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DEKALB COUNTY
NEWS RELEASE

PRESS CONTACTS:

Burke Brennan
Interim Chief Communications Officer
Phone: 404-371-6305
Cell: 678-201-7209

Angela Walton
Communications Manager
Phone: 404-371-3688
Cell: 404-964-0357

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Main Street Makeover in Tucker Begins

DECATUR – Long awaited improvements along Tucker’s Main Street got underway yesterday with the partial demolition of the retail strip building adjacent to Cofer Brothers lumber. The building, which once housed the Cofer Brothers General Store in the 1960’s, is now owned by Oakhurst Realty Partners and has been rebranded as The Shoppes on Main.

“Revitalization projects are important not only to attracting new residents and new businesses to DeKalb, but also to improving the overall quality of life in our county,” said CEO Burrell Ellis.

The million dollar makeover will make the property the first private project to conform to the planning standards outlined in Tucker’s overlay district, ratified by the DeKalb Board of Commissioners in 2007.

Fisher Paty, a partner at Oakhurst Realty Partners, says that while the improvements will have a major positive impact on the look and feel of Main Street, the timing of such was purposefully chosen in an effort to lessen the impact to the existing tenants and their customers.

“We chose this time because the county is about to begin significant roadway improvements,” said Paty. “Getting all of these improvements done at once will have the least impact on the tenants and customers of The Shoppes on Main.”

“There are some great things in store for Main Street Tucker,” said District 1 Commissioner Elaine Boyer, “The renovation and upgrades that begin today are just the start of the renaissance.”

A groundbreaking for the County’s improvements on Main Street is expected within the month. The DeKalb County Board of Commissioners selected SD & C Inc. in Clarkston as the contractor for that project. The scope of the project includes reducing the number of lanes along Main Street and widening of the sidewalks.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) selected the Community of Tucker as a Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Area in 2005, and the DeKalb Board of Commissioners approved an overlay district implementing these initiatives in 2007.

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Bank of North Georgia Vice President/Branch Manager Michele Weston, Tucker Business Association President Diana Robinson, Co-manager Main Street Tucker Alliance Honey Van De Kreke, Oakhurst Realty Partners Partner Bart Lester, Tucker Civic Association President Paul Ellingson, Oakhurst Realty Partners Partner Fisher Paty

(MORE)

Page 3 – Main Street Makeover



Michele Weston, Bank of North Georgia; Fisher Paty, Oakhurst Realty Partners; Honey Van De Kreke, Main Street Tucker Alliance; Elaine Boyer, DeKalb County Commissioner District 1; Bruce Penn, Tucker Civic Association; Bart Lester, Oakhurst Realty Partners; Diana Robinson, Tucker Business Association; and Tyler White, United Community Bank.

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