

To: Members
Dunwoody City Council

From: J. Jay Vinicki
Assistant City Manager

Re: SPLOST I Update

Date: July 24, 2023

Action

To brief the City Council on the uses of SPLOST I (2017) and the changes for SPLOST II (2023) fostering a Council discussion about uses for SPLOST II.

Summary/Details

The county's first SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) is set to renew on the November ballot. The attached presentation shows previous uses and changes in the upcoming version of SPLOST to foster a City Council discussion about those changes.

Recommendation

Discussion of possible changes for SPLOST II (2023) at the July 24, 2023 City Council meeting to allow staff to prepare a draft resolution for discussion and/or passage on the August 14, 2023 meeting.



#7.

City of **Dunwoody** *Georgia*

SPLOST Update

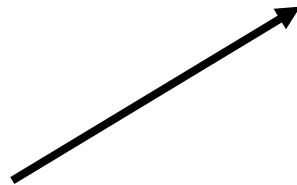
July 24, 2023

First, Why An Update?

- SPLOST I was passed by the voters in November 2017.
- That penny was the first sales tax passed in the county exclusively for capital projects for all the cities and the unincorporated area.
- The tax began in April 2018 and is set to expire in March 2024.
- A countywide referendum will be on the ballot in November 2023 to levy a new penny (or as some say continue the current one) starting in April 2024.
- So, its the perfect time to update what projects the city has completed so far with SPLOST I.

