

# NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING UNIT – F



Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Effective January 2023, NPU-F will meet virtually on the Third Wednesday of each month.

Please pre-register by clicking [HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 845 9824 9006

Dial In: +1 646-558-8656

Access Code: 845 9824 9006#

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Debbie Skopczynski, **Chair** – 404.874.7483 or [chair@npufatlanta.org](mailto:chair@npufatlanta.org)

Kay Stephenson, **Vice-Chair** – [kay.stephenson@gmail.com](mailto:kay.stephenson@gmail.com)

Doug Young, **City of Atlanta, Planner** – 404.330.6702 or [dyoung@atlantaga.gov](mailto:dyoung@atlantaga.gov)

Leah LaRue, **City of Atlanta, Assistant Director** – 404.330.6070 or [llarue@atlantaga.gov](mailto:llarue@atlantaga.gov)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm
  - The agenda was unanimously adopted.
2. Approval of Minutes

Thanks to Carol Shunnarah for taking minutes last month. The April minutes were sent to those on the NPU mailing list which includes verified members.

Minutes were unanimously adopted.

3. Announcements – none
4. Reports from City Departmental Representatives

<b>Atlanta Fire Department</b> Station 19 North Highland, Station 29 Monroe Drive Battalion Chief Derek Harris	Captain Dr. Baoll, Supervisor over EMS services represented the AFRD. The outsourcing agency for non emergency responses is Right Side. 23 recruits graduated in the newest class. AFRD still has staffing shortages. Capt. Dr. Tajhiek Anwar Baoll <a href="mailto:tnbaoll@atlantaga.gov">Atlanta Fire Rescue-EMS2C Supervisor</a>
<b>Atlanta Police Department</b> <b>Zone 2 – Major Ailen Mitchell</b> <b>Zone 6 – Major Webster</b>	Captain Dorian Graham Zone 6 Asst. Zone Commander <a href="mailto:dgraham@atlantaga.gov">dgraham@atlantaga.gov</a>  Anti-theft devices are available at precincts. Zone 6 is up 5% in auto thefts. The Captain emphasized the Clean Car campaign and recommended that private cameras be registered on the APD network. APD has reached out to car makers, including Kia and Hyundai regarding thefts. As the APD continues to send officers to the training site, staffing is impacted.  Major Ailen Mitchell APD Zone 2 Commander. <a href="mailto:aamitchell@atlantaga.gov">aamitchell@atlantaga.gov</a>



	<p>Zone 2 is up 7% in crime year over year, mostly car thefts. 1700 vehicles have been stolen so far in 2023. The focus is on Hyundai and Kias. Steering wheel clubs and locks are available for free from APD. Shoplifting is up significantly, especially in malls and big box stores. Car break ins by juveniles continue to be an issue. 3 officers have been assigned to zone 2 to deal with crime. The Zone officers are working on the shooting in parking lot across from Club Allure. APD continues to work with the permit/licensing City departments. Connectatlanta.org has info on registering cameras.</p>
<p><b>APD Code Enforcement</b> Delores Bryant Officer Lyles – In Rem manager</p>	<p>Report was sent to neighborhoods.</p>
<p><b>ATL311</b> <b>Hours: Monday-Friday, 7am - 7pm</b> <b>Ways To contact:</b> <b>-Dial 3-1-1 inside city limits</b> <b>-Call 404-546-0311</b> <b>-Email at <a href="mailto:ATL311@atlantaga.gov">ATL311@atlantaga.gov</a></b> <b>-Use mobile app by searching ATL311 in app store</b> <b>-Social media@ATL311</b></p>	<p>Cheyenne Forbes. ATL311 is the Non-Emergency Call Center for City of Atlanta Services, <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for City of Atlanta emergency alerts by texting NOTIFYATL to 888777. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> PAD (Policing Alternatives and Diversions Initiative): To make a PAD Community Referral for non-emergency quality of life concerns related to mental health, substance use or extreme poverty, please call ATL311 at 404-546-0311 and press the option to speak with ATL311 Supportive Services. PAD only accepts Community Referrals through the ATL311 phone line Monday-Friday, 7am-7pm. For more information visit <a href="http://www.atlantapad.org">www.atlantapad.org</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@atlantapad.org">info@atlantapad.org</a>. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> If you would like to leave ATL311 feedback from today's meeting, ask us questions, or report any outstanding issues, please take our survey by clicking this link: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATL311Meeting">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATL311Meeting</a>.</p>
<p><b>PAD</b></p>	<p>Stacy Piper represented PAD, Policing Alternatives and Diversion, Inc. <input type="checkbox"/> Send all email information to <a href="mailto:clara@atlantapad.org">clara@atlantapad.org</a>. Got 101 community referrals through 311 call number. Doing community outreach. Resident looked for clarity on PAD objectives and shared concerns about safety of PAD workers.</p>
<p><b>Public Works Code Enforcement</b> Officer Ferguson <a href="mailto:vferguson@atlantaga.gov">vferguson@atlantaga.gov</a>, 678-221-8215.</p>	<p>Pete Francis represented DPW SWEET, Tel: 404 938 1183 , email: <a href="mailto:pfrancis@atlantaga.gov">pfrancis@atlantaga.gov</a>. Bulk collection items should be set out the day before. Gated communities can get bulk collection if they grant access.</p>

