

Chamblee Dunwoody Road at Womack Road – Intersection Improvements Public Input Comments and Responses

Comments Received from 07/07/2020 to 07/31/2020

The City received over 120 emails supporting this project. Many residents have asked for this project to be expedited as it is “long over due”. The inclusion of bikes on the sidewalks have triggered more usage of bicyclists on the sidewalks on the west side of Chamblee Dunwoody Road, and residents would like to upgrade this segment to match the eastern side. Other comments received are listed below.

Comment: Do not eliminate bike lanes on Chamblee Dunwoody Road in order to accommodate the project.

Response: Bike lanes will not be removed.

Comment: Allow access for the library property on Womack Road.

Response: This access is outside the scope of this project and can be evaluated while redevelopment of the property. Due to the adjacent slope, impacts to parking and drive aisles will be likely.

Comment: Add a right turn lane to Womack Road too.

Response: A right turn lane can eventually be added, but this may impact the utilities in the area. The City will look at shifting the sidewalk and wall back to accommodate a right turn lane in the future, but this work is considered outside the scope of this project.

Comment: Remove the “No Right on Red” restriction.

Response: The regrading of the slope along the east side of Chamblee Dunwoody Road fixes the issue with sight distance. As such, the “No Right on Red” restriction will be removed.

Comment: Consider improving the exit conditions from the library onto Chamblee Dunwoody Road.

Comment: Add bike lanes along Chamblee Dunwoody Road from Womack to Mt. Vernon.

Response: This area is outside the project limits and thus outside the scope of this project. The city is currently developing conceptual plans for Chamblee Dunwoody Road corridor improvements from Womack Road to Roberts Drive. These suggestions will be considered as part of that project which will be presented for public comment in the next few months.

Comment: Add a crosswalk on the southern leg of the intersection.

Response: This will be added.

Comment: Place “Do Not Block the Intersection” signs at Wickenby Court.

Response: The addition of the left turn lane and removal of the right turn lane restriction should reduce the frequency of traffic queuing back to Wickenby Court. If necessary a sign will be added.

Comment: Look into the storm water drainage on Nerine Circle.

Response: Storm water from Chamblee Dunwoody does not appear to flow down Nerine Circle based on the topography. The proposed improvement on Chamblee Dunwoody will contain the water even more by adding new catch basins along Chamblee Dunwoody Road to capture roadway runoff before it gets to Nerine Circle. The Nerine Circle concern has been reported to the City's stormwater manager for further evaluation independent of this project.

Comment: Add a left turn signal.

Response: This will be evaluated and added if it improves the operation of the intersection. Traffic Signal times will be reviewed and adjusted.

Comment: Do not extend the left turn lane on Chamblee Dunwoody Road. Use the extra pavement to achieve a slightly longer lane.

Response: The lane length was determined by traffic modeling software. There is not enough existing pavement to make the turn lane long enough to handle the traffic volume and the existing bike lanes would have to be removed.

Comment: A right on red would make it even more difficult to exit the library.

Response: The library driveway is more than 100 feet from the Womack intersection which exceeds the minimum city standard for driveway distance from an intersection. The library property also has a secondary exist further north on Chamblee Dunwoody Road.

Comment: This is another project that lets the contractor control traffic and will lead to traffic nightmares.

Response: With any construction project there will need to be traffic control for the safety of the construction crew and general public. The contractor will be required to maintain traffic flow during construction and will not be allowed to close lanes during peak travel times.

Comment: Although I use this intersection regularly, the proposed plans are of zero value to me and my family. This is a waste of resources which would be much better spent on pedestrian, bike, and transit improvements.

Response: This project was included in the City's transportation plan based on requests by the public to address traffic backups on Womack Road. As part of this project the City is improving sidewalks, adding a signalized crosswalk and including bike lanes

Comment: Add a right turn lane on Ashford Center Parkway onto Chamblee Dunwoody Road southbound.

Response: This is outside the scope of this project but something we could look into in the future.

Comment: Consider placing a roundabout at this intersection.

Response: A roundabout has not been considered because it would need to be a large, multilane roundabout to accommodate trucks and high traffic volume. The large footprint of the roundabout would result in more impacts to adjacent properties.

Comment: Could the overhead utilities be placed underground?

Response: The extremely high costs of burying utilities makes it cost prohibitive in most cases. The project budget does not allow for placing utilities underground. The City will seek to provide a cleaner look to the intersection by using painted steel mast arms to support the traffic signals rather than the span wires that are currently suspended over the intersection.