



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 on Vermack Road between Womack Road and the Vermack Swim and Tennis Club**

BACKGROUND

The City's Sidewalk Improvement Policy recommends sidewalk on both sides of Vermack Road and project funding has been apportioned in the five-year capital budget. Between the Vermack Swim and Tennis Club and Womack Road, there is currently a 4-foot wide sidewalk on the east side of the road and no sidewalk on the west side. Vermack Road is identified as a bike route in the city's transportation plan and the roadway has been striped for bike lanes from just north of Chamblee Dunwoody Road to Parliament Way. Between Parliament Way and Womack Road the existing pavement is not wide enough for bike lanes and closely spaced driveways make a shared-use side path infeasible.

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN DISCUSSION

The city contracted with Professional Design Partners to develop two conceptual design alternatives for this section of Vermack Road. Between Parliament Way and the Vermack Swim and Tennis Club, there is no difference between the two alternatives. Both maintain the existing sidewalk on the east side of the road and provide a 5-foot wide sidewalk on the west side of the road.

North of Parliament Way, Alternative 1 maintains the existing sidewalk on the east side of the road and adds a 6-foot wide sidewalk with landscape buffer on the west side. The estimated cost for Alternative 1 is \$500,000.

Alternative 2 fills a 1,500-foot gap in the existing bike lanes on Vermack Road by adding about 3 feet of pavement, new curb, landscape buffer and a 5-foot sidewalk on both sides of the road. The estimated cost for Alternative 2 is \$1,200,000. Both alternatives fit within the existing right of way, with Alternative 2 requiring temporary easements to reconstruct all of the driveway aprons and for grading slopes behind the sidewalk.

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/vermack-road-sidewalk> The project received over 120 comments with 59% expressing support for sidewalk and bicycle lane improvements on Vermack Road. Comments in support of the sidewalk-only option generally



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focused on the cost differential and smaller footprint of the project. Comments in support of Alternative 2 pointed to the added connectivity that the bike lanes would provide to Brook Run and the parks on Vermack.

Factors in favor of Alternative 2 include the designation of Vermack Road as a bike route, the presence of bike lanes on all but this 1,500-foot segment, proximity to parks and the public support for this alternative. The primary considerations for Alternative 1 are cost and ease of construction.

NEXT STEPS

Based on direction from the City Council, the next phase of the project would be to complete the final design. With either alternative, the segment south of Parliament could be advanced quickly to construction while the segment between Parliament Way and Womack would need to be budgeted for construction in a future year.



City of
Dunwoody
Georgia

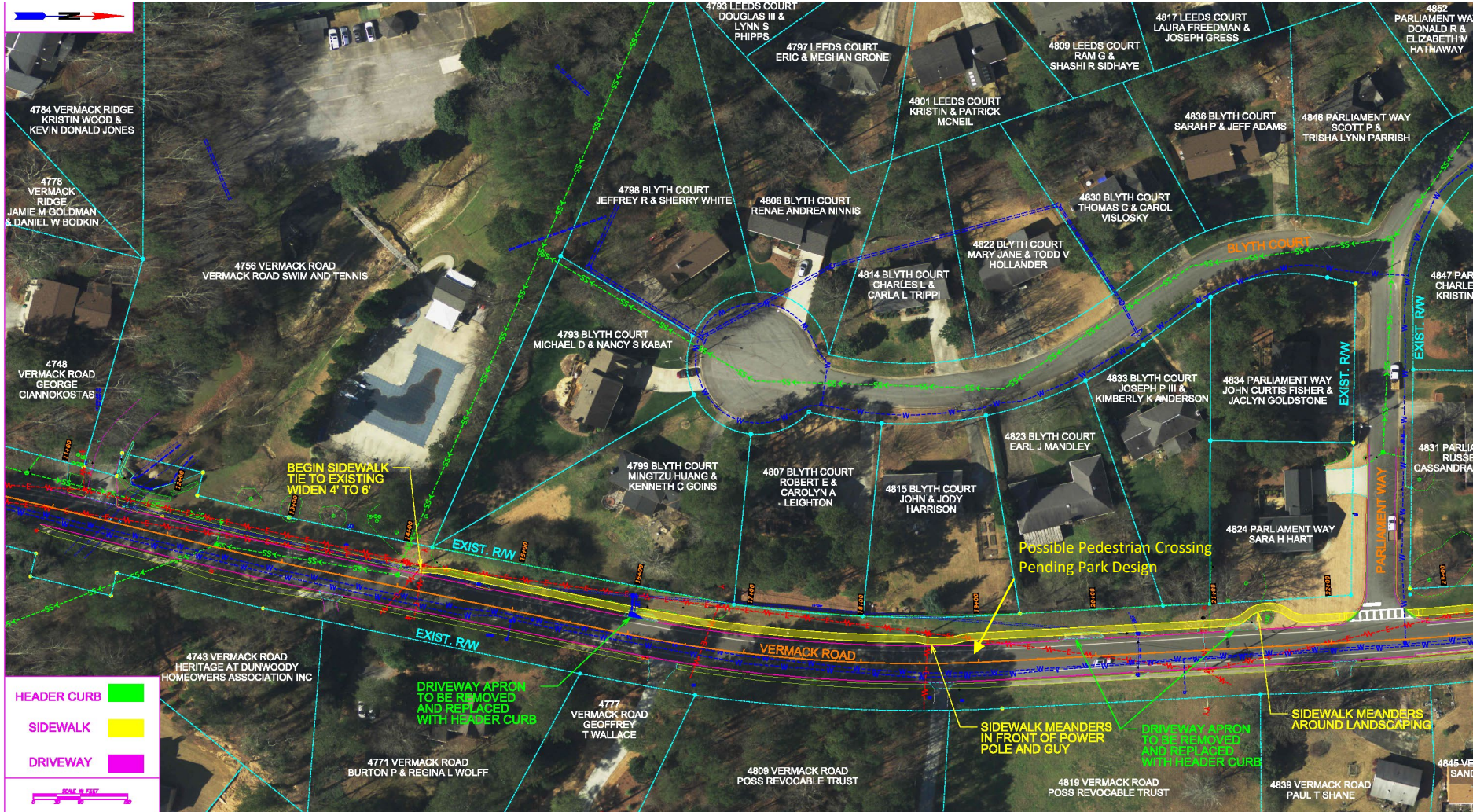
**VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK-
WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK
SWIM & TENNIS CLUB**

