



## Executive Director's Report

March 22, 2023

The CID election for Post 2 and 5 will be held in April. Coincidentally, this meeting will be the 20th anniversary of the CID. We will be developing a look back at the efforts of the CID and prepare an overview of its accomplishments over that 20-year period.

Trend Lind's departure from the Board has left an open seat for the upcoming election in April. Based on the bylaws of the CID, the Chairman has opted not to fill the unexpired term of one month.

Another major decision will be up for consideration in the April meeting. The Board will set the millage rate for 2023 CID tax. Upcoming projects will affect our millage rate. As the CID moves and is preparing for the decision from the Gwinnett County Commission as to whether they approve the SPLOST projects list provided by the Citizen SPLOST committee, certain projects will require some financial commitment by the CID. As of this writing, the following is a recap of proposed and approved projects to be recommended to the Commission by the Citizen committee.

### The Citizen Select Committee for the 2023 SPLOST

- Intersections: Paxton Lane at Killian Hill Road \$5,000,000
- Intersections: US 78 at East Park Place \$7,000,000
- Sidewalks: Multi-use Path located parallel to US 78, connecting from Stone Mountain Park to Lake Lucerne Road (Matching Funds) \$1,500,000
- Sidewalks: Construct multi-use paths (pedestrian and bicycle facilities) along all streets intersecting US 78 (Matching Funds) \$1,500,000
- Major Roads: US 78 Parallel Road \$12,000,000 (Pending Final Recommendation)
- Major Roads: West Park Place (US 78 to Amazon Facility) \$5,000,000 (Pending Final Recommendation)

Fred Dawkins has been a true advocate for the CID and its projects. I don't necessarily understand the term, "horse trading", but Fred does and did a great job at it. The SPLOST current recommendations for the CID improvements amount to \$32 Million. That amount is more than the CID has received in SPLOST fund since the CID was formed.

Partnership Gwinnett is currently in the process of planning its 2023 Peer Tour. With the recent departure of our friend, Andrew Carnes (now at Georgia Power), the efforts of PG

continue. The tentative location is Chattanooga Tennessee. This location will provide a good backdrop for many of the cities within Gwinnett to see the impact of planning and execution.

The 2023 State of the County was held at 12 Stone Church in Lawrenceville. Highlights of the SoC was the ongoing vision of creating opportunities with equity throughout all aspects of Gwinnett County. Generally, there is a focus on housing and other similar areas, but the Chairwoman's vision is to have a level of sensitivity that permeates all decisions throughout the county and the community at large.

She continued with the vision for the ever-growing Gwinnett County. She focused on the diversity in the county. The Chairwoman continues to discuss the county departments and many of the projects and programs currently offered by the county.

On March 29<sup>th</sup> staff has a meeting scheduled with Chairwoman Love-Hendrickson. One of the purposes of the meeting will be to discuss the use of county owned properties within the CID. We will also seek her support for the SPLOST committee's recommendations.

At lunch on March 29<sup>th</sup>, also, scheduled date was a coincidence, staff has a meeting with the county's administrator, Glenn Stephens. The purpose of the meeting is to generally discuss overall efforts of the CID and how we might coordinate the county's and CID's efforts.

The Board will consider the ratification of a company to carry out repairs on node lights, bridge lights and lighted street signs throughout the corridor. The issue has recently resulted in the necessity to change vendors. We were notified in early March that the authorized vendor was no longer able to incorporate this job into their work schedule. We have given them nearly a year to start and complete the project. The second lowest bidder was Sunbelt Traffic. They have adjusted their bid slightly to adjust for increase in prices. Their revised bid about is \$15,630.21. (See attachment Tab b) of the BOD agenda).

On Topic with Kerry Armstrong was presented the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce on March 15<sup>th</sup>. While some of Mr. Armstrong's comments were regional, most of them were Gwinnett specific. He reviewed population shifts, demographics, housing, transportation, water and sewer and other key issues facing Gwinnett.

One of the most important issues is the critical need for additional housing that is affordable. As has been pointed out many times before, affordable housing is not low income, but a house within Gwinnett that does not cost \$400,000. At that rate, most teachers, public safety and the broader, blue collar workers cannot afford to live in Gwinnett.

The Gwinnett Chamber sponsored Congressional Luncheon and presentation by Representatives McCormick, McBath and Clyde. This event featured each of the speakers' perspectives on current issues facing Congress and the United States.

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

The Gwinnett County Department of Transportation has received bid responses for the HPB project. Those bids have been sent to the Georgia Department of Transportation for review. Once those comments are responded to, the GDOT will issue a Notice to Proceed (NTP).

**General Comments:**

Recently we had an opportunity for discussion with Roman Dakari, Director of the Office of Economic Development for Gwinnett County. During this meeting he discussed the status of projects impacting the CID and areas adjacent to the CID.

With the recent uncertainty in the banking industry and the economy in general, the CID has placed the expired treasury bills into a US Government insured investment with the Federal Home Loan Bank. The yield for this investment (4.8264%) was higher than local financial institutions and higher than Treasury Bills. We invested locally as well. We moved \$245,000 to an 18-month CD with a local bank. The return on this investment is 4.24% for 18 months. With the recent volatility, this appears to be a safe long-term investment. Plus, this decision is consistent with the idea of keeping some funds available to local institutions.