



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION



MLPA News August 8, 2018

Summer is winding down in Morningside Lenox Park, as vacation comes to a close and the new school year starts...

1. [Morningside Lenox Park Master Plan Next Steps](#)
2. [MLPA Concerts in the Park Return Friday, August 24 at 6:00 PM](#)
3. [10th & Monroe Development Off for Now](#)
4. [New MLPA Security Signs](#)
5. [Security Committee Receives New Data on Incidents](#)
6. [Help Wanted](#)
7. [Sidney Marcus Clean-up Success](#)
8. [MLPA Garden Club](#)
9. [Zoning Committee Update](#)
10. [News from Atlanta City Council District 6](#)
11. [Calendar of Events](#)
12. [Scene Around MLP](#)

Morningside Lenox Park Master Plan--What's Next?

We are currently on schedule for the Morningside Lenox Park Master Plan to be adopted by the City in October 2018. The extent of neighbor engagement in this planning process has been impressive and gratifying to our neighbors who volunteered and worked very hard on the Master Plan Steering Committee as well as to the MLPA board. The revised, final version of the plan that will go before the board (at their regular meeting September 10th) and NPU-F (on September 17) for approval is now [posted](#) and will remain open for comment until **August 22, 2018**.

Looking forward, once the Master Plan is adopted, the important work of implementing the plan, and converting our aspirations for the neighborhood into reality, will begin.

That is a longer term process, which hopefully will play out over the next two to three years. It's important to recognize that the Master Plan itself is just that, it is the neighborhood's collective view of our future, but it is not self-executing, and its adoption by the City does not come with any funding for either final design work or implementation.

We do have a commitment from the City to implement on a trial basis a number of our desired traffic calming proposals. We are hopeful that these trials will start before the end of 2018.

After that the neighborhood will then move on to the next step which is implementation. That work is something that, to be successful, will require a great deal of neighbor and community [volunteer](#) work and involvement.

Over the next several months, we hope that the same level of engagement in the planning process that our community exhibited will be focused on implementation.

There will be lots of opportunities ahead to make our Master Plan a reality – just a couple of examples:

– if you were excited about the proposed new or expanded roundabouts at North Rock Springs/North Pelham and Lanier Boulevard/North Morningside/McLynn, and want those roundabouts to be as attractive and well designed as the ones recently installed in Ansley Park, volunteer, help organize, and raise funds to pay for the detailed design of these circles.

--similarly if you are a neighborhood bicyclist and are excited about the neighborhood bikeways, and want to see those (and the traffic calming measures that are an important part of them) implemented as soon as possible, volunteer, help organize, and raise money to get the bike networks and traffic calming infrastructure built.

Moving from creating the plan to actually building what the plan calls for will require broad volunteer efforts from the whole community, and the Master Plan Steering Committee and the MLPA Board hope that our neighbors will step up to the challenge and make the Master Plan a reality for Morningside Lenox Park.



MLPA Concerts in the Park Back to School Bash

Don't miss the Back to School Bash at Sidney Marcus Park on Friday, August 24 at 6:00 PM. This will be the biggest and best concert of the year as the MLPA Concerts in the Park return after a summer hiatus, so make sure you are there!

Thanks to our series sponsor, [Sonny Jones, Dorsey Alston Realtors](#), and all the members of the MLPA, these concerts are free. They offer some of the best family entertainment in the city, so invite your friends and neighbors to come along and sample the music and movie.

Of course, neighborhood favorites, Carter Rude and Friend Band, will play a list of neighborhood favorites. They'll be joined by Brewery Road to offer a little lagniappe for music fans. In addition to the music, there will be pizza and hot dogs available from Dominic's NY Pizza Truck. King of Pops iconic rainbow cart will be dispensing frozen treats and a face painter will be on hand to decorate all the kids. So pack up the family, a cooler, a few extra bucks for food, and meet all your neighbors at Sidney Marcus Park for an evening of dining and dancing under the trees.



As an added bonus, once it turns dark the park will transform into a giant outdoor movie theater. Our feature, sponsored by [Boynnton & Myrick Real Estate](#), is *The Greatest Showman*. Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, and Zac Efron star in the musical relating the beginnings of the Barnum & Bailey Circus. The film is rated PG so it should be appropriate for the entire family.



Remember to bring your blankets, chairs, and put on your dancing shoes, as this is sure to be a great chance to have fun and spend time with neighbors. Support these free gatherings of friends and neighbors by joining or renewing your

membership at mlpa.org and clicking Join Now or My Account.



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



10th & Monroe Development Plans Update

The Atlanta Beltline and Invest Atlanta recently announced that the proposed sale of land on the Beltline has been withdrawn (see [AJC](#) and [WABE](#) reports). This seems to have effectively killed the deal proposed by Fuqua Acquisitions II, LLC for a mixed use community at 10th & Monroe. We note, however, that the developers still own a substantial chunk of the land on Monroe and Cresthill extending toward Piedmont Park/the Beltline, so the saga may continue.

In communicating with our neighbor and Invest Atlanta board member, Julian Bene, he made three points about the turn of events, "We should be grateful to Jennifer Ide and Virginia Highland Civic Association (VHCA) for their vigorous campaign and to other city council members who indicated that this would be a land use change too far. And to Mayor Bottoms and her team for pulling the plug."

He pointed out, "The board of Invest Atlanta was not party to the decision to rescind the sale. However, I would guess that by making a mockery of the community engagement condition of the sale, the developers sank it. This episode showed that Invest Atlanta's Request for Proposal (RFP) process for land sales is weak. Such RFPs need full planning and neighborhood input before they are issued and the IA board should approve their terms."

This story highlights the importance of having a master plan and of community involvement. VHCA used their master plan as the basis for the objections raised to the proposed development. In addition, the attendance at the community meetings along with calls from neighbors to our Atlanta City Council representatives seem to have helped tip the scales. Thanks to everyone who made their voices heard on this issue--there are many more in the pipeline and we need our neighbors to get involved to keep MLPA a great place to live. Contact volunteer@mlpa.org to find out how you can help.



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Thanks for Your Patience as MLPA Transitions to New Security Patrol Signs

As we have reported, the MLPA changed its security patrol yard sign last year from a black octagonal to a red and white rectangular sign with the house number in black. This new sign is much more visible from the street (for ease of the security patrol to locate your residence, and also serves as a greater deterrent to criminals).

All active members either have or will be receiving a new sign. However, given the volume and cost involved in this change, the board decided to roll-out the new signs in batches. Accordingly, at the end of each month, MLPA members who either renewed or joined for the first time during that month will have their new sign order placed.

The fabrication process takes several weeks, following which the signs are given to the security patrol to deliver to individual residences during their daily patrols. Depending on when in the month you renewed/joined, it may take up to 8 weeks before a new sign is delivered to your residence.

Currently, renewals through the end of June have been ordered. An order for July renewals/new members will take place in early August. If you need to check your renewal date, you may do so at: www.mlpa.org by clicking on the My Account button. While you are there, make sure that you have taken advantage of the bundle membership--you can include 2 emails for each household so that both receive important emails from the association.



Thank you for your patience. We appreciate your continued support of the MLPA.



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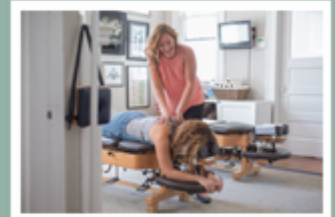
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Crime Volume in Morningside--March thru June 2018

The March cyber attack on the City of Atlanta effectively shut down data systems. As a result, crime volume data for Morningside/ Lenox Park has not been available until last week. The new [open data portal](#) for the Atlanta Police Department is now available.

