



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: October 14, 2019

Subject: **Resolution in Support of Federal Funding Request for Chamblee Dunwoody Road Multimodal Improvements Phase IV (Peeler Road to Vermack Road)**

ITEM DESCRIPTION

Adopt a resolution supporting the city's application to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for federal funding for the following transportation projects: Ashford Dunwoody Road Interchange Improvements, Chamblee Dunwoody Road Multimodal Improvements from Peeler Road to Vermack Road, and the Winters Chapel Shared Use Path Phase II

BACKGROUND

Ashford Dunwoody at I-285 Interchange Improvements

Prior to the city's incorporation, regional transportation plans included a long range project to improve the Ashford Dunwoody interchange at I-285 by widening the bridge. These improvements were later incorporated into the Georgia Department of Transportation's (GDOT) Revive 285 project. Subsequently, the diverging diamond interchange was implemented as a short term interim project to improve operations. Other components of the original Revive 285 are being implemented through Transform 285/400 and Top End 285 managed lanes.

None of the projects currently being contemplated by GDOT include long term interchange improvements at Ashford Dunwoody Road, and the original project has been dropped from the regional transportation plan. However, the need still remains based on a recent traffic study conducted by the Perimeter Community Improvement District and the City of Dunwoody, which projects that the diverging diamond will begin performing poorly within the next 10 years.

The traffic study recommends two projects that would enable the interchange to accommodate future traffic: the Westside Connector and widening the diverging diamond to 8 lanes to accommodate additional turn lanes to and from the interstate ramps. The Westside Connector is programmed in the TIP as a scoping study and has a concept report awaiting approval by GDOT. The interchange widening, with the support of the PCID, is proposed as the city's top priority project for the ARC's current funding cycle. The city is requesting \$200,000 of federal funding to further develop traffic projections, conceptual



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plans for the interchange improvements and a construction cost estimate. The \$200,000 would be matched by \$50,000 in local funds contributed equally between the city and PCID.

Chamblee Dunwoody Multimodal Improvements Phase IV (Peeler Road to Vermack Road)

The need for improvements to reduce traffic congestion and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities on Chamblee Dunwoody Road at Peeler Road and at Vermack Road is identified in the city’s Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). In 2014 and 2015, concepts to improve both intersections were presented at a public information meeting and at a City Council meeting. The recommended concept providing the greatest long term benefit included a roundabout at Peeler Road, added turn lanes at Vermack Road and bicycle and pedestrian facilities between the two intersections.

The city submitted federal funding requests to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) in 2015 and 2017 to complete the engineering design for the project. However, funding was allocated to other higher priority projects submitted by the city. The city’s request for the current cycle of funding is for \$350,000 of federal funds matched by \$87,500 of city funds to complete the engineering and final design. The project is proposed as the city’s second highest priority.

Winters Chapel Road Shared Use Path Phase II (Charmant Drive to Peeler Road)

In 2015, Dunwoody and Peachtree Corners completed the Winters Chapel Road Area Study. Much progress has been made implementing the projects recommended in the plan as shown below.

Project	Status
Winters Chapel Rd. sidewalk- Dunwoody Club Dr. to Spalding Dr. (east side of road)	Completed
Winters Chapel Rd. sidewalk- Peachtree Ind. Blvd. to Winterbrook Ct. (east side)	Completed
Dunwoody Club Dr. sidewalk- Winters Chapel Rd. to Happy Hollow Rd. (north side)	Completed
Pedestrian Crossing Improvements at Winters Chapel Rd. and Dunwoody Club Dr.	Completed
Pedestrian Crossing south of Peeler Rd.	Completed
Pedestrian Crossing Improvements at Peachtree Ind. Blvd. Interchange	Completed
Winters Chapel Rd. Path Ph. I- Dunwoody Club Dr. to Charmant Dr. (west side)	Construction in 2020

At the completion of these projects, the last gap for pedestrian improvements in Dunwoody and Peachtree Corners will be the west side of Winters Chapel from Charmant Place to Peeler Road. A preliminary design has been completed but neither city currently has funds budgeted for right of way or construction. The cities have agreed to submit a joint request for \$1,500,000 of construction funding in the TIP with a \$375,000 local match.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends approval of a resolution supporting an application for federal funding and committing to provide local funds for Ashford Dunwoody Road Interchange Improvements, Chamblee Dunwoody Road Multimodal Improvements Phase IV, and the Winters Chapel Shared Use Path Phase II.

**A RESOLUTION OF COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS
FOR FEDERAL FUNDING AWARDED FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is currently accepting applications for federal funding for projects under the Surface Transportation Block Grant program, ARC’s Livable Centers Initiative program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program; and

WHEREAS, the principles of the Atlanta Region’s Plan are to support a competitive economy, healthy and livable communities and world class infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dunwoody has developed a list of transportation projects for funding consideration that are consistent with the Atlanta Region’s Plan and the city’s Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dunwoody hereby support the request for federal funding and will provide the required 20% match, as indicated below, should federal funds be awarded:

Project Name	Federal Request	20% Local Match
Ashford Dunwoody Road Interchange Improvements	\$200,000	\$50,000
Chamblee Dunwoody Road Multimodal Improvements Phase IV (Peeler Rd. to Vermack Rd.)	\$350,000	\$87,500
Winters Chapel Shared Use Path Phase II (Charmant Pl. to Peeler Rd.)	\$1,500,000	\$375,000

SO RESOVLED AND EFFECTIVE this 14th day of October, 2019.

CITY OF DUNWOODY

Denis L. Shortal, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk