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## Survey Says Transit Options Needed

Reminder: Open house scheduled Thursday at Gwinnett Place Mall for public to provide feedback on LCI 10-Year update draft and recommendations.

January 16, 2012

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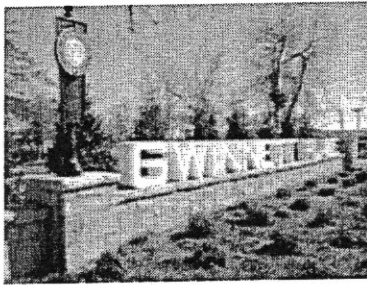
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A recent survey, undertaken as part of the 10-year update to the Gwinnett Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) study, indicated that drivers would make better use of transit alternatives if more options were available.

The survey focused on alternative modes of travel within a 12-mile area that includes Gwinnett Place Mall, Discover Mills, Gwinnett Center, and Gwinnett Technical College. The survey was open to the general public and available online last fall with approximately 240 people participating, according to an announcement by the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (CID).

The 10-Year-Update LCI study is being conducted by the Gwinnett Place CID, Gwinnett County and the Atlanta Regional Commission. The public is invited to an open house from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, to provide feedback on the study draft and its recommendations. The open house will occur inside Gwinnett Place Mall on the lower level of the Belk wing (between JCPenney and Belk). The updated study will help the CID to entice private development and redevelopment and obtain regional, state and federal funding for public improvement projects.

The greatest percentage of participants (47 percent) in the transportation survey identified convenience of service as the chief influence on whether they would use transit services. The majority of respondents (50 percent) stated better options for commuting are needed, while better coverage and connections to regional transit also received notable responses, 25 and 22 percent, respectively.

The survey results indicate a need for the transportation enhancements already being sought for the greater Gwinnett Place area, according to Gwinnett Place CID Executive Director Joe Allen.

"In addition to the LCI update, the CID is partnering to identify transportation alternatives and opportunities along the I-85 corridor from I-285 to the Gwinnett Center," Allen said. "There is a definite need to expand the services available to our residents and to make it easier to access those options. These study efforts are an important part of making changes in the future."

Survey respondents also overwhelmingly identified the Pleasant Hill Road corridor as needing transportation improvements. The most-favored idea is a new interchange at I-85. The CID's diverging diamond interchange project for Pleasant Hill Road at I-85 will begin this year.

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