Here are the crime volumes for March thru June 2018. These data represent a snapshot in time from a database that is always being updated. A look at these same data in a few days might be different.

Crime	March	April	May	June
Larceny from Vehicle				
-neighborhood streets	8	4	10	16
-commercial streets*	8	10	7	7
Larceny, Non-vehicular				
-neighborhood streets	1	4	1	0
-commercial streets*	4	1	1	1
Robbery	1	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2	0	1	1
Burglary				
-residence	1	2	0	0
-non-residence	1	1	0	1
Auto Theft				
-neighborhood streets	2	2	2	1
-commercial streets*	1	4	3	2

* Crimes occurring on Cheshire Bridge, Monroe, and Piedmont are not counted with crimes occurring on neighborhood streets.

Both anecdotal conversations with criminals and formal criminal justice studies have found that one of the most effective deterrents is a cohesive community. That is one of the main functions of the MLPA Neighborhood Watch program. The group recently teamed up with the Atlanta Police Department and communities across the city to celebrate National Night Out. On Sunday, August 5th, neighbors gathered throughout Morningside Lenox Park to get to know each other better, promoting neighborhood unity. Morningside Security Patrol officers stopped by to say hi at some of these (see [Scene Around MLP](#) for pictures).

If you'd like to find out more about the MLPA Neighborhood Watch program, contact neighborhoodwatch@mlpa.org.

Help Wanted

Looking to pad your resume with new experience? Have a few extra hours each week or month that you'd like to invest in a worthy pursuit?

MLPA wants you. Your neighborhood association relies entirely on the work of volunteers. There are committees to fit any interest and jobs that require little to no experience--just a willingness to pitch in to keep our neighborhood one of the best places to live in Atlanta.

Now is the time to consider stepping up--a new board will be installed at the end of the year and we hope to fill the slate with enthusiastic neighbors with a bit of time and talent to invest in our community. Email volunteer@mlpa.org and tell us about your interests.

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Sidney Marcus Workday a Success Thanks to Volunteers

Sidney Marcus Park was created in 1982 and it has been through two major renovations roughly 20 years apart. As the most actively used park in the neighborhood, it's now time once again to focus on this park. A Friends of Sidney Marcus Park has once again organized and is making progress toward helping realize the third generation park needed for our community.

The neighborhood spirit of volunteerism has been amazing as we just completed our second volunteer work day at the park. On July 14, we attacked the tree-killing ivy and stopped it in its tracks. We cleared the ivy from the trees in the park and removed significant invasive species of vines and plants. Combined with our first volunteer day back in November, we have now logged over 175 hours in tremendous effort for our park. Look for our next volunteer work day in the fall.



Our primary focus has been on community input and finding a landscape architect (SITE Solutions) to partner with us and create a Vision Plan for the park. The main focus has been on the stabilization of the park and addressing the severe erosion in the park, as shown in the photo on the left. Between the lush tree canopy and the recent rainy seasons, the sloped areas of the park have suffered some pretty severe erosion. But in addition to stabilizing the park, we wanted to enlist the creative and illustrative suggestions and ideas from the community, city, and our partner, Park Pride. Our Vision Plan is a combination of stabilizing what is there today and also adding new features to broaden the park's appeal.

Having completed these steps, we are next seeking approval and support from the city of Atlanta, MLPA and NPU-F. As summer winds down and fall approaches, look for a campaign launch to make the third generation Sidney Marcus Park a reality. We hope you will include this important effort in your giving plans in 2018.