5. Comments from Elected Officials

<p><b>Commissioner Natalie Hall, Fulton County Commission District 4</b>  <a href="mailto:Natalie.Hall@fultoncountyga.gov">Natalie.Hall@fultoncountyga.gov</a>          .404.612.8226.</p>	<p>Commissioner Hall is serving VAHI as of January 2023 because of redrawing of district lines. Her office conducts clean ups around the City. They clean senior's yards and offer Senior beltline tours. The previous Commissioner was an advocate for quality healthcare. A health fair is planned for October 7 and youth conferences are planned with APS. Grant opportunities will be available in the fall for health, and financial wellness. A resident inquired about increasing appraisals of high end commercial properties by the Fulton Development Authority.</p>
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6. Consent Agenda

**Board of Zoning Adjustment**

Application	Request	Neighborhood Report	Recommendation
<p><b>V-23-14</b>            1832 Monroe Drive            NE</p>	<p>Applicant seeks a variance to increase the lot coverage from 50 percent to 70.15 percent.</p>	<p>PH:            Under review</p>	<p><b>Defer at the request of applicant</b></p>

**Special Events**

Event Name/Applicant	Class/ # Participants	Event Location/ Date	Recommendation
<p><b>Joining Hearts 36</b>            Jerry Henderson Applicant is PRESENT</p>	<p>Class E/1,000 Participants</p>	<p>Piedmont Park            July 29, 2023</p>	<p><b>Support</b></p>
<p><b>SMART/BTA Stop the Violence Community Fair</b>            Brenda Banks Applicant is PRESENT</p>	<p>Class E/700 Participants</p>	<p>Piedmont Park            July 30, 2023</p>	<p><b>Support</b></p>
<p><b>EVECE Walk for Life</b>            Edrea Edwards Applicant NOT PRESENT</p>	<p>Class E/            1,500 Participants            New Event</p>	<p>Piedmont Park            August 26, 2023</p>	<p><b>Defer</b></p>
<p><b>ONE Musicfest--A Piedmont Park Conservancy fundraiser</b>  <a href="#">Terrell Henderson &amp; Mark Banta</a></p>	<p>Gated/            40,000 Participants            New Event</p>	<p>Piedmont Park            October 28-29, 2023            (New dates)</p>	<p><b>Defer at request of applicant</b></p>
<p><b>2023 KIDFITSTRONG Fitness Challenge Spring Festival</b></p>	<p>Class E/            1,500 Participants</p>	<p>Piedmont Park            (Meadow)            November 12, 2023</p>	<p><b>Continue to support</b></p>

(Date Change: Originally supported on 2/15/23) Howard Daniel		(original date: April 30)	
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**NPU-F Action:** Motion by Kay Stephenson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Sussman (removing EVECE) to approve the Consent Agenda carries by a vote of 26 in favor, 0 opposed. A separate motion was made by Rich Sussman and Kay Stephenson to Defer EVECE to a future NPU-F meeting.

7. Matters for Voting

**Special Event Applications (MOSE)**

Event Name/ Event Organizer	Class/# Participants	Event Date
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<a href="#">EVECE Walk for Life</a> Edrea Edwards	Class E/ 1,500 Participants	Piedmont Park August 26, 2023
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NPU-F Action: Consent Agenda – Deferred to next meeting.

<a href="#">Light the Night</a> Mallory Izbicki Present	Class D/ 8,000 Participants	Piedmont Park October 7, 2023
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Comments: Mile long walk ends with fireworks show around 9 PM.

**NPU-F Action:** Motion to recommend approval by Kay Stephenson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane Rawlings carries by a unanimous vote.

**Alcohol License Applications (LRB)**

Name of Business/ Applicant	Property Address	Type of Business/Request
<a href="#">Hajime</a> Kiryong Kim	2345 Cheshire Bridge Road	Restaurant / Change of Ownership

**Alcohol Permits Report:** No license at the location currently, although business has held license in the past.

**Comments:** Mr Kim is the applicant. Updating alcohol license to his name.

**NPU-F Action:** Motion to recommend approval by Jane Rawlings, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kay Stephenson carries by a vote of 28 ayes and zero nays.

<b>Highness Cuisine</b> Gabriel Stratigos	2200 Cheshire Bridge Road	Restaurant/ New Business
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**Alcohol Permits Report:** No live entertainment is planned. Zoned NC4. Open 6-11 pm daily. Applicant says 75 parking spaces on site. Previous applications timed out. Applicant should affirm that there will be no live entertainment and that no DJ is allowed. Cannot expand opening beyond approved hours.

**Comments:** 30324 is the correct zipcode. Rashad Robertson is attorney representing applicant; Gabriel Stratigos will be onsite for consulting about 20-25 hours per week. He

will meet with LMMNA and comply with code on 2 items - removal of window pane tint and obtain copies of parking leases. Attorney Mr Hilliard stated that building code will be approved and they will have leases for offsite parking.

**NPU-F Action:** Motion by Jane Rawlings, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kay Stephenson to deny application carries by a vote of 28 ayes and zero nays. Reasons include failure to meet parking requirements and owner's history of previous citations at another location.

**Report on Club Platinum:** Club Platinum has been advertised on the May 23, 2023 LRB agenda as an NPU Denial. We're not quite sure why it has returned since the NPU has already been to the LRB on this issue and we were expecting a Due Cause hearing since they admitted to both the NPU and the LRB that they had sold alcohol without a license. The NPU will be sure that the neighborhoods will be kept informed on the status. LRB may not be interested in public comment.

### Board of Zoning Adjustment Applications (BZA)

(See consent agenda)

### Text Amendments – Zoning Ordinance

#### Z-23-29

An Ordinance by Councilmember Marci Collier Overstreet to amend the 1982 Atlanta Zoning Ordinance, as amended, in response to the passing of House Bill 1405 in the State Legislature, and in compliance with O.C.G.A. 36-66-1 et seq.; and for other purposes. [FACT SHEET](#), [EXHIBIT A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#)

Comments: Recommendation to add a requirement to require posting of SAP applications (it's the only hearing that doesn't have this requirement). Not all SAPs are required to be sent to the NPU and many that are required, never are sent to the NPU by the applicant. This was a concern stated at the SAP Hearing.

City code is catching up with state law on SAP applications. Additional time will be required for the notices.

**NPU-F Action:** Motion to recommend approval with the condition that SAP applications also be posted at the property by Rich Sussman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kay\_Stephenson carries by a vote of 14 ayes and zero nays.

### Land Use Amendments – Comprehensive Development Plan

#### CDP-23-8

An Ordinance by Community Development/Human Services Committee to adopt The Northwest Atlanta Industrial Area Freight Cluster Plan ("Freight ATL: Northwest"); to amend The City Of Atlanta 2021 Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) to incorporate by reference The Northwest Atlanta Freight Plan; And, For Other Purposes.

PHCA Report: Only positive changes for us, mostly in the Armour / Ottley area and entrance. Also, no negative feedback from the board.

Comments: Nate Hoelzel gave presentation.

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend approval by Kay Stephenson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Sussman carries by a vote of 13 ayes and zero nays.

8. Presentations

- Fulton County Board of Commissioners | Commissioner Natalie Hall (see Reports from Elected officials) (see above)

9. Planner's Report – Doug Young The next Corner Conversation is slated for June 1 in NPU-E.

NPU University courses are ongoing. Check NPUAtlanta.org for more information.

