

JAMES ALEC GELIN  
227 FIRST AVENUE  
AVONDALE ESTATES, GEORGIA 30002-1103

March 7, 2013

Ms. Debra Mitchell  
GIS Department  
1300 Commerce Drive, Suite 600  
Decatur, GA 30030

Re: Request to Purchase Abandoned Right of Way

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

Thanks for taking the time to meet with me last Tuesday, February 26, to discuss my potential purchase from DeKalb County of some land adjoining my properties on First Avenue. The tax parcel identification numbers for my three lots, as you may recall, are 18 009 21 004, 18 009 21 013 and 18 009 21 014.

Pursuant to your request, I am enclosing the following:

1. A survey of the 7,318.59 square foot parcel (the "Parcel,") that I would like to purchase from the County. The Parcel is highlighted in green.
2. A larger version of the same survey showing the Parcel, not highlighted.
3. A legal description of the Parcel.
4. Five pictures of the Parcel taken from various viewpoints. I have marked the backs of the pictures, "A" through "E." "A" is taken from the northeast corner of Rockbridge Road and First Avenue, showing the west side of 18 009 21 013 and a portion of the Parcel. "B" is taken further south along First Avenue, with my driveway visible in the background. Also visible in "B" is an extremely large and historic Southern Red Oak, which sits within the Parcel. "C" shows this same oak from the west, facing east towards my home. "D" shows the west side of 18 009 21 014 and the Parcel from my driveway. Visible in "D" are four large oaks, north to south a Southern Red, Willow, Water and another Willow. All four oaks are within the Parcel. Finally, "E" shows the west side of

18 009 21 004 and the Parcel looking south from the southwest corner of 18 009 21 014. The two large trees visible in the background are Pecans. The Pecan on the right of the picture, closest to First Avenue, is within the Parcel. All these pictures can be emailed to you at your request.

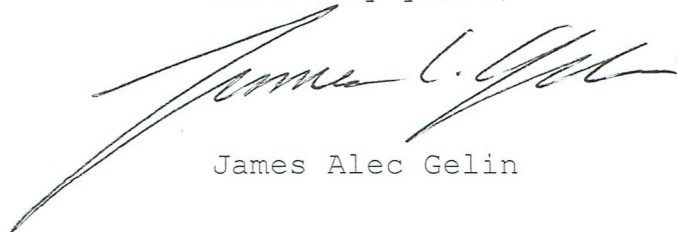
As you can see from the enclosed pictures, the Parcel is currently being used as and maintained as green space. My goal in purchasing the Parcel, above all, is to ensure the preservation of this green space and the six large trees within it. I have been caring for and preserving these trees for almost two decades.

Most of the land on the three adjoining lots that I own is, in fact, dedicated to a mini-arboretum of sorts that I have installed on the property. This mini-arboretum, which encompasses the Parcel, contains a wide selection of trees and shrubs, most planted by me since I purchased my home in 1994. For example, there are a total of thirty-three oaks on the property: Black (two), Blackjack, Bur, Cherrybark, Chestnut, Chinese Evergreen, Chinkapin, Dwarf Chinkapin, Georgia, Netleaf, Northern Red, Overcup, Post, Sawtooth, Scarlett, Southern Red (five), Swamp Chestnut, Swamp White, Turkey, White (two), Water (four) and Willow (three).

Across First Avenue from the northern half of the Parcel is the PATH trail, and west of that, a church with an active congregation. Across First Avenue from the southern half of the Parcel is a small triangle of woods, bordered on the east by First Avenue, to the south by Old Rockbridge Road, and to the west by the PATH trail. It appears that this triangle of woods is owned by either Georgia Power or the County, and it is unsuitable for and too narrow for any development.

If you have any further questions or concerns relating to my request to purchase the Parcel from the County, please don't hesitate to contact me. My home phone number is 404-508-9366, my cell phone number is 404-556-8359 and my email address is [jamesalec60@gmail.com](mailto:jamesalec60@gmail.com). Again, thank you for your kind assistance with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Alec Gelin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

James Alec Gelin