



## YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

January 2023

We hope everyone had a happy holiday season! In the new year, a new board begins work - but we can't do it alone. There are a lot of great things happening in Morningside/Lenox Park, the best neighborhood in Atlanta (our humble opinion). Make a resolution today to [join us](#) and volunteer to make our neighborhood even stronger in 2023.

### OVERVIEW AND QUICK LINKS:

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*Introducing Dr. Donald Campbell, 2023 MLPA President  
(previously MLPA Vice President)*

## President's Note

2023 marks the centennial anniversary of the founding of Morningside/Lenox Park. In 1923, James R. Smith and M.S. Rankin built eight homes on E. Morningside Dr, creating a "suburban" model for Atlanta featuring 40-foot wide streets to accommodate the new obsession ... the automobile. During the 1920's, the first shopping center on Piedmont Rd and Wilson Park at the intersection of E. Morningside and N. Rock Springs were built. Morningside Elementary School's six room schoolhouse was founded in 1929. Over this next year, we will highlight memorable milestones for each of the previous decades.

As the new president of the Morningside Lenox Park Association, I am honored to follow in the footsteps of the first group of Morningside residents who, in 1965, incorporated the organization; and along with adjacent neighborhoods, waged a fight with the state over plans to build Interstate 485 directly through our beautiful area. In 1973, the state dropped its plan for the highway but the members of the MLPA board did not drop their mandate to use its influence for the betterment of all those living within its borders.

My overwhelming message to all the residents reading this newsletter each month is....WE cannot do it without YOU!! There is power in numbers and being a member of this voluntary organization makes security patrols, park improvements, community events, and most importantly having a voice in policy at the city government all possible.

Our goals for the 2023 centennial celebration of Morningside/Lenox Park are more community engagement through increased membership ([join/renew](#)) and volunteer hours, significant infrastructure improvements across the neighborhood, increased security through patrols and community awareness, and events designed to bring us all together and celebrate the uniqueness that is our shared experience in the greatest intown neighborhood Atlanta has to offer.

Dr. Donald Campbell, [president@mlpa.org](mailto:president@mlpa.org)



## Savi Provisions

As you know, Coldwell Banker is vacating the property at 1370 N Highland, and Savi Provisions (a specialty food store) is interested in this space. In late December, members of the MLPA Board of Directors met with the Savi owners, who seemed eager to be in the neighborhood and willing to work with us. We learned several new things about their plans, including:

- possibly a deck on the side of the building
- an 800 square-foot room for the sale of liquor
- a wine and cocktail dispensing machine for tastings--Italian model
- possible hours to 11pm

As noted in previous communications:

- Savi is by all accounts a respectful and law-abiding neighbor currently open in other metro locations ([www.saviprovisions.com](http://www.saviprovisions.com))
- We expect the current co-tenant, Professional Dry Cleaners to stay in place.
- In other locations, Savi operates 7am-9pm M-Th, 8am-10pm Fri-Sat, 8am-9pm Sun. Professional Dry Cleaners operates 8am-6pm M-Fr, 9am-5pm Sat. Alons operates 7am-8pm M-Sat, 9am-4pm Sun.
- Although not necessarily guaranteed or problematic, this new tenant could drive more foot and car traffic, noise and lighting compared to other nearby businesses.

Thank you to those neighbors who provided feedback last month.



## Neighborhood Gathering for Master Plan Implementation

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

Thursday, February 23

6:30 - 8:00pm

The Family Dog

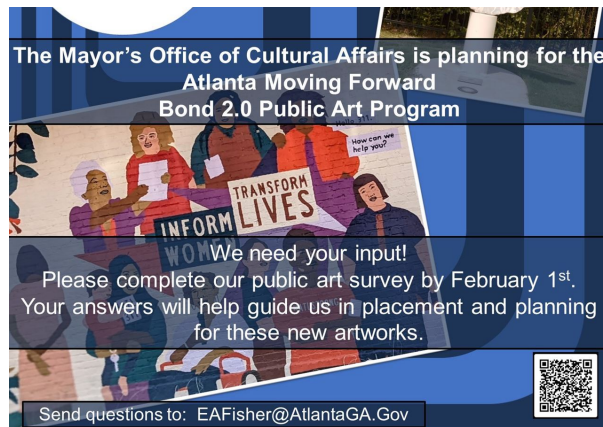
Implementation of the [MLPA Master Plan](#) - which was adopted by the Atlanta City Council in 2018 - is alive, well and underway! A group of dedicated neighbors have been volunteering behind the scenes, bringing it to life over the past several years.