Packet page:....

VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK - WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB



VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK - WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB



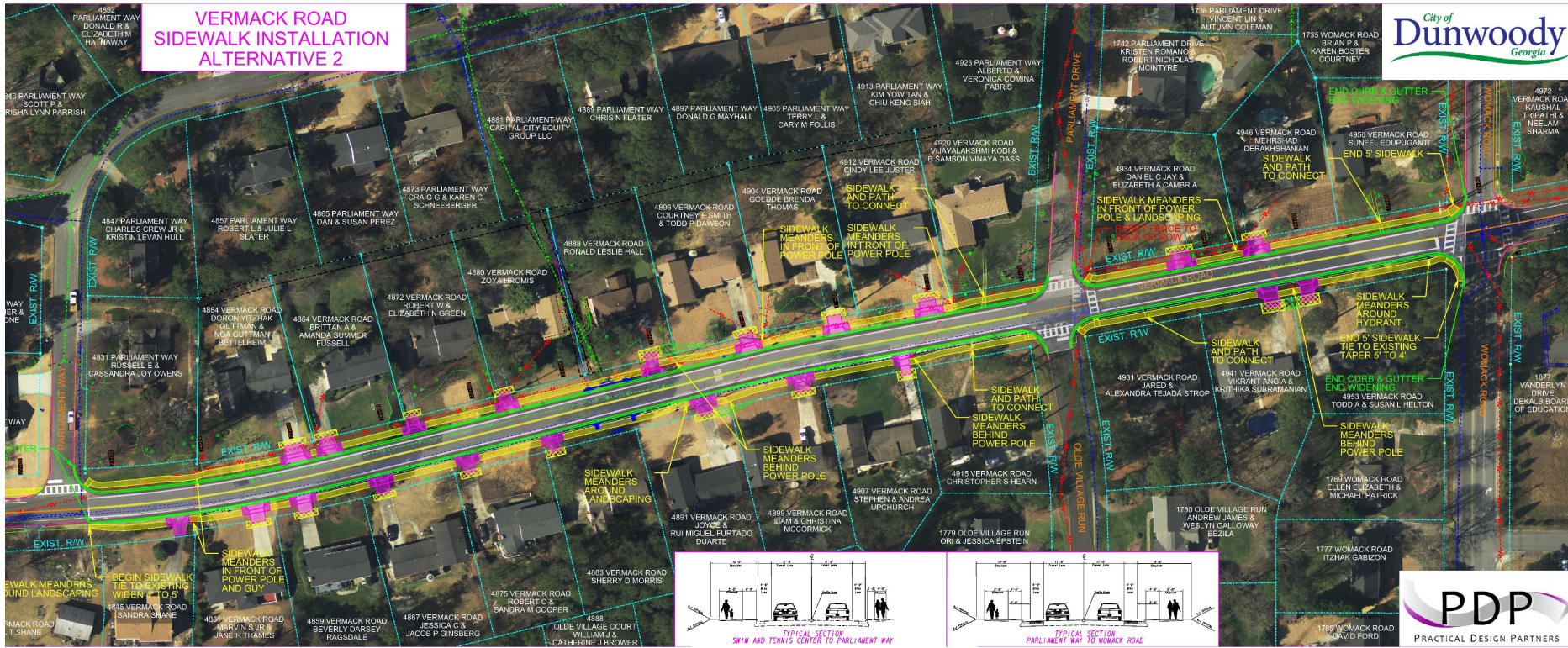
VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK - WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB

VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK INSTALLATION ALTERNATIVE 1



VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK - WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB




VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK INSTALLATION ALTERNATIVE 2



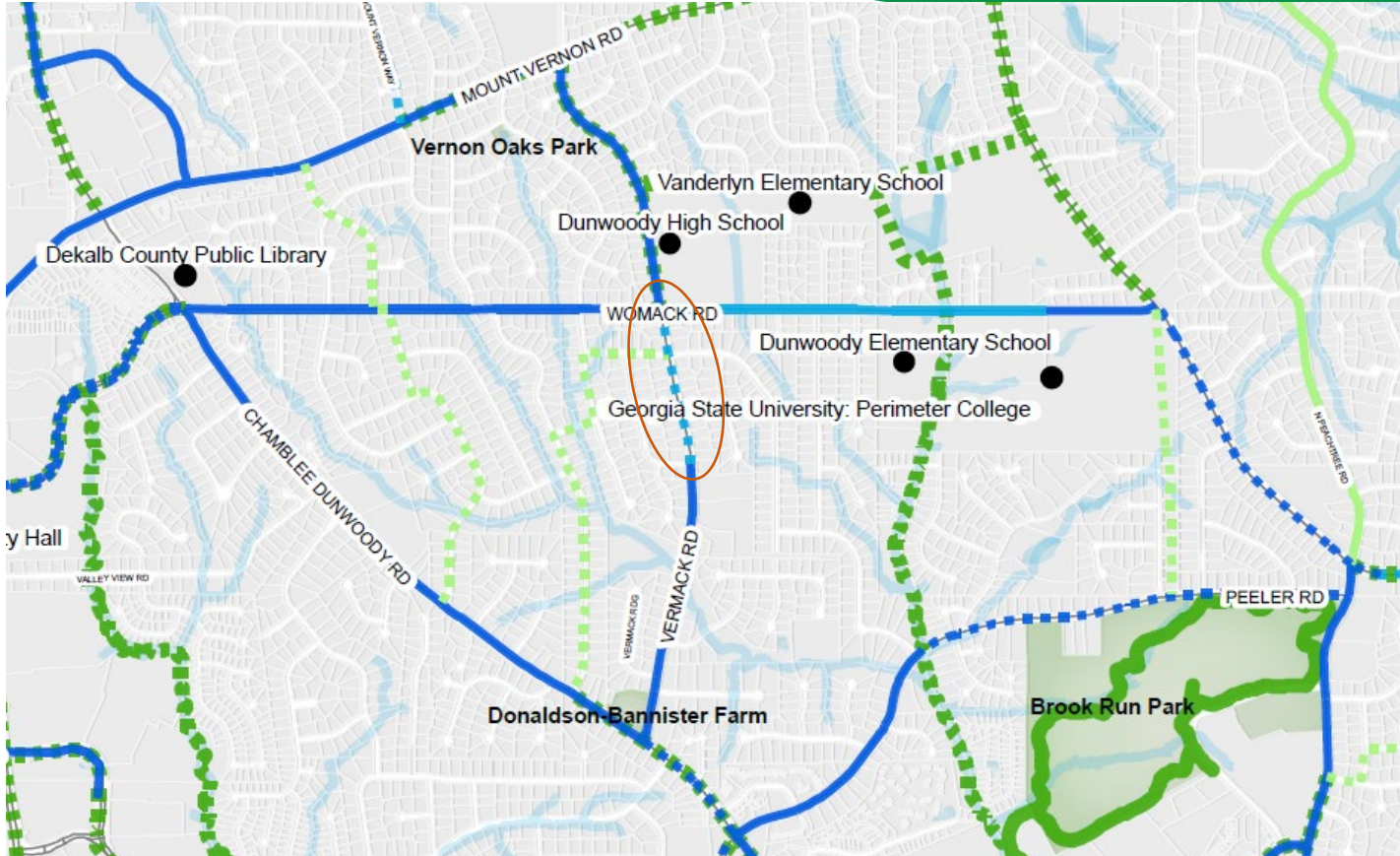












VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK - WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB

Criteria	Alternative 1- Sidewalk Only	Alternative 2- Sidewalk and Bike Lane
Number of Temporary Easements Required	0	20 for Driveway Tie-ins 4 for Slope Grading
Stormwater (road drainage improvement)		
Potential Utility Conflicts		
Estimated Cost	\$500,000	\$1,200,000
Preference of Public Survey Respondents (121 Votes Cast, 1% Did Not Support Either Option)	40%	59%
Bicycle Connectivity		

VERMACK ROAD SIDEWALK- WOMACK ROAD TO VERMACK SWIM & TENNIS CLUB



Legend

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Existing Bike Lane |  Planned Bike Route-Avid Rider |  Existing Separated Facility |
|  Planned Bike Lane |  Existing Bike Route-Novice Rider |  Planned Separated Facility |
|  Existing Bike Route-Avid Rider |  Planned Bike Route-Novice Rider | |