



## YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

May 2023

It's starting to feel like summer in one of Atlanta's greatest intown neighborhoods. Your involvement and caring help make this place so wonderful. Please [join us](#) (or renew). Your support makes a difference!

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## President's Note

Atlanta is affectionately known as a “city in the forest.” Surrounding the buildings and homes stand giant trees and other types of plant life that envelop much of the man-made infrastructure. This gives the city of Atlanta a very different look from many other major cities across the country.

That's the good part. The bad part is as a result of climate change, allergy season is reported to be a full month longer than 30 years ago. Even that fact has not deterred the Morningside community from getting out and enjoying the Concerts in the Park and lending their time to various Friends of the Parks groups - including Morningside Elementary's Dolphins Do Good group, which participated in an archeology and nature walk at Herbert Taylor/Daniel Johnson Parks. In addition, the Friends of Sidney Marcus collected more than 600 pounds of food and personal hygiene products at their quarterly drive!

Next up is the final Concert in the Park on May 19 at 6:00pm in Sidney Marcus Park, followed by the celebration of the opening of the beautiful new bridge at Lenox-Wildwood Park on Saturday May 20 at 9:30am. More details below for both events.

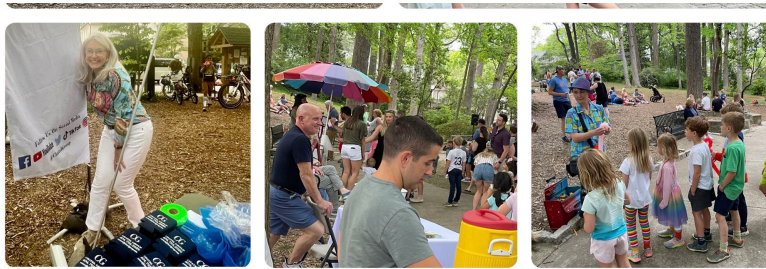
A huge thank you goes out to all the Morningside and surrounding neighbors who rallied resoundingly to the threat of more adult businesses on Cheshire Bridge Rd. More than 1,900 signatures [on the petition](#) (circulated under the leadership of Ryan Howard) and over 100 individual emails to the City demonstrate how important a unified voice is in protecting our neighborhood; however, the fight is not over. Please continue to share the petition to increase our voice and use this opportunity to [join MLPA](#), so we will have the resources both financially and with volunteers to continue advocating for a neighborhood that reflects the residents who live here.

Big plans are in the works for the Beltline, as well as the Amsterdam Walk project. Continue reading to review the plans for the Beltline Subarea 6 and submit your comments or suggestions before the end of June when public comment closes. Also join the developers of the potential Amsterdam Walk project for a presentation on Tuesday, May 16 from 6:30 - 8:00pm (again, more information below) - remember you will have to preregister to attend.

Finally, our sympathy to anyone affected by the senseless gun violence that affected our community in early May. As a result of License Plate Reading (LPR) cameras throughout the city, the criminal was apprehended. Our dedication to security is paramount and we at MLPA, in partnership with Alex Wan on the City Council, will be purchasing at least two new LPR cameras to bring our total coverage to 10. Please look for details in the monthly Security Report for ways you can help.

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





## Spring Concert in the Park Series

April's MLPA Concert in the Park was another success with a huge crowd turning out to enjoy live music, food trucks, a balloon artist and treats from King of Pops, Haygood UMC and our generous sponsors. Beautiful weather and the newly renovated park provided a fun evening for families and neighbors.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the next concert on **Friday, May 19** at **Sidney Marcus Park** from **6:00 - 8:00pm**. This concert is the final one before we all go on break for summer, returning August 25. It will be a great chance to celebrate the end of the school year with picnics, a concert and more treats. See the lineup below:

### Featured Band:

- [Frankie's Blues Mission](#)
- As the name implies, these gentlemen are on a mission: Their purpose is to present the blues, jazz, R&B and zydeco in the best of the African-American tradition with all the energy they can muster. Frankie's Blues Mission has been together for over a decade, providing down-home, roots music for grateful listeners in the Southeast region and beyond. They have performed with or shared the stage with blues legends such as Robert "Chick" Willis, Billy Boy Arnold, Billy Flynn, Henry "Gip" Gipson, Chicago Bob Nelson, Roy Lee Johnson, Luther "Houserocker" Johnson, Willie Hill and Rita Graham. The group has also performed at numerous festivals and special events including The Atlanta Dogwood Festival, The Gwinnett Arts Festival, The Lowcountry Blues Bash, The Pee Dee Blues Bash, The National Black Arts Festival, The Decatur Arts Festival, and many more!

### Food Trucks:

- [Tacos and Burritos On My Way](#)
- [South of Philly](#)

### Additional Treats:

- [King of Pops](#)
- [Haygood UMC Happy Camper](#)
- [Balloon Twister](#)
- [Our generous sponsors, too!](#)

Don't forget your picnic blankets, chairs and extra drinks! We are excited to continue this tradition, with great appreciation to **Carter Rude** for organizing them. Our sponsors and members make these free MLPA Concerts in the Park possible. Please thank our sponsors with your support and make sure [your membership](#) is current - and encourage all your neighbors to [join MLPA](#) in support of our community.

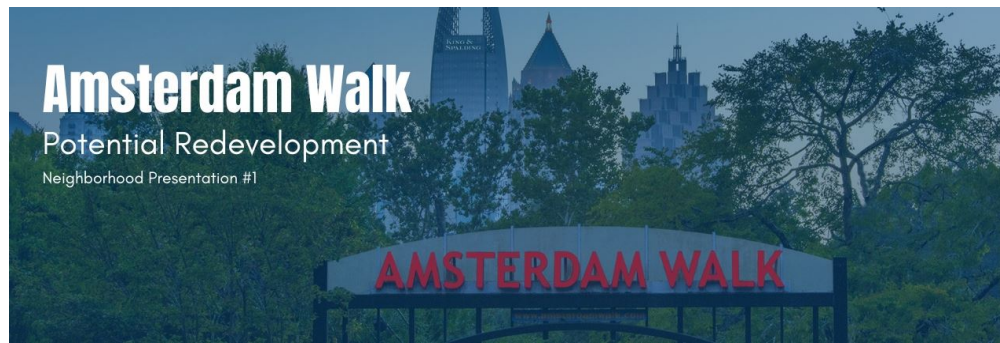




## New Moms' Brunch Recap

Last month, a balanced mix of 13 moms with newborns and those who are expecting gathered to meet and build a network for this special age and stage. Over a delicious brunch, these women delighted in sharing stories and building families in this community. They shared contact information for mutual support, budding friendships and future playdates - many of them have just recently moved here!

Enormous thanks to **Jennifer Schweidel** for her continued time and thoughtful planning of this annual event. We also appreciate **Halley Blythe** for graciously representing the MLPA and [Whiskey Bird](#) for always being the most accommodating, splendid hosting venue.



## Amsterdam Walk Potential Redevelopment Community Meeting

As shared in last month's newsletter, Portman Holdings is beginning the process to potentially redevelop Amsterdam Walk. The MLPA appreciates the opportunity to work with Portman because unlike many other developers, we have seen them engage with the community, listen to concerns and work to find solutions. Please join Portman on **Tuesday, May 16 from 6:30 - 8:00pm** for a virtual meeting to learn more. [Click here to register.](#)



*Atlanta Beltline Master Plan Draft Recommendations for Smith Park in Morningside-Lenox Park (at the intersection of Piedmont Ave and Monroe Dr)*

## Beltline Subarea 6 Master Plan Updates and Community Engagement

The Atlanta Beltline is coming to Morningside! Or perhaps mostly Morningside-adjacent is more accurate. While the trail will only brush our neighborhood, the [Subarea 6 Master Plan](#) envisions redevelopment and improvements for a **wide swath** around the Beltline itself, including public art



redevelopment and improvements for a [wide swath](#) around the Beltline itself, including public art, land use, and parks and open spaces. That plan was from 2011. Now the Atlanta Beltline is recommending master plan updates to address changes in land use, zoning, mobility, and other discrepancies throughout the subarea.

