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Sandy Springs City Council Gives Green Light to PATH400 Extension

Vote clears the way for work on “missing link” between Buckhead, Sandy Springs segments to proceed

ATLANTA – February 18, 2016 – Thanks to a vote by the Sandy Springs City Council Tuesday night, PATH400 is officially headed to Sandy Springs. The council approved an agreement with Livable Buckhead and PATH Foundation that allows the nonprofit organizations leading the PATH400 project to begin design work for a segment between Loridans Dr. and the Glenridge Connector. This 2.1-mile stretch is a critical link between the northernmost point of the greenway as it is currently planned and the point where PATH400 is integrated into the Georgia Department of Transportation’s plans for a new I-285/GA 400 interchange.

With this vote, Sandy Springs joins the ranks of more than 20 governmental agencies and community organizations that are working in partnership to make PATH400 a reality.

“This vote allows us to keep building momentum for PATH400,” said Denise Starling, executive director of Livable Buckhead. “Creating regional connectivity is one of the key benefits of this project, and without a link to the I-285/GA 400 interchange we weren’t able to deliver that. Now that Sandy Springs is on board, PATH400 can continue north and provide access to the BeltLine, the Silver Comet Trail and other trails across metro Atlanta.”

Livable Buckhead worked with the City of Atlanta to include this PATH400 segment in Atlanta Regional Commission’s transportation improvement plan, making it eligible for a federal matching grant. The grant includes \$496,000 in federal funds and \$124,000 in matching funds from the PATH Foundation.

“PATH400 is the result of outstanding partnerships, and we’re thrilled to have Sandy Springs join this effort,” Starling added.

Work is proceeding on the original 5.2-mile stretch of PATH400 as well, with 38 percent of the project either complete, under construction or mobilizing. The Loudermilk Family Foundation recently announced a \$250,000 matching gift for the PATH400 capital campaign, which is aiming to raise the final \$9 million needed to build the greenway.

For more information about PATH400 or to sign up to receive project updates, visit livablebuckhead.org.

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About Livable Buckhead

Livable Buckhead, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that strives to ensure the long-term viability and prosperity of the Buckhead community. It does this by working cooperatively with individuals, public entities and private businesses to integrate into everyday life and business sustainable strategies that improve the environment and quality of life in the community. For more information about Livable Buckhead and its programs, visit www.livablebuckhead.org.

About PATH400

PATH400 is a 5.2-mile walkable, bikeable greenway being constructed on public land adjacent to GA400 extending from the bank of Peachtree Creek northward toward the northern edge of Atlanta. It is the centerpiece of a broader greenspace plan, the Buckhead Collection, initiated by Atlanta Councilman Howard Shook. Livable Buckhead is spearheading the PATH400 project in partnership with the Buckhead Community Improvement District (Buckhead CID) and the PATH Foundation. Several other agencies and organizations are involved in the development of PATH400, including Georgia Department of Transportation, the City of Atlanta, MARTA, Atlanta Neighborhood Planning Unit B, and Atlanta Public Schools. PATH400 will increase access to community amenities such as arts, historic, and cultural exhibits; neighborhood pocket parks and greenspaces; retail centers; and learning centers. For more information about PATH400 or to donate to the capital campaign, visit livablebuckhead.com.

About PATH Foundation

In just 24 years, PATH has developed over 235 miles of trail throughout Georgia and has become a nationally recognized model for trail-building success. PATH's linear parks have become part of the landscape in urban and rural areas, in affluent and impoverished communities. PATH trails are bringing people together from all races, ages, income levels and cultural backgrounds. Significant progress toward building Atlanta a network of trails includes: The Silver Comet, Stone Mountain, Lionel Hampton, Westside, Arabia Mountain, Chastain Park, South Decatur Trolley, Northwest Atlanta, and Freedom Park Trails.