

From the Mayor's Desk

January, 2016

A City On The Move

From walking trails, bridges, and a new town center announcement to studying ways to improve traffic throughout the city, 2015 was a busy year for Peachtree Corners. And, 2016 promises to be just as busy.

We began 2015 by launching a study on ways to improve traffic and pedestrian safety on the **Winters Chapel Road corridor**. The city partnered with the city of Dunwoody to find ways to improve this area which is vital to both communities. Improvements planned are sidewalks, pedestrian cross walks, benches, pocket parks and landscaping. One of the first phases, adding a sidewalk and cross walk to a portion of Winters Chapel Road is already underway.

The city also began studying the **Holcomb Bridge Road corridor** to discover ways to revitalize this very important area that serves as one of the gateways to our city. Residents and business owners were invited to participate in an online survey and a series of workshops to provide their input. The city is exploring ways to revitalize existing commercial parcels, adding mixed-use developments, open spaces for public use and developing a multi-use trail system that will tie in with Technology Park and other points throughout the city.

Another exciting project is the plans for a **business incubator**. Economic development is critical to our city's success and small businesses are the key. By offering support for entrepreneurial companies to help them survive and grow, we assure a win-win for our citizens and community. The city is partnering with Georgia Tech's <u>Advanced Technology Development Center</u> (ATDC). The incubator is expected to launch in the coming months. Look for more news soon as we move along with these plans.

Certainly, one of the highlights of 2016 will be the groundbreaking of the **Town Center** this spring. This 20-acre mixed use development will be the focal point for community gatherings. Restaurants, retail shops, office space and townhomes will surround the 2-acre Town Green. The Town Green was one of the city's first projects and it's expected to be complete in late 2017. The city is also examining the idea of building a pedestrian bridge that will cross over Peachtree Parkway. But unlike most bridges, the concept is to build one that is a place of its own, not just a means to get across the street. Watch for more on this concept soon.

Knowing that the Town Center would create more traffic, we've launched a **traffic study** to discover innovative ways to keep vehicles moving. We're looking at several key intersections to find ways to relieve the congestion and prepare for the future increase in the number of vehicles traveling through our city. Intersections that will be the focus of our study include Jimmy Carter Boulevard and Holcomb Bridge Road, and along S.R. 141 we will focus on the intersections at Spalding Drive, Peachtree Corners

Circle, The Forum and Town Center entrances and East Jones Bridge Road. We are also partnering with the city of Johns Creek to study ways to improve traffic flow along S.R. 141.

Last year we formed the **Peachtree Corners Veterans Monument Association** (PCVMA) which is moving forward with plans to create a monument to honor our veterans. The monument will be located on the Town Green. You can find more information on this project on the <u>PCVMA website</u>.

And we're moving forward on our study to develop our own beltline of **multi-use trails** that will wind through Technology Park, crisscross through neighborhoods and office parks. The first open house on multi-use trails is set for Jan. 21 at City Hall. Please plan on stopping by between 7 – 8:30 p.m. and learn more about the new project.

Just 3 ½ years ago Peachtree Corners was incorporated as Gwinnett County's newest city. We've made great strides in that short time and will continue to look to the future for ways to improve the quality of life for our residents.

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