### **Purpose & Outcomes**

- To build on the foundation of the 2011 Master Plan by documenting changes since adoption.
- To provide recommendations to guide growth and development for vibrant, livable mixed-use communities in the area of transit-oriented development (land use/zoning), mobility, affordable housing, green space, etc.

### **Draft Land Use Recommendations Include:**

- Ansley Mall @ Piedmont & Monroe Intersection
- Ansley Square @ Piedmont & Monroe Intersection
- Piedmont Park Expansion
- Kroger @ Monroe Drive
- North Piedmont Heights @ Gables
- 10th and Virginia Avenue
- Amsterdam Walk at the BeltLine
- Dutch Valley Road
- Ponce De Leon at the BeltLine
- Ponce De Leon at Ponce De Leon Place (NE Corner)
- Ponce De Leon Place at Maiden Lane

Please review all of the draft recommendations [in this presentation](#) (especially our Morningside park and green space lovers). **The Subarea 6 Project Team is soliciting public input through June 30.** [Provide feedback here.](#) After this phase, the next and final step is to introduce legislation for adoption in the 4th quarter. Questions? Contact the following representatives:

- Subarea 6 Project Manager - Lynnette Reid, Director of Planning at ABI [Lreid@atlbeltline.org](mailto:Lreid@atlbeltline.org) or 404-477-3551
- Subarea 6 Community Engagement Manager - Brittany Brewster [bbrewster@atlbeltline.org](mailto:bbrewster@atlbeltline.org) or 404-477-3645
- Subarea 6 Consultant Lead - Andrew Kohr, PLA, ASLA/ Principal at POND [kohra@pondco.com](mailto:kohra@pondco.com)

As always, feel free to send us your good ideas at [parks@mlpa.org](mailto:parks@mlpa.org).



*Current MLPA President, Don Campbell, with Former MLPA President, City Council Member and Neighborhood Hero, Mary Davis*

## meeting a morningside treasure

At the Morningside Farmers Market's "Greens, Eggs, and Jam," the MLPA was there to help celebrate the start of spring, speak with neighbors and meet new ones. Imagine our surprise and excitement when one woman stopped by our table to say hello, and we learned that she was not only a former MLPA President (elected in September 1972) but also a member of the Atlanta City Council for 20 years (from 1978-1998). And that's not all. This steadfast neighbor was one of the leading activists who stopped powerful entities from building a highway straight through the middle of Morningside. She is Mary Davis!

How fortuitous that during our neighborhood's centennial year, it is also the 50th anniversary of when five Morningside women (along with some friends) won a major battle that halted I-485, a six-lane freeway, from devastating our and several other intown communities. If you are not already familiar with or would like a refresher of this monumental crisis, we strongly recommend you take the time to read this comprehensive [30th Anniversary Retrospective: The Interstate That Almost Was](#) from 2003.

The dramatic story "involves mayors, governors, state and federal bureaucrats, two civic associations both claiming to represent the neighborhood, the defeat of almost an entire city council, and the election of a new mayor. The fight to stop the highway not only obliterated I-485; it helped bring into existence a new way of governing the city and a new power for local city neighborhoods, a power they continue to wield today." It is a truly remarkable and significant part of our neighborhood's history.

To learn about Morningside-Lenox Park's earliest days, please visit our [Historical Timeline](#) - and be sure to click on 'Continue Reading.' If you have additional information on our neighborhood's history throughout the decades, send your text, photos, and suggestions to [Phyllis Wingo](#).



ATLUTD Academy    
@AcademyATLUTD

Caleb Wiley. 18 years old.

Just a kid from Morningside  



## "Just a kid from Morningside"

Check out this feature in last month's *Atlanta Magazine*, written by Rachel Garbus:

[How Caleb Wiley went from a kid from Morningside to an Atlanta United star](#)

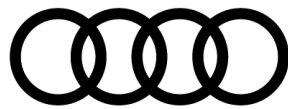
*"Wiley is among ATLUTD's first crop of kid players, joining the club's U-12 team when it launched in 2016. Now, the homegrown 18-year-old is a starting left back and crucial goal creator."*

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THANK YOU TO OUR MLPA SPONSORS

Centennial Presenting Sponsor



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ATLANTA CITY COUNCILMEMBERS



Alex Wan, Council District 6  
Matt Westmoreland, Post 2 At-Large



**ENGEL & VÖLKERS**  
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Celebrates Morningside





## Centennial Benefactor Sponsors

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[Kristen Pollock/Engel & Volkers](#)

[Marc Tammes & Michel Lopez](#)

[Selig Enterprises](#)

[StretchLab Morningside](#)

## MLPA Business Parters (2022-2023)



SAVE THE DATE

# MOBILE SHREDDING TRUCK

AT MORNINGSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MAY 13, 9AM-1PM



CG CHATEL GROUP  
POWERED BY PLACE | kw KELLERWEISS REALTY ATLANTA MIDTOWN

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SHREDDING & RECYCLING  
Morningside

Thank you to our Centennial Premier Sponsor, [The Chatel Group](#), for hosting a Mobile Shredding Truck for the neighborhood tomorrow **May 13 from 9:00am - 1:00pm** at Morningside Presbyterian Church, from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Get a jump on spring cleaning!



ATLANTA  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

### **Atlanta Public Schools Updates**

Only two weeks left of the 2022-23 year! The last day of school is Friday, May 26. The first day of the 2023-24 year is Tuesday, August 1. Enjoy summer break!

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### **Parks**



### Lenox-Wildwood Park

Join us! Celebrate the new pedestrian bridge in Lenox-Wildwood Park with the Friends of Sunken Garden & Lenox-Wildwood. On **Saturday, May 20**, meet in the small meadow by the bridge off of Berkshire Rd, near the intersection of Barclay Pl and E Sussex Rd. We'll start with coffee and treats at **9:30am** and then recognize this latest park improvement project at 10:00am. [Click here to RSVP](#). Hope to see you there!

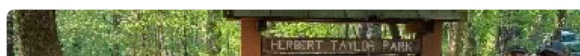
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### Sidney Marcus Park

Thank you, neighbors, for another successful quarterly drive supporting [Intown Collaborative Ministries](#). The Friends of Sidney Marcus Park collected 620 pounds of nonperishable food items and personal hygiene products. We also really appreciate our helpers (including some scouts from Pack 17) pictured above. Stay tuned for the next one!

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## Herbert Taylor and Daniel Johnson Parks

Literal showers (more than 4 inches!) canceled the bird walk—even so, they have been out in the parks enjoying the fruits of volunteer labor. Work in April focused on the Johnson Road entrance, with ivy, porcelain berry, and Chinese wisteria cut from the tree canopy. This protects the forest and all its visitors.

Thanks to our friends from Emory Alumni Association's Emory Cares who came out to celebrate Earth Day a bit early. Their efforts, and that of our friend from the Georgia Forestry Commission, David Long, freed at least a half dozen trees that were inundated by invasive vines.

John Mayes and Ansley Abraham led the archaeology walk on April 22. Neighbors and parents/children with the Morningside Elementary Dolphins Do Good learned about the native owners of our land. After a brief showing of a portion of their collections, we walked to the beach where we cleaned up trash and even discovered one pottery shard!

