



NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING UNIT-F

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM

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

Doug Young, **City of Atlanta, Planner** – 404.330.6702 or dyoung@atlantaga.gov

Leah LaRue, **City of Atlanta, Director** – 404.330.6070 or llarue@atlantaga.gov

Minutes

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Meeting started at 7:05pm.

The agenda is adopted by unanimous consent.

2. Approval of Minutes

- We were not able to complete the December minutes for adoption for this month. They will be adopted in February. As announced previously, we need a co-secretary or co-secretaries. While we have a vacancy, monthly minutes will be limited to a summary of the voting record. This is the minimum requirement for Robert’s Rules of Order and the format used by other NPUs.

3. Announcements - None

4. Reports from City Departmental Representatives

<p>Atlanta Police Department Zone 2 – Major Ailen Mitchell Zone 6 – Major Webster</p>	<p>Zone 2 Ben Vayens - In 2023 We were down 3%. That's our third year in a row down in crime, which is pretty excellent. We're very happy about that. But as we move into 2024, we want to take those successes and build on them. I'll go line by line. For homicides we were down 27%. For rapes we were down 70%. For aggregated assaults we were down 24% Robberies we were down 30% Burglaries, we were down 17%.</p> <p>Theft from auto vehicles, we were down 2%. Shoplifting as a gives major mission like quite a bit of heartburn.</p>
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	<p>We were up 33%. Other larcenies, which include package thefts. Bicycle thefts, snatching of cell phones. Problems of that nature, we were down 22% and motor vehicle thefts we were up 7%.</p> <p>The only 2 crimes up in 2023 were shoplifting and motor vehicle thefts.</p> <p>Motor vehicle thefts really turned it up for us in the last quarter of the year from September to December 30 first.</p> <p>For zone 2 we didn't see a lot of the Kia and Hyundai thefts that spread throughout the nation and Atlanta. Until the last quarter of the year and that's where we saw the big increase cause us to be up 7% in auto thefts in 2023 but I will say going in 2024 through the first 17 days.</p> <p>We're down 23% in crime right now. And the officers are still engaged, they're working hard.</p> <p>After the holidays and through the new year. So, specifically for NPU-F. Biggest issues outside of obviously some of the transportation issues we've got along Cheshire Bridge.</p> <p>Right at Lindbergh and Cheshire Bridge. And then further down at Faulkner and Cheshire Bridge with the bridge being closed right now.</p> <p>So roughly 33% of our crime were set for motor vehicles. So leaving bags, computers, electronics, firearms in your vehicles that's what those offenders and criminals are looking for. So we push a Clean Car campaign.</p> <p>Taking those items out of your vehicles or securing your firearms. I know the other night we did have a shooting at Allure. And that appears to be a targeted incident that we're still working on. With our aggregated assault unit as well as licensing permits.</p> <p>They've actually got a couple open cases already and litigation. And pending suspension that they still haven't served from 2022.</p> <p>Zone 6 – Lt Carroll – The usual stuff. Make sure you keep your cars empty and do not leave key fobs in your car.</p>
<p>APD Code Enforcement Delores Bryant</p>	<p>Joseph Young - We are fully staffed with 24 officer and 12 more being filled. If there are gonna be any changes</p>

<p>Officer Lyles – In Rem manager</p>	<p>I'll definitely let everyone know and if a new officer does come into the area.</p> <p>For the La Vista walk area- work is being done. We are working on getting with owners to see what is being done.</p>
<p>ATL311</p>	<p>Cheyenne Forbes - ATL311 is the Non-Emergency Call Center for City of Atlanta Services, and we are open Monday-Friday from 7am-7pm. You can contact us by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dial 3-1-1 inside city limits or 404-546-0311 2. Visit and chat at www.ATL311.com 3. Email at ATL311@atlantaga.gov 4. Mobile App by searching "ATL311" in your app store 5. Social Media @ATL311 <p>Sign up for City of Atlanta emergency alerts by texting NOTIFYATL to 888777.</p> <p>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 www.atlantapad.org or email info@atlantapad.org.</p>
<p>Public Works Code Enforcement</p> <p>Pete Francis, DPW SWEET Officer, Tel 404 938 1183, email: pfrancis@atlantaga.gov</p> <p>Officer Ferguson vferguson@atlantaga.gov, 678-221-8215.</p>	<p>Pete Francis DPW SWEET Officer - The city will take your Christmas tree as long as it's not one of those big one. Your Christmas tree should not be more than 4 feet tall and the trunk could not be more than 6 inches so you set out your Christmas tree just like you set out your other trash and the city will take them.</p>

5. Comments from Elected Officials

Alex Wan – We do not have to tear down the bridge on Cheshire Bridge. It can be repaired. The original timeline was about 10 weeks. The challenge right now was we're still waiting on an okay from CSX and I'll be honest with you, the weather is not helping either. So we're gonna have to pray for warm dry weather.

Once we get the green light from CSX, we'll get flying on that. The good news is we and learned our lessons from everything that we did wrong with the other bridge and the 15 months or 18 months I can't remember how long that was.

The other thing that I'm working on is what I did also share with the mayor is that, you know, if we clear out these encampments, it doesn't solve the problem.

It just moves it to somewhere else in the district. So I'm working with administration. We're trying to do a pilot project with in-town CARES, which is the former Intel ministries, to do kind of focused and dedicated social workers.

I think we're doing 4 or 5 sites with across the city and I've asked that our district be included in that.

My thought is, you know, the Virginia Highland Corridor where we've already seen an uptick in and housing insecure folks.

So I, I'm again just trying to think ahead and make sure that We're not just moving the problem around or postponing it that we're actually trying to address it.

The reason Intown Cares is successful is they go in multiple times and a continued intervention and conversations with the individuals to convince them to go get support services.

Todd Corley asked about traffic conditions on Cheshire Bridge. Nothing has been done despite ATL 311 submissions.

Alex Wan responded that he has outstanding meetings with our state rep, Stacey Evans. You know, one of the things that we're trying to do is figure out if there's a way to improve the intersection at Cheshire and Lavista. It's an intersection of a state road and a city road. So we kind of have to work together on it. The city doesn't really have the resources to do any sort of real estate purchase to be able to expand that intersection, but I think that that was one of the things that we're going to continue looking at.

<p>State Reps P Stacy Evans stacey@staceyevans.com</p> <p>Kennedae McClung– Chief of Staff</p>	<p>Good evening, please see below the contact information for the office of State Representative Stacey Evans, District 57.</p> <p>Kennedie McClung Chief of Staff kennedie@staceyevans.com</p> <p>Representative Stacey Evans stacey@staceyevans.com</p> <p>Register for our next virtual town hall at January 30th at 7pm here: https://shorturl.at/eNVY6</p> <p>Sign up for our weekly newsletter at www.staceyevans.com</p>
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6. Consent Agenda

Board of Zoning Adjustment

Application	Request	Neighborhood Report	Recommendation
V-23-81 638 Park Drive NE	Applicant seeks a variance to 1) reduce the rear yard setback from 15 feet to 1 foot, 2) reduce the eastern side yard setback from 7 feet to 2.6 feet, 3) increase the lot coverage from 50 percent to 54.6 percent and a special exception to allow active recreation in yard adjacent to the street.	VH: Applicant deferred	Defer at the request of the applicant
V-23-198 877 Berkshire Road NE	Applicant seeks a variance to 1) reduce west side yard setback from 10 feet to 5 feet, 2) reduce rear yard setback from 20 feet to 8 feet and 3) reduce front yard setback from 50 feet to 29 feet.	MLPA: Approval	Approval
V-23-205 1055 Lanier Blvd NE	Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the half-depth front yard from 17.5 feet to 12 feet.	VHCA: Applicant deferred	Defer at the request of the applicant
V-23-148 1687 North Pelham Road NE	Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the south side yard setback from 7 feet to 1 foot.	MLPA: Approval	Approval

V-23-208 837 Kings Court NE	Applicant seeks a special exception from the zoning ordinance to increase the height of the fence on the north side and rