

RELEASE DATE: April 9, 2014

**PROJECT: Outdoor Warning Sirens and Lightning Detection and Alert System**

DUE DATE: May 2, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Proposals are being solicited from qualified firms with experience in outdoor warning sirens and/or lightning detection and alert systems. The city is interested in installing both systems in our two largest city parks.

Proposers should submit their cost proposals (for either emergency notification sirens or lightning detection systems, or both) using the format provided in the cost proposal section (on page 8) including both total lump sum proposal as well as a breakdown of costs. Proposers should also submit information detailing how the proposed system meets the city's desired features and requested system information as well as three references and case studies of recent similar projects completed.

A non-mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall (41 Perimeter Center East, Suite 250, Dunwoody, GA 30346). All questions are due by Monday, April 28, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Questions should be submitted in writing and should be directed to Kimberly Greer at kimberly.greer@dunwoodyga.gov. An addendum with clarifications provided at the pre-proposal conference as well as answers to any submitted questions will be issued on Tuesday, April 29, 2014.

Proposals should be submitted to the City of Dunwoody no later than **2:00 p.m., May 2, 2014**. One original and four copies hard copies as well as one electronic copy of the Proposals shall be submitted to 41 Perimeter Center East, Suite 250, Dunwoody, GA 30346.

Certification of Non-Collusion in Preparation \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

The city requires that all who enter into a contract for the physical performance of services with the city must satisfy O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 and Rule 300-10-1-.02, in all manner and such are conditions of the contract.

Legal Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Tax ID \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Does your company currently have a location within the City of Dunwoody? Yes  No

Representative Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

## **GENERAL PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

### **1.1 PURPOSE**

Although the city’s telephone-based emergency alert system has served the city well, it does not reach community members that are out in city parks, recreating without their phones. Through this Request for Proposals, the city seeks to add outdoor warning sirens and lightning detection and alert systems to the city’s two largest parks - Brook Run Park and Dunwoody Park. Cognizant of the fact that some companies specialize in only one of these technologies, the city will accept proposals from interested companies for one or both of these technologies.

### **1.2 INTRODUCTION**

The City of Dunwoody is a vibrant community featuring many of metro-Atlanta’s top dining, shopping, schools and recreational activities. The city is nestled at the most northern tip of DeKalb County, bordered by Fulton County on the north and west, Interstate 285 to the south, and Gwinnett County on the northeast.

### **1.3 PROJECT BACKGROUND**

Since its incorporation in December 2008, the Mayor and City Council have focused on improving safety and quality of life for our residents and businesses. In 2010 the city was a full participant in the planning process for the DeKalb County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Hazard Mitigation Plan focuses on sustainable action that can be taken to reduce or eliminate the long term effects of disasters on people and property. Dunwoody was directly impacted by a tornado event in 1998 and is impacted by severe thunderstorms on a regular basis.

One of the hazard mitigation actions prioritized in our adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan is the implementation of an emergency notification system to warn the public of severe weather. Due to the limited state and federal funding available for warning initiative projects, the city first focused on directly funding implementation of a telephone-based emergency notification system. The city utilizes CodeRED which has a “Weather Warning” module for which community members can opt-in to receive alerts from the National Weather Service. As an example, if the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning, the CodeRED subscribers with addresses within the expected path of that tornado receive an alert.

Although the telephone-based system has served the city well, it does not reach community members that are out in city parks, recreating without their phones. As part of the 2014 Budget, the City Council set aside funds to pursue adding outdoor warning sirens and lightning detection and alert systems to the city’s two largest parks - Brook Run Park and Dunwoody Park.

At 102 acres, Brook Run Park is the city’s largest park. Located at 4770 North Peachtree Road, the park includes a large playground and pavilions, dog park, skate park, community garden, trails and passive open fields.

At roughly 35 acres, Dunwoody Park is home to both the Dunwoody Nature Center and Dunwoody Senior Baseball. Located at 5345 Roberts Drive, the Dunwoody Nature Center hosts classes, nature hikes, and weekend programming year round while managing the

nature preserve that makes up the majority of the park. Dunwoody Senior Baseball manages the two baseball diamonds at Dunwoody Park and coordinates over 1,000 players with leagues including the Middle School League, Summer Recreational League, Spring Recreational League, and the Fall Recreational League.

Neither park has fulltime city staff. The city relies on its Recreation Partners (including the Dunwoody Nature Center and Dunwoody Senior Baseball) and the organizations that operate within the park on a less formal basis (such as the Brook Run Dog Park Association and the Dunwoody Community Garden at Brook Run) to keep our parks alive with activity.

The city also does not own or control a 9-1-1 center, but subscribes to the Chattahoochee River 9-1-1 Authority (ChatComm) joint venture between the cities of Sandy Springs and Johns Creek. Although the city does have at least one Public Safety Representative on duty 24x7 at the city police station, the city does not foresee tasking either agency with additional workload or responsibility related to the implementation of the outdoor warning sirens and lightning detection and alert systems.

The city is only interested in fully automated systems that can alert the community recreating in Brook Run Park and Dunwoody Park without necessitating augmentation to existing city staff levels.

#### **1.4 SCOPE OF WORK – DESIRED FEATURES FOR BOTH SYSTEMS**

The following desired features apply to both any proposed outdoor warning siren system as well as any proposed lightning detection and alert system.

The city is only interested in complete, turnkey solutions. This will preferably involve a single point of contact for all aspects of the systems, including delivery, installation, implementation, warranty, training, support and maintenance for a period of at least five (5) years.

The city is only interested to consider companies with sufficient experience and history in the design and installation of outdoor warning systems and/or lightning detection and alert systems. Companies should be either manufacturers themselves or firms that are authorized by or, historically, have had a close working relationship with the equipment manufacturers. In any event, the manufacturer must be integrally involved in the project and the systems must be fully warranted for a minimum of five (5) years. Also, wherever possible, the ability to “retrofit” new equipment to incorporate the manufacturer’s future design innovations and technology advances.

The city is only interested in computer controlled systems capable of 24/7 operation, 365 days per year. The systems should offer two-way communication with advanced diagnostics and redundancy and will effectively cover the entire geographic area of Brook Run Park (see Exhibit 1) and Dunwoody Park (see Exhibit 2).

The design of the systems should be based in large part on scientific propagation studies using nationally recognized standards and guidelines. While it is understood that multiple sites may be able to be utilized for the siren and/or lightning detection and alert equipment, the final sites should be evaluated and deemed to be appropriate given the planned equipment and specifications, propagation data, etc. Proposers should provide a full

explanation of the sites chosen as a part of their proposal but the final location of any sites is anticipated to be a joint effort between the Proposer and the city after contract award.

For both systems, the city is interested in posting signage describing the system to park users. The final verbiage and placement of signs would be a joint effort between the Proposer and the city after contract award.

#### **1.4.1 OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS – ADDITIONAL DESIRED FEATURES**

The city intends to utilize the outdoor warning siren system for severe weather events such as tornado warnings.

This system should be capable of being activated automatically when the National Weather Service issues alerts for any designated types of events, such as tornado warnings.

The city is interested in a system with the capacity to allow authorized individuals, such as the Police Chief, to remotely access and activate the system in emergency situations.

The system should be designed to allow for additional sirens to be added in future years should the city desire to expand to cover other areas.

The city plans to conduct regular monthly tests of the sirens. To facilitate these tests, the outdoor warning siren system should be able to provide a status report on the sirens and generate maintenance requests.

Based on research conducted to this point, the city prefers the fixed siren type versus the rotating type because of maintenance concerns but will consider rotating type with sufficient explanation/justification.

#### **1.4.2 LIGHTNING DETECTION AND ALERT – ADDITIONAL DESIRED FEATURES**

The city intends to utilize the lightning detection and alert system to detect both in-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning and alert nearby park users of the potentially dangerous conditions through sound (such as a horn or siren) and/or high intensity lights (such as beacons or strobes). The system should also have an "all clear" alert through sound and/or light.

This system should be capable of being activated automatically when the lightning is detected in Brook Run Park or Dunwoody Park.

Equipment and data should integrate into a national lightning network for precision, accuracy, back up and redundancy that provides a national detection radius.

Lightning strikes, radar, and surface level conditions should have the capability to be displayed through web-based mapping visualization tool.

### **1.5 SYSTEM INFORMATION**

In consideration of the desired features listed above, each proposal should also provide the following information detailing the proposed system:

### **1.5.1 LOCATION**

Maps and descriptions detailing proposed locations for each component necessary to provide coverage throughout both Brook Run Park and Dunwoody Park.

### **1.5.2 EQUIPMENT**

Describe and list each equipment item.

Describe the steps of how the software interacts with the system and any backup equipment.

Detail battery backup capabilities of the system, including battery lifetime expectancy, time power will be provided operating only on battery, etc.

If your software and system are designed with speakers for human speech (in addition to tone and/or lights) explain how this feature works and any additional costs.

Given the city's intention to install an outdoor warning siren system and a lightning detection system that may be manufactured by different companies, detail how your system and software will operate with equipment manufactured by different companies. If your system is compatible or has successfully interfaced to other companies before, please detail that information.

Describe how authorized personnel could remotely access and activate the system and any prerequisite or technology requirements for access (if a connection type is required please specify such).

### **1.5.3 SYSTEM CAPABILITIES**

Detail audible and silent testing capabilities of the system(s).

Explain how an automatic test of the system(s) can be set up for a regular interval (such as monthly).

Explain the system's capabilities related to notifying the public through text messaging, emails, and/or phone calls. If the proposed system has the ability to send phone calls, detail its potential compatibility with CodeRED or any experience interfacing to CodeRED.

Explain any other notification system capabilities of the proposed system.

### **1.5.4 TRAINING**

Detail the training necessary for the city to fully utilize system(s).

If any, please list the itemized and total cost of the training along with the proposed duration for training.

Detail proposed signage to make park users aware of system aspects.

#### **1.5.5 TIMELINE**

Provide a timeline for installation of the system(s) hardware, software, and the main & backup controllers. Utilizing an anticipated start date of June 1, 2014, the timeline should include, at a minimum benchmarks to at least include: hardware installation, software installation, system testing, user and administrator training, and system implementation.

#### **1.5.6 MAINTENANCE**

List the life span of all the proposed equipment along with the warranty on the software and system.

Please explain any annual maintenance costs.

Detail customer support plan for the proposed system.

### **1.6 PROPOSER EXPERIENCE**

Each Proposer shall provide three references and case studies for systems similar to their proposal. References for systems should cover state or municipal markets, but may also cover federal, military or other governmental markets. The primary emphasis with regard to references should be on municipal projects of similar or greater scope.

Emphasis should be given to how the Proposer's experiences prepare their company to successfully complete the city's project on a timely basis and within the agreed upon budget.

### **1.7 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Each Proposer may, but is not required to, submit additional information which he or she believes would assist the city in its determination.

### **1.8 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

Proposals shall be signed by an authorized representative of the company. All information requested must be submitted. Failure to submit all information requested may result in a lower evaluation of the proposal.

Proposals should provide a straightforward, concise description of the Proposer’s capabilities to meet the city’s needs. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content.

Each copy of the proposal shall be bound or contained in single volume where practical. All documentation submitted with the proposal shall be contained in that single volume where practical.

**1.9 PROJECTED TIMETABLE**

The following projected timetable should be used as a working guide for planning proposes. The city reserves the right to adjust the timetable as necessary.

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| April 9, 2014      | Release of Request for Proposals                  |
| April 24, 2014     | Pre-Proposal Conference (2:00 p.m.)               |
| April 28, 2014     | Questions Due (5:00 p.m.)                         |
| April 29, 2014     | Addendum Issued (5:00 p.m.)                       |
| <b>May 2, 2014</b> | <b>Proposals Due (2:00 p.m.)</b>                  |
| May 6, 2014        | Interviews (if needed) with Shortlisted Proposers |
| May 12, 2014       | Recommendation Discussed with City Council        |
| May 27, 2014       | Contract Award by City Council                    |
| June 1, 2014       | Notice to Proceed                                 |

Should the city deem it helpful to shortlist Proposers, the city may, at its sole discretion, conduct interviews with shortlisted Proposers. If interviews are held, they will be conducted on May 6, 2014 at City Hall.

**1.10 METHOD OF AWARD**

The city, in its discretion, may award the Contract to the responsible and responsive Proposer submitting the proposal which is deemed to be the most advantageous to the city, price and other factors being considered. The city may choose to authorize an outdoor warning siren system with one company and a lightning detection and alert system with another company. Authorization of one system does not necessarily guarantee the authorization of any other system.

## COST PROPOSAL

Project: Emergency Notification Sirens and Lightning Detection System

Proposer: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Lump Sum Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

Breakdown of Lump Sum Proposal:

Equipment: \_\_\_\_\_

Installation: \_\_\_\_\_

Implementation: \_\_\_\_\_

Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Maintenance: \_\_\_\_\_

Signage: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Costs should include all associated costs including any related travel costs.

