

HTML Message



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION



MLPA News | April 13, 2017

In This Issue...

Spring has arrived-the neighborhood could not be more beautiful. It's a wonderful time to get out and stroll through our parks, enjoy a concert, or simply meet your neighbors. There are several events you'll want to check out plus other news:

1. [Traffic & I-85 Collapse](#)
2. [MLPA Annual Meeting April 24](#)
3. [44th Annual Celebration of Summer May 20](#)
4. [Celebration of Summer Pre-Sale Ticketing - Order Online](#)
5. [Concerts in the Park April 21](#)
6. [Two MLPA Parks Inducted into Old Growth Forest Network](#)
7. [Volunteer to be Street Captain for MLPA Neighborhood Watch Program](#)
8. [Neighborhood Jazz Series Comes to Morningside](#)
9. [Runs, Walks & Social Events in Morningside Lenox Park](#)
10. [Zoning Variances Heard](#)
11. [News from Alex Wan's Office](#)
12. [Calendar of Events](#)
13. [Send Us Your Ideas](#)

Traffic Moves Front and Center in Morningside Lenox Park

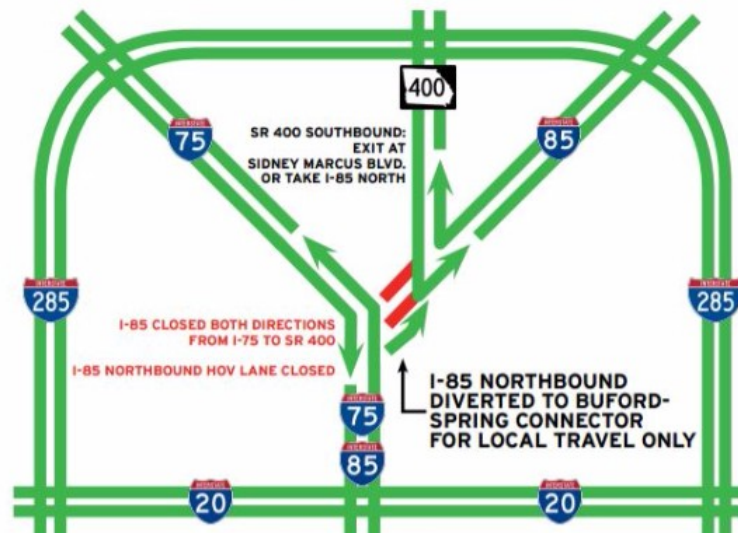
If Renew Atlanta's plans for Monroe Drive / Boulevard had not already made traffic a touchstone issue, the collapse of the I-85 bridge on March 30 made it more so. Luckily, just prior to this, MLPA was spurred to action by the resignation of our Traffic Chair, Kirk Rich, at the March 13 board meeting. Rich resigned to devote his time to running for the City Council District 6 seat being vacated by Alex Wan's bid for City Council President.

MLPA President, Sally Bayless, and Vice President, Charlie Nalbome, stepped in to fill the gap and organized a Traffic Committee of concerned neighbors including Sharon Ferguson, nominated to chair the Traffic Committee, along with John Ayers, Lynn Ayers, Sally Bayless, Julian Bene, Marti Breen, John Daly, Leah Epstein, Sharon Ferguson, Diane McAnallen, Melodi Morrison, Joy Myrick, Charlie Nalbome, Andi Smith, Rachel Spears, and Kari Watkins. Since the meeting, Kim Cobb has stepped in to serve as Co-Chair of the committee.

While originally organized to respond to the Monroe Drive plans, the committee is now working on issues arising from increased traffic spurred by the I-85 closure.

I-85 DETOURS

Atlanta Travel Advisory: I-85 is closed between I-75 and SR 400.
Motorists are advised to use I-75, I-285 and I-20 until further notice.



UPDATED 4-1-2017

ATLANTA



Neighbors are experiencing abnormal amounts of traffic on our local streets as wayfinding apps encourage cut-through traffic. The MLPA and new Traffic committee are taking a 3 pronged approach to the problem:

1. MLPA Traffic is working with Alex Wan's office and Atlanta Police Zone 2 Command to ensure that traffic laws are being enforced. Please be a good neighbor-exercise patience and diligence when driving through our in-town neighborhoods. We can set a good example for our new visitors by observing speed limits and cross walks. We are also talking with Wan's office about immediate traffic calming measures that we may be able to implement quickly.

2. **We have set up a [fundraising effort](#) to offset the costs of some short term neighborhood sponsored measures. If we receive the kind of support we hope to from residents of Morningside Lenox Park, it will enable us to commission a traffic study / master plan and, potentially, to be able to implement some traffic calming measures. With your participation, we will have the ammunition needed to negotiate effectively with City Hall and Renew Atlanta.**

3. Implement a Neighborhood Campaign to Observe Traffic Laws. This would be a resurrection of the "Neighborhood Pace Car" campaign from a few years ago. We are ordering magnets that identify 'Pace Cars.' While many neighbors probably obey the speed limit / pedestrian crosswalks now, advertising this as a neighborhood effort with these signs should make it more effective.

If you would like to participate, contact traffic@mlpa.org and put Pace Car into the subject line. We would like to engage more neighbors in the Traffic Committee as well. Contact volunteer@mlpa.org and put traffic in the subject line to help out with this vital issue.



Half-Priced Wine

Stop by Tuesday and Wednesday for half-priced bottles from our Italian wine selection with the purchase of any artisan pizza.

Tuesday – Half priced bottles of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay

Wednesday – Half priced bottles of Montepulciano and Pinot Grigio



MLPA Annual Meeting Rescheduled for Monday, April 24, 7:00 PM

When we scheduled the Annual Meeting to coincide with our regular board meeting date (the 2nd Monday of each month), we neglected to check and see whether the date conflicted with any major holidays. Thanks to our neighbors who pointed out that it did, we have rescheduled the meeting for Monday, April 24 at 7:00 PM at Morningside Presbyterian Church. Thanks to our friends at Morningside Presbyterian for their flexibility in accommodating the change.

You will start seeing signs around the neighborhood soon announcing the meeting, but go ahead and mark your calendars so you are sure to attend. We will consider several important items of business including [electing new officers](#) for the 2017 term. In addition, we will discuss and approve changes to the by-laws. Please review both the candidate slate and the [by-law changes](#) prior to the meeting.

The by-laws are being changed to clean up some of the language, add provisions for more modern forms of communication, and to clarify the current operating procedures. One more substantial change, however, is being made to the calendar. The current board year begins and ends in April, while the MLPA fiscal year is a calendar year. This causes quite a disconnect as the budget does not coincide with the board term. To correct this, the by-laws are being amended to schedule the Annual Meeting in November and the terms of the board from January-December so that both coincide with the fiscal year. If approved, the next Annual Meeting will be in November to vote on a board that will take office January 2018.

Note that our new board members will be forming committees, both to spread the work and to plan for succession. We urge you to contact volunteer@mlpa.org and offer your services for the coming year. Many hands make light work as we strive to make our neighborhood an even better place to live.



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SAVE THE DATE 44rd Annual Celebration of Summer, Saturday, May 20, 2017



Planning for the 2017 Celebration of Summer has begun with several innovations in place to make this year's event better than ever! To ease the ticket lines, go to mlpa.org/celebration-of-summer and buy your tickets ahead of time. Tickets purchased by Tuesday, May 16 can be picked up on Thursday, May 18, 7:00-8:30 PM at Varuni Napoli on Monroe.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Celebration - we need YOU in order to make this another successful event for the neighborhood. Volunteers ensure the event goes smoothly and everyone stays safe-to that end, we have a special offer. **Anyone that volunteers will have the option of receiving 10 free tickets in appreciation for their time!** To qualify for the free tickets, you must sign up using the [link](#) before Sunday, April 30. You can sign up for as little as a one hour shift.

Sponsors for the Celebration of Summer enjoy unprecedented access to our neighbors. Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Sonny Jones, Dorsey Alston Realtors, and our Premium Sponsors, Amanda Strawser-Berkshire Hathaway, Ansley Eye Care, Chase Horner-Atlanta Fine Homes Sotheby's, Engel & Volkers Intown Atlanta, Homestead Realtors, JW Ayers Plumbing, Kevin McGlynn-Dorsey Alston, Sally Westmoreland-Coldwell Banker & Varuni Napoli.

You can add your name to our sponsors by contacting events@mlpa.org.

We hope to hear from a lot of you willing to help us put on a great event this year. With your assistance we can keep this festive celebration going strong for the next 40 years!

Pre-Sale Tickets for Celebration of Summer Available Online

Go to mlpa.org/celebration-of-summer to purchase tickets ahead of time and beat the lines. To help you decide, here's a listing of the tickets required for the various rides and events:

\$1 per ticket (10 ticket minimum for presales) or **\$22 per "ALL YOU CAN PLAY" wristband**—the wristbands will sell for \$25 at the park on May 20th. Wristbands include unlimited inflatables, pony rides and clown balloons, but do not include face painting or food.

Activity:

- Clown balloon 2 tickets
- Inflatables 2 tickets
- Pony Ride 3 tickets
- Face Painting 4 tickets (not included in "All You can Play")

Food (tickets or cash):

- Hamburger, Chips & Drink 5 tickets or \$5.00
- Hot Dog, Chips & Drink 5 tickets or \$5.00
- Hot Dog 3 tickets or \$3.00
- Hamburger 3 tickets or \$3.00
- Popcorn 1 ticket or \$1.00
- Chips 2 tickets or \$2.00
- Soda, Vitamin Water, Water 2 tickets or \$2.00
- King of Pops Cash Only

Go to the [Celebration of Summer](#) page to buy tickets online by Tuesday, May 16 and pick up your tickets ahead of time at Varuni Napoli on Monroe, Thursday, May 18, 7:00-8:30PM.

Otherwise, your tickets will be held at the WILL CALL table at the Cumberland Road entrance to the park on May 20th starting at 5:30 PM. Volunteers may qualify for free tickets. See the article above for details.

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MLPA Concerts in the Park Kicked off in March

The weather was near perfect for the inaugural MLPA Concert in the Park on Friday, March 24 at Sidney Marcus Park. Hundreds of our neighbors and their kids gathered for an evening of picnicking, fellowship, music, and a movie under the stars.

The concerts are free, thanks to MLPA members and presenting sponsors, Donna Boynton & Joy Myrick, Harry Norman Realtors.

Carter Rude & Friends Band with special guests, Haraway Brothers got the crowd moving with old favorites and a few new tunes. Willy's Food Truck and King of Pops were on hand to supplement picnics/coolers brought by neighbors. After the music, the crowd enjoyed Movie Night, featuring the brand new to DVD movie, Sing. Fabulous Faces rounded out the evening's activities.

Mark your calendars now for the next MLPA Concert in the Park on Friday, April 21st at 6:00 PM. Carter Rude and Friends will be joined by [Doggy Dog Food Cart](#) with a selection of locally made hot dogs and [Buena Gente](#), Atlanta's Cuban bakery offering their tastes of Havana. **King of Pops Rainbow Cart** will round out the food offerings so come hungry. Fabulous Faces will also be on hand so make plans now to grab the kids and neighbors and head on over.

If you would like to help support these great events, email events@mlpa.org for information on promoting your organization to this selective audience. Your MLPA membership also supports these events--go to mlpa.org to join and contribute to the continuation of community building festivities like these concerts.

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Old Growth Forest in Morningside

Our greenspaces are one of the most precious assets in our neighborhood. We are fortunate to count 16 different parks, greenspaces and nature preserves throughout the area, and now two of them, Daniel Johnson Nature Preserve / Herbert Taylor Park, are being inducted into the Old Growth Forest Network.

