

- Marketed the department through traditional media such as the Atlanta Journal/Constitution and internet based sites
- Created a multi-media marketing campaign for the police department
- Established a relationship with the Georgia Department of Veterans Affairs, which has allowed us to attend job fairs at military bases

Accomplishments

- Hired 10 new officers this past budget year.
- Created a traffic unit utilizing two officers operating a motorcycle unit and a Dodge Charger.
- Conducted promotions for Lieutenant and Sergeant positions.
- Part 1 Crimes remained low.
- Cleared April 2008 homicide within 12 hours.
- Experienced little or no turnover within the department in spite of being short staffed.
- Continued to maintain high standards and great customer service by being very responsive to problems and concerns of the community.

FY 09-10 Budget Summary

The Police Department's goal when developing the FY 2009-2010 budget request was to secure funding that would allow us to address staff recruitment and retention, facilitate the implementation of our five year plan and continue to provide excellent service while holding the line on expenditures.



We want to maintain an adequate work force to allow us to continue providing excellent services to our community. The recruitment of qualified personnel continues to be a major emphasis in the department. Our ability to implement many other strategies is contingent on having adequate staffing. We will continue our marketing and recruitment campaign, which was begun in FY 2008-2009 using targeted media outlets that have proven to be successful in attracting the type of individual we are seeking.

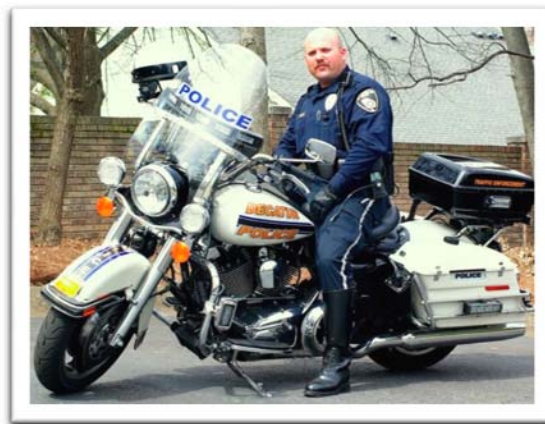
Our budget request also includes funding to allow us to continue to implement elements of the 5 year strategic plan the department adopted in 2007. The plan focused on providing customer service and developing a high level of professionalism. It identified areas where we excel but included areas that needed improvement in order to meet the high level of standards that we set for our department. The department will continue to emphasize training of personnel

and seek professional instructors to provide in-house training to allow all personnel to participate in critical training.

As part of our strategic plan, we have identified several areas where we can expand our current community education programs. Our Citizen's Public Safety Academy remains one of our most successful programs. We recently conducted our 17th session and are already in the planning stages for the 18th. We intend to create a "Junior Police Academy" (JPA) in FY 2009-2010. This will be a shortened course targeted towards young people from 12-16 years of age. The JPA will be conducted during the summer school vacation. Additionally, we have partnered with the City Schools of Decatur in the "Dual Enrollment" program. This program allows students to take specialized career training course and receive both high school and college credit. Decatur PD personnel are currently serving as instructors in this course and will continue to do so in FY 2009-2010.

We will also be conducting community education programs targeted towards the elderly population. Possible topics include identity theft and fraud prevention.

The police department and the community have identified pedestrian safety as a growing concern. With increased residential and commercial development in downtown, pedestrian safety is a primary concern. The department has implemented a traffic safety unit with the leasing of a Harley Davidson motorcycle. We intend to address this issue through education programs and enforcement actions.



We will continue to operate under the belief that addressing *small* problems or *quality of life* issues can have a larger impact on crime prevention than major endeavors geared towards *real crime*. In FY 2009-2010, we will expand on our efforts to address quality of life issues. We recognize the tremendous work done by many members of the city staff and our community to rejuvenate and beautify our downtown area. We are dedicated to ensuring these efforts have not been in vain. We are developing operational plans and strategies to address quality of life issues such as littering, noise violations, graffiti, panhandling, and improper usage of public facilities. We are also committed to assisting in the drafting of ordinances to address these issues. We wish to add an additional officer to patrol the downtown area. This is one of those initiatives that is dependent upon adequate staffing, but we recognize the need for an additional officer, as soon as feasible.

This budget reflects an effort to reduce expected expenditures in both supplies and services. However, personnel costs are expected to rise during FY 2009-2010 and the savings in supplies and services will not entirely negate that increase.

Budget Priorities

Priority One: Computers for patrol vehicles, the traffic motorcycle and the roll call room.

Priority Two: Mobile video cameras to replace old VHS cameras.

Priority Three: Continued Marketing and Recruiting Efforts. Recruit marketing maintenance plan.

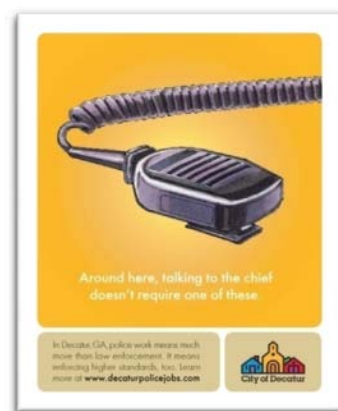
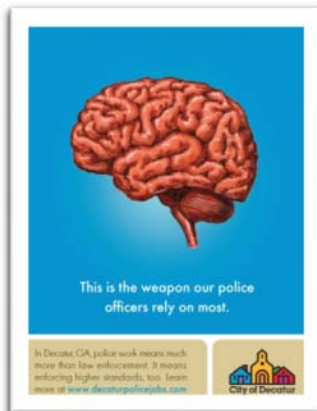
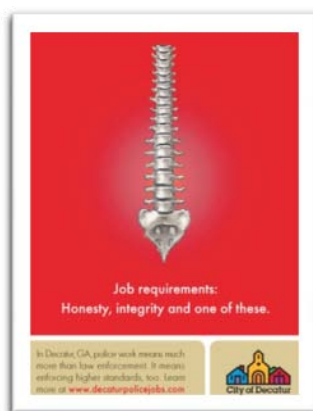
Priority Four: Crime Reporting Software. The department has contracted with “Crime Reports.com” to track and report current crime reports and analyze data to better predict future crimes.

Commitment to Sustainability

Environmental. The non-patrol vehicle requested in this budget will be a hybrid vehicle to supplement the two hybrid vehicles already in the fleet.

Economic. The architects of the Police Department’s budget endeavored to produce a workable financial request, which would not exceed the current fiscal year’s budget. We were able to produce a budget request, which was lower than the current year except in the area of personnel costs.

Community. One of the biggest challenges faced by the Police Department both in the current fiscal year and the upcoming one, is the ability to maintain our current level of service. The department has implemented several new services this fiscal year, which will be continued in the upcoming year. These services are criminal background checks for citizens, teaching criminal justice classes at Decatur High School, and the creation of a traffic enforcement unit. Our goal remains fixed at maintaining or even increasing our current levels.



Public Works Department

Mission

To provide the highest quality service to the community and other City departments in a responsible and efficient manner and maintain a cost effective operation through the prudent use of resources, technology, innovation, teamwork and coordination with other departments and community partners.

Department Overview

The Public Works department includes buildings and grounds maintenance, fleet maintenance, and operation of the Decatur Cemetery. The department also includes the engineering division which provides streets maintenance, oversees construction and maintenance of public facilities and operates the stormwater utility. The goals and budgets for the Engineering Division and the Stormwater Division are covered in greater detail in separate summaries.



The Public Works department also includes the Solid Waste division which is made up of four different operations: residential, commercial, recycling collection and street sweeping. Our goal is to collect solid waste from residential and commercial properties at the least possible cost and still provide the best service to all of our customers. The Solid Waste Division provides services to all residential properties and many of the commercial properties in Decatur. Effective July 1, 2008, the city contracted with a new firm for the residential recycling services as the result of a competitive bidding process. The process resulted in a collection fee of \$49.50 per ton for the collection of comingled recyclables which represents a \$65.50 reduction. In addition to the contract savings, the new contract required the collection of all plastics #1-7. The nation's economy and market for recycling was strong at the time the residential recycling services were bid which accounted for the marked decrease in the per ton fee. Since that time, the recession and an overabundance of available recyclables has resulted in a dramatic reduction of market value of the recycled materials. Public Works staff will continue to seek ways to ensure high quality recycling services at a reasonable cost to the residents of Decatur.