**On-Going Maintenance Costs:**

Year 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 2: \_\_\_\_\_

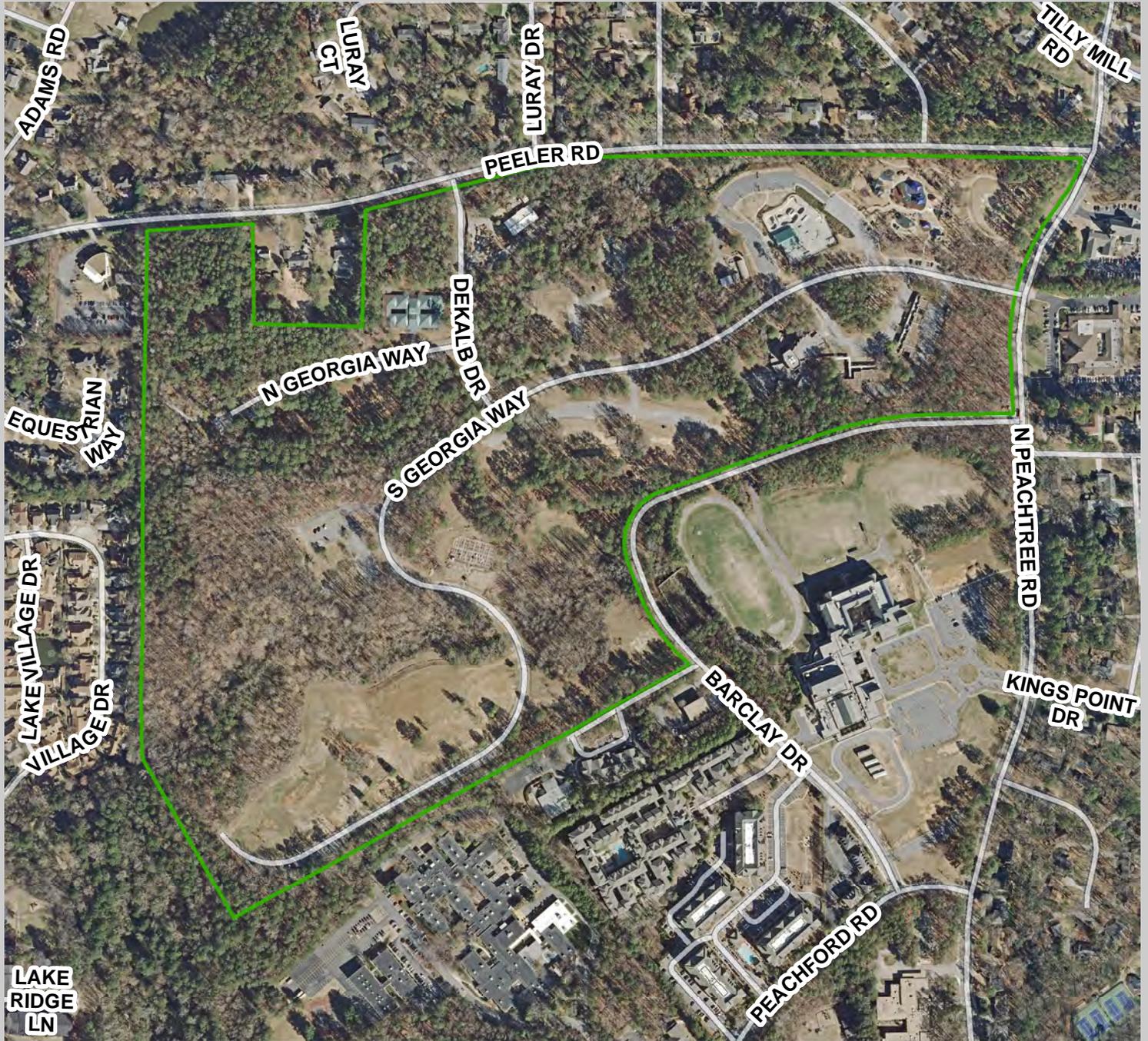
Year 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 5: \_\_\_\_\_



