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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

By Michael Pearson, Eric Stirgus, Nancy Badertscher

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

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GWINNETT COUNTY

Plan resurfaces for high-rise condo

A plan to build high-rise condominiums at Gwinnett Place Mall is headed back to the County Commission, which two years rejected the project as too vague.

Developer George Thorndyke and Gwinnett County officials agreed to suspend Thorndyke's lawsuit over the commission's 2007 rejection of his rezoning request pending another hearing on the matter, attorney Michael Sullivan said.

If the county approves the proposal with acceptable conditions, as the Planning Commission recommended this week, Thorndyke would drop the suit, Sullivan said.

It would be the second Thorndyke project at Gwinnett Place Mall. Construction is under way for a large Korean retailer to enter the U.S. market in the long-empty former Macy's space at the mall.

— Michael Pearson

ATLANTA

Anti-tax group sues to block vote in fall

An anti-tax group has sued to stop legislation that would allow Atlantans in November to vote themselves a property tax increase to pay for more police officers and firefighters.

The Fulton County Taxpayers Foundation filed suit Thursday in Fulton County Superior Court, saying the legislation is illegal. Foundation president John Sherman cited the state Constitution, which says all revenue-raising legislation "shall originate" in the state House of Representatives. The bill in question started in the Georgia Senate. Its lead sponsor is Sen. Kasim Reed (D-Atlanta), a mayoral candidate.

Reed says his bill would raise property taxes by \$6 a month for a homeowner whose property is valued at