On **Tuesday, April 24 at 7:00 PM** at Emory's Math & Science Auditorium, Joan Maloof, PhD, founder of the Old Growth Forest Network, headlines a forum recognizing Atlanta's original woodlands. Besides naming Daniel Johnson Nature Preserve / Herbert Taylor Park as old growth, Dr. Maloof will take part in a forum, moderated by Maria Saporta, "Discovering Atlanta's Original Forests." Experts including Stephanie Stuckey Benfield, City of Atlanta Chief Resiliency Officer; Jacqueline Echols, PhD, Director, South River Watershed Alliance; Darryl Haddock, Director of Education, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance, and Professor John Wegner, Environmental Science, Emory University, will explore the vital contribution Atlanta's Urban Forests make to our city and ways to nurture their growth.

This free event includes a reception at which Dr. Maloof may sign some of her books which will be available. MLPA is one of the event partners. We hope to see many of our neighbors and friends there. [RSVP and learn more here.](#)



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Volunteer to be Street Captain for MLPA Neighborhood Watch Program

Over the next few weeks, we will be making a special effort to recruit new street captains. We may contact you directly by email or by placing a flyer in your mailbox. We hope you will consider stepping up to perform this valuable service for your neighbors when you hear from us. Some streets have not had a street captain since the program was revitalized 3 years ago --- specifically, Highpoint Drive, Pine Ridge Drive, and Dutch Valley.

The neighbors are the "eyes and ears" of the security patrol. With "eyes and ears" on every street, we can contribute to improving security in the community. Neighbors who work from home, stay-at-home Moms and Dads, and retirees can be helpful with package deliveries, spotting mail theft, and noting suspicious activity. Of note, the Today Show recently featured a story about residential burglaries. One guest, a former burglar, reported that the most effective measure for deterring burglars was an effective Neighborhood Watch Program

If you are willing to be a street captain or want to know who your street captain is, please send an email to NeighborhoodWatch@mlpa.org.

STREETS WITHOUT STREET CAPTAINS: Volunteer NOW!!!

Cumberland Rd (N Highland to N Morningside)
 Dutch Valley Dr and Pl
 Highpoint Dr
 Lanier Pl (N Highland to Cumberland)
 Merton Rd
 Monroe Dr (Piedmont to Amsterdam)
 N Highland (University to E Rock Springs)
 N Rock Springs Rd
 Northview Ave
 Piedmont Rd (Monroe to N Rock Springs)
 Pine Ridge Dr
 Zimmer Dr

Neighborhood Jazz Series at Sidney Marcus Park

This Memorial Day Weekend, the Atlanta Jazz Festival once again comes to Piedmont Park. The city also hosts a series of neighborhood jazz concerts on Saturdays and Sundays leading up to the festival-and this year, Sidney Marcus Park is one of the venues.

On **Saturday, May 6, 2-6 PM**, Sidney Marcus Park will host the Atlanta Jazz Festival's Neighborhood Jazz Series. This family friendly event is free and open to the public so make plans now to attend. Thanks to Councilman Alex Wan for arranging this event in our neighborhood.

Runs, Walks & Social Events in Morningside Lenox Park

Improving weather and longer days are bringing out more walkers, runners, bikers, and strollers sharing our streets. Watch out for them and allow them to cross safely at crosswalks. Distracted driving and speeding through our neighborhood are within our control.

If you are looking for company for your workout, here's a couple of ideas:

- Meet up in Virginia Highland for 4-5 miles runs from Press and Grind, M/W/F 5:45am, Sat 7:15am. Contact Ann Railsback 404-245-7212, annrailsback@gmail.com.
- Highland Runners in Morningside Village hosts a run every Tuesday (except the 2nd Tuesday of the month) at 6:30 PM for all running levels.

If being active doesn't appeal, but you'd like to get to know your neighbors better, here are some contacts:

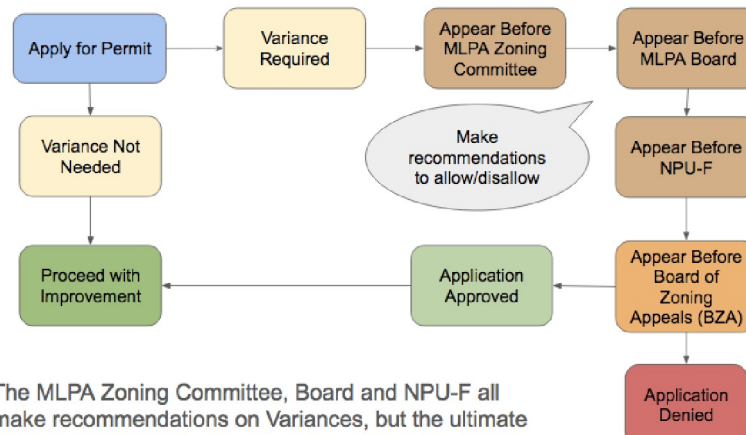


Couples Dinner Group-This group is pictured at Highland Tap where they met in March. In April they plan to meet at Zocalo. To receive notifications of upcoming plans, contact Jennifer Schweidel, jschweidel@gmail.com.

Divorced/Widowed/Empty Nesters Group-Meet up for a picnic at the Neighborhood Jazz Festival, Saturday, May 6 at 3:00 PM.

MLP Book Club-This week the group discussed *Commonwealth* by Ann Patchett. In May they are reading *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. For details on the group, contact Amy Woodhouse, amyloisewoodhouse@gmail.com.

Zoning Committee Report



The MLPA Zoning Committee, Board and NPU-F all make recommendations on Variances, but the ultimate

decision is made by the BZA.

Members of the Zoning Committee are to be commended for their patience in hearing all the cases before them on Tuesday, April 4. Here is a summary of their votes:

1. **V-17-057** 1361 Greenland Dr NE / Motion to support / passed 6-0-0
2. **V-17-060** 972 Cumberland Rd NE / Motion to deny / passed 5-1-2
3. **V-17-065** 1291 Lanier Blvd. NE / Motion to support / passed 8-0-0
4. **V-17-066** 1069 Cumberland Rd NE / Motion to support / passed 8-0-0 conditioned on a satisfactory agreement with adjacent neighbors on accessory structure.
5. **V-17-069** 691 East Morningside DR NE / Motion to support / passed 8-0-0
6. **SD-17-006** 1785 Nobel DR NE / No Motion / Information presentation only
7. **Z-16-079** 1824 Piedmont Ave NE / Motion to support / passed 8-0-0 Conditioned on Site plans dated 3/9/17, 3/6/17, 2/24/17, plus previous conditions 1 through 17 and a new condition 18 which addresses the ability of the developer to expand the footprint of the houses if the fire lane is not needed as well as the materials the fire lane is made of.
8. **Z-16-080** 2059 Manchester St NE / Motion to support / passed 6-1-0 Conditioned on site plan dated 2/14/17
9. **V-16-322** 1835 Piedmont RD NE / Motion to support / passed 7-0-0 Conditioned on previously drafted conditions 1-9 as modified, and subject to applicant reporting back on the Phase 2 corridor lights, driveway entry lights, and landscaping of the south and eastern sides of the parking deck.

The next Zoning Committee meeting is Tuesday, May 2, at 7:00 PM. All neighbors are welcome to attend. Check the bottom of the mlpa.org homepage for listings of the variances that will be discussed. All our meetings are open. Contact zoning@mlpa.org with questions.

News from Alex Wan's Office



ALEX WAN
CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 6



Click here for Alex Wan's [April District 6 Newsletter](#).

In the News Highlights:

I-85 Collapse Update
Atlanta Dogwood Festival This Weekend
Annual City of Atlanta Resident Satisfaction Survey
City of Atlanta Warrant Amnesty Program
A CHaRMing Evening, Thursday, April 27, 2017
2017 Druid Hills Tour of Homes & Gardens
2017 Olmsted Plein Air Invitational

For more information about Councilmember Alex Wan and District 6, Neighborhoods, or for additional city resources [click here](#).

Calendar of Events

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, [CHARM Recycling](#), 1110 Hill Street, SE.

Monday, April 17, 7:00 PM. NPU-F Meeting, Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Dr. The neighborhood planning unit is open to all neighbors, each of whom has a vote.

Tuesday, April 18, 6:00-8:00 PM, [Renew Atlanta Meeting on Westminster Drive Project](#) at Rock Springs Presbyterian Church, 1824 Piedmont Rd. They will present the plans for Westminster Drive along with those for Hirsch Street.

