

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Rachel Waldron

Parks and Recreation Director

Re: Design of the Brook Run Park Veterans Memorial

Date: October 28, 2024

### **Action**

Approval of a design for the Brook Run Park Veterans Memorial.

#### Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is introducing the latest concept for the revitalization of the Brook Run Park Veterans Memorial. Construction costs of the concept designed in 2022 exceeded project budget. Staff is hopeful this new concept will be both a financially conservative approach to the memorial revitalization and complement the adjacent Vietnam War Veterans Memorial.

#### **Details**

The Veterans Memorial at Brook Run Park was dedicated on May 31, 2004, by DeKalb County to honor those who served to protect and defend our country. When the City of Dunwoody acquired the park in 2010, it committed to this legacy and worked with the County to continue honoring our men and women in uniform through our annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day events. The current failing structure no longer fulfills the purpose of a meaningful tribute to our veterans.

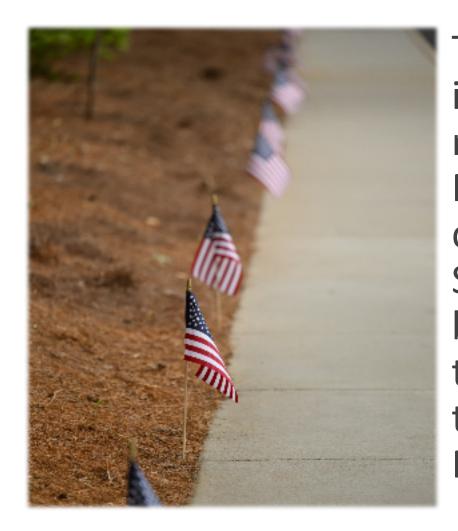
The latest concept features a self-guided, open space dedicated to those who are serving and have served. Open entering the space, visitors will first encounter a cast bronze Soldier's Cross, serving as a visible memory of a fallen soldier. Just before the memorial plaza is the first of seven marble plaques and respective flag, honoring each branch of service, plus Prisoners of War Missing in Action. The octagonal granite plaza showcases the United States flag, centered. and an eternal flame, atop a 6-foot Elberton base. The plaza will also feature the existing dedicated red bricks, and a walkway to the new Vietnam War Memorial.

### **Recommendation**

Staff respectfully requests that Council: (1) approve the re-design of the Brook Run Park Veterans Memorial (2) authorize Staff to request cost estimates of the approved design, by way of the formal Request for Proposal process.



## Summary



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### Background/Timeline

- The Veterans Memorial at Brook Run Park was dedicated in 2004, by DeKalb County to honor those who served to protect and defend our country.
- Construction costs of the concept designed in 2022 exceeded project budget.
- Staff discussed the new proposed memorial design to veterans in October. They
  - had very strong positive feedback around our concept. In particular, the Soldier's Cross and eternal flame are two components they felt were the most meaningful to veterans. We also discussed the potential for revitalizing the brick program, how that would fit into our proposal, and where we could expand in the future.



# Proposed Design









### Staff Recommendation



Staff respectfully requests that Council approve the re-design of the Brook Run Park Veterans Memorial. As such, Staff would request cost estimates of the approved design, by way of the formal Request for Proposal process.

