



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:** May 8, 2023

**Subject:** **Funding Authorization for Vermack Path at Dunwoody High School Phase I Construction**

### **ACTION**

Authorize the Mayor, City Manager, or designee to expend up to \$400,000 from the SPLOST Project SP1-1821 budget for Autaco Development to build Phase 1 of the Vermack Road Path adjacent to Dunwoody High School.

### **SUMMARY**

A 12-foot wide shared-use path is proposed to replace the existing sidewalk between Womack Road and Vanderlyn Drive adjacent to the high school. To minimize the impact to school operations the construction is being planned to occur in phases over the next two summers. This funding request is for Autaco Development to construct Phase 1 of the path this summer utilizing unit prices in their current standby construction contract with the city. Phase 1 extends from Womack Road to the southernmost school entrance on Vermack Road.

### **DETAILS**

The SPLOST capital budget includes funding to replace the sidewalk on Vermack Road adjacent to Dunwoody High School with a shared-use path. The existing 5-foot wide sidewalk is relatively narrow considering the proximity to the school and in several locations electric transmission poles reduce the sidewalk width to a point that it does not comply with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The conceptual plan for a 12-foot wide, shared-use path was presented for public comment in the fall of 2021 and discussed by the City Council in January of 2022. The project has also been presented to the Principal Advisory Committee at the high school and is included in the draft trail master plan.

The final design for the path has been completed and the right of way and easements needed to construct the path are expected to be approved by the DeKalb County School Board in May. The design includes 500 feet of large diameter pipe beneath the path to store stormwater runoff. The pipe installation adds complexity to the project that would make it challenging to complete all of the improvements in one summer while school is out, so the construction is being planned in two phases. The first phase, planned for this summer, extends from Womack Road to the southernmost school driveway on Vermack Road and would include the stormwater pipe installation. The remainder of the path up to Vanderlyn Drive would be completed in the summer of 2024.



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The proposed funding authorization of \$400,000 is for Autaco Development to complete Phase 1 utilizing unit prices in their current standby construction contract. The second phase of the construction scheduled for the summer of 2024 would be procured separately in early 2024. The city's SPLOST project budget includes \$800,000 in project SP1-1821 for construction.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Authorize the Mayor, City Manager, or designee to expend up to \$400,000 from the SPLOST Project SP1-1821 budget for Autaco Development to build Phase 1 of the Vermack Road Path adjacent to Dunwoody High School.