The street sweeping efforts have resulted in the annual removal of 579 tons of leaves and other debris from our roadways and storm water inlets. Our sweeping efforts reduce the amount of contaminants entering the City's storm water system, as well as contribute to a cleaner and attractive streetscape which adds to the beauty of the community. In turn, the City is more attractive and inviting to those wishing to be active outdoors.



In addition to our efforts to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, the Public Works Department is also committed to the City's vision of promoting active living. The buildings and grounds staff coordinate with Active Living Division staff to make sure all parks and recreational facilities are clean, safe, and accessible to all segments of our community. The Engineering Division/Streets Section assists with active living activities through sidewalk maintenance and repairs and sidewalk installation projects funded by the Bond Fund.

Accomplishments

- Awarded and transitioned to a new residential recycling hauler which has resulted in financial savings.
- Continued the very successful Electronics Recycling program.
- Implemented the Georgia "Away from Home" Recycling Trailer.
- Continued to work with multi-dwelling properties to provide recycling services to the residents of those properties.
- Purchased a new rear yard collection vehicle that is providing reliable service to the solid waste division.
- Implemented zero waste in city facilities.
- Installed waterless urinals which save approximately 40,000 gallons of water per unit per year.
- Continued to research and purchase environmentally friendly cleaning supplies.
- Implemented the use of environmentally friendly herbicides made from regular household ingredients.
- Implemented the use of online citizen request management software which allows for citizens and other city departments to report facility repairs or other requests 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Conducted a cemetery marker restoration and preservation project in the historic portion of the Decatur Cemetery for badly damaged markers.
- Filled staff vacancies in order to continue providing a high level of service in all areas of the city.

Budget Summary and Priorities FY09-10

During FY 2009-2010, the Public Works Department will continue to research and implement best practices in the area of environmental, financial, and social sustainability. The staff of the Public Works Department is committed to learning about and embracing sustainable concepts in order to keep Decatur a model community in all areas especially sustainability. Every division has been challenged to keep fiscal spending under tight control while maintaining the expected



high level of service in all areas. Our focus this year will be improving our overall customer service and responsiveness through a dedicated effort to best utilize the tools and resources which are already available to us. The Public Works Department will seek training opportunities to increase its staff's efficiencies in using the Citizen Request Management software application.

Despite the economic uncertainty, the City of Decatur Public Works Department will continue to provide the highest quality public works services to the community and other City departments, while maintaining a cost effective operation. This economic downturn will challenge our creativity and methods of providing these services in a sustainable manner but the staff is committed to meeting this challenge. We will leverage existing resources by seeking grants, by enhancing volunteerism and by partnering with community groups.

This year the Public Works Department will strive to continue to complete projects, which are directed at maintaining safe and reliable infrastructure that protects and enhances public health, safety, welfare, and quality of life and focuses on environmental sustainability for our present and future citizens. The department will continue to support the concepts of active living through clean, well-maintained, and accessible streets, trees, sidewalks, parks, and facilities. We will foster collaborative opportunities with other departments, citizens, and other local assets such as the City Schools of Decatur, Agnes Scott College and Emory University on initiatives such as urban farming, cooperative procurement, and composting.

The Public Works Department will seek training opportunities to increase its staff's proficiency in using the Citizen Request Management software application. In addition to providing staff with software training, the Public Works Department will provide training in areas such as Ethics, Stress Management, and Financial Planning. The training objectives will seek to provide staff with the tools to manage personal and professional stresses magnified by the current economic conditions. Public Works staff members represent the City every day while carrying out their responsibilities and it is important that we help them manage personal challenges to assure that they continue to provide quality service to our citizens.

