

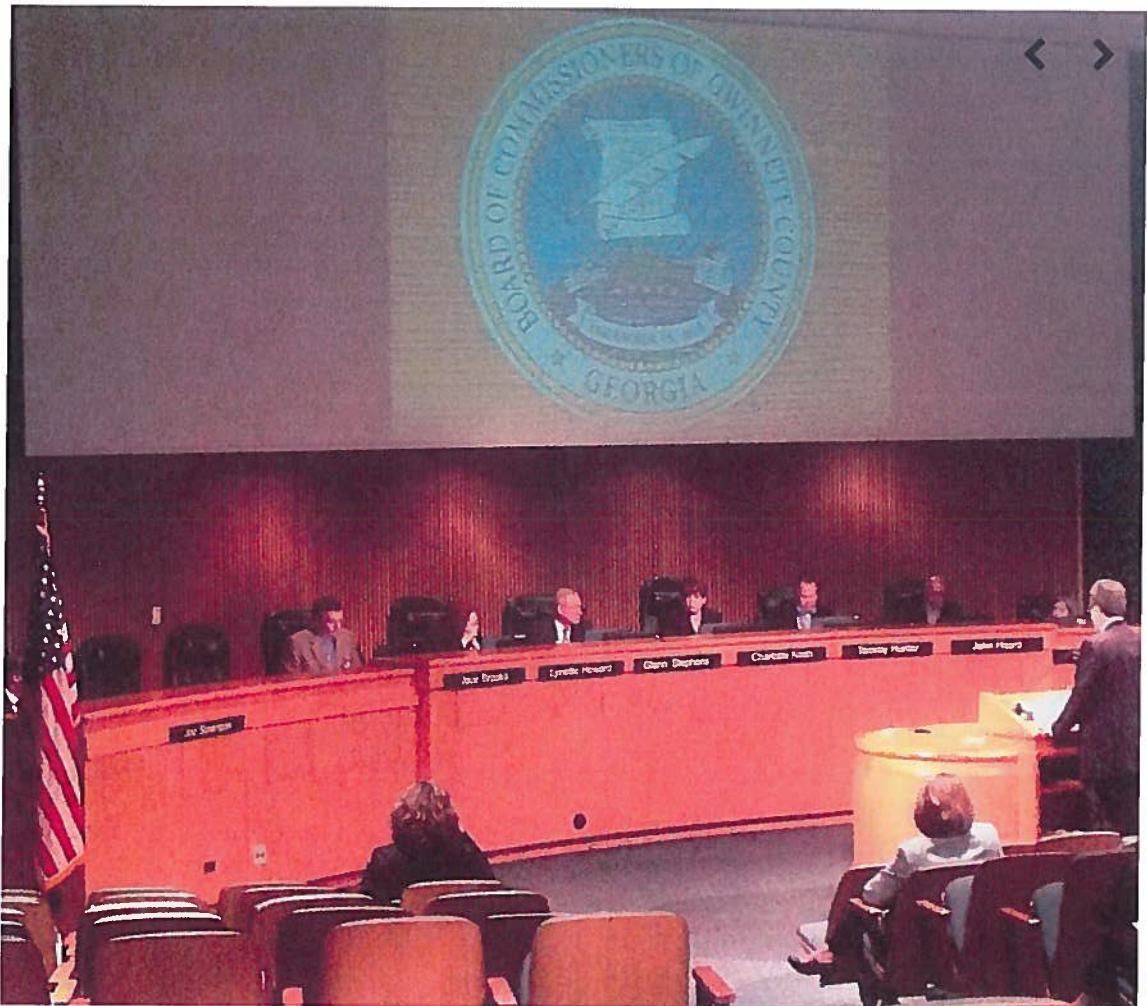
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FEATURED

## County, Gwinnett Place CID partnering on traffic study

By Curt Yeomans

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Gwinnett County commissioners approved an agreement with the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District on Tu the CID. (Staff Photo: Curt Yeomans)

What's going on with traffic in the Gwinnett Place Mall area these days?

That's a question to which officials from the county's transportation department and the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District hope to find an answer. County commissioners approved an agreement with the CID on Tuesday to study traffic volume data and growth trends in that area.

The county will contribute \$53,000 to help pay for the study, and the CID will be responsible for any additional costs. It will update figures for the area that, according to the CID, were compiled around 2013.

"The CID is going to manage this study, but we'll work with them on it," Department Transportation Director Alan Chapman said. "They are going to look at several of the major corridors within the CID, including Pleasant Hill Road, Satellite Boulevard, Steve Reynolds Boulevard and one or two other roads really to update traffic information and look at growth projections to determine what needs there may be for future projects."

The last time a traffic study was done for that area, peak travel traffic was looked at, and its recommendations included better walkability and access to transit, as well as opportunities for cycling.

Chapman said the update is needed to get an idea of what has happened in the CID's territory since the recession ended, adding that "things have changed so much" in the area since then.

"It seems appropriate to really update based on current traffic and what the economy appears to be doing now and moving ahead," Chapman said.

The previous study did lead to some action in the area, in the form of a couple of projects in the county's current SPLOST program that have been completed, or are underway, according to the county's transportation chief.

One such project was improvements at the intersection of Pleasant Hill and Breckenridge Boulevard, which has been completed. The other will make improvements to the intersection of Pleasant Hill and Club Drive, and it is presently in the engineering phase.