



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION



MLPA News | March 16, 2017

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Traffic and safety, the issues at the foundation of the MLPA, are once again consuming a lot of energy...but we're also planning plenty of fun for the best neighborhood in ATL.

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**Volunteer Incentive for 43rd Annual Celebration of Summer, Saturday, May 20, 2017**

## Let's Get Summer Started!

Join us at MLPA's Celebration of Summer!

Planning for the 2017 Celebration of Summer has begun and **again we are asking for volunteers** in order to make this another successful event for the neighborhood. It takes more than 50 volunteers to 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** to give to their favorite kid! **To qualify for the free tickets, you must sign up using the [link](#) before close of business (COB) April 9.**

You can sign up for as little as a one hour shift -- see the [link](#) to nab the perfect job. 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!

The Celebration of Summer is again being presented by Sonny Jones, Dorsey Alston Realtors. In addition, Homestead Realtors, JW Ayers Plumbing, Chase Horner, Atlanta Fine Homes Sotheby's International Realty, and Varuni Napoli are sponsoring.

To learn about opportunities to promote your organization at this annual festival in Sidney Marcus Park, contact [events@mlpa.org](mailto:events@mlpa.org).




## Traffic Committee Update on Monroe Drive

Sally Bayless, MLPA President, and Charlie Nalbene, MLPA Vice President, met with Regan Hammond and Michelle Wynn of Renew Atlanta on March 9, 2017, to discuss the [plans for redesigning Monroe Drive / Boulevard](#). The MLPA is working with the City of Atlanta and Alex Wan on the plans for this vital corridor that bisects our neighborhood.

As a result of that meeting, Renew Atlanta has agreed to provide additional data by March 15. The MLPA submitted a list of specific data-related questions intended to surface the information needed to allow an informed discussion within the neighborhood about tradeoffs and alternatives. That information will be posted on the Renew Atlanta website the afternoon of March 15. Renew Atlanta has also **extended the comment period until March 29** to allow for additional discussion of the data that will be provided. The MLPA will organize another meeting for MLPA residents to discuss their concerns with Renew Atlanta. You can go to our [website](#) to review a copy of the letter sent to Renew Atlanta by the MLPA recapping the meeting.


We also intend to work with neighboring associations to identify a more holistic solution that incorporates improved safety while considering external factors such as ongoing increased density and high traffic volumes on roads that were never designed for it. While we recognize that there is not a perfect solution, we are committed to making an impact on the trade-offs considered and identifying the combination of trade-offs that appears to be most acceptable over the long-term.

So what can you do? 1) Watch your email and the [MLPA website](#) for announcements about upcoming meetings with Renew Atlanta and make plans to attend. 2) Go to the [Renew Atlanta](#) website and send them your comments by March 29th. They may not be following the discussion on Nextdoor and it is not clear that the Change.org petitions will be accepted, so take the extra step and send in your comments. 3) [Renew your membership in MLPA](#) and urge your neighbors to join--our work on this issue is being conducted by volunteers. Support them with your memberships!



**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 Concerts in the Park Returns Friday, March 24, 6:00 PM

Dust off your dancing shoes, coolers, and lawn chairs, grab the kids and head to Sidney Marcus Park for first MLPA Concert in the Park on **Friday, March 24 at 6:00 PM**. These concerts are free and family friendly, featuring Carter Rude & Friends Band with special guests, Haraway Brothers. Once the dancing & music stop, it's time for Movie Night! The March Movie Night features a brand new to DVD movie, *Sing*, suitable for all ages. In addition, Fabulous Faces will be on hand to, literally, add some color.

Willy's Food Truck and King of Pops will come to the rescue of parents too busy to pack a picnic. So mark your calendars now for an evening of family fun with your friends and neighbors. [Click for more details](#). Note that in case of inclement weather, updates can be found on [www.mlpa.org](#).

- **6:00-8:00 PM Carter Rude & Friends Band with Haraway Brothers**
- **8:00-9:30 PM Movie Night--*Sing***, Golden Globe nominated animated film, voiced by Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon, Seth MacFarlane, Scarlett Johansson, and Tori Kelly.

MLPA Concerts in the Park are free and open to the public due to the generous support of our sponsors and members. Donna Boynton & Joy Myrick, Harry Norman Realtors return as presenting sponsors for 2017.

