



Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner
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April 25, 2024

Re: Letter #2, Responses to *Public Information Open House (PIOH)* Comments for PI#: 0016056, DeKalb County, Ashford Dunwoody Road at Windsor Parkway Roundabout

Thank you for your feedback concerning the proposed project referenced above. We appreciate your participation and the questions and comments received through the project's website. As the project develops, the proposed project plan may need to be revised if there are significant changes to what was shown on the project's website. If no significant changes are proposed, the project will proceed to right-of-way acquisition and final design. Following the completion of all right-of-way acquisitions, the project design would be finalized, and the project would advance to construction.

An initial virtual PIOH was conducted beginning October 19, 2023, and ending November 18, 2023. The project's website received **2,492** page views in total. Of the **400** respondents who formally commented, **235** were in **support** of the project, **118** were **opposed**, **5** were **uncommitted**, and **42** expressed **conditional support**. A single response letter addressing all questions and comments was distributed to the public on February 22, 2024. A copy is also available on the project website at <https://ashford-dunwoody-windsor-roundabout-0016056-gdot.hub.arcgis.com/>.

In early January 2024, it was determined that a second comment period should be provided to the public, because the Advertisement detailing the project was inadvertently not published in the legal organ last Fall during the first comment period. The second comment period beginning January 18, 2024, and ending on February 5, 2024, will also be made part of the project's official record. The project's website received **237** page views. Of the **4** respondents who formally commented, **2** were in **support** of the project, **0** were **opposed**, **0** were **uncommitted**, and **2** expressed **conditional support**.

The Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) has prepared a single response follow up letter that addresses all questions and comments received during the second comment period which are summarized below (in *italics*) followed by our response.

- *Comments were received inquiring as to where the north end of the multi-use path to re-enter the northbound travel lane is located. The commenter also added "The multi-use path appears to end without a ramp at the north end of the project limits. If the west side of the road is not a designated multi-use path or less than 8 feet (ft) would be illegal to ride on the sidewalk on the west side of Ashford Dunwoody within the project limits since, per Brookhaven code, cyclists are not allowed to ride on sidewalks less than 8 ft wide."*

A ramp is not proposed (within the current project limits) to re-enter the northbound travel lane at the north end of the multi-use path. The current project is proposed to terminate at this location and another project is planned (*Ashford Dunwoody Road Multi-Use Path Phase III – from Oglethorpe Crossing shopping center to just north of Windsor Parkway*) to continue the multi-use path to the north. Details of the planned project are available in the City of Brookhaven Masterplan located at the following website address:

<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/publicworks/page/ashford-dunwoody-road-multi-use-path-project-phase-iii-%E2%80%93-oglethorpe-crossing>

It should also be noted that the proposed multi-use path is at least 8 ft wide: The multi-use path is located on the south side of Windsor Parkway and then crosses the Ashford-Dunwoody Road at the roundabout. The path then extends to the north and south of the roundabout along the east side of Ashford-Dunwoody Road. All other areas of the project are sidewalks measuring 5 ft wide and would not accommodate bicycles in tandem with pedestrians.

- *Comments were received regarding the multi-use path along Ashford Dunwoody stating it narrows close to the roundabout, but instead should be consistently 10 feet wide.*

The multi-use path along Ashford-Dunwoody Road narrows to 8 ft wide only for a small portion of the project (approximately 100 ft) to accommodate the transition to the existing multi-use path to the south of the project and to limit the impacts to the historic property (Peachtree Golf Club).

- *Comments were received regarding the car lane width and sidewalk grass buffers. The car lanes on Windsor are shown as "varies 11 to 12 ft" with an additional 2.5 ft of gutter. The 5 ft sidewalk on the north side is against the curb with no buffer. The sidewalk needs a grass buffer strip, with plenty of room here to provide that buffer by reducing the car lanes to 10 ft. The 2.5 ft wide gutters would provide extra width for fire trucks or school buses.*

The minimum lane width per Georgia DOT Design Policy (Section 6.15) is 11 ft. The available width at the north side of Windsor Parkway is limited by the existing right-of-way width and the adjacent properties. The grass buffer strip is not required for a sidewalk, only for multi-use paths. The link to the Georgia DOT Design Policy Manual is as follows:

<https://www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/DesignManuals/DesignPolicy/GDOT-DPM.pdf>

- *Comments were received recommending that a bike lane sharrows be included in this project and connecting roads. This area has proven to be a highly traveled bike area according to Strava heat maps. This would include safety for bicycles as well as motor vehicles and pedestrians.*

Based on Georgia DOT Roundabout Design Guide (4.2), it is not recommended to provide a bike lane or sharrows within the roundabout due to safety for cyclists at all experience levels. The multi-use path provides a safer route for cyclists along the corridor. The link to the Georgia DOT Roundabout Design Guide is as follows:

<https://www.dot.ga.gov/PartnerSmart/DesignManuals/Alternative%20Intersections/GDOTRoundaboutDesignGuide.pdf>

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Again, thank you for your feedback. Should you have further questions or comments, please call the project manager, Lily Slaughter, at lslaughter@dot.ga.gov or 770-263-5945, or the environmental analyst, Takiyah Christian, at tchristian@dot.ga.gov or 404-631-1178, or the City of Brookhaven capital projects manager, Matt Risher at matt.risher@brookhavenga.gov or 404-637-0715.

Sincerely,



Eric Duff
State Environmental Administrator

ED/TC/mr/mn

cc: Ann Purcell, Georgia DOT Board Member (District 1)
Shea Roberts, State House (District 52)
Sally Harrell, State Senate (District 40)
Don Sherrill, City of Brookhaven Public Works Director
Patrice Ruffin Dowdell, City of Brookhaven Assistant City Manager
Lily Slaughter, Georgia DOT Project Manager (lslaughter@dot.ga.gov)