Friday, April 21, 6:00 - 9:30 PM. MLPA Concerts in the Park returns with music, food trucks, and entertainment. Come out and meet your neighbors for an evening under the stars at Sidney Marcus Park.

Monday, April 24, 2017, 7:00 PM. Morningside Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1401 North Morningside, MLPA Annual Meeting. Come meet your neighbors, hear important updates and vote for new officers. You must be a member to vote-go to mlpa.org to join.

Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, Discovering Atlanta's Original Forests, Emory University Math & Science Center Auditorium. This free event will name two Morningside treasures as Old Growth Forests-see article above for details.

Thursday, April 27, A CHaRMing Evening, 6:30-10:00 PM, Venkman's, 740 Ralph McGill Avenue, NE. Hosted by City Council Representatives, Alex Wan & Carla Smith, with music by Yacht Rock Review, food & a raffle to raise funds for the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials.

Friday, April 28, 9:15 - 10:15 AM, Coffee with the Principal, Inman Middle School Media Center.

Friday, April 28 - Sunday, April 30, Inman Park Festival.

Saturday, April 29, 9:00 AM, [Walk to End Lupus](#), Piedmont Park.

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Zoning Committee](#) meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church. See <http://www.mlpa.org/zoning/> for variances that will be discussed. All neighbors are welcome.

Tuesday, May 2, 6:00 - 9:00 PM, [Pints for Parks](#), Orpheus Brewing. This annual fundraiser for Park Pride will benefit their community engagement and advocacy initiatives.

Saturday, May 6, 6:30 PM - Midnight, [Zoo Atlanta Beastly Feast](#) Gala, Zoo Atlanta.

Saturday, May 6, 2:00 - 6:00 PM, [Atlanta Jazz Festival Neighborhood Series](#) at Sidney Marcus Park presented by Councilman Alex Wan.

Monday, May 8, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Board Meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church](#), 1401 North Morningside Dr. All neighbors are welcome.

Friday, May 12 - Saturday, May 13, [Pickn' In Grant Park](#) Barbecue Festival, Grant Park, Atlanta.

Friday, May 12 - Saturday, May 13, [Shaky Knees](#) Music Festival, Centennial Olympic Park, Atlanta.

Saturday, May 13, 8:00 - 12:00 PM, [2017 Race for the Cure](#), 5K Race on Peachtree Street looping back to Lenox Mall.

Saturday, May 13, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, [Keep Atlanta Beautiful Recycling](#), Old Fourth Ward, The Walden School, 320 Irwin Avenue.

Saturday, May 13, 2:00 - 5:00 PM, John Howell Park, A Taste of the Highlands benefit for Childrens' Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). Tickets go on sale March 20 with more info available at www.tasteofthehighlands.com.

Saturday, May 13 - Sunday, May 14, [Sweet Auburn Springfest](#).

Friday, May 19, 9:15 - 10:15 AM, Coffee with the Principal, Inman Middle School Media Center.

SAVE THE DATE, [Saturday, May 20th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM, MLPA Celebration of Summer, Sidney Marcus Park](#).

This Is YOUR Newsletter

Please contact communications@mlpa.org with comments on our newsletter. We welcome your input and will consider all suggestions.

Neighborhood Meeting Schedule:

MLPA Zoning Meetings - 1st Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm, Morningside Presbyterian Church
MLPA Board Meetings - 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm, Morningside Presbyterian Church
NPU-F Meetings - 3rd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm, Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Drive

All neighborhood meetings are open to the public and your involvement is always welcome.

Quick Links:

[MLPA](#) - Morningside Lenox Park Association website
[NPU-F](#) - Neighborhood Planning Unit F website
[APD](#) - Atlanta Police website-- we are in Zone 2
[PEDS](#) - A quick link to report pedestrian hazards to city
[City of Atlanta](#) - City's website
[Atlanta District 6](#) - Our City Council District website
[VHMPA](#) - Virginia Highland Morningside Parent Association
[NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood list serve- not affiliated with MLPA

Morningside Lenox Park Association
www.mlpa.org



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