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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Michael Tuller, AICP, Community Development Director

Date: February 28, 2011

Subject: **ARC Community Choices Program**

The Community Choices Program is an Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) quality growth initiative. Through Community Choices, the ARC provides local governments in the 10-county region with the tools, technical assistance and resources to create a unique vision and plan for the implementation of a quality community.

The application for 2011-2012 Community Choices Implementation Assistance deadline is March 11th and assistance begins in May. If the City of Dunwoody is selected for the Community Choices Program, the ARC will provide pro bono technical assistance and team staff time to implement innovative quality growth policies and/or plans.

Collaborators in the proposed Community Choices application include the Perimeter Community Improvement Districts (PCIDs), City of Sandy Springs and DeKalb County. The application seeks assistance in the creation of an Overlay District for the Perimeter Center area meets all requirements of the Community Choices program. Adding the professional talents of ARC staff to this process will help reinforce our efforts to partner with community stakeholders to promote development patterns complimentary to the vision for our important regional activity center.

Some projects will require the creation of a citizen stakeholder committee to help guide the process and provide input. Selected communities must be able to assemble such a stakeholder group (on average between 6-8 individuals) and hold its first meeting by June 17, 2011.

In order to apply, the City must submit a letter of support from the Mayor. All Council members are encouraged to sign the application as a show of support for the effort. Staff recommends approving the attached resolution of support and application.

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

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION FOR THE ATLANTA
REGIONAL COMMISSION'S COMMUNITY CHOICES PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the City's plans, policies and practices reflect the principles of quality growth characterized by a common set of principles: a mix of land uses; a range of housing and transportation opportunities and choices; walkability; distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place; open space, natural beauty and critical environmental areas; emphasis on community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks 2011-2012 Implementation Assistance from the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Community Choices program for pro bono technical assistance to implement the innovative Perimeter Community Improvement Districts (PCIDs) Overlay District Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to create an environment which reinforces efforts to partner with the business community in the Perimeter Community Improvement District to stimulate economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to partner with the City of Sandy Springs, DeKalb County and the Perimeter Community Improvement Districts to advance the goals of the Community Choices program: To provide cities and counties the necessary resources to achieve their visions; To support implementation of regional plans and policies at the local level; and, To create examples of quality growth that can serve as best practices for communities across the region; now

THEREFOR, 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 Community Choices Program, and staff is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary therefor.

SO RESOVLED AND EFFECTIVE this 28th day of February, 2011.

Approved:

Ken Wright, Mayor

#L.3.

**STATE OF GEORGIA
CITY OF DUNWOODY**

RESOLUTION 2011-02-12

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk

Seal