

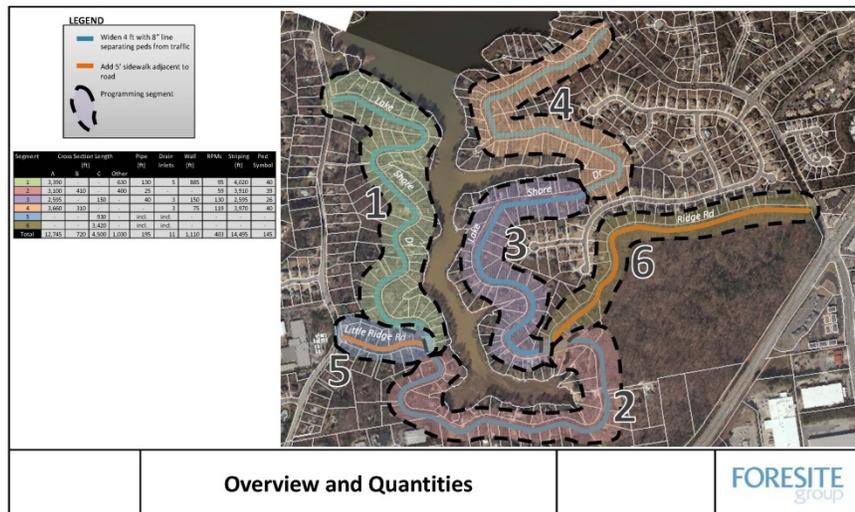


January 9, 2014

You may remember that a year ago I solicited suggestions from our citizens regarding changes they would like to see in our city or concerns they might have. After collecting those, I called a special meeting of city officials and staff for a “visioning session” to share citizen input and discuss actions to take in response. One of those citizen concerns was **pedestrian safety along Lakeshore Drive, Ridge, and Little Ridge** where there are no sidewalks and the hilly terrain and narrow curving roads make it difficult for drivers to see walkers ahead in many places. In response, the city commissioned a safety study by the Foresite Group, which has some widely respected traffic safety engineers and which gave us the lowest cost proposal to do the work. We have just received the study which, in brief, recommends widening most of Lakeshore by about 4 feet of asphalt pavement extension with striping and 8-inch raised markers. The recommendation for Ridge and Little Ridge is for 5-foot concrete sidewalks with curb and gutters. [View Full Report Here.](#) Area homeowners can see in this report exactly what is envisioned for the city right-of-way in front of their property. The project is broken into 6 segments with the engineers’ recommended priority order being #3, #4, #2, #1, #5 (Little Ridge Rd), and #6 (Ridge Rd).

Our consultant group has also prepared planning cost estimates as shown in the following table. As I have said to our council members and P&Z com-missioners, this is a pretty big deal and if implemented would be a significant change to this area. For that reason, I am

Berkeley Lake Pedestrian Safety Study



Overview and Quantities

FORESITE group

Segment	Cross Section Length (ft)				Pipe (ft)	Drain Inlets	Wall (ft)	RPMs	Striping (ft)	Ped Symbol	Traffic, Erosion, Contingency 25%	Survey, Engineering, Inspection (15%)	Total	Cost per foot
	A	B	C	Other										
1	\$274,590	\$0	\$0	\$94,500	\$6,500	\$5,000	\$354,000	\$475	\$5,708	\$1,608	\$185,595	\$139,197	\$927,978	\$231
2	\$251,100	\$38,130	\$0	\$60,000	\$1,250	\$0	\$0	\$295	\$5,552	\$1,564	\$89,473	\$67,105	\$447,366	\$114
3	\$210,195	\$0	\$26,250	\$0	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$60,000	\$650	\$3,685	\$1,038	\$76,704	\$57,528	\$383,525	\$140
4	\$296,460	\$28,830	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$30,000	\$595	\$5,637	\$1,588	\$91,528	\$68,646	\$457,642	\$115
5	\$0	\$0	\$162,750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,688	\$30,516	\$203,443	\$219
6	\$0	\$0	\$598,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$149,625	\$112,219	\$748,131	\$219
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,032,345</b>	<b>\$66,960</b>	<b>\$787,500</b>	<b>\$154,500</b>	<b>\$9,750</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$444,000</b>	<b>\$2,015</b>	<b>\$20,583</b>	<b>\$5,798</b>	<b>\$633,613</b>	<b>\$475,210</b>	<b>\$3,168,064</b>	<b>\$167</b>

strongly urging anyone who lives on those three streets to study the plans themselves and if you have any comment, make it now. I do not want us to get started into this, and then have people finally wake up, notice, and complain. This is so important that I have asked Tom Rozier to create a special email address that will deliver all comments directly to me, council, and staff. We have some significant time constraints, because I will be asking for some outside funding help and there are deadlines approaching for those applications. Please respond by January 24 if you have a comment (either positive or negative) to [sidewalks@berkeley-lake.com](mailto:sidewalks@berkeley-lake.com). We want to hear from you.

**Rebecca Spittler, our Mayor ProTem, has been elected to the Executive Board of the Gwinnett Municipal Association.** This is a powerful group which largely guides that organization, affecting all 16 cities in our county and issues related to them. I served on that board for 3 terms so I know that it is very time consuming and significant work, but it is quite rare for someone who is not a mayor to be chosen for such a leadership role. Congratulations, Rebecca!

**Council has confirmed my appointment of Neil Schaap to replace Rodney Hammond on the Planning and Zoning Commission.** Rodney is leaving having been elected to City Council and I thought you might like to know something about our new commissioner. He is a Professional Engineer currently working for the environmental engineering firm Brown and Caldwell as a water resource engineer. His current duties include stream restorations, floodplain management, watershed management, stormwater improvements and some limited dam work. His previous employment was with the site design firm Planners and Engineers Collaborative in Norcross where for nine years he helped developers with site plans and permitting as well as with rezoning and variance plans. He is very familiar with local ordinances having worked on residential and commercial projects in almost every metro Atlanta municipality. Neil has been attending our P&Z meetings as a citizen observer before having been appointed so he will not have a hard time catching up with his fellow commissioners. He and his family live on Lakeshore Drive.

I’m very excited about a **new restaurant coming to Berkeley Lake.** Sometime ago Tom Rozier reached out to Ken Weatherford as the proprietor of the former Norcross Station Café which had lost its lease in Norcross. Ken lives in River District and Tom encouraged him to consider the site of GABBA (which is closed) for his new restaurant. Thanks to Tom and Ken, we’ll have a very nice new restaurant in the city in a few

weeks. I hope more of you will bring your businesses home to Berkeley Lake, and that all of you will support MacKenzie’s, which will be opening soon.

Between now and January 17, 2014, you can **drop off your Christmas tree at our local fire station #19 on North Berkeley Lake Road** 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please make sure that all decorations, lights and tree stands have been removed from the tree before dropping it off. The trees will be chipped into mulch by volunteers and recycled at the “Bring One for the Chipper” event on January 25, 2014 from 9 a.m. to noon at Bethesda Park in Lawrenceville. If you want to help or get more information, see [Bring One for the Chipper](#). Volunteers must be 14 years or older, and must arrive with a signed Volunteer Release Form in hand in order to take part in the event.

**If you have a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, he or she may want to participate in a statewide essay contest** by writing “*If I were Mayor, I would...*” Prizes up to \$250 will be awarded for winning essays not exceeding 350 words submitted before March 7. Contact Amy Henderson at (678) 686-6226 for further information.

**Happy New Year, everybody!**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lois D. Salter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.