



4800 Ashford Dunwoody Road
Dunwoody, Georgia 30338
dunwoodyga.gov | 678.382.6700

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Michael Smith, Public Works Director

Date: July 12, 2021

Subject: **Presentation of Design Concepts for Sidewalk from Oakpointe Place to the City Limit on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Road**

BACKGROUND

The proposed sidewalk on the west side of Chamblee Dunwoody Road at Oakpointe Place and on Dunwoody Road is recommended in the city’s Sidewalk Improvement Policy and Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funding has been included in this year’s budget. Chamblee Dunwoody Road currently has a sidewalk on the east side of the road while Dunwoody Road, which extends 350 feet into Sandy Springs, does not have any sidewalk. Also the sidewalk on Oakpointe Place ends about 75 feet short of Chamblee Dunwoody Road.

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN DISCUSSION

The city contracted with Professional Design Partners to develop two conceptual design alternatives for the new sidewalks. For both alternatives, the Oakpointe Place and Chamblee Dunwoody Road segments propose a landscape buffer and 6-foot sidewalk. For Dunwoody Road, the sidewalk is shown on the north side of the road in Alternative 1 and the south side of the road in Alternative 2. The sidewalks are within the existing right of way in both alternatives with one temporary driveway easement and one permanent drainage easement required. There are more potential stormwater and utility challenges with Alternative 1 and the permanent drainage easement area would be larger. Alternative 2 would require more walls and possibly a state stream buffer variance. The estimated cost is \$415,000 for Alternative 1 and \$495,000 for Alternative 2. Sandy Springs does not currently have a sidewalk project programmed on Dunwoody Road but prefers the south side of the road primarily because there is an existing shoulder on the south side of the Sandy Springs segment that would be easier to build on than the north side.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

In June, the City presented two alternative conceptual designs on its website for public input. <https://www.dunwoodyga.gov/government/projects/public-works/dunwoody-road-sidewalk> The project received over 200 comments with a 52% expressing support for Alternative 1. Comments in support of this alternative generally focused on the lower cost and avoidance of the stream buffer. Comments in support of Alternative 2 noted that many walkers on Dunwoody Road are coming and going from the south and that a sidewalk on the south side of Dunwoody Road would avoid crossing the road twice to use the sidewalk.



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The strongest preferences for one alternative over the other generally came from property owners immediately adjacent to Dunwoody Road. Beyond those responses, many of the comments expressed strong support for the project, regardless of which side the city builds the sidewalk. Staff recommends Alternative 2 based on the comments received from the public, many of whom live in the area or indicated that they walk on Dunwoody Road. The safety benefit of minimizing the number of road crossings for the pedestrians that frequent Dunwoody Road outweighs the additional construction cost. Another consideration is what happens when a pedestrian reaches the Sandy Springs City Limit and the sidewalk ends. On the south side of the road they will be able to continue on the level, wide shoulder that is currently being used by pedestrians. On the north side there is no area to walk on the Sandy Springs segment so pedestrians would have to cross the road at an undesirable location.

NEXT STEPS

Based on direction from the City Council, the next phase of the project would be to complete the final design and prepare for construction beginning in the spring of 2022.

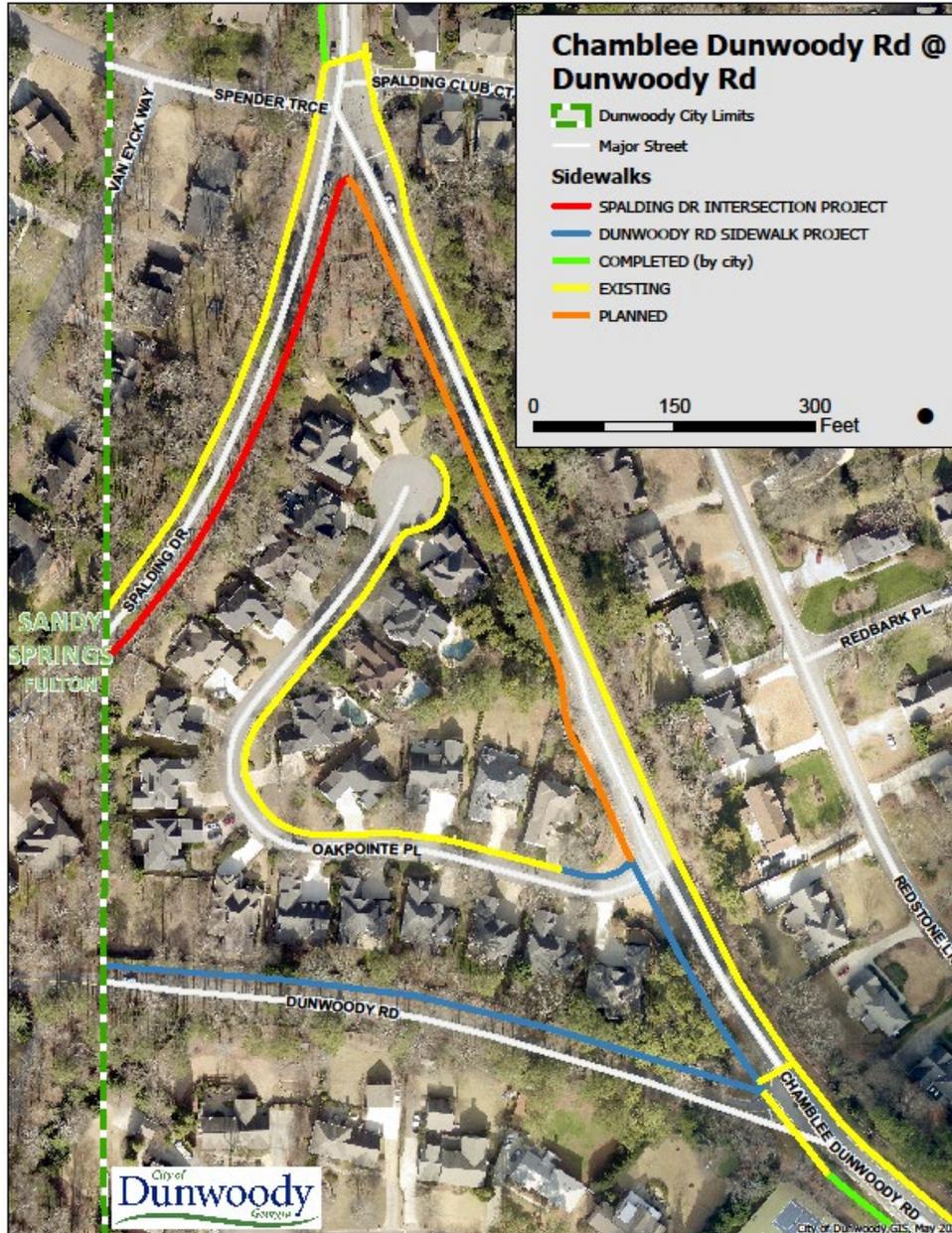


City of
Dunwoody
Georgia

**SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS ON
CHAMBLEE DUNWOODY ROAD
AND DUNWOODY ROAD**

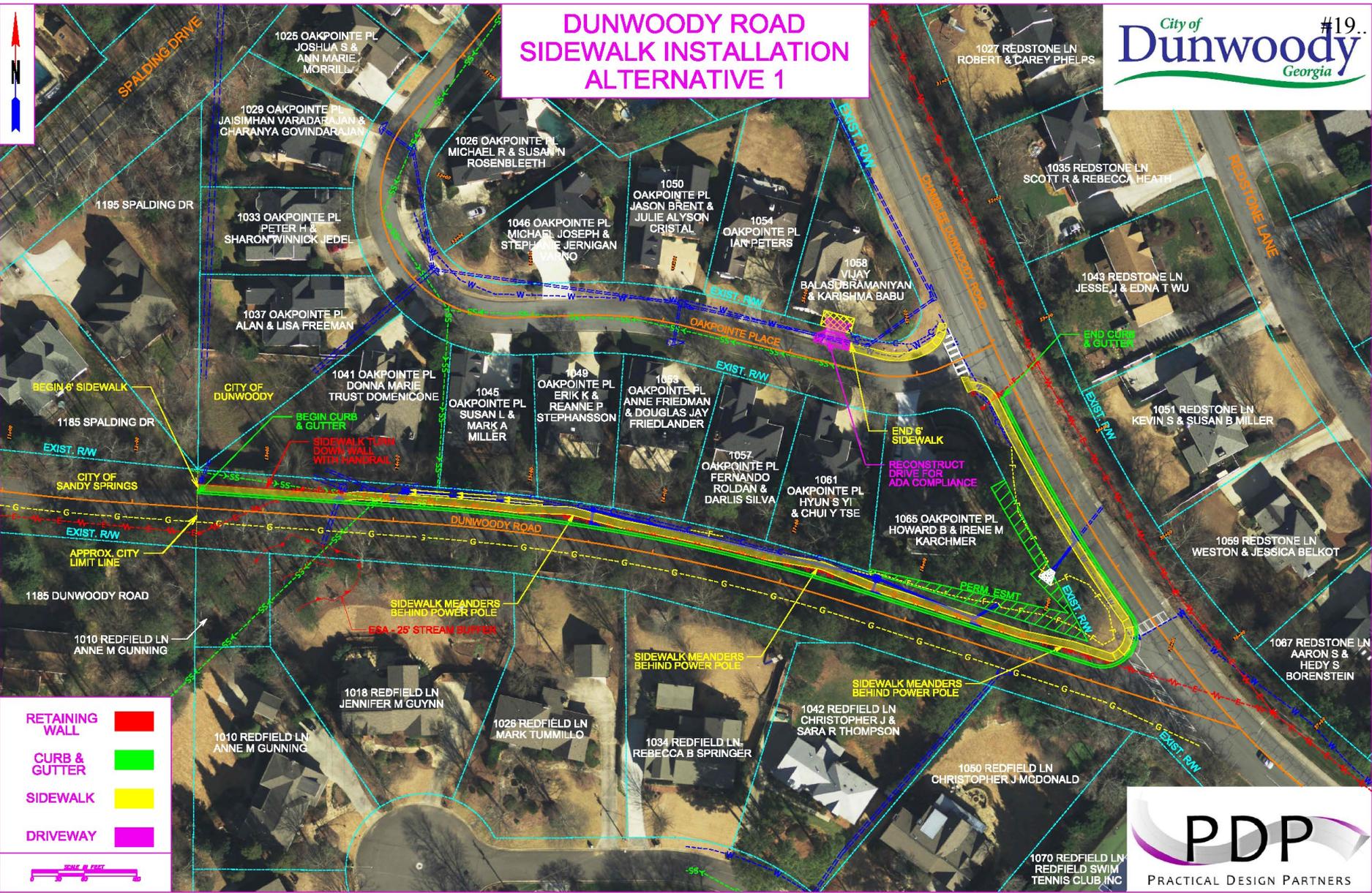
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Sidewalk Improvements on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Road





DUNWOODY ROAD SIDEWALK INSTALLATION ALTERNATIVE 1



Sidewalk Improvements on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Road



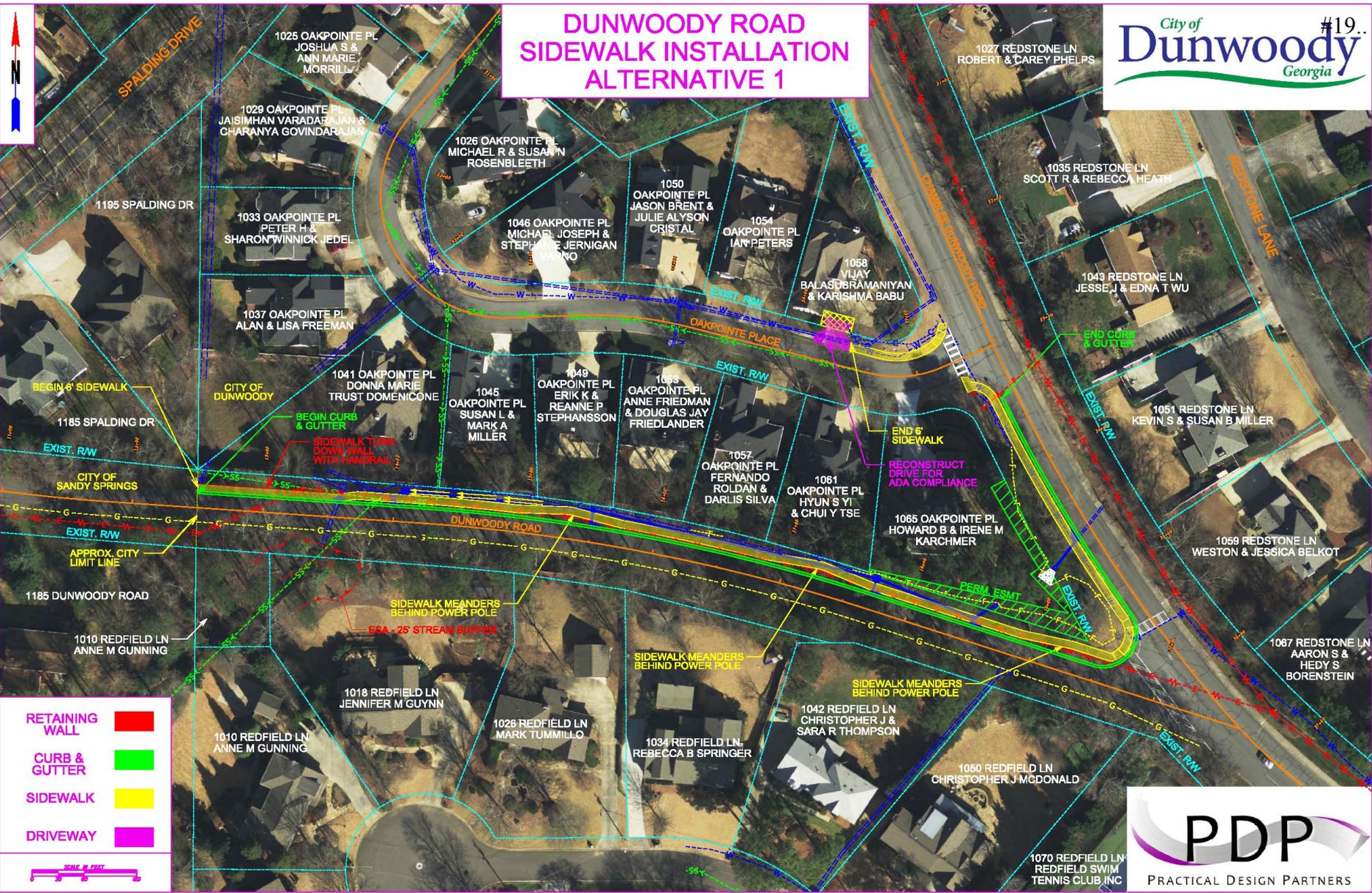
Existing Sidewalk →

Sidewalk Improvements on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Road





DUNWOODY ROAD SIDEWALK INSTALLATION ALTERNATIVE 1



Dunwoody Road

North 

Sidewalk Improvements on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Road

Criteria	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Number of Easements Required (All on one property)	1 Driveway 2 Drainage	1 Driveway 1 Drainage
Environmental Considerations		
Stormwater Considerations		
Potential Utility Impacts		
Estimated Cost	\$415,000	\$495,000
Preference of Public Survey Respondents (200 Votes Cast, 2% Did Not Support Either Option)	52%	46%
Sandy Springs Preference		
Safety Considerations		



Dunwoody Road

North



Sidewalk Improvements on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Road

