Mayor and City Council of Dunwoody recognize that the College's admissions have grown substantially and its enrollment has doubled over the last several years; and

WHEREAS, Mayor and City Council of Dunwoody recognize that the GPC is situated in a residential neighborhood, making it impractical to widen roads leading to and from the college; and

WHEREAS, the College's increase in the size of its student population has created a severe strain on the road system in the City of Dunwoody and led to an increase in road traffic and congestion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
DUNWOODY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1: That the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Dunwoody oppose any increase in the number of students served by the Dunwoody campus of Georgia Perimeter College; and

Section 2: That the City encourages Georgia Perimeter College, the Board of Regents, and the State Legislature to fund and develop alternative locations for GPC expansion; and

Section 3: That the City encourages the college to limit the number of parking permits distributed to its students; and

Section 4: That the City supports the establishment of off-site parking with frequent shuttle service to be provided by Georgia Perimeter College; and

Section 5: That the Dunwoody Public Works Department is hereby directed to investigate, suggest and implement changes and improvements to improve the flow of traffic on surrounding roads; and

Section 6: That the City will work cooperatively with Georgia Perimeter College to resolve recurring problems with noise, construction activities and lighting issues; and

Section 7: That a committee called the "Town and Gown Committee" be formed to include 7 members of the Dunwoody community to work cooperatively with 7 members of the Georgia Perimeter College community to meet at least quarterly to address issues of mutual concern.

Section 8: That the seven members of the Dunwoody community to serve on the Town and Gown Committee will be as follows: 2 members of the City Council, the City Manager, the Police Chief, and 3 members of the community including one current Dunwoody HS school student who is joint enrolled at Georgia Perimeter College to be appointed by Mayor and City Council at a later date.

Section 9: That the 7 members of the Town and Gown Committee representing Georgia Perimeter College will be appointed by the President of Georgia Perimeter College.

SO RESOLVED AND EFFECTIVE, this 22nd day of February, 2010.

Approved:

Ken Wright, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk

(Seal)