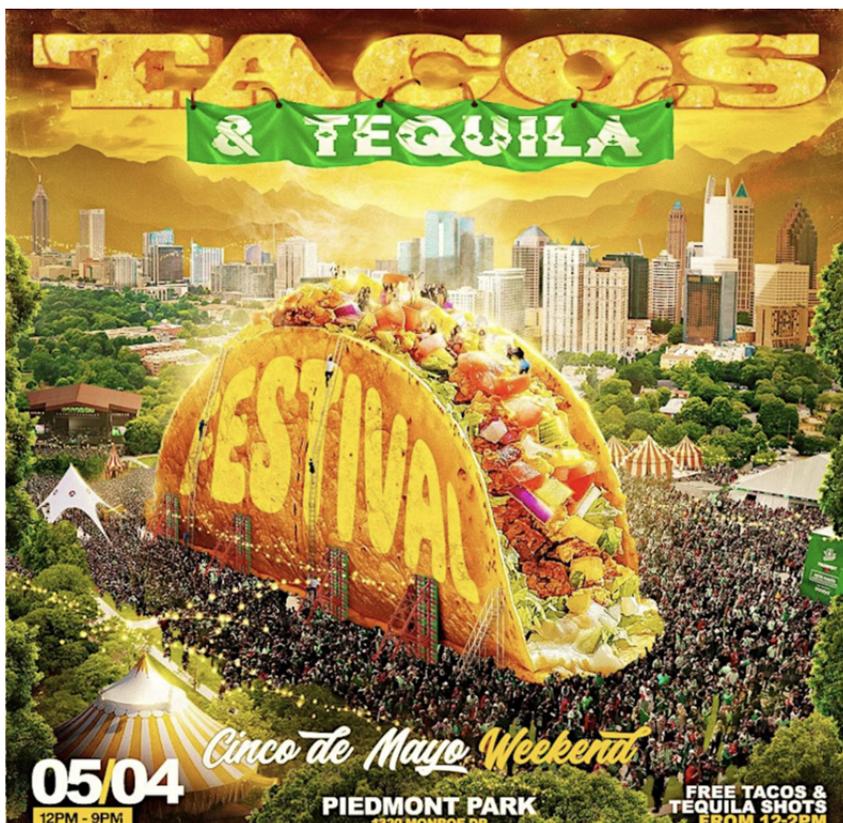


MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS
May 2025

If you're not already an MLPA member, please [join/renew](#) today. If you are a member, we very much appreciate you for supporting our neighborhood!

NEWS & UPDATES





Piedmont Park Conservancy's Response to Amplified Sound from Tacos & Tequila Festival

Dear Friends, Neighbors, and Partners,

I am writing on behalf of the Piedmont Park Conservancy related to the Tacos and Tequila Festival on May 4, 2025. The Conservancy aims to be a collaborative steward of Atlanta's most visited park and relies on the feedback and partnership of our community to make our mission possible. While our MOU with the City of Atlanta provides for the use of the Promenade as a rental venue for the Conservancy and, for more limited occurrences, the combined use of Legacy Foundation for ticketed events, we are aware of the impact these events have on our neighbors. Noise and other issues related to public events held on the Park's Promenade and Legacy Fountain have caused the Conservancy to continually adapt our programming at these venues to be good neighbors.

In 2024, based on feedback from the City of Atlanta, Councilmember Alex Wan, NPU's E and F, Atlanta Botanical Garden, and individual neighbors, the Conservancy initiated policy [linked here](#) related to amplified, large events at the Promenade/Legacy Fountain. Per feedback from May 4, there is more work to be done on this front. Accordingly, Councilmember Alex Wan will be scheduling a small working meeting of representatives from surrounding community groups, homeowners groups, NPU-F, and the Conservancy to discuss the issues and collectively determine next steps.

As a nonprofit organization that receives less than 10% of our operating budget from governmental sources, contributed and earned income sources are critical to our work and mission achievement. In the future, revenue diversification will be even more important as the Conservancy takes on more stewardship and programmatic roles in the park and begins a capital campaign for major new park improvements. We embrace this opportunity with excitement in what Piedmont Park can become and know it will take many sources of revenue to make the vision possible. We take very seriously our relationship with and impact on our community. We also know that we need the support of every neighbor and park-lover to bring our collective vision to life. With this in mind, I look forward to the meeting's honest discussion and fruitful outcome.

I am available to discuss further via email, phone, or in-person and can be reached using the contact information below. Thank you for your love and support of Piedmont Park and for your honest feedback!

