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NEWS RELEASE

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GWINNETT COUNTY, LILBURN PRESERVE GREENSPACE

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Aug. 29, 2006) – Gwinnett County has partnered with the City of Lilburn to purchase 20 acres of land in Lilburn to be preserved as greenspace. An additional 10.32 acres that adjoin the property is being donated by the J.C. Hovis Group.

“We are delighted with this cooperative land purchase by the City and the County. Our respective citizens and businesses will benefit for years to come as a result of the potential enhanced recreation and scenic opportunities we can achieve through this acquisition,” said Lilburn Mayor Jack Bolton.

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners recently approved the purchase of the wooded tract of land located off Rockbridge Road in Lilburn. The cost for the property totaled \$590,000, with the City of Lilburn paying \$50,000 and Gwinnett County paying the remaining \$540,000. Funds from the 2005 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) program were used to purchase the property.

“The ability to locate greenspace in the southern part of Gwinnett County is becoming a rarity,” said Commission Chairman Charles Bannister. “It’s a privilege to partner with the City of Lilburn to not only preserve this piece of land, but to possibly use it in the future to connect existing parks.”

Future plans for the property may allow for a greenway trail to connect area parks, including Harmony Grove Park, Lions Club Park (owned by City of Lilburn and operated by Gwinnett County) and the City of Lilburn's Camp Creek Greenway.

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