Spring leads to summer quickly in Atlanta. In order to keep up with the good work volunteers have done over the past, we're scheduling TWO workdays and hope to see many of you out to help us at least once:

- **Saturday, May 13, 9:00 AM - Noon**—Celebrate Mother's Day early by helping mother nature in the park. We will continue to work on removing the last vestiges of Japanese Chaff Flower from the trails. We will also tackle some of the trees that are covered with ivy so that they can continue to support our gorgeous tree canopy!
- **Tuesday, May 23, 9:00 AM - Noon**—Since Saturday doesn't work for everyone, we hope to expand our efforts with a weekday gathering. Meet at the kiosk and we will split into groups to remove invasive species and install native plants.

Bring your own garden gloves and tools or borrow ours. Bring water to drink, sunscreen, and bug spray. Wear long sleeves, pants, & close toed shoes—poison ivy has been seen. Meet at the kiosk at 1343 Pasadena Ave for a short introduction & safety briefing. Please note our new email for questions or more information: [friendsofhtdj@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhtdj@gmail.com). And follow us on our new Facebook page [here](#).





## **Morningside Nature Preserve**

Help promote a healthy plant community and a sustainable forest in Morningside Nature Preserve. Your work will improve habitat for humans who use the greenspace for recreation and wildlife that call it home. Trees Atlanta is resuming their monthly volunteer workdays, **now on the third Saturday of each month**. Activities include hand-pulling and cutting invasive plants such as English ivy, Chinese privet, and kudzu in a densely wooded area off trail. Physical activity such as bending, pulling, lifting, and kneeling is required. Forest restoration can be physically strenuous - be ready to break a sweat and get dirty and learn a lot while doing it! Register to volunteer for future months [here](#).

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## **Zoning**

There were no zoning cases heard this month by the Zoning Committee and MLPA Board.

The next zoning meeting will be held on **June 6 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 our MLPA Zoning Chair (Rebekah Falkler) at [zoning@mlpa.org](mailto:zoning@mlpa.org).

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## **Alcohol License Permitting**

There were no alcohol license permit applications discussed at this month's MLPA meeting.

Establishments are not required to come before nor seek approval from neighborhood associations before they seek approval at the NPU. The NPU makes a recommendation on the application to the License Review Board (LRB), and then the LRB makes a recommendation to the Mayor (who has final say). Questions? Please contact our Licensing Chair, [Ashley Milam](#).

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*Michel Lopez and Marc Tammes*

### **Meet the Board: Marc Tammes**

Meet our financial expert and MLPA Treasurer, Marc Tammes! Marc and his husband Michel moved to Morningside in 2018. They previously lived in Garden Hills for 15 years, where Marc was Chairman of Civic Association Membership for several years. He holds a bachelor's in accounting from Iowa State University and a master's in finance from Indiana University. Michel is a dual American/French citizen and holds a master's degree in French from Georgia State University. Marc retired from The Coca-Cola Company in 2014 after 25 years in various finance roles in Atlanta, Bangkok, Paris, and Brussels. He also serves on the board of directors of Voices of Note. Marc and Michel travel extensively in their spare time.

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Do you know what MLPA events are happening this year to celebrate our Centennial?

[Click Here](#)

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## Morningside Farmers' Market Special Updates

Check out what's happening at this week's [Morningside Farmers Market](#):

