

Survey: Gwinnettians want more transit options

Friday, January 13, 2012

By **Camie Young (1208)**

camie.young@gwinnettdaily.com

#DULUTH – In a recent survey, Gwinnett commuters said they would use

transit if there were better options available.

#The input, which was gathered as an update to the 10-year-old Gwinnett Livable Centers Initiative, came from a surveymonkey.com posting with more than 200 respondents last October.

#It was undertaken by the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District, county government and Atlanta Regional Commission.

#The majority said they would prefer to travel by car, but 12 percent preferred light rail and another 18 percent would opt for high-speed rail.

#Only 26 percent said they would never ride transit, while 27 percent said convenience was the greatest impediment currently.

#In a press release, Gwinnett Place CID Executive Director Joe Allen said the survey results positively indicate a need for the transportation enhancements already sought for the area, which includes the Gwinnett Place and Discover Mills malls, Gwinnett Technical College and the Gwinnett Center.

#“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.”

#About 37 percent of respondents said the biggest need for the area is a new interchange at Pleasant Hill, where construction will soon begin on a new diverging diamond interchange. The next most popular option was a regional transit connection.

#In its work for public input to the 10-year update to the LCI plan, the CID has scheduled an open house for next week. The event is scheduled for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday at along the lower level of Gwinnett Place Mall in the Belk wing.