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DUNCAN CREEK PARK CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Dec. 12, 2006) – A new Gwinnett County park in the Hamilton Mill area north of Dacula will be under construction soon after the Board of Commissioners awarded a nearly \$8 million contract to ASTRA Group Inc. on Tuesday.

Duncan Creek Park will feature a football complex, teen area and playground/picnic pavilion. It is expected to open in summer 2008. The site adjoins the County's new public safety training center and includes space for a planned new branch library to be opened in 2009. The address is 3900 Braselton Highway (SR 124) at Pine Road.

"This will be a sister park to Bogan Park near Buford," District 4 Commissioner Kevin Kenerly said. "The football field will be a much-needed addition to the area with a concession/restroom building, bleachers, a press box, an asphalt track, and 366 parking spaces." The teen area includes a 20,000 square-foot lighted skate park, basketball and sand volleyball courts, restrooms and parking for 126 cars.

A 15,000 square-foot playground will include universal design features, an open lawn area, restrooms, a 60-foot octagonal open pavilion, and 64 parking spaces. Community Services Director Phil Hoskins said construction will also include installing utilities and landscaping, extending a sewer line through the property, demolishing an existing pump station, and building a maintenance building and an entrance from SR124 with a traffic signal.

Lose & Associates, Inc. designed the park in conjunction with a citizen steering committee. Funding comes from the SPLOST program with partial funding for the football press box coming from the Mill Creek Athletic Association/Park Partnership program. Less than 34 of the nearly 89 acres will be disturbed by construction. The County purchased the site in 2000.

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