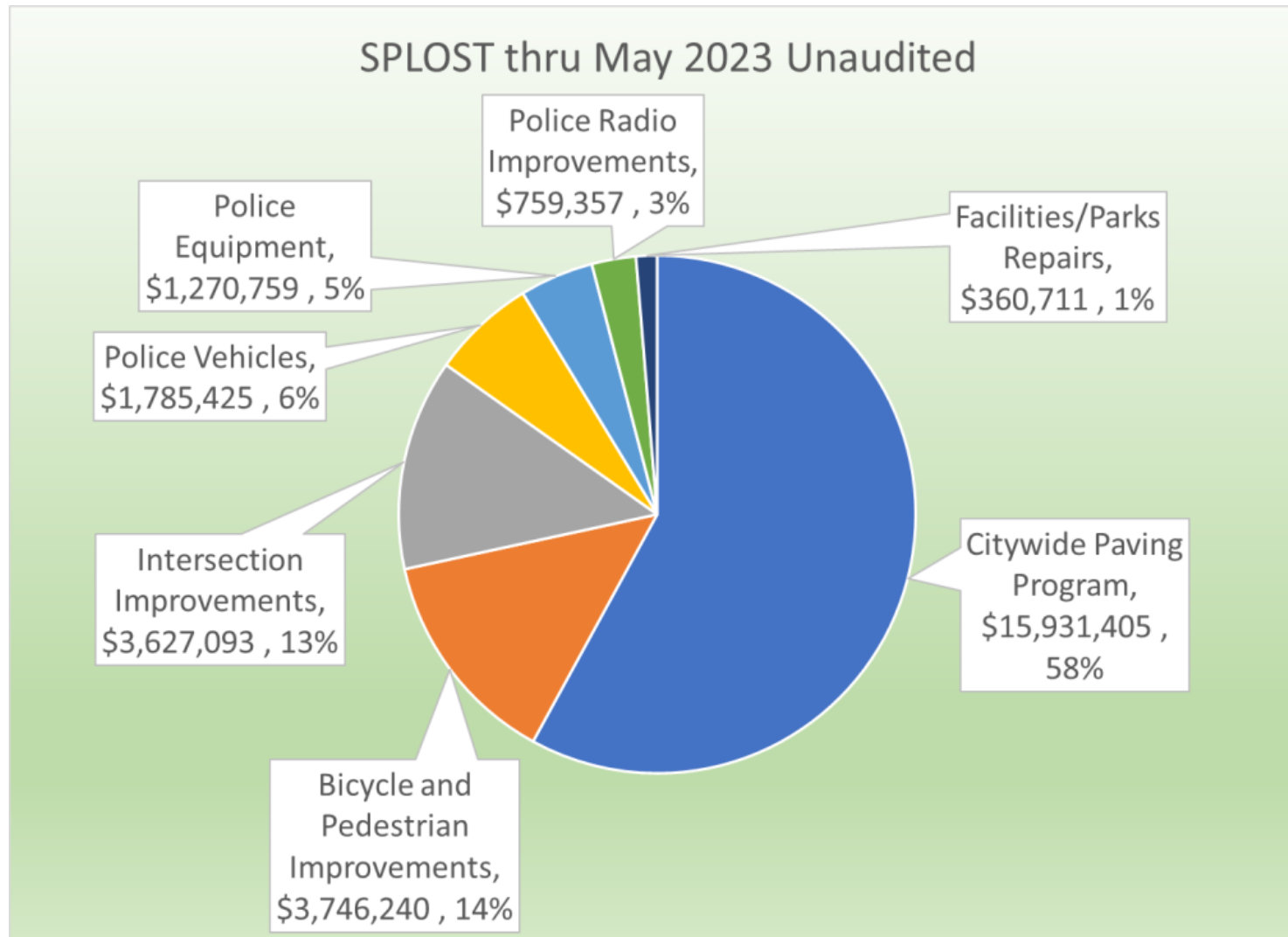
The Original Budget

The original SPLOST law for the county restricted the use to 85% public safety / transportation and 15% repair. More on this later.....



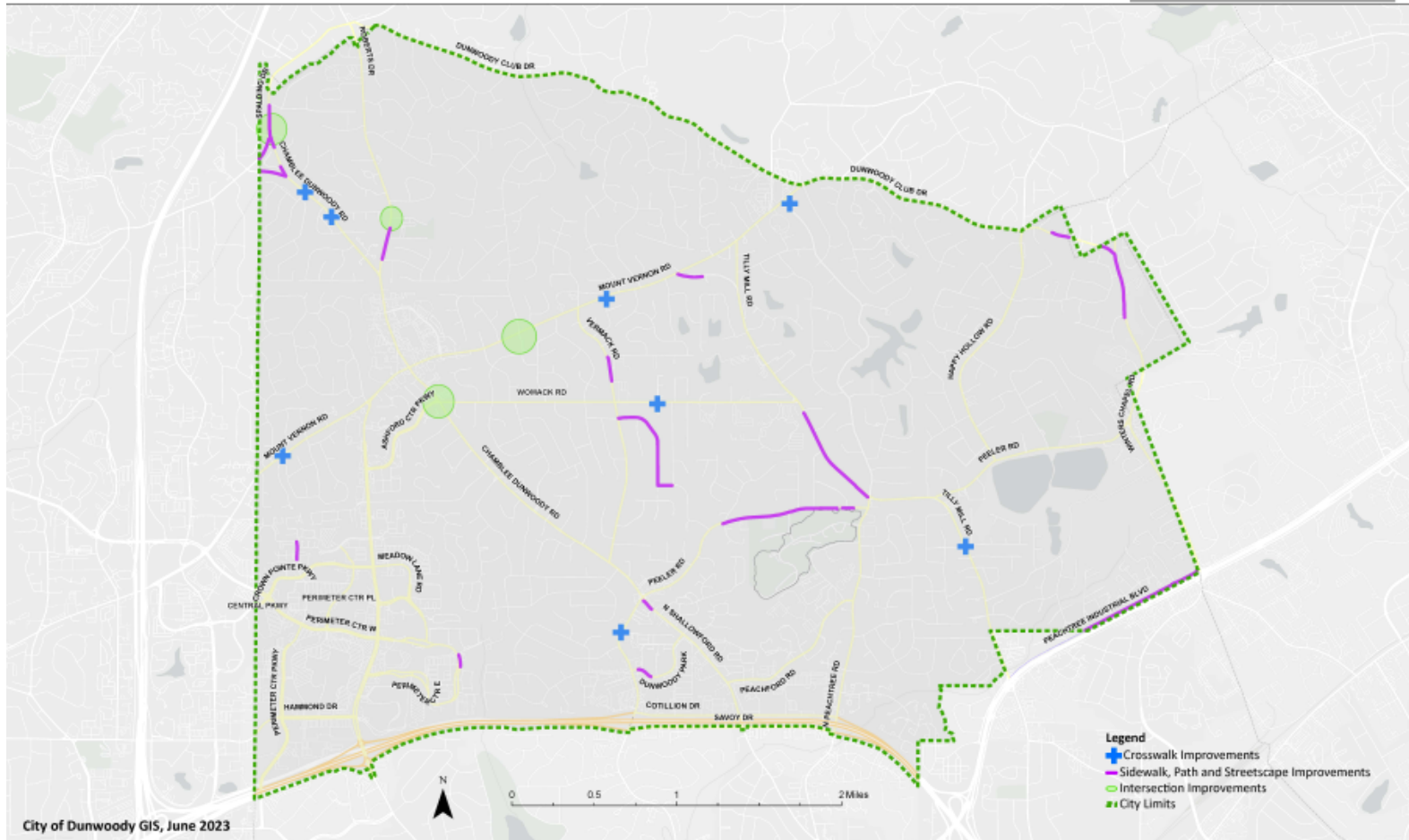
- Transportation improvement projects including, but not limited to Infrastructure Preservation (road resurfacing, replacement and rehabilitation of bridges and drainage systems); Pedestrian and Bicycle Path Improvements (addition of sidewalks, streetscapes, bike lanes, and multi-use trails); Congestion Relief (intersection improvements, road widenings, traffic management, and signal upgrades); Safety and Operational Improvements (addition/extension of turn lanes, elimination of sight distance problems and other safety concerns, as well as widened lanes and shoulders) \$36,787,543
- Public Safety Facilities and Related Capital Equipment \$6,000,000
- Repairs of Capital Outlay Projects \$1,200,000