If you would like to help support these great events, email [events@mlpa.org](mailto: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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### MLPA Annual Meeting, Monday, April 10, 7:00 PM

Mark your calendars for the **Annual Membership Meeting**, Monday, April 10th at Morningside Presbyterian Church. The **Morningside Elementary School Choir** is set to perform and we have arranged with Girl Scout Troop #21340 from Haygood UMC to provide **complimentary childcare**.

At the meeting, we will elect new officers for the 2017 term. We urge you to contact [volunteer@mlpa.org](mailto:volunteer@mlpa.org) to offer your services for the coming year. In addition to board members, we are seeking members who can serve on committees to make our neighborhood an even better place to live

We need your ideas and your participation! To be included in a planning committee, email [president@mlpa.org](mailto:president@mlpa.org).

## Now Open!

# SunTrust Bank, Morningside Heights.

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**Carol Donnelly**, NMLS# 191334  
404.434.6187  
carol.donnelly@suntrust.com

Financial confidence is just around the corner!

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*Whether refinancing or looking to buy your next home, she has knowledge to share and is eager to help!*



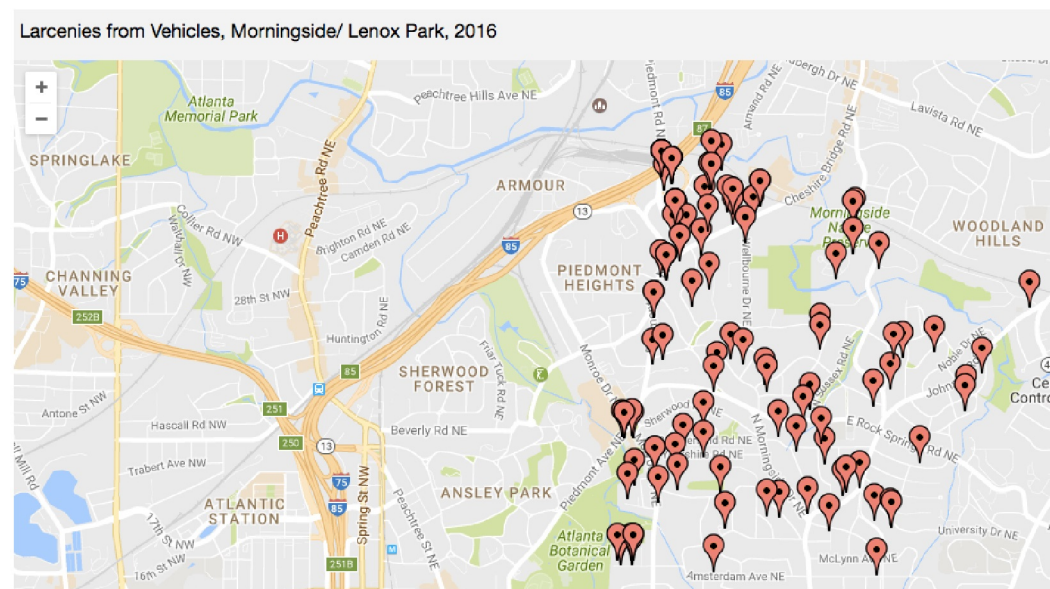
### MLPA Safety/Neighborhood Watch

The crime that occurs most frequently in our neighborhood is theft from vehicles. Car break-ins are crimes of opportunity, and anything in plain sight, from a phone charger to loose change to an old sweater, is reason enough for a criminal to break a window. Criminals will readily return to neighborhoods where break-ins yield guns, laptops, and items that can be sold quickly for cash.

**When a neighborhood gets a reputation as a source of "good merch,"** criminals can be expected to return again and again to take advantage. Clean car campaigns and clean cars are our best defense. If your car is broken into, **call 911**. Posting on NextDoor and/or telling your street captain is good, but the most important action is a **call to 911**. At the recent MLPA Security Forum, the Atlanta Police Department (APD) affirmed the importance of **calling 911**, even if your car is rummaged thru and nothing is taken.

We have created maps of the thefts from vehicles and residential burglaries in Morningside/Lenox Park for all of 2016. All addresses have been rounded to the nearest hundredth block.

The first map shows all larcenies from vehicles that occurred in Morningside/ Lenox Park during 2016. There were about 126 such thefts from vehicles; this count includes only those incidents reported to the APD. This crime appears to occur throughout the neighborhood, with the heaviest clustering close to the intersection of Piedmont and Cheshire Bridge. So, keep your car cleaned out and be sure to make a report to 911 if your car is entered.