Due to a lower collection volume and the drop in market prices for recyclables, Latham Home Sanitation, the City's single family residential recycling hauler, has requested a review of the current contract in order to renegotiate a recycling fee that will continue to allow them to provide the service in the City. We are reviewing their request and are currently working to develop a recommendation which ensures high quality recycling services to the residents at the lowest possible cost. Regardless of the eventual outcome of the contract negotiations, our review of overall estimated sanitation costs and service delivery expenses, together with recognition of current economic conditions, we recommended reducing the single-family residential fee from \$235 per unit to \$225 per unit in the 2009 Residential Sanitation fee billing. In

order to expand recycling opportunities in the City of Decatur, we will work with and assist homeowners associations and the management staff at the City's multi-dwelling residential properties to implement our multi-dwelling recycling program. Doing so will allow for education of the entire residential community in order to better serve them, move to reduce the amount of solid waste, and increase the amount of recyclables collected from these properties.



This year's budget request includes funding to continue our proactive crosswalk striping efforts. We have received positive community feedback regarding the level to which the City maintains striped crosswalks as well as the installation of a stamped brick crosswalk on East Ponce de Leon Avenue. Additional crosswalks are scheduled to receive the new crosswalk treatment during this upcoming year. The new crosswalks are being installed to increase their visibility to motorists in the high pedestrian traffic areas of the city.

In FY 2009-2010, the Facility Maintenance Section will continue to retro-fit restroom facilities with water and energy saving fixtures such as dual function flush handles, waterless urinals and motion sensor light switches. In addition to the water conservation component of our facility



maintenance operation, we are continuing to research environmentally friendly cleaning products and janitorial supplies. This effort will have a positive impact on the environment by reducing the amount of harmful chemicals released into our surrounding work environments and improve the indoor air quality in all city facilities. Ensuring

that all city facilities are clean and safe for employees and citizens is a priority of the Public Works Department. We are also practicing financial sustainability in our efforts to be green. As environmentally friendly products come into the market place, we continue to make sure that

we are purchasing the best products at the lowest price possible. We will also continue to apply environmentally friendly herbicides and pesticides to ensure that our city parks and other green spaces are safe as possible.

During FY 2009-2010, Sanitation Services needs to replace the Department's 1999 Volvo front loader that has exceeded its projected 7-year operational expectancy. This vehicle is needed to continue our level of service for commercial and multi-family solid waste collection. Over the past two years, \$47,560 has been spent repairing the 1999 Crane Carrier.

The Public Works Department takes the environment very seriously. That's why, as part of our recently renewed commitment to making Decatur clean, green, active and attractive we are actively pursuing new and environmentally responsible ways to meet our collection needs. The new 2010 model year diesel vehicles have improved emission systems, which significantly reduce exhaust emissions, which are harmful to our environment. In addition to the improved emission systems, we are researching the possibility of fueling our diesel fleet with bio-diesel fuel, which will also reduce exhaust emissions with a small impact on our current fuel cost.

Commitment to Sustainability

Economic. The Solid Waste Division reduced the residential sanitation billing fee for 2009.

Environmental. Public Works staff has continued the practice of purchasing earth friendly products for cleaning and dining. Public Works also promotes water conservation by installing water urinals at the Leveritt Public Works building and using rain water to wash City vehicles.

Engineering Division

Mission

To provide the best possible public facilities at the lowest possible cost; construct & maintain public facilities that are safe, convenient and attractive; and, assure that city building regulations and standards are enforced.

Division Overview

The Engineering Division takes great pride in providing superior customer service to all citizens and agencies that seek our input and services in a timely, effective and efficient manner every day throughout the year. These services include but may not be limited to:

- Site development review
- Right-of-way and soil erosion & sedimentation permitting and inspections
- support to the Stormwater Management Engineer for detention system and commercial/industrial site inspections
- Street and sidewalk facilities repair and maintenance
- Coordination of the Community Rating System program for floodplains and development impacts and assistance to the citizens on how the floodplain affects their property
- Traffic engineering design and analysis and the undertaking of special design and construction assignments as required for street right-of-way and pedestrian route improvements.



Due to increased requirements from the State for expanded soil erosion control inspections and an interdepartmental effort of inspection support services between Engineering and the Planning, Zoning & Inspections Divisions the workload and level of service has increased in the past year. This increase is covered by assigning Engineers to support the full-time inspector as required. The Engineering Division will also continue to support the various street and pedestrian improvement projects planned through the Bond issue over the next several years.

Accomplishments

- Initial planning and field evaluation for Phase 2 of the Bond Issue sidewalk improvement program for both new and replacement sidewalk throughout the City.
- Milling, repair and resurfacing of Driftwood Terrance, Ferndale Drive, Lamont Drive and Springdale Street west of Hillcrest Avenue with assistance from the State LARP program.
- Completed the acquisition and demolition through a FEMA grant for the removal of four flood prone properties on Westchester Drive along Peavine Creek Tributary.
- A citizen response sidewalk repair request program was introduced in the FOCUS and advertised on the City website to better address sidewalk repair needs.



Budget Summary and Priorities FY09 -10

The Senior Engineer will continue to handle and address all matters directed to or the primary responsibility of the Engineering Division and will provide assistance and support to the Stormwater Management Engineer and staff. The Project Civil Engineer position has been eliminated from the Engineering Division and transferred to the Planning, Zoning & Inspections Division.

The Engineering budget contains several funding requests proposed by the Street Section supervisor to aid in improved maintenance and upkeep of the City's streets and for more efficient and timely repair operations for sidewalks and other concrete surfaces.

During FY 2009-2010, the Streets Division plans to replace a 1994 Chevrolet Kodiak Dump Truck. This vehicle has exceeded its useful life based on annual repair and maintenance expenditures and the fact that it has been out of service since the Fall 2008 for a differential repair that has an estimated cost of over \$5,000.00. The Streets Superintendent has researched and evaluated a replacement unit for this vehicle.

Commitment to Sustainability

Economic. The Division directly benefits its citizens and customers through a proactive stewardship of the budgeted resources provided for staff, materials, equipment and supplies to meet the basic needs of the City for sustaining present-day quality of life while striving to enhance the constructed longevity of the projects, both public and private, and infrastructure the Department is associated with over time.

Stormwater Division

Mission

To minimize the degradation of the environment through the enforcement of environmental regulations and to oversee the implementation of the City's storm water master plan.

Division Overview

Acting on a commitment to promote environmental sustainability, the City of Decatur hired a Stormwater Management Engineer two years ago. This new position allowed the Engineering Department to more directly focus on storm water problems and address infrastructure and environmental sustainability. This past year, the Stormwater Division moved forward to achieve several program goals. The Environmental Sustainability Board was created and the Stormwater Management Engineer is one of the City's representatives on the Board. The overall charge of this Board is to promote sustainability within the City. The Stormwater Management Engineer will assure that the Stormwater Master Plan becomes an integral part of this Board's work program. The goals of the Storm Water Master



Plan are to promote cleaner water quality, reduce soil erosion, eliminate localized flooding problems, and upgrade decaying stormwater infrastructure. All of these goals lead to cleaner water and help sustain cleaner environments.

Accomplishments

- Creation of the Environmental Sustainability Board
- Completion of the Decatur High School new stadium and football field which included a complete upgrade of the property's storm sewer system. This included brand new 60" storm sewer lines to replace undersized and old storm sewer lines, two new stormwater detention systems and multiple water quality systems.
- The funding of a citizen group project for Peavine Creek. This group is taking action to study the Peavine Creek area and improve the water quality.
- Utilizing State 319(h) Grant money to improve the South Fork Peachtree Creek Tributary in Glenlake Park with stream bank restoration and water quality systems.

Budget Summary and Priorities FY 09-10

The funding requests in this year's budget aim to aid in improving the City's storm water infrastructure and help provide more efficient repair operations and routine cleanings. The work plan for the Stormwater Division maintains the same goals and objectives for those of the Engineering Department with an additional focus on implementing the Storm Water Master Plan and to improve the downtown stormwater infrastructure over the next several years. The State regulations related to stormwater continue to increase and the Stormwater Division will continue to adjust to ensure the City is in compliance. The budget request for this year includes a capital outlay request for a storm sewer camera. This piece of equipment will greatly improve the Division's ability to monitor, maintain and repair the City's old and decaying stormwater infrastructure.



Currently we have no way of inspecting storm sewer lines unless they are large enough to enter them which is extremely dangerous. The City's storm sewer infrastructure is extremely old and we have many areas that need to be upgraded. A storm sewer camera will enable us to quickly and inexpensively detect system failures.

Commitment to Sustainability

Environmental. The Stormwater Division is responsible for improving and maintaining water quality in the City's watershed system by enforcing Georgia stormwater regulations.

Economic. There are many projects on the horizon for storm system upgrades and the request storm sewer camera will help to quickly locate the source of the problems. The Stormwater Division gets many calls from residents regarding storm lines on their property or in nearby right of ways and we would better serve them with this equipment.

Capital Bond Projects

In September 2006, Decatur voters approved a bond referendum that provided the City of Decatur with \$16.4 million for much-needed capital improvement projects and provided the City Schools of Decatur with \$16.5 million to support major capital needs at Decatur High School and Renfroe Middle School. This is the first general obligation debt for the City since 1955 and for the school system since the late 1950s.

Accomplishments

McKoy Pool and Bathhouse

McKoy Pool and Bathhouse opened for Memorial Day weekend in May, 2008. McKoy Pool incorporates a zero entry (beach entry) access pool making it easier for elderly and handicapped residents to use, bubbler features to entertain younger swimmers and dedicated lap lanes that can be scheduled for adult-only lap swimming in the mornings and afternoons while providing general swimming for summer campers and older children during busy summer days. The project includes a new bathhouse that is fully accessible as well as both hard surface decking and grass lounging areas. Funding for this included about \$750,000 from the Capital Projects Bond Fund and \$250,000 from the DeKalb County Community Development Department. McKoy Pool and Bathhouse was designed by Lyman Davidson Dooley Architects of Marietta. The general contractor was Swim-Pro Pools of Statesboro.



Decatur Fire Station No. 2

Construction is nearing completion on the new Decatur Fire Station No. 2 at 356 West Hill Street. The 4,500 square foot building includes 2 engine bays and living and sleeping quarters for 5 firefighters. It is designed as a high-performance "green building" to comply with LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards and includes efficient plumbing, heating and air conditioning systems, solar hot water heaters, and other energy saving features. The total project budget of \$1,800,000 was provided by the Capital Projects Bond Fund. Fire Station No. 2 was designed by LP3 Architects of Decatur. The general contractor was Ward General Contractors of Kennesaw.



Greenspace Acquisition and Improvement

Decatur's inventory of greenspace received several additions in 2008-2009. Four flood-prone dwellings on Westchester Drive were purchased and demolished, along with the purchase of a vacant property on North Parkwood Road, providing about 4 acres of permanently reserved open space to Hidden Cove Park. These acquisitions were made using funds from the Capital Bond Fund (\$440,000) and grants from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (\$1,174,000) and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Land and Water Conservation Fund (\$50,000).



Work commenced on a master plan for Hidden Cove Park and a new foot bridge was built in the Glenn Creek Nature Preserve. The City accepted a donation of 2.3 acres of property on Midway Road to add to Dearborn Park.

Sidewalk Improvement Program

Almost one mile of new sidewalks were been built during Phase 1 of the sidewalk improvement program at a cost of \$300,000. Sidewalk improvements were planned considering priorities from the Community Transportation Plan, providing logical connections and reducing gaps in the sidewalk system, providing sidewalks where there is a substantial amount of existing pedestrian traffic, and providing sidewalks in areas with high volumes of vehicular traffic.

Phase 2 of the sidewalk improvement program is funded with \$1.2 million from the Capital Bond Fund and should be underway during the latter months of 2009. Phase 2 will include over 3½ miles of new sidewalks.

Glenlake Park Improvements

A master plan of improvements to Glenlake Park was approved by the City Commissioners in February, 2008, after an extensive public involvement process. Construction began on a new bathhouse in late 2008. Work on the rest of Phase 1 of the park improvements started in March, 2009.

This is a major undertaking and is the first comprehensive improvement to Glenlake Park in the last 50 years. New walking trails, pedestrian bridges, a new multi-purpose pavilion, improved



Narrative

dog park, and renovated athletic fields will provide a wide variety of activities in the park and enhance active living opportunities for Decatur residents. A restored stream corridor and several new storm drainage improvements will improve water quality, help reduce downstream flooding and allow the stream to become an integral part of the park experience. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2009. The total project budget is \$3 million from the Capital Bond Fund. The Glenlake Park Improvements were designed by jB+a Landscape Architects of Atlanta. The general contractor for the Glenlake Bathhouse is Georgia Development Partners of Atlanta. The general contractor for the Glenlake Park Improvements is Sports Turf Company of Whitesburg.

Wayfinding System

Work was completed in 2008 on Phase 1 of a new city-wide Wayfinding System, a series of sign improvements to help residents and visitors locate public and community facilities, commercial and retail centers like downtown Decatur and Oakhurst Village, parking facilities and retail establishments throughout Decatur. The total project budget was \$270,000, with \$100,000 from the Capital Bond Fund, \$125,000 from the Decatur Downtown Development Authority, \$35,000 from the Decatur Business Association, and \$10,000 from Decatur Beer Festival. The Decatur Wayfinding System was designed by Sky Design of Atlanta and fabricated by Architectural Signage, Inc. of Norcross.

Decatur Cemetery Improvements

The Decatur Cemetery is the City's largest publicly-owned open space and is adjacent to Glenlake Park, the City's largest public park. The City Commissioners approved a master plan for the Decatur Cemetery in September, 2008, after a comprehensive public planning effort. The master plan includes a landscape improvement and tree replacement program, improvements to the storm water system, walkways, drives and other infrastructure elements, with an emphasis on pedestrian amenities, a "pond side" park, repairs to the historic Old Cemetery and a maintenance plan to address erosion, restoration of the undeveloped 10-acre "woodland" section of the Cemetery property behind Glendale Avenue, including pedestrian bridges, removal of kudzu and other invasive plants, and stream bank protection, and beautification of the Cemetery's main entrance at Bell and Church Streets.



Trees Atlanta has begun a 5-year restoration program of the woodland section of the Cemetery. The master plan was prepared by the firm of Edward L. Daugherty, FASLA. Construction of other master plan improvements should begin by early 2010.

The approved budget for the first phase of improvements is \$1.81 million from a number of sources, including the Capital Bond Fund, Cemetery lot sales revenues, the Tree Bank Fund and the Storm Water Utility.

Fire Station No. 1

Design plans have been completed and construction funds are being sought for a full restoration and small addition to Decatur's Fire Station No. 1 at 230 East Trinity Place. Built in the mid-1950's, Fire Station No. 1 is a 2-story concrete frame and masonry building of about 12,000 square feet with 3 engine bays, offices, day room and kitchen, bunker gear and hose storage room, dormitory area, and restrooms.



Proposed improvements include replacement of roof, gutter and downspouts, replacement of windows and overhead doors, upgrading of mechanical and electrical systems to current code requirements, kitchen renovation with new cabinetry, new privacy partitions in dormitory area, and renovation of all locker, toilet and bathing rooms to current standards for "coed" use. Like Fire Station No. 2, it is designed as a high-performance "green building" to comply with LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)

standards and will feature geothermal mechanical equipment, a grey water system to reduce water usage and other energy saving features. A construction budget of \$3 million is anticipated. The Fire Station No. 1 Improvements were designed by Smith Dalia Architects of Atlanta.

Decatur Recreation Center

A master plan for comprehensive improvements to the Decatur Recreation Center has been completed. The present building was built in the mid-1950's. The building presently is used for a variety of recreational and athletic activities including crafts, fitness and dance classes, youth activities, meetings, and recreational athletic play, but will no longer be used for high school athletics after mid-2009.

Proposed improvements include a new climbing wall and elevated track in the gym, new multi-purpose exercise and dance studio, institutional kitchen, new meeting rooms and lounge areas, additional staff office space, new plumbing and electrical systems, and new interior finishes. Proposed improvements are planned to be LEED certified. A construction budget of \$5 million is anticipated. Master planning and design services were provided by LP3 Architects of Decatur.

West Ponce de Leon-West Trinity Place Bicycle Lanes

Design plans for the West Ponce de Leon-West Trinity Place Bicycle Lanes have been completed and are under review by the Georgia Department of Transportation. The bicycle lanes would run along West Ponce de Leon Avenue and West Trinity Place from the western City limits near East Parkwood Road to North McDonough Street in downtown Decatur.