## Exhibit 1



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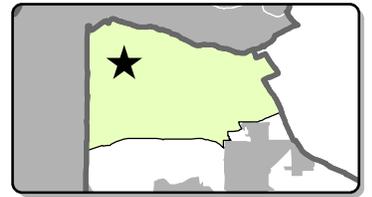


0 55110 220 330 440 Feet

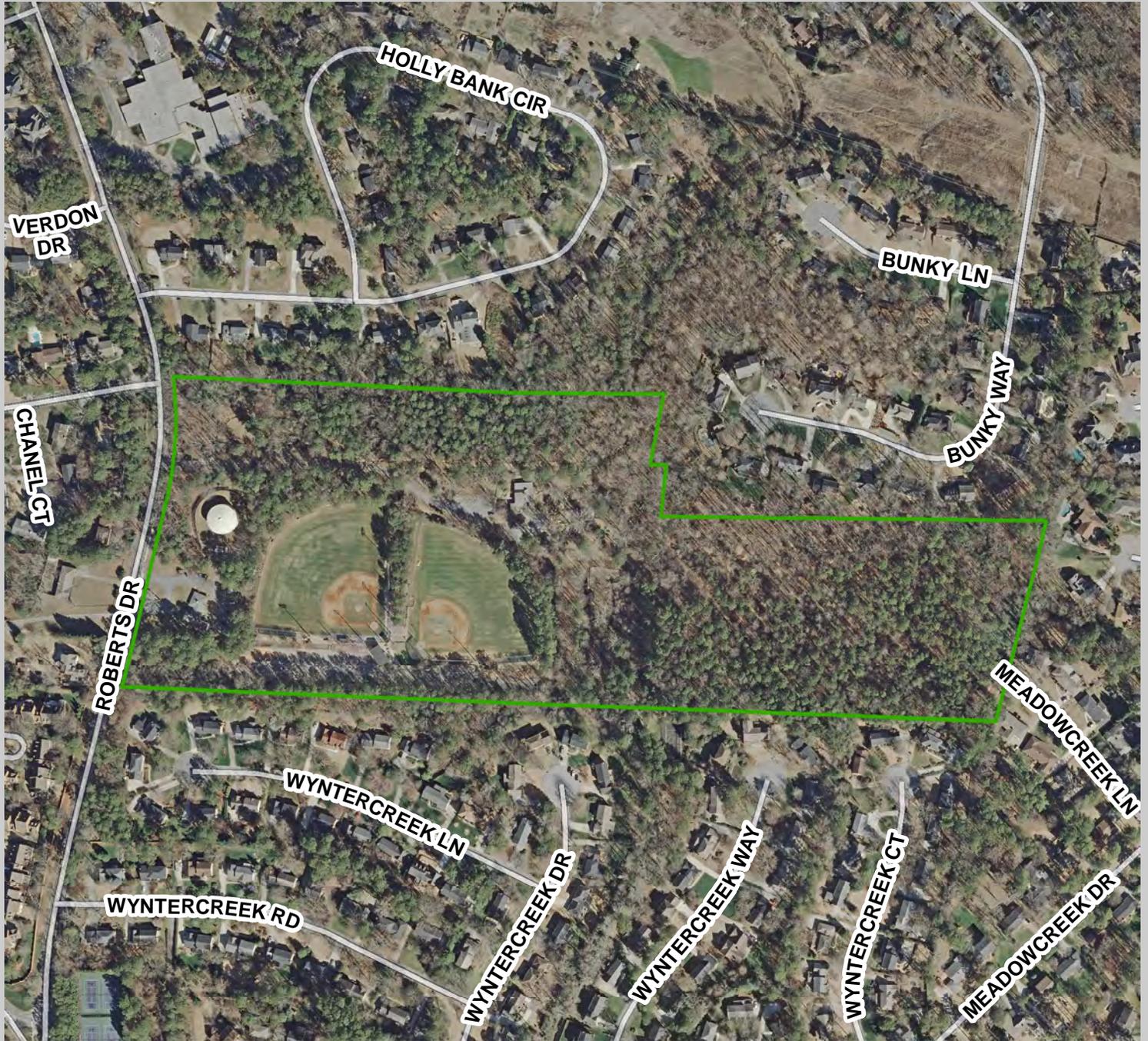
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5. County, municipal, land lot and easement boundaries are approximate. It is the responsibility of the map user to verify boundaries with the appropriate governmental office.



## Exhibit 2



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0 4080 160 240 320  
Feet

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