Doug Widener

President & CEO

Piedmont Park Conservancy

[\(404\) 875-7275 x.226](tel:(404)875-7275x226)

dwidener@piedmontpark.org

www.piedmontpark.org



Cheshire Bridge Court Cases

Last month, there was a Municipal Court hearing for the Happy Hermans, European Dry Cleaners, and Landmark Diner properties on Cheshire Bridge Road. Judge Seitz issued [these charges](#) and gave the owner 30 days to make improvements. A status court appearance has been scheduled on **June 3 at 11:00am at the City of Atlanta Municipal Court**, 150 Garnett Street, Atlanta GA 30303. The case numbers are: 25CV000455, 25CV000455A, 25CV000461, 25CV000461A, 25CV000465, and 25CV000465A.

The judges often appreciate the presence of community members during these proceedings. The solicitor's office is prosecuting code enforcement violations for these locations, which can either result in a trial or fines.

Mayor's Neighborhood Summit

In March, Mayor Andre Dickens hosted the 3rd annual Neighborhood Summit. The Neighborhood Summit is an in-person event designed to bring together community leaders to discuss our shared vision for neighborhood growth and improvement. NPU chairs, neighborhood association leaders, place-based nonprofit and philanthropic leaders, and others gathered to participate in breakout sessions on strategic issues central to ensuring that all of Atlanta's neighborhoods are places where families and children can thrive. The summit is an opportunity to share knowledge and foster partnerships to ensure we are creating meaningful change together.

Linked below is the content that was shared during the morning mainstage activities:

- [Mayor's Remarks - The Group Project.pdf](#) | Mayor Andre Dickens
- [Making Atlanta the Best Place to Raise a Child.pdf](#) | Courtney English, Chief Policy Officer & Senior Advisor to the Mayor
- [Understanding the Role of Ombuds.pdf](#) | Dr. Jodi Merridav, Ombudsman

of Neighborhoods

- [Atlanta Neighborhoods By The Numbers.pdf](#) | Tommy Pearce, Executive Director, Neighborhood Nexus

EVENTS



Spring Concert in the Park

We had the best time at our annual spring Concert in the Park at Sidney Marcus Park on Friday, May 9. The turnout was phenomenal! We enjoyed talented live music from the [School of Rock Atlanta House Band](#) and then [DJ Tight Mike](#) kept everyone dancing late into the evening. The kids enjoyed a face painter and balloon artist, and everyone loved King of Pops and the treats from Haygood UMC's Happy Camper.

These concerts are **FREE** thanks to the support of our generous sponsors and your membership dues. See you at our Fall concert on September 12!



UPCOMING EVENTS

New Parent Brunch - April 26

Spring Concert in the Park - May 9

New Neighbor Welcome - August 14

Fall Concert in the Park - September 12

Wine Walk - September 18

Monster Dash 5K Run/Walk - October 25

NEW THIS YEAR

Members Only Socials + Perks

STAY TUNED

For Event Details

Save the Dates

We've got a diverse, fun lineup of events this year - mark your 2025 calendars now and keep an eye out for additional information!

PARKS





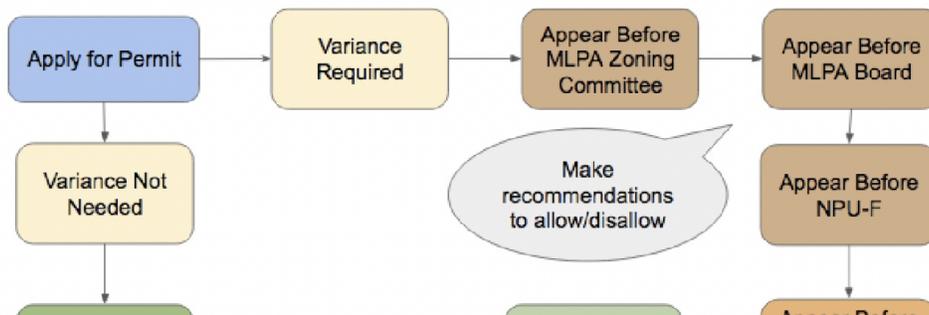
Art in Herbert Taylor Park - What's Underfoot: Molds, Mosses, Fungi & Lichen

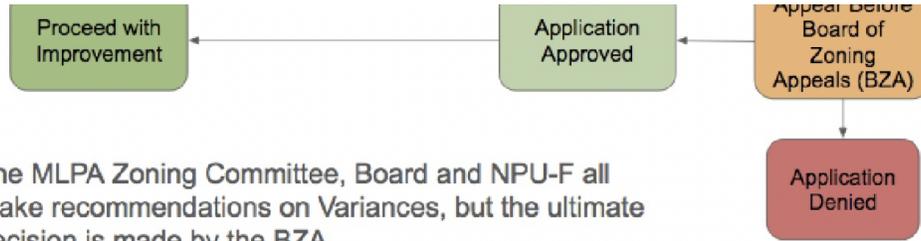
The idea for an art exhibit attracting visitors to appreciate the wonders of Herbert Taylor Park was sparked at a Park Pride conference. Around the same time, Diane Kirkland's photography was literally, getting up close, appearing on the cover of Lenswork Magazine's June 2023 edition. The timing was serendipitous, coinciding with a Park Pride grant cycle, so the "What's Underfoot" exhibit you see now resulted. The exhibit begins on the bridge and continues back along the Taylor trail to learn more about the fascinating organisms that are the building blocks of all life in the park.

The photos in this show were the result of a tedious process required to bring the slime mold, lichen, fungus, and mosses into focus. The ultra close up view means that the focal point is very, very shallow, so that only a tiny portion of the subject is in focus on each exposure. She learned that in order to get the image sharp enough for viewing, she needed 20-50 different shots, each with different focal points. And getting those that meant hauling in a tripod, timer, etc, and making minute adjustments for each photo.

As if that didn't require enough patience and attention to detail, Kirkland then brought her artistry to bear to render the photos seen here. And she spent hours reading up on the characteristics of each of these unique organisms and their role in the forests' ecosystem. She humbly states, "I'm just a photographer not a scientist," but she clearly has a lot to teach us about these fascinating lifeforms.

ZONING





The MLPA Zoning Committee, Board and NPU-F all make recommendations on Variances, but the ultimate decision is made by the BZA.

Variance Requests

MLPA received three variance requests and one special exception for review at the May board meeting:

- [V-25-085](#) 1304 Beech Valley Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
 - Variance: To reduce the half-depth front yard from 17.5ft to 7ft.
 - Recommendation: No Recommendation
- [V-25-087](#) 1062 Reeder Circle NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
 - Variance: To reduce the front yard from 35ft to 19.3ft.
 - Recommendation: Approval
- [V-25-092](#) 1011 McLynn Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30306
 - Variance: (1) Reduce the east side yard from 7ft to 0ft. (2) Reduce the rear yard from 15ft to 1.1ft
 - Recommendation: Approval
- [V-25-098](#) 1914 Wildwood Place NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
 - Special Exception: (1) Reduce the front facing garage from being recessed 10ft behind the front facade to 0ft. (2) Remove the requirement of a front porch with a roof and roof supports. (3) Remove the requirement for a front door to face and be visible from the adjacent street.
 - Recommendation: Approval



What is Plan A?

Plan A is Atlanta's Comprehensive Development Plan and guides decisions impacting lives across the city every day. It sets forth the vision, goals, policies, and actions for physical growth and development.

The plan is ready for Atlanta's Neighborhood Planning Units support and adoption by City Council and the Mayor.



NPU Vote on Plan A

This Wednesday, May 21, NPU-F will vote on Plan A:

[25-O-1224/CDP-25-1](#) An Ordinance to adopt Plan A- The City of Atlanta’s 2025 Comprehensive Development Plan as the official Comprehensive Development Plan for the City of Atlanta, Georgia in compliance with the requirements of the Georgia Planning Act of 1989.

[FACT SHEET](#)

[WEBSITE](#)

Information for NPU-F meetings can be found [here](#). Meetings are held via Zoom on the third Wednesday of every month beginning at 7:00pm.

MEET THE BOARD



Kristen Pollock, Membership Chair

Kristen is a longtime Morningside-Lenox Park resident who lives on Lanier Boulevard with her husband, Lee, and their two children—a college student at UGA and a sophomore at Midtown High School. As an associate broker and realtor with [Compass](#), Kristen is

passionate about helping neighborhood families navigate the significant milestones of buying or selling a home.

Kristen has served on the MLPA board in roles including Education Chair and Social Media Chair. She is excited to return to the board as Membership Chair to enhance awareness of MLPA and expand the neighborhood's membership base. Kristen is a proud sponsor of Morningside Elementary and Virginia-Highland Elementary and is deeply connected to the community where both of her children began their education.

In her free time, Kristen enjoys traveling, cooking, and reading. You'll often find her walking her dog, Rey, through the neighborhood streets she knows and loves.

May also happens to be MLPA's membership drive month - [email Kristen](#) anytime!

AROUND TOWN



Rescheduled: Beautify Cheshire Bridge

A rain date just means you have more time to grab your friends, family and neighbors and let's BEAUTIFY CHESHIRE BRIDGE on **Saturday, June 7 from 9:30-Noon** and clean up Cheshire Bridge Road from I-85 to Faulkner Drive NE. Join the PiHi Alliance, Lindridge Martin-Manor Neighborhood Association and LaVista Park Civic Association for a day of service supporting small businesses. MLPA is a proud and appreciative supporter.