Neighborhood input and participation are critical to the ongoing, successful execution of the Master Plan. As such, please join the Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC) on **Thursday, February 23 at 6:30pm at The Family Dog** in Morningside Village!

- Learn about our accomplishments in 2022 and our plans for 2023 and beyond.
- Hear from the MLPA Board, MPIC Leaders, and your local councilman, Alex Wan.
- Ask questions, share ideas, see old neighbors, meet some new ones and get involved!

Complimentary appetizers will be provided! [Registration](#) not required but greatly appreciated so we can have a headcount.





## Atlanta Moving Forward Bond 2.0 Public Art Survey

The Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs is seeking feedback on the upcoming Atlanta Moving Forward Bond 2.0 Public Art Program from Atlanta residents. These funds are expected to be used for the commission of new public artworks in all twelve council districts.

Please answer this short [survey](#) to guide the selection of locations, art mediums, and possible subject matters. This data will be collected by the city, analyzed by council district, and documented in a report for reference during the planning stage.

This questionnaire is a key step in collecting public input for these important future projects. The engagement process will continue throughout the project and utilize community members as part of our selection committees.

Please complete the survey by **Wednesday, February 1, 2023**. If you have any questions, contact [Emily Fisher](#).



## ATL Zoning 2.0

Help us write a new code for "ATL Zoning 2.0!" The City of Atlanta is rewriting its 40-year-old Zoning Ordinance that no longer meets Atlanta's present and future needs.

Join this important conversation on **Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.** inside the [Russell Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs](#) (or R.I.C.E.) in Southwest Atlanta or virtually on [Zoom](#). This is a Citywide conversation, and all Atlanta stakeholders are encouraged to participate.

In this meeting participants will have the opportunity to engage in a presentation on zoning concepts like the amount of car and bike parking required, use standards (such as for drive-throughs), site standards, and more. Participants will have time to ask questions and receive live answers. A workshop breakout will follow the presentation.

Each Zoning Workshop is designed to build upon information from the last workshop. The Zoning 2.0 series is designed to explore new zoning approaches and alternatives

workshop. The zoning sub-committee is designed to explore new zoning approaches and alternatives that were identified in the 2016 Zoning Ordinance Diagnostic Report.

The best way to participate is with your closest neighbor. Forward, screenshot and share this message with someone else. Register today at [ATLZoning.com/Meet-and-Contribute/](https://atlzoning.com/Meet-and-Contribute/).

Stay in touch and email [atlzoning2@atlantaga.gov](mailto:atlzoning2@atlantaga.gov) with your questions and comments.



ATLANTA  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

### Atlanta Public Schools Updates

From Associate Superintendent Paul Brown regarding **Howard Middle School**:

*I am pleased to announce to you that Ms. Tekeshia Hollis will be the principal of Howard Middle School. Ms. Hollis will start in her new role on January 17th. Dr. Paula Snowden, Mrs. Barbara Shea, and Jennifer Cappelli will continue to support Howard Middle for the duration of this school year giving Ms. Hollis the opportunity to get to know the Howard community and plan for next school year.*

*Ms. Tekeshia Hollis brings to Howard Middle School over 18 years of experience as an educator with 7 years in the Midtown Cluster. Ms. Hollis has served in various roles throughout her tenure, including Teacher, Instructional Coach, Assistant Principal, and interim Principal. Ms. Hollis is a dedicated leader who is focused on maximizing the potential of all students and educators. As a teacher and a leader, she firmly believes high expectations, coupled with effective and quality instruction, will change students' lives. We are looking forward to her leadership.*

*We will be scheduling meetings for the greater community to meet Ms. Hollis in January 2023.*

*If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office. Thank you for your time, consideration, and support of Howard Middle School.*

In other APS news, [Jessica Johnson will fill the At-Large Seat 9 on the Atlanta Board of Education](#) (a vacancy left by Jason Esteves, who was elected to the Georgia Senate).

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### Parks



### **Sunken Garden and Lenox-Wildwood Parks**

The Friends of Sunken Garden and Lenox-Wildwood Parks are excited for the installation of two new park kiosks, which occurred on December 31, 2022. It was a happy New Year's Eve, indeed!

Park kiosks serve a multitude of purposes. They formalize the park and welcome visitors. They provide a space to educate, communicate, provide maps and other important information to community members. Sunken Garden and Lenox-Wildwood were our neighborhood's only recreational greenspaces without kiosks. Sunken Garden features a playground and field. Lenox-Wildwood features tennis/pickleball courts and meadows. Both parks are connected by a forested nature trail, which remains unknown to much of the community. Kiosks with maps and other information will help activate safe usage of these underutilized public spaces.

The kiosks for Sunken Garden Park and Lenox-Wildwood Park were largely funded by an award from last year's NPU-F Community Impact Grant. The MLPA contributed to the kiosk installations, as well, which were constructed by [Kelly Crow, the Go To Guy](#). Many thanks to Kelly and his crew - who typically build decks, porches and outdoor living spaces - for not only their donation of materials, but also for their patience and flexibility throughout the permitting process!

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### **Sidney Marcus Park**

What a year for our park in 2022! Upon completing the renovation of the park, our Friends of Sidney Marcus Park saw countless birthday parties, scouting events, church events, and community events, on a backdrop of fall concerts. It was a rebound from a rough 2 years of Covid uncertainty and real suffering on all fronts. But despite all of our obstacles and roadblocks, we had a terrific year at the park. Let us close 2022 with a "newsletter" of all that went on and what to expect in 2023 and beyond.

### **Ribbon Cutting on New Lower Park Area**

- Our 2020 Legacy Grant spent almost a year incubating while we waited on the building permits. With an end of 2021 start, Patrick Hand and his team from Integrated Land Design began their terrific work and we finally celebrated this important renovation with a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 29, 2022. Thank you Patrick for your innovative and creative interpretation of our Vision Plan for the park. With support from Park Pride, ATL Department of Parks and Recreation, Integrated Land Design, the MLPA, and our ever-stronger Friends of Sidney Marcus Park, this work capped off three matching funds, Park Pride grants, and community contributions of \$150,000.

### **Carving Colin**

- Our Friends of Sidney Marcus Park and neighbors continue to help in so many ways at the park. Our neighbor, Chris Vale, suggested we contact his brother, Colin Vale, in Maryland ([carvingcolin.com](http://carvingcolin.com)), a wood carver and fantastic artist. Thanks to a substantial discount from Colin, we were able to contract Colin. He came down in absolutely the hottest part of the summer, and spent 3 weeks in Atlanta, creating a beautiful tribute to the Tulip Poplar and delivering a bench like no other. John Hults, directly across from the park on Sherwood Road, had a diseased poplar cut down. The masterful work of Boutte Tree Service was able to deliver a 9 foot slice of the tree over the power lines and directly into Sidney Marcus Park. Once again, Patrick and his team found a perfect spot for it and built a pad for what would be our new bench. With a celebratory "un-Vale-ing" of the bench in July, we definitely found our cherry-on-the-top for our renovation of the park.

### **Booster Campaign**

- Boosters do work! We had 10 blank pavers left in our new tribute area and ran a booster campaign to get tribute contributions. And we did! Not only did we add 10 new tribute pavers to the area, we got donations for two double pavers from the Marcus family. Sidney Marcus' sister and husband, Sandra and Gary Silver, added a double paver. And Sidney Marcus' son and wife, Brad and Pam Marcus, added a second double paver. The FSMP capital campaign was a complete success!

### **Food Drives at the Park**

- Our quarterly Food Drive at the Park tradition delivered strong dividends in 2022. We delivered 2,320 pounds of food and personal hygiene products to our partner, Intown Collaborative Ministries. Our neighborhood has a truly strong sense of giving and helping both with our park improvements and our food drives.
- Friday and Saturday, **February 10 and 11**, we will hold our first food drive of 2023 at the park. We will be collecting donations from 9am to 11am on Friday and Saturday at the entrance on Cumberland Road. Guidance on what is most needed is available on the [Intown Collaborative Ministries website](http://Intown Collaborative Ministries website).

### **New Picnic Tables**

- Once again, Larry Hogan, a neighbor and true Friend of Sidney Marcus Park, has renovated our moveable picnic tables and they are better than new! If you have been to the park recently, you have seen them. They are terrific and a good example of how FSMP providing materials and neighborhood volunteers, like Larry, can make a huge difference at the park. Our ability to support the number one group activity at the park, the birthday party, continues to get stronger.

### **Preserving our Wood Structures**

- Another example of FSMP driven improvements and volunteers, we were able to paint the serpentine walkway, the carved bench and the new swing with a wood preservative. Thanks to Mike Collins, John Hults and John Pappas for many volunteer hours, cleaning and coating our new wood structures.

### **Bond Referendum**

- Back in May, the city passed a green space bond referendum that has money earmarked for Sidney Marcus Park. We are working with Councilman Wan to continue to build out our Vision Plan and hopefully use these funds to complete another large renovation of the park. We are not sure how, yet, this project will go, but we have the opportunity to pretty

much finish the park, focusing on the upper half of the park. And the better news is there is money in this bond for Sunken Garden Park and our two nature preserves. There have been so many exciting things that happened in 2022. In addition to strong focused efforts at our parks and nature preserves, there is broader and better coordinated support for our greenspaces across Morningside. Thanks to a great volunteer effort by Micah Coleman and Holly Sassnett and strong support from the MLPA, we are coordinating our efforts and channeling our energy on the neighborhood's biggest asset, our greenspaces.

Please [let us know](#) your thoughts and ideas for Sidney Marcus Park; we welcome your engagement. Our efforts and activities will honor and celebrate our 100 year old neighborhood.

Your Friends of Sidney Marcus Park Managing Team  
John Pappas, Jan Hogan, Lori Brown, John Hults and Lindsey Cottingham

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## Herbert Taylor and Daniel Johnson Parks

### MLK Day of Service

- Tomorrow, **Monday, January 16** from 9:00am - Noon, celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with a special workday. Past MLK days have improved Trill Hill and trails from the Herbert Taylor Park kiosk. Meet us there to learn our goals for the day.

### New City of Atlanta (COA) Park Commissioner Visits Herbert Taylor Park & Daniel Johnson Park

- Friends of HTDJ welcomed the new COA Parks Commissioner, Justin Cutler, on Friday, December 16th. We showed him some of the recent improvements to trails and discussed some of the challenges we have. He was very supportive of our work and complimented the results of volunteers' efforts in the parks.

### Help us Plan for 2023

- Friends of HTDJ next meeting is **Monday, January 23rd** at 7:00pm. Join us to help prioritize our work for the coming year. Bring your ideas and willingness to work! Email [friendsofhtdj@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhtdj@gmail.com) for more information.

### Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS) Restoration

- GNPS Restoration training will hold a session on **Sunday, January 29**, 2:00-4:00pm, with volunteers from Atlanta area Georgia Native Plant Society chapters. All our friends and neighbors are invited to come learn invasive removal and habitat restoration from the experts!

Friends of HTDJ invite you to join our regular workdays, the second Saturday of each month. We meet at the kiosk at 1343 Pasadena Av. at 9:00am for introductions and a short orientation. Then we set off to remove invasive plants that threaten the tree canopy and plant native species to support the park's wildlife. Bring water to drink and your favorite gardening tools, or borrow some of ours!





## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



[Whiskey Bird](#) is now open for brunch on Fridays, from 10:30am - 2:30pm!  
Little Bird is also open during these hours for takeout.

## THANK YOU TO OUR MLPA BUSINESS PARTNERS

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# WHISKEY BIRD

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# Artichoke Dinner Club

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## Zoning

There was one case heard by the Zoning Committee and MLPA Board this month.

- **V-22-188** 1357 Berwick Ave.
  - Construct an accessory structure for existing single family dwelling
  - Approved

The next zoning meeting will be held on February 7 at 7:00 pm. Any neighbors interested in variance outcomes should come to these meetings. All neighbors are welcome to attend; come to three meetings to qualify to vote. For more information, contact MLPA Zoning Chair, Rebekah Falkler, at [zoning@mlpa.org](mailto:zoning@mlpa.org).

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## Alcohol License Permitting

The MLPA was informed of two upcoming alcohol license permits this month:

- **[The Daily Chew](#)** at 2127 Liddell Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30324
  - Voted to recommend
- **[Six Feet Under](#)** at 1824 Cheshire Bridge Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30324 (coming Spring 2023)
  - Voted to recommend

Establishments are not required to come before or seek approval from neighborhood associations before they seek approval at the NPU. Questions? Please contact our Licensing Chair, [Ashley Milam](#).

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### **Meet the MLPA Board - President**

Don has lived in Morningside for the past 22 years. In December 2022, Don and his husband Lanier celebrated their 40th anniversary together. Don is a graduate of Oxford College and both Emory University and Dental school. He has been in practice for more than 38 years in Atlanta and Decatur. He is currently a senior partner for Great Expressions Dental Centers and serves as mentor for many of the newer doctors in the organization.

Avid travelers, Don and Lanier have visited over 40 countries and almost all 50 states. Last year was eventful with the loss of our beloved dog Ares, but the void we felt was filled to excess by our new dog AXL, who loves greeting his neighbors both animal and human from his fenced front yard on Merton Rd.

We also celebrated the marriage of our son Tim to his beautiful wife Beth last year. When not working or traveling, Don spends his spare time riding his bike in the neighborhood, going to the gym, and spending time with friends and family - often frequenting the amazing restaurants, bars, shops and parks that Morningside/Lenox Park has to offer.

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## Morningside Farmers' Market Special Updates

Here are just some of the happenings at [Morningside Farmers Market](#):

- We are happy to announce our new Loyalty Program! This is a new rewards program for frequent market shoppers. Benefits include \$5 tokens, swag and occasional delicious treats. Pop by the information booth on Saturday to learn more & enroll!
- Spike of Sweet Hone Atlanta will be joining us on January 21 to professionally sharpen your knives, scissors, and gardening tools, just \$10 and 10 minutes a pop! Now accepting Venmo. Get your tools sharpened while you shop!
- What's in Season? cabbage, carrots, garlic, green onions, herbs, kale, lettuce, microgreens, radish, raddichio, sweet potatoes, sunchokes, swiss chard, turnips, and more!

Morningside Farmers Market has been offering certified organic produce, local meats, breads, and goods since 1995, every Saturday morning year-round. Visit all of the vendors at their year-round home in the Morningside Presbyterian Church parking lot (1411 N. Morningside Drive NE) from 8:00-11:30am.

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## MLPA Centennial Events Lineup

Get ready to celebrate! The MLPA Events Committee has already started planning to make next year a fun one. If you'd like to join this volunteer force, please don't hesitate to reach out. Contact our Events/Social Chair, [Ryan Murphy](#), to help. And check out the lineup below to see which, if not all, events you'll be attending!

### Spring 2023

- Concerts in the Park (3x)
- Morningside Fun Run
- New Mom's Brunch

### Summer 2023

- New Neighbor Social

### Fall 2023

- Battle of the Paddle (Pickleball Tournament)
- Concerts in the Park (2x)
- Centennial Family Event (October 20)
- The Morningside Centennial Ball (November 10, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center)

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## Neighborhood Meeting Schedule

*All neighborhood meetings are open to the public and your involvement is always welcome. There will be a public comment period at the beginning of each MLPA Board meeting if you would like to share an idea or concern. Or just join us to learn more. We hope to see you there!*

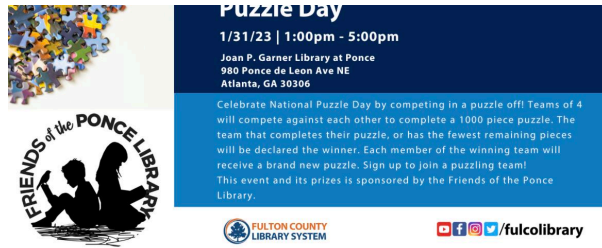
- **MLPA Board Meetings** - 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm [Contact](#)
  - [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 841 3250 9005  
Passcode: 797155
- **MLPA Zoning Meetings** - 1st/2nd Tuesday of every month (see Zoning above), 7:00pm [Contact](#)
- **NPU-F Meetings** - 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm, [Online via Zoom](#)

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## Around Town



**Puzzle Competition for National  
Puzzle Day**



**Puzzle Day**  
 1/31/23 | 1:00pm - 5:00pm  
 Joan P. Garner Library at Ponce  
 980 Ponce de Leon Ave NE  
 Atlanta, GA 30306

Celebrate National Puzzle Day by competing in a puzzle off! Teams of 4 will compete against each other to complete a 1000 piece puzzle. The team that completes their puzzle, or has the fewest remaining pieces will be declared the winner. Each member of the winning team will receive a brand new puzzle. Sign up to join a puzzling team! This event and its prizes is sponsored by the Friends of the Ponce Library.

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

fulcolibrary

**Puzzle Competition**  
 Tuesday, January 31, 2023 Add to Calendar  
 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
 Joan P. Garner Library at Ponce De Leon

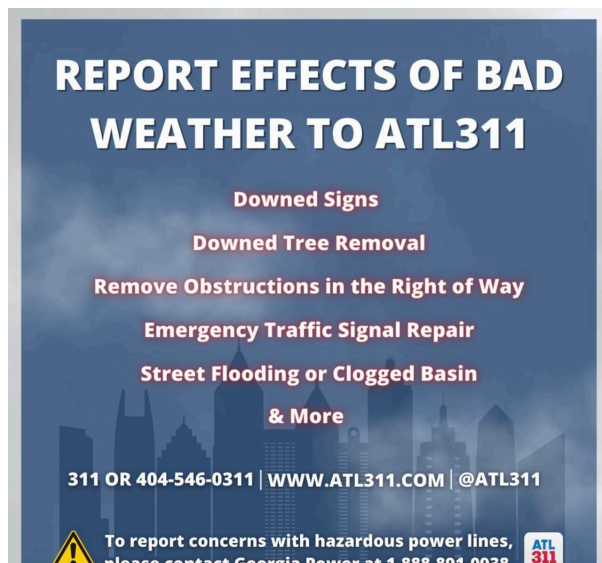
**Ponce Puzzle Competition.** The Friends of Ponce Library are sponsoring the inaugural Ponce Puzzle Competition on January 31, 2023 from 1 - 5pm at Ponce Library. Teams of four will compete to complete a 1000 piece puzzle within four hours for prizes and glory. Don't have a complete team of four? Sign up individually and we'll pair you up with a team. [Click here to register](#) for the event on the Library's website.



**NO SOLID WASTE COLLECTIONS ON MLK DAY**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023**  
 ONE-DAY COLLECTION DELAY THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAY WEEK.  
**QUESTIONS: Dial 404-546-0311, or Visit: www.atl311.com**

Connect with us: @AtlantaPublicWorks @ATLPublicWorks @ATLPublicWorks Nextdoor City of Atlanta, Department of Public Works

**Solid Waste Delay This Week.** The Office of Solid Waste Services will not collect garbage, recycling, yard trimmings, or bulk items on Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The schedule is revised to include a one-day delay throughout the holiday week. Residents whose regular collection day is Friday, January 20, will be serviced on Saturday, January 21. For questions about the holiday schedule, please visit [www.atlantaga.gov/solidwaste](http://www.atlantaga.gov/solidwaste) or dial 404-546-0311.



**REPORT EFFECTS OF BAD WEATHER TO ATL311**

- Downed Signs
- Downed Tree Removal
- Remove Obstructions in the Right of Way
- Emergency Traffic Signal Repair
- Street Flooding or Clogged Basin
- & More

311 OR 404-546-0311 | WWW.ATL311.COM | @ATL311

To report concerns with hazardous power lines, please contact Georgia Power at 1-888-891-0938

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## Quick Links

- [MLPA](#) - Morningside Lenox Park Association website
- [NPU-F](#) - Neighborhood Planning Unit F website
- [APD](#) - Atlanta Police website
- [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](#) - Stacey Evans, Georgia State Representative
- [House District 83](#) - Becky Evans, Georgia State Representative
- [Atlanta Public Schools](#), [Morningside Elementary School](#), [David T. Howard Middle School](#), [Midtown High School](#)
- [NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood List Serve (not affiliated with MLPA)



Join MLPA or Renew Membership

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This is your newsletter. Please send questions, ideas and photos to [communications@mlpa.org](mailto:communications@mlpa.org).

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