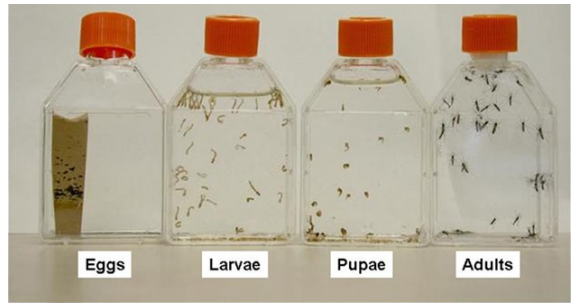
MLPA Garden Club Experiments with Novel Mosquito Control Methods

MLPA Garden Club had a presentation this spring about mosquito control devices that did not require spraying. Many of our members were concerned that even so-called natural mosquito sprays could be destroying beneficial flying species including pollinators, butterflies, and lightning bugs.

Marie Matthews, member and biologist who works with the FDA, talked about a regimen she had been using that interrupts the life cycle of the mosquito, thus controlling the populations. The work was based on [research](#) that has been adopted by the military to control insects both domestically and abroad. As the research article relates, a group of international scientists developed a system that attracts egg laying

mosquitoes and destroys their eggs before they mature into flying insects.

Mathews reported to MLPA Garden Club in July that her do-it-yourself traps (using black plastic containers filled with filtered water and organic materials that she dumps and refills weekly) had proven quite effective for the past few years. The photo at left shows the mosquito life cycle from egg to adult--it takes about 7 days from the time the eggs are laid for them to hatch into larvae and pupae--by pouring them out and killing them, they can't mature into flying insects. Her method allowed her to go outdoors even in the evening hours without being bothered by mosquito bites. Upon her recommendation, the MLPA Garden Club members ordered several commercially available Over-Traps that do not require weekly attention.



Unfortunately, about the time they arrived, Mathews also let us know that the unusual amount of rain we've experienced this summer has decreased the effectiveness of her D-I-Y traps. There has been so much rain that it has accumulated in gutters, leaves, etc. and not dried up before the next rain event, providing egg-laying mosquitoes more places that they can lay their eggs, free from human interference.

Hopefully, the commercial traps that also capture the egg layers will be even more effective. We have just started using them in our yards and will keep the neighborhood apprised of their efficacy. In the meantime, the MLPA Garden Club is making plans for our fall meetings. We also plan to work on our two community projects at Sidney Marcus & the monument at Lanier & Amsterdam. And a plant sale is in the works!

Contact [Marti Breen](#) to join us--everyone is welcome.

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Zoning Committee Report

Three zoning cases were heard in August:

- [MLPA 2018 / V-18-220 | 1275 Beech Valley Rd.](#)
- [MLPA 2018 / V-18-225 | 781 San Antonio Dr.](#)
- [MLPA 2018/ V-18-226 | 1084 Berkshire Rd.](#)

All three cases were approved . These cases will be heard by the full MLPA Board on Monday night, August 13th at 7:00 PM.

The next zoning meeting will be held at Morningside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 4 at 7:00 PM. The cases to be covered will be posted at www.mlpa.org/zoning/. Any neighbors interested in the outcome should come to these meetings. New committee members are always welcome, simply come to three meetings to qualify to vote.

News from Atlanta City Council District 6 Representative, Jennifer Ide

[Click](#) for the latest newsletter from our Atlanta City Council District 6 Representative, Jennifer Ide. It covers:



- National Night Out
- 10th and Monroe/Cresthill Development Cancelled
- Monroe Complete Street Project Public Comment
- Back to School
- Virgilee Park
- Habitat for Humanity Dash for Digs 5k
- Eastside More MARTA Townhall

MLPA Events Listing

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, [CHARM Recycling](#), 1110 Hill Street, SE. Check the website before visiting for holiday schedule changes.

Tuesday, August 7, 8:05-9:05 AM, Morningside Elementary School Principal's Coffee with Kindergarten Parents.

Thursday, August 9, 5:00-6:00 PM, Inman Middle School Boot Camp & Family Dinner.

Friday, August 10, 8:05-9:00 AM, Morningside Elementary School Principal's Coffee, Main Campus.

Friday, August 10, deadline to submit comments on the Monroe Boulevard Complete Streets Project--[email](#) or [click](#) to view the plan.

Monday, August 13, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Board Meeting](#), Morningside Presbyterian Church, 1401 North Morningside Dr. All neighbors are welcome.

Wednesday, August 15, 6:00-8:00 PM, More MARTA Town Hall, Virginia-Highland Church, [743 Virginia Avenue, NE](#). Come meet with your eastside City Council reps (Jennifer Ide, Natalyn Archibong, Carla Smith, and Amir Farohki) to see the plans, make comments, and have your questions answered.

Friday, August 17, 9:15-10:15 AM, Inman Middle School Principal's Coffee.

Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19, Piedmont Park, [Piedmont Arts Festival](#).

Monday, August 20, 7:00 PM, [NPU-F Meeting](#), Hillside Center, [1301 Monroe Dr. NE](#). All neighbors are invited and those 18+ have a vote.

Tuesday, August 21, 8:45, Grady High School, PTSA Principal's Coffee.

Tuesday, August 21, 6:30-8:00 PM, Morningside Elementary School Kindergarten Back to School Night.

Wednesday, August 22, 6:30-8:30 PM, [Morningside Wine Walk](#), a back to school evening for adults sponsored by the shops of Morningside Village. The shops are kindly collecting donations for MLPA and there will be an MLPA Membership table--come find out more about and support your neighborhood association, as well as our local retailers.

Wednesday, August 22--Last day to comment on the [Morningside Lenox Park Master Plan](#) before it goes to vote by the MLPA Board (Sept. 10), NPU-F (Sept. 17) and then on to the Atlanta City Council.

Thursday, August 23, 6:30-8:00 PM, Morningside Elementary School 1st-5th Grades Back to School Night.

Friday, August 24, 6:00-8:30 PM, [MLPA Concerts in the Park](#) returns for the back to school bash--see article above.

Saturday, August 25, 7:00 AM, John Howell Park, [Habitat Dash for Digs, 5K](#).

Sunday, August 26, 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM, Piedmont Park Meadows, [Festival Peachtree Latino](#).

Tuesday, August 28, 6:30-8:00 PM, Inman Middle School Back to School Night.

Tuesday, August 28 , 7:00 PM, MLPA Garden Club. Contact mbreen@c3marketing.com for details.

Sunday, September 2, Noon-8:00 PM, Piedmont Park, [Pure Heat Community Festival](#).

Monday, September 3, Labor Day.

Tuesday, September 4, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Zoning Committee Meeting](#), Morningside Presbyterian Church, [1401 North Morningside Dr](#). All neighbors are welcome.

Monday, September 10, 7:00 PM, [MLPA Board Meeting](#), Morningside Presbyterian Church, [1401 North Morningside Dr](#). All neighbors are welcome.

Tuesday, September 11, 6:30 PM, Grady High School, PTSA Open House/Curriculum Event.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 15-Sunday September 16, [Music Midtown](#).

Friday, September 21, 6:00 PM, [MLPA Concerts in the Park](#).

Scene Around Morningside Lenox Park--New Stop Signs & National Night Out

Prior to repaving North Morningside, Renew Atlanta has installed a 4-way stop at the corner of North Morningside and Lanier Place. Be sure to come to a complete stop.



MLPA Security and Neighborhood Watch sponsored National Night Out gatherings throughout the neighborhood on Sunday, August 5. As these photos show, meeting your neighbors is a great way to spend a summer afternoon!



This is your newsletter. Please send us your ideas for articles, interviews, and photos for inclusion. Send them to communications@mlpa.org.

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

Senate District 36 - Nan Orrock, Georgia State Senator

House District 57 - Pat Gardner, Georgia State Representative

Atlanta Public Schools, Morningside Elementary School, Inman Middle School, Grady High School

VHMPA - Virginia Highland Morningside Parent Association

NextDoor - Neighborhood list serve- not affiliated with MLPA