This map can be viewed at: <https://www.easymapmaker.com/map/308c6a796a7896a49e12daa361130be7>

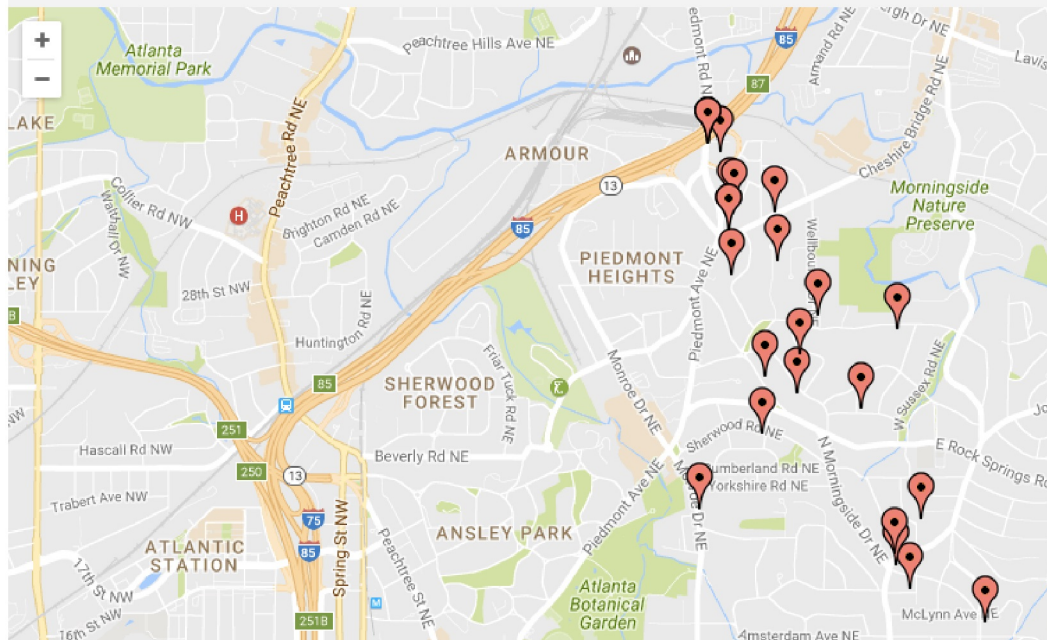
The password : " joinmlpalv "

Residential burglaries are the next most frequently occurring crime in our neighborhood. We can all take steps to improve the security of our homes. The APD uses Crime Prevention through Environmental Design methods. Officers trained in this process can conduct assessments of a resident's property and make recommendations for improvements. Environmental design such as lighting, landscaping, etc. can be tailored to make it more difficult for criminals to avoid detection. **To arrange for an officer to assess your property, please contact the APD Zone 2 precinct at 404 848 7231.**

The second map shows all residential burglaries in Morningside/ Lenox Park during 2016-26 total. The northwest quadrant of the neighborhood appears to be targeted more frequently than other sections of the neighborhood.



### Residential Burglaries, Morningside/ Lenox Park, 2016



The map can be viewed at <https://www.easymapmaker.com/map/eabf1488834702f3df2b485f06cd44cb>

The password : " joinmlpabr "



**Susan G. Schlittler**  
President, Associate Broker

867 Greenwood Ave. NE Atlanta, GA 30306  
404-876-4526 (office) 404-358-5929 (mobile)  
[susan@homesteadatlanta.com](mailto:susan@homesteadatlanta.com)  
[www.homesteadatlanta.com](http://www.homesteadatlanta.com)

Noble Park resident since 1987  
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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 named Old Growth Forest.

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 unique 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 Atlanta's Urban Forests.

This free event includes a reception where 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.](#)

### Runs, Walks & Social Events in Morningside Lenox Park

March kicked off with the Intown 10K and continues with the Annual Morningside Mile on Sunday, March 26. As the weather warms, watch out for runners, walkers, and bikers on our streets. Distracted driving and speeding through our neighborhood are within our control. If you're looking for running partners, 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.



**Couples Dinner Group** - This group, organized in 2016, is pictured at Beetlecat where they met for dinner in February.

To receive notifications of upcoming plans, contact Jennifer Schweidel, [jschweidel@gmail.com](mailto:jschweidel@gmail.com).

**MLP Book Club** - This month the group will discuss



*Commonwealth* by Ann Patchett. For details on the group, contact Amy Woodhouse, [amylouisewoodhouse@gmail.com](mailto:amylouisewoodhouse@gmail.com).

If you know of other social events, please contact us at [events@mlpa.org](mailto:events@mlpa.org) and let us know if you would like to help out on this committee.

### Morningside Elementary Early Registration Open

Early registration for Morningside Elementary Kindergarten runs 9:00-2:00, Wednesday, March 15-Friday, March 17 and then again 9:00-3:00, Thursday, June 1-Friday, June 2.

Please note the following when enrolling your child at Morningside Elementary School: (1) your child must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2017 to enroll in Kindergarten; and (2) your child must live within the MES district in the City of Atlanta.

All of the following documents are required to enroll students for Kindergarten:

- (1) Student's Original Certified Birth Certificate;
- (2) Student's Social Security Card;
- (3) Student's Georgia Immunization Certificate Record (Form 3231);
- (4) Student's Vision, Hearing, & Dental Certificate (Form 3300);
- (5) A copy of at least one parents' valid Georgia Driver's License or Georgia Identification Card
- (6) Copy of your current Lease or Mortgage Statement (dated within the past 30 days);
- (7) Copy of your current Georgia Power Bill (dated within the past 30 days); and
- (8) A Notarized Affidavit of Legal Residence.

For more information or assistance, please contact Student Relations at 404-802-2233 or [studentrelations@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:studentrelations@atlanta.k12.ga.us).

### Camps Around MLP

"I'm bored!" is an expression every parent abhors, and summer is when it is heard most often. Fight back with a variety of summer camps to fit every kids' interest.

The following is a short list that is, by no stretch of the imagination, all-inclusive. If you have other camps you'd like to recommend to neighbors, contact [communications@mlpa.org](mailto:communications@mlpa.org) and we'll post them in the next newsletter.

[Trees Atlanta Junior Treekeepers Camp](#) - weekly from **June 6 - July 22**.

[Emory Sports Camps](#) - weekly through July for boys and girls with various sports offered.

[Farm to Fork Around the World & Science Math and Magic in the Garden](#) - Sessions **May 30 - July 21st**, Truly Living Well Farm.

[Georgia Tech Sports Camps](#) - weekly for boys and girls in various sports-note the webpage says 2016 Camp Information, but when you click it, it gives you info on 2017.

Another website, [Atlanta Moms](#), has a listing of summer camps for 2017.

### Volunteer with Trees Atlanta at Morningside Nature Preserve!

Join Trees Atlanta in April for the River Cane Transplant Project. We will transplant small populations of river cane out of the shady wooded areas to sunny stream banks for erosion control and invasive plant suppression.

When: April 8, 2017

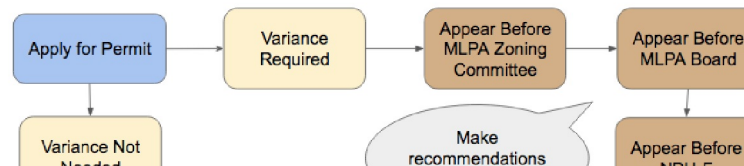
Where: 2010 Lenox Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306 (Morningside Nature Preserve lot off Lenox Rd.)

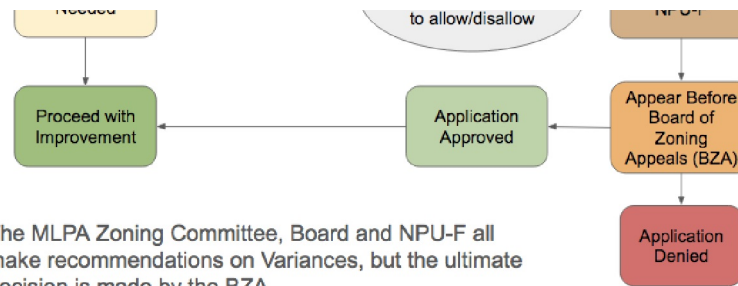
Who: Volunteers of All Ages

- Arrive on time so each volunteer sees our demonstration (it takes 10 minutes). We also want all volunteers to stay for the entire project.
- Wear pants and a long-sleeved shirt, closed-toed shoes or boots (waterproof is best), and clothes that can get dirty.
- **Bring drinking water in a reusable container. No one-time-use plastic bottles, please. It is important to stay hydrated even in the cold.**
- Forest Restoration is hard work, so eat a good breakfast and come prepared to work hard.
- Projects happen rain or shine, so please check the weather beforehand and come prepared.
- Trees Atlanta will provide all necessary tools and instruction, though volunteers may prefer to bring their own work gloves.

Questions? Contact Kevin Mink, Trees Atlanta Project Coordinator, [kevin@treesatlanta.org](mailto:kevin@treesatlanta.org).

### Zoning Committee Report





**At the March 7 meeting, the following variance requests were heard:**

- 1) **V-17-027 | 596 East Morningside Dr. N.E.** to allow a parking pad in the front yard and a pool that abuts to Piedmont Road. While the committee generally does not allow parking in front of homes, this home's location on the corner of East Morningside & Piedmont makes safe entrance and egress very difficult. It was approved 9-0-1, conditioned on the site plan date stamped 2/07/17 which specifies a 2 foot wall and plantings to screen the pad from view.
- 2) **V-17-033 | 1054 Cumberland Rd. N.E.** to add a second story to an existing home was approved 10-0-0.
- 3) **V-17-040 | 1236 Spring Valley Ln. N.E.** to add a partial second story to an existing home was approved 10-0-0.
- 4) **V-17-045 | 1227 North Highland Ave. N.E.** to add a two story garage with office space and a wet bar was deferred so the owner could appear.

The zoning committee values the participation of our neighbors. All our meetings are open. Contact [zoning@mlpa.org](mailto:zoning@mlpa.org) with questions.

**News from Alex Wan's Office**



**ALEX WAN**  
CITY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 6



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

**In the News Highlights:**

Monroe Dr / Boulevard Complete Streets Update  
Recent Uptick in Water Leaks  
Water Sewer Board Opening  
Save the Date, "A CHARMing Evening"

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

**Calendar of Events**

**Monday, March 20, 7:00 PM, NPU-F Meeting, Hillside Facility, 1301 Monroe Drive.** All neighbors may attend and vote.

**Tuesday, March 14 - Saturday, March 25, [The Atlanta Science Festival](#)** presents plays, Compost Critters at the Farm, the Zombie Outbreak Game, a happy hour, and events for every age.

**Wednesday, March 15, 6:45 - 8:30 PM, CINS 2017 Education Legislation Roundup, Springdale Park Elementary Cafeteria, 1246 Ponce de Leon Avenue (enter parking lot from Briarcliff).**

**Friday, March 24, 9:15 - 10:15 AM, Coffee with the Principal, Inman Middle School Media Center.**

**Friday, March 24, 6:00 - 9:30 PM, [MLPA Concerts in the Park](#)** returns with music, food trucks, and a very special movie! Come out and meet your neighbors for an evening under the stars at Sidney Marcus Park.

**Sunday, March 26, 12:00 - 2:00 PM, [Morningside Mile Run](#),** corner of Lanier and Virginia. Fundraiser to restore Fire Station 19 in Virginia Highland.

**Saturday, April 1, 9:00 - 1:00 PM, Annual Atlanta Courtwatch Training, Fulton County Courthouse, 136 Pryor St. SW,** contact [Danielle.Simpson@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Danielle.Simpson@fultoncountyga.gov) for details.

**April 3 - 7, Trees Atlanta Spring Break Camp,** [click here](#) for more info.

**Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Zoning Committee Meeting, Morningside Presbyterian Church,](#)** 1401 North Morningside Dr. See [mlpa.org](http://mlpa.org) homepage for a listing of variances to be covered. All neighbors are welcome.

**Saturday, April 8, 9:00 - 12:00 PM, Trees Atlanta at Morningside Nature Preserve.** See article above for details.

**Friday, April 7 - Sunday, April 9, [Atlanta Dogwood Festival](#)**, Piedmont Park.

**Monday, April 10, 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. Join at [mlpa.org](http://mlpa.org) in order to vote.

**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.

**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.

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

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### **This Is YOUR Newsletter**

Please contact [communications@mlpa.org](mailto:communications@mlpa.org) with comments on our newsletter. We welcome your input and will consider all suggestions.

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#### **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.*

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#### **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

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Morningside Lenox Park Association  
[www.mlpa.org](http://www.mlpa.org)



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