



Executive Director's Report

July 9, 2019

On April 24th, 2019, a Caucus of Electors was held in order to elect 3 Board of Directors posts. As a result of the election, Diann Baker and Ron Harrison were elected for three-year terms, and Trent Lind will fill the unexpired term of Chad Lockhart. We welcome newcomer Trent Lind to the Board of Directors. Trent is the CEO of Eastside Medical Center in Snellville. He is active in the community including work with the YMCA, the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, and many other community groups.

Diann Baker continues to serve with the Renasant Bank. After Renasant Bank purchased Brand Bank, Diann has led her area of responsibility through the transition to the "new ways" of the new organization. The Board welcomed Diann back to the Board of Directors for the CID.

Ron Harrison was reelected to the Board. Once Board posts were elected, an election of officers was held during the meeting. Ron was elected to continue as the Vice Chairman of the Board.

As has been noted in several publications, construction is underway on West Park Place. While the new facility is in the construction phase, renewed interest in the western most part of the CID has been recognized. Land values in the area have skyrocketed. The land currently owned by Gwinnett County, which was the former 1996 Olympic Tennis Venue, is close to an offering of an RFI for interested parties.

As the new development continues, GwDOT will be installing new mast arms consistent with the US-78 mast arms. The CID has received a request from the County to fund the lighted street name signs as was previously provided on US-78. After a brief discussion with the Chairman, a request has been made to the County to provide a cost estimate for the requested signs.

A group of stakeholders met in Tucker to discuss improvements anticipated along I-285, as recently announced by GDOT. These improvements will include a managed lane project from I-285 and I-20 east around the top end of the perimeter (north) to I-285 at I-20 west. However, as noted in the meeting, there are no planned improvements to the intersection of US-78 and I-285 in DeKalb County. While the intersections lie completely outside of the CID and Gwinnett County, the impact of the congestion at the location cannot be ignored. Many accidents occur as a result of the congestion. Brockett Road, Mountain Industrial and continuing into Gwinnett County are but some of the locations where

accidents occur on a daily basis. At this point, there are no planned improvements to a critical intersection that negatively impacts more than 100 vehicles per day.

A strategy is being devised whereby a position can be taken in order to bring attention to the issue. A second meeting is in the planning stages. The plan will be delivered to the District Office before going forward to the GDOT Board.

On May 20th, an Open House for the DLT intersection was held at the First Baptist Church in Snellville. This well-attended event brought more than 200 visitors. The animation presented during the Open House has been posted on the CID's website. The new traffic flow is expected to open in late July with the project wrapping up in late December.

Robert Brown, a GDOT Board Member, visited the CID on May 30th. He was provided an overview of the CID and related projects. We also had an opportunity to see the poor condition of US-78 from Hewatt to Walton Ct. Mr. Brown was interested in how GDOT could assist in some of our road projects. While the CID projects are outside state ROW, LMIG funds are still available for local projects.

In Glenn Stephens' quarterly meeting with Gwinnett CID directors, we received an update on Gwinnett county projects relative to the CIDs. We also welcomed the new Lilburn CID Director, Tad Leithead. Tad is the former director of Cumberland CID. He brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the CID.

Collector Road Phase II Evermore North Blvd. (Britt-Highpoint-Walton Realignment):

While the new road is open, construction adjacent to the road continues. On the eastside of the roundabout, more than 100 new residential units are being added. You will note sidewalks, roadway and curb and gutter have been damaged. Those repairs will be made at the end of the construction project.

Collector Road Phase III Evermore North Blvd. (Hewatt-Parkwood-Britt):

Currently, GDOT has released some 41 parcels, with 4 parcels continuing in review. ROW offers and negotiations continue through the contract with Moreland Altobelli. While this is a difficult process, the process is required by FHWA.

Closings on properties have now occurred. There will also be some properties that are requiring mediation and other legal remedies. While these parcels are in a variety of closing status, the road schedule will not be hampered by any of these issues.

Bi-weekly meeting continue at GwDOT with all participants on the project. Because of the lengthy delays, the environmental documents will need to be updated and revised as necessary. This will necessitate an additional fee for the environmental documents.

General Comments:

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The Atlanta Regional Commission hosted a group on the annual LINK trip. This year Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was the chosen site. The trip had more than 100 leaders from the 20-county region. While there, we observed many redevelopment projects. Many of them had impacts on poorer neighborhoods and experienced gentrification as result. With new large development such as sport complexes, civic center and other large developments; the residents were relocated outside of their former neighborhoods. We also had an opportunity to see the Tree of Life Synagogue. Then on to the Jewish Federation for information relative to how the religious community was supporting the Squirrel Hill area of Pittsburgh. More than 30% of the area is Jewish.

As new development occurs in the West Park Place area, Netherworld is preparing for challenges such as parking. While the area at Space Max will be available for parking this year, it is not expected to be available next year. With that in mind, members of the Netherworld group met with SMMA personnel to discuss the opportunity for parking at the old Stone Mountain Airport. Currently, a parking plan is being developed for airport property.

The CID is receiving daily calls related to available property within the CID. One new hotel is planned in the West Park Place area. The property for the hotel has been purchased. Construction is anticipated within the next year.