- **Cooking Demo:** [Chef Neiani of Cookconnect](#) will be at market to demonstrate how to make springtime pastas with market vegetables and pasta from Pasta Milani. Talk to Neiani and grab a \*free sample\* on Saturday!
- **Makers at Market for Mother's Day Gifts:**
  - [Christina Perry Designs](#) creates original pieces to celebrate special occasions and incorporates beloved pieces of jewelry into a stunning redesign. Come talk to Christina on Saturday about preserving that special family heirloom for Mom!
  - [Sabrina Breanna Skincare and Haircare](#) has gift sets with cards ready to grab for Mom. Check out Sabrina's body butters, soaps, and oils this Saturday. You're sure to find a scent just right for that special woman in your life!
- **Farmers and Artisans:**
  - [Bread and Butter Farms](#) (produce and eggs)
  - [Casa Cardoza](#) (southern South American empanadas)
  - [Daily Chew](#) (hummus, salads, shakshuka, pantry basics)
  - [Dandelion Foods & Goods](#) (prepared dinners, lunches, and treats for your pantry)
  - [Diamond Hill Farm](#) (produce and flowers)
  - [Elise Organic Ice Cream](#) (homemade ice cream)
  - [Grateful Pastures Farm](#) (bone broth, chicken, schmaltz, tallow, turkey)
  - [Noble Honey Company](#) (artisanal honey, lip balm, candles)
  - [Pasta Milani](#) (artisan pastas and sauces)
  - [Raw Head Bread](#) (raw healthy snacks and breads)
  - [Riverview Farms](#) (eggs, heritage breed pork, grassfed beef, and grains)
  - [Row by Rowe](#) (produce)
  - [Sabrina Breanna Skincare and Haircare](#) (soaps, scrubs, body butters, hair products)
  - [San Francisco Coffee](#) (hot coffee and organic beans)
  - [Smyly Farms](#) (duck meat and eggs)
  - [SouthernCap Mushrooms](#) (fresh and powdered mushrooms)
  - [Sweet Hone Atlanta](#) (knife and tool sharpening)
  - [The Buttery ATL](#) (breads, pastries, granola)
  - [Watsonia Farms](#) (asparagus and strawberries)
  - [Xocolatl](#) (at info. booth)

Morningside Farmers Market has been offering certified organic produce, local meats, breads, and goods since 1995, every Saturday morning. Visit all of the vendors at their year-round home in the Morningside Presbyterian Church parking lot (1411 N. Morningside Drive NE). The market's location offers a spacious, tree-lined setting for neighbors to hang out from 8:00-11:30am.

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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



### MARTA Introduces Breeze 2.0 Pay-by-Phone App

The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) launches the new **Breeze Mobile 2.0** app, an updated way to pay for your ride with your smartphone. This new app was designed to address customer feedback during the testing of Breeze Mobile 1.0 and delivers new features to make paying fares easier. Customers may still use other Breeze fare media, including Breeze cards and tickets.

“One of the most common customer requests is a way to conveniently pay for each ride as you go, rather than having to load a card or stand in line to buy a ticket at the ticket machines,” said MARTA Chief Customer Experience Officer Rhonda Allen. “This updated **Breeze Mobile 2.0** app lets you pay-as-you-go. Just scan your phone on the bus or at the faregate and you’re on your way.”

In addition to purchasing tickets and products on the updated app, MARTAriders can load stored value to their **Breeze Mobile 2.0** account, allowing the app to work just like a Breeze card.

#### HOW TO DOWNLOAD:

Open your app store and search for **Breeze Mobile 2.0**:

- App Store: [Breeze Mobile 2 on the App Store \(apple.com\)](#)
- Google Play store: [Breeze Mobile 2 - Apps on Google Play](#)

Download and create a new account. Since **Breeze Mobile 2.0** is a new app, everyone will need to create an account, even users of the previous Breeze Mobile 1.0 app.

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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
- [NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood List Serve (not affiliated with MLPA)

#### Contact Our Elected Officials:

- [Council Member Alex Wan \(D\)](#), Atlanta City Council, District 6
- [State Rep. Becky Evans \(D\)](#), District 83, Serving MLP residents in DeKalb County
- [State Sen. Elena Parent \(D\)](#), District 42, Serving MLP residents in DeKalb County
- [State Rep. Stacey Evans \(D\)](#), District 57, Serving MLP residents in Fulton County
- [State Sen. Nan Orrock \(D\)](#), District 36, Serving MLP residents in Fulton County

#### Neighborhood Schools:

- [Morningside Elementary School](#)
- [Virginia-Highland Elementary School](#)
- [David T Howard Middle School](#)
- [Midtown High School](#)
- [Atlanta Public Schools](#)



Join MLPA or Renew Membership

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

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