
Additional funds allocated for MARTA study

01/11/2007 -

By Arielle Kass
Staff Writer
arielle.kass@gwinnettdaily.com

DULUTH - A second community improvement district will help fund a study that could bring MARTA service to Gwinnett.

The Gwinnett Place CID voted Wednesday to funnel \$10,000 to the Gwinnett Village CID for a study that will examine extending a Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority rail line into the county.

Gwinnett Village has already allocated up to \$50,000 for the project, which will be matched by MARTA.

Joe Allen, the executive director of the Gwinnett Place CID, said the county's demographics have changed considerably since residents defeated a proposal in 1990 that would have extended the line to Gwinnett Place Mall. Since then, local roads have become considerably more congested.

"We've got to look toward various alternatives," he said. "We're thinking as a full community."

Tuesday, MARTA board members and other local leaders took a bus tour of the two districts to consider possible stops and orient themselves with the area.

The possible extension is just one of many options on the table, community leaders have said. When the study is completed, likely sometime this spring, it will be presented to the Norcross City Council and the county's Board of Commissioners.