10. Neighborhood and Committee Reports

<b>Lindridge Martin Manor</b>	Beach Bash is scheduled for June 3.
<b>Piedmont Heights</b>	N/A
<b>Morningside Lenox Park</b>	Last spring concert will be May 19 with blues music and food trucks.
<b>Virginia-Highland</b>	Porchfest is Saturday May 20; Summerfest will be held June 9 and 10 and include a 5K race. The Portman mixed-use development on Amsterdam Walk is in the early stages.
<b>Edmund Park</b>	N/A
<b>Emory/CDC area/ Druid Hills</b>	N/A
<b>Parks, Trees &amp; Environment (Rich Sussman)</b>	The Southfork Conservancy planted 1200 native plants. Volunteers are helping with Parks.
<b>Education (Leah Matthews)</b>	
<b>Communications (Andrew Mackler)</b>	
<b>Public Safety (Kay Stephenson)</b>	The Alcohol Licensing group is close to putting out recommendations on the code, policies, and procedures.
<b>APAB (Debbie Skopczynski, Voting Member)</b>	APAB meeting is next Saturday. Debbie is still taking a break from attending the monthly meetings.
<b>2023 Community Impact Project Status Reports</b>	There is a new requirement that project leaders report on the status of their projects at NPU meetings. The first reports will start in May after the checks are received.

**Chair Report**

Great news! NPU-F received a \$7,000 grant from the **2023 Community Impact Grant** program. Waiting confirmation from PHCA that the funds have been received and then we'll get info out to the CIG projects on how they will be disbursed.

**Action required:** Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority has requested a letter of support in their quest for approval of a Graduate Chapter Interest Group in NPUs E, F, N, O, and W. They have received similar letters from Council President Shipman, CM Alex Wan. To establish an Interest Group, they are required to provide the Regional Director with letters of support from community, civic and religious leaders and organizations in the area that includes the impact on their community, religious and civic organizations. Once approved, they plan to begin their Community Service within InTown Atlanta schools, communities and agencies. *There are no objection to providing a letter of support. Leah Matthews suggested as a first project that they help Virginia-Highland Elementary get established before the school year starts.* APS isn't allowing staff into the building until July 17<sup>th</sup> which only gives them 2 weeks to get ready. (could be helping teachers move in their classrooms, planting outside, etc). Debbie will send a letter of support this week.

Update on **SAP-23-012 1783 Cheshire Bridge Road**. (former Rhodes Bakery location.) This is an interior renovation, excavation of the existing basement for a new spa/massage center. The SAP Hearing was held on April 26 and there were about 20 neighbors who were present to oppose. Over 1,900 people have signed the change.org petition and over 100 letters of opposition were sent in. I asked for an update from OZD and received this response: "We have not issued any comments or decisions about this case at this time." Not a particularly satisfying answer.

9mile.us reported that **BL-23-019 at 730 Ponce de Leon Place (SAP on beltline)** has been submitted to Planning on May 2, 2023. This is to build a pergola in the rear parking lot at Chabad Intown in Virginia-Highland. Although the applicant hasn't sent us a copy of the application (as required by ordinance), there was a copy in Accela and I forwarded it to the VHCA. The SAP hearing for the application is 6/14/23.

Regarding special events – I think I've been able to get a handle on the parking issue that the streets east of Monroe

	<p>have been having when there are large (Class A and B) events in Piedmont Park. MOSE has also been sending NPU chairs a list of event organizer and security lead contacts for events they have permitted, and I've been forwarding it to the safety and street captain leads in VH and MLPA so that they can call when there is an issue. Unfortunately, events in the park are also permitted by the Piedmont Park Conservancy and COA Parks Department. I've asked PPC to begin sending us a similar list of contact for their events. In the meantime, if your street becomes impassable, call 911.</p> <p>Next month the Beltline will be presenting the SubArea 6 Master Plan. In July they will be taking to City Council for a vote. To get a head start on the review, there is a link on the Consent Agenda. <a href="https://beltline.org/the-project/planning-and-community-engagement/master-plan-updates-feedback/#master-plans-ready-for-review">https://beltline.org/the-project/planning-and-community-engagement/master-plan-updates-feedback/#master-plans-ready-for-review</a></p> <p>I know that this is early in the year, but I wanted to be sure you start thinking about how you can make a difference in your neighborhood and community by becoming a member of the NPU leadership team. I've heard from several folks that this is their last year. Send me a note if you are interested and I'm going to be talking to folks about stepping up.</p> <p>NPU-F will continue to meet virtually on the third Wednesday of the month.</p>
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11. Old Business – None

12. New Business –

- Info only: Music Midtown met to discuss transportation issues and rerouting buses going through the area. Traffic issues on Friday need to be managed. OneMusicFest is planned for October – 60,000 people expected to attend.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm. Motion by Rich Sussman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kay Stephenson.