

## The City of Atlanta 2016 Comprehensive Development Plan

The City of Atlanta 2016 Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) is underway! The Georgia Planning Act of 1989 calls for local governments to develop and adopt a comprehensive plan. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) establishes the standards and procedures for coordinated and comprehensive planning as well as the date by which a comprehensive planmust be adopted. The City of Atlanta's Comprehensive Plan has to be adopted by October 31, 2016. In addition, the Charter of the City of Atlanta mandates the preparation of a Comprehensive Development Plan.

The Comprehensive Development Plan sets forth vision, goals and policies, it is a guide for future growth and development, and it a fact based resource to track policy implementation.

**Plan Elements:** The Elements of the Comprehensive Development Plan are listed below.

- 1. Community Goals- This section includes:
  - General Vision Statement,
  - Community Goals, and
  - Community Policies a list of policies including the NPU Policies.
- 2. <u>Needs and Opportunities</u>- This is a locally agreed upon list of Needs and Opportunities the City intends to address
- Community Work Program This element lays out the specific activities the City plans to undertake to address the priority Needs and Opportunities.
- 4. <u>Capital Improvements Element</u> This is a list of projects to be funded with impact fees.
- 5. <u>Land Use Element</u> This element includes:
  - Character Area Maps and defining narratives,
  - Future land Use map and narrative with land use categories, and
  - Summary of adopted plans.

- Transportation Element This will reflect the policies and recommendations of the Connect Atlanta Plan and the recently adopted Supplements.
- 7. <u>Housing Element</u> This will reflect the policies and recommendations of the Consolidated Plan, the SCI Report and the Invest Atlanta Housing Strategy.
- Environmental Planning Criteria and the Regional Water Plan This section will examine protection of water supply watersheds, groundwater recharge areas, wetlands and river corridors.

**Planning Process:** The Office of Planning in the Department of Planning and Community Development is leading the development of the CDP in partnership with a Steering Committee, City Departments and Agencies, and City of Atlanta stakeholders- residents, property owners, business owners.



<u>CDP Steering Committee</u>: The Steering Committee will guide the development of the plan. The Steering Committee members will be composed of City Departments, agencies, boards and stakeholders.

<u>City Departments and Agencies:</u> City Departments and Agencies are responsible for preparing their corresponding portion of the Comprehensive Development Plan, as listed below.

- Needs and Opportunities: review and revise the list of Needs and Opportunities from the 2011 CDP, and developed through the 2016 planning process, and provide background information on the needs and opportunities.
- Implementation Strategies: recommend strategies to address Needs and Opportunities.
- Policies: Create, review or revise CDP policies.

**Community Participation**: Community participation is an essential component of the development of the CDP. Stakeholders can participate in the process by attending public hearings and community meetings.

<u>First Public Hearing</u>: The first public hearing was held on April 26<sup>th</sup> during the Community Development/Human Resources City Council Committee meeting. The purpose of the hearing was to present the planning process, opportunities for public participation and to obtain input of the proposed planning process.

Second Required Public Hearing: The second public hearing will be held after the plan has been drafted and available for public comment. This will provide the opportunity to inform the public on the adoption process and to make final comments. The second public hearing will be held on September 12, 2016 during the CD/ HR 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter public hearing.

<u>Community Meetings</u>: There will be two rounds of community meetings. Each round will consist of four meetings, one in each quadrant of the city - NW, NE, SW and SE.

- Round 1 Meeting: Vision, Needs and Opportunities: The planning process, review and prioritization of needs and opportunities for each subject areas will be discussed. The Round I meetings will be held in May/June.
- Round 2: Character Areas: Character Area Maps will be reviewed and the key characteristics that are present, the desired characteristics, as well as what to preserve/maintain, change/redevelop, create and connect for each Character Area will be discussed. Recommended policies

and implementations measures will also be discussed. The Round 2 meetings will be held in July/August.

Review and Approval Process: After the second public hearing on September 12, the draft 2016 CDP will be transmitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Department of Community Affairs for their 30 day review. Afterwards, the City of Atlanta City Council will consider the plan for adoption at its October 17th 2016 Council Meeting.

For more information please contact visit http://www.atlantaga.gov/index.aspx?page=1295 or contact City of Atlanta, Office of Planning staff: Jessica Lavandier-jlavandier@atlantaga.gov and 404-872-2622 and Rodney Milton, Jr at rmmilton@atlantaga.gov and 404-335-1944.

The 2016 CDP Planning Schedule



What are Character Areas? They are a geographic area which is unique and distinguishable from other areas due to:

- their natural features,
- the predominant land uses, mix of land uses,
- economic relationships. and/or
- design characteristics of the built environ ment.

They have common vision can be articulated regarding its preservation, growth or change.