

# Simon no longer owner of Gwinnett Place Mall

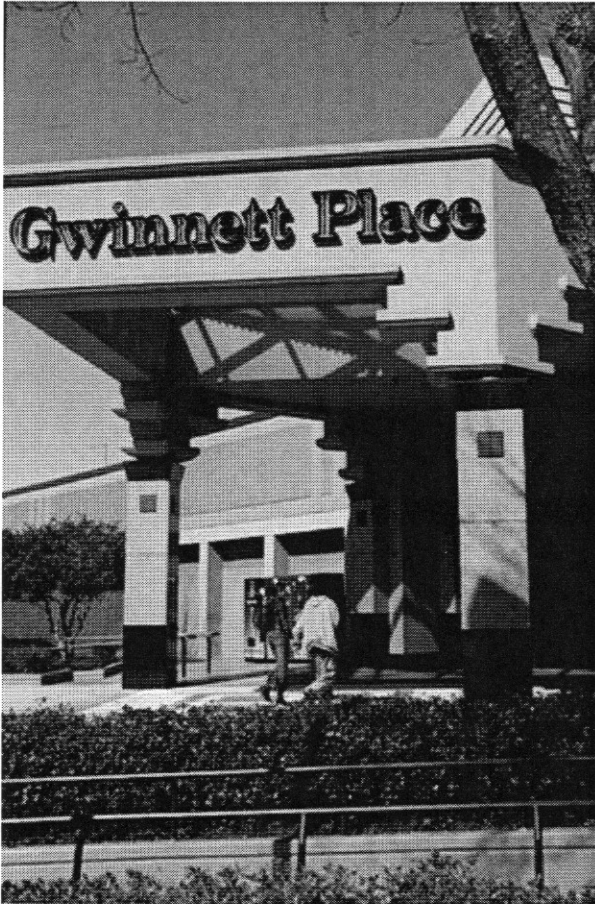
Want daily summaries and Breaking News alerts?

By **Tyler Estep (1104)**

[tyler.estep@gwinnettdaily.com](mailto:tyler.estep@gwinnettdaily.com)

Thursday, March 15, 2012

© Copyright 2012 Gwinnett Daily Post



Gwinnett Place Mall is one of the three major indoor malls in the county. If trends continue residents will have more choices in outdoor malls that are targeted for the communities.

#DULUTH -- Retail property giant Simon has bailed on Gwinnett Place Mall, a move some local officials called "a unique, positive opportunity for development and revitalization."

#In a quarterly statement released last month, Simon -- which also owns Gwinnett's Discover Mills and the Mall of Georgia -- announced that it had "disposed of its interests" in Gwinnett Place, which has struggled in recent years to compete with its two local counterparts.

#Few other details were immediately available Thursday. A corporate spokesman for Simon did not return requests for comment.

#The Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District and Executive Director Joe Allen, however, weighed in with a lengthy statement. Before Allen spoke of opportunity, he blamed Simon for the mall's decline.

#"Those of us in this part of metro Atlanta and Gwinnett County have witnessed during the past several years how Simon Property Group's corporate decisions have ultimately led to the current state of the mall," his statement said.

#Allen said the CID had planned for "this and other possible scenarios." He cited great location, excellent infrastructure, sought-after demographics and a large consumer base as reasons why the mall can still succeed.

#"The Gwinnett Place CID is encouraged about the potential for continued success at the mall," Allen said. "This announcement is a unique, positive opportunity for redevelopment and revitalization focused on this strategically important asset in our community."