The Current Spend



The Current Spend

SPLOST Transportation Projects 2018-2023



The Current Spend

Dunwoody SPLOST spending on public safety 2018-2023 (May month end, unaudited)



Police vehicles
\$1,785,425



In-car camera
replacements
\$493,099



AED replacements
In police vehicles
\$74,532



Police equipment
\$513,909



Expanded video surveillance
\$189,218



Radio coverage improvements
\$759,356

Big Boy SPLOST

The main change from “Baby SPLOST” to “Big Boy SPLOST” was removing the restrictions where it was limited to transportation and public safety (with a small part being allowed for repair now being expanded.)

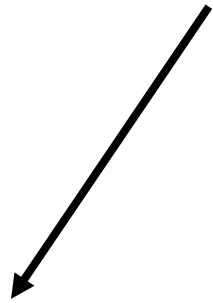
There are lots of “lists” out there of what can be changed, but a great deal of new categories really don’t apply to Dunwoody. Some additions include:

- Airports;
- Cultural; recreation; and historic facilities;
- Courthouse; administrative buildings; civic centers; correctional facilities; libraries; solid waste facilities;
- Stormwater; water & sewer;
- Retiring general obligation debt;
- Voting equipment; and
- Hospitals.

Options for SPLOST II

First, administratively, it is still recommended to budget dollar figures instead of percentages. This allows some flexibility when collections run over.

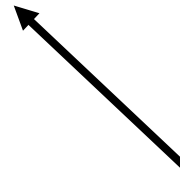
The official number for SPLOST II is not 'official' but is estimated at \$51.6 million.



	SPLOST I	
Transportation	36,787,543	84%
Public Safety	6,000,000	14%
Repairs	1,200,000	3%
Total	43,987,543	

Options for SPLOST II

	SPLOST I		Option 1	
Transportation	36,787,543	84%	43,174,683	84%
Public Safety	6,000,000	14%	7,041,734	14%
Repairs	1,200,000	3%	1,408,347	3%
Total	43,987,543		51,624,764	



Staff does not recommend Option 1, taking the new dollars and distributing the same.

2023 is not the same as 2017, but it's shown as a point of reference and starting point.

Options for SPLOST II

Staff Discussion Recommendations

1. Expanding the list so that future projects are eligible.
 - a. Adding in park and greenspace acquisition and development for cost overruns associated with the bond, if passed.
 - b. Leaving a small repair fund, as the city has set up a General Fund category with more flexibility.

2. If the city collects more than the total, then those projects would be eligible if needed.

Options for SPLOST II

	SPLOST I		Option 1		Option 2	
Transportation	36,787,543	84%	43,174,683	84%	TBD	TBD
Public Safety	6,000,000	14%	7,041,734	14%	TBD	TBD
Parks/Greenspace	-	0%	-	0%	TBD	TBD
Repairs	1,200,000	3%	1,408,347	3%	TBD	TBD
Total	43,987,543	100%	51,624,764		51,624,764	100%

This is not a recommendation from staff, but a beginning talking point for council discussions on how to adjust SPLOST II now that the restrictions are lifted.