

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Jessica Guinn

**Date:** March 14, 2016

**Subject:** **Atlanta Regional Commission Community Choices Program**

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### **ITEM DESCRIPTION**

Resolution authorize staff to apply for the Atlanta Regional Commission's Community Choices Program

### **BACKGROUND**

Through the Community Choices Program, the Atlanta Regional Commission provides technical assistance and resources to cities and counties to implement local plans and policies. Community Choices applications are accepted annually, and through a competitive process communities are selected to receive this technical assistance at no charge.

Since incorporation, Dunwoody's leaders and citizens have expressed a desire to offer opportunities for residents to age in place, and this is reflected in the Comprehensive Plan, Georgetown Master Plan and Dunwoody Village Master Plan. Staff intends to submit an application to the Community Choices Program in order to request the assistance of the Atlanta Regional Commission, as the Area Agency on Aging, to guide the City in understanding the needs of our aging population, defining what "senior housing" or "empty-nester housing" means in Dunwoody, identifying the tools needed to encourage appropriate housing options (codes, policies, etc.), and to outline recommended next steps. Specific tasks that may be included as a part of this initiative are:

1. Conduct a work session with the City Council to educate City officials on lifelong communities and related best practices, and identify the Council's vision and priorities related to lifelong communities.
2. Solicit feedback from the community through public meetings, surveys, online discussion, social media, etc. Identify what type of housing options and services are desired and needed by a broad spectrum of Dunwoody's aging residents, from empty-nesters who are likely still working, to active retirees, to those in need of a higher level of care, and everything in between.
3. Provide recommendations on the ideal mix of housing options (single-family, multi-family, fee-simple, rental, attached, detached, large lot, small lot, etc.), additional services that may be needed to support residents as they age, proximity of housing options to services, etc.
4. Identify updates to local codes, policies, and plans that may be necessary to achieve the City's goals related to lifelong communities.

#10.



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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Authorize staff to apply for pro bono technical assistance through the Atlanta Regional Commission's Community Choices Program

**STATE OF GEORGIA  
CITY OF DUNWOODY**

**RESOLUTION 2016-03-XX**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE ATLANTA  
REGIONAL COMMISSION COMMUNITY CHOICES PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS,** the Georgetown / North Shallowford Master Plan, adopted in 2011, identifies a need to provide housing options for residents age 55 and over; and
- WHEREAS,** the Dunwoody Village Master Plan, adopted in 2011, anticipates a demand for housing options for residents age 55 and over ; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Dunwoody 2015-2035 Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2015, establishes as a goal, "Make Aging in Place a More Achievable Goal"; and
- WHEREAS,** an objective of The Region’s Plan, prepared by the Atlanta Regional Commission, is to "Invest in equitable and improved access to a variety of safe, quality housing, including options for aging in place"; and
- WHEREAS,** the Atlanta Regional Commission provides technical assistance to help communities achieve their visions through the Community Choices Implementation Assistance Program; and
- WHEREAS,** the City looks forward to working with the Atlanta Regional Commission through the Community Choices Program to establish the necessary policies and programs to accomplish the City’s goals to enable aging in place within Dunwoody; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dunwoody, that the City of Dunwoody supports the application for the Atlanta Regional Commission Community Choices Implementation Assistance Program and hereby authorizes the City Manager and staff to execute all appropriate documents in pursuit thereof.

**SO RESOLVED AND EFFECTIVE** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016.

Approved:

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Denis L. Shortal, Mayor

Attest:

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Sharon Lowery, City Clerk

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