WHERE

The Tara Theatre: 2345 Cheshire Bridge Road NE

- Meet in the parking lot. You'll see our tent.
- Plenty of parking is available onsite.

WHAT TO EXPECT

9:15am-9:30am: Check in: Breakfast and coffee

9:45am: Welcome, assignments, safety guidelines, group photo and equipment distribution.

10:00-Noon: Litter pick up on Cheshire Bridge Road, LaVista, Lindbergh and Sheridan.

This clean up is part of the [Beautify PiHi](#) initiative started in 2020. We engage the local residents, business owners and other stakeholders to get involved to make where they live, work and play a better place for everyone.

All ages are welcome. This is a great community service opportunity. PiHi Alliance is a 501 c (6) nonprofit organization. Groups and children are welcome. No dogs allowed for safety reasons.

- Bring your own work gloves, and wear closed toed shoes.
- Please dress for the weather with sun protection.
- Safety vests, trash grabbers, and garbage bags will be provided by Keep Atlanta Beautiful.
- More details including a liability waiver and photo release when you sign up to volunteer.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



Morningside Farmers Market

The Morningside Farmers Market has you covered with all their farmers and producers

The Morningside Farmers Market has you covered with all their farmers and producers. On any given Saturday, you might find: produce and flowers, pastured pork, beef, and freshly milled grains, mushrooms, prepared soups, casseroles, salads and pantry treats, ice cream, bagels, bagel sandwiches, breads, pastries, tarts, pasta and sauces, coffee beverages and bags of beans, spreads, shakshuka, sweets, infused vinegars, refreshing beverages, hot tea, loose-leaf tea blends and spice blends, knife and tool sharpening services, seedlings, pancake mix, bars and granola, dog biscuits - the list goes on!

Morningside Farmers Market has been offering organically grown produce, local meats, breads, and goods since 1995. The market is open every Saturday morning year-round from 8:00-11:30am at Morningside Presbyterian Church's parking lot (1411 N. Morningside Drive NE). SNAP/EBT (food stamp) dollars are doubled for an equal amount of tokens for fruits and vegetables at the information tent. The market's location offers a spacious, tree-lined setting for market goers.

Atlanta City Council District 6

Atlanta City Council

[Click here](#) and sign up to receive alerts, updates and newsletters - plus view past communications - from our District 6 City Councilperson Alex Wan.



Atlanta Public Schools Updates

Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

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: 893 6667 0233
Passcode: 553503
- **MLPA Zoning Meetings** - Typically 1st Tuesday of every month, 7:00pm [Contact](#)
- **NPU-F Meetings** - 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm, [Online via Zoom](#)

2025 MLPA SPONSORS

PREMIER

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———— Celebrates Morningside ————

ATLANTA CITY COUNCILMEMBERS





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

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MLPA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2025

SUPPORTING A VIBRANT, SAFE, & ENGAGED COMMUNITY

presenting		premier	benefactor	friend of
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-branded presenting sponsor recognition on all events. On-site Activation opportunity OR promotional item distribution at events Inclusion in new neighbor welcome bag distribution Sponsor Spotlight feature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Logo recognition on website & all email distribution 4 tickets to MLPA events Invitation to member only events Co-branded & sponsor highlight content across social media channels Industry exclusivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logo recognition on all events, association messaging & newsletters 2 tickets to MLPA events Logo recognition on website & all email distribution On-site Activation opportunity OR promotional item distribution at events Inclusion in new neighbor welcome bag distribution Co-branded & sponsor highlight content across social media channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition at MLPA events & associated communication/promo 2 tickets to select MLPA events Inclusion in new neighbor welcome bag distribution Sponsor recognition on website & all email distribution On-site Activation opportunity at select events Co-branded & sponsor highlight content across social media channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor recognition on website & all email distribution Co-branded & sponsor highlight content across social media channels <p>\$500 annual investment</p> 
\$10,000 annual investment		\$5,000 annual investment	\$1,500 annual investment	

Support our awesome neighborhood with a sponsorship!

[Email us](#) for more information.

Quick Links:

- [MLPA](#) - Morningside Lenox Park Association website
- [NPU-F](#) - Neighborhood Planning Unit F website
- [APD](#) - Atlanta Police website
- [City of Atlanta](#) - City's website
- [NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood List Serve (not affiliated with MLPA)

Contact Our Elected Officials:

- [Ken Zeff](#), APS Board of Education, District 3
- [Council Member Alex Wan](#), 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

Please send questions, ideas and photos to communications@mlpa.org.

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