The plan also provides traffic calming elements along West Ponce de Leon Avenue between West Trinity Place and the western City limits. There is a reduction from 2 vehicle lanes to 1 vehicle travel lane in each direction, with a bike lane in each direction, “bulb outs” with crosswalks at intersections, and on-street parking permitted on both sides of the street. The total project budget is \$437,000, with \$175,000 provided by the Capital Projects Bond Fund and \$262,000 from the Georgia Department of Transportation’s Transportation Enhancement Program. The project was designed by Kimley-Horn and Associates of Atlanta.

Oakhurst Streetscape Improvements



Design plans for the Oakhurst Streetscape Improvements have been completed and are under review by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Major goals of the project include improving pedestrian accessibility and safety throughout Oakhurst Village, with wider sidewalks and outdoor seating areas, improved crosswalks, additional on-street parking, new street lights and street trees, additional benches, bicycle racks and litter containers. Harmony Park would be

improved by replacing the existing drive-through parking lot at its southern boundary with additional park space. These parking spaces will be relocated to off-street angled parking near the retail shops adjacent to the park. The total project budget is \$1.5 million, with \$1 million provided by the Capital Projects Bond Fund and \$500,000 from the Georgia Department of Transportation’s Transportation Enhancement Program. The project was designed by PBS&J of Atlanta.

Downtown Decatur Streetscape Improvements – Phase V

The Phase V project area includes the south side of East Trinity Place from North McDonough Street to Church Street, both sides of East Trinity Place from Church Street to just past the Fire Station, and Church Street from East Trinity Place south to East Howard Avenue. The purpose of the project is to improve accessibility and safety for pedestrians and to reduce conflicts between pedestrians and motorists. Proposed improvements will be located in the public right of way and will include new sidewalks, crosswalks, curb ramps, street trees, pedestrian scale

lights, benches, signage and trash receptacles. The streetscape improvements will be very similar to the earlier phases in downtown Decatur. A major improvement to the City's storm drainage system in this area also is being planned, including replacement of undersized and deteriorated facilities in Church Street and East Maple Street.

The total project budget is \$1.2 million, with \$400,000 provided by the Capital Projects Bond Fund and about \$800,000 from the Georgia Department of Transportation's Transportation Enhancement Program. Additional funding for storm drainage improvements will be provided by the City's storm water utility. The project is being designed by PBS&J of Atlanta.



Railroad Crossing Improvements

The Railroad Crossing Improvements at Candler and McDonough Streets is a plan of physical improvements designed to improve pedestrian accessibility and safety around and across two CSX railroad crossings in the central area of the City of Decatur. These crossings are located at the intersections of College Avenue and Howard Avenue with Candler Street and McDonough Street. Measures to implement a quiet zone in the railroad corridor will also be considered. The project is based on the elements of Decatur's Community Transportation Plan. The total project budget is \$1.85 million, with \$370,000 provided by the Capital Projects Bond Fund and about \$1.48 million from the Georgia Department of Transportation's Transportation Enhancement Program. A design consultant will be selected by in the summer of 2009.

Public Works Building

Decatur has outgrown its existing public works building and needs a new facility. The current building houses both engineering and sanitation operations and is located at the intersection of Talley Street and Sams Street in the heart of the evolving East Decatur Station / Avondale LCI project area.

The City is working to identify relocation options for Public Works that would include space for current public works operations and additional space to allow incorporation of the current Building Permit and Building Inspections operation to create a one-stop operation and improved customer service for residents, developers and contractors requiring plan review and permits. The new facility also would incorporate expanded storage capabilities and room to accommodate a variety of city vehicles, public works equipment and activities.

Future Capital Improvements

Additional planned capital improvements awaiting funding decisions include the following projects:

- Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Clairemont Avenue and Commerce Drive
- Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Church Street and Commerce Drive
- Church Street Bicycle Lanes
- Atlanta Avenue Railroad Crossing Improvements
- Decatur Police Department Improvements
- Downtown Decatur Streetscape Improvements – Phase IV