



Gwinnett County Government Communications Division NEWS RELEASE

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PARK PROJECTS APPROVED FOR HARBINS, RABBIT HILL

(Lawrenceville, Ga., Aug. 19, 2011) – New park facilities promised in the 2009 SPLOST sales tax program soon will be under construction following Board action on Tuesday.

New facilities are coming to the County's largest park, Harbins Park east of Grayson. CRS Building Corp. received a \$5.9 million contract to build a multi-purpose (football/soccer/lacrosse) field on the Indian Shoals Road side of the park with bleachers, a concession/restroom building and a lighted walking track. There will also be a rental pavilion, a playground, a dog park, a three-acre lake and a 1.5-mile paved trail through the lowlands adjacent to Cedar Creek.

"The long-promised expansion at Harbins Park will serve the youth sports needs of the new Archer High School cluster well," said District 3 Commissioner Mike Beaudreau. "In addition, the walking trails and other amenities will add to the public's enjoyment of both parks."

Rabbit Hill Park near Dacula will add two soccer fields, a concession/restroom building and a trail extension. In a second area of the park, Astra Group, Inc. will build seven new baseball/softball fields, a multi-purpose field with a lighted walking track, playgrounds and a six-acre lake that will provide irrigation water from an on-site well. The nearly \$9.6 million project also includes road improvements with a traffic signal and turn lanes at the intersection of Hurricane Shoals Road and Rabbit Hill Road.

District 4 Commissioner John Heard received a commitment from the Mountain View Youth Athletic Association to assist the County in maintaining the park. "It's appropriate that we took up this item on the same day we enacted a countywide volunteer program because we will have to lean heavily on our volunteer groups to help us take care of these facilities," said Heard. "While funding for construction of these parks comes from the voter-approved SPLOST, operations and maintenance comes from annual tax revenue. I am committed to promoting this volunteer effort to continue cutting costs to our tax based funds."

Lose Associates of Lawrenceville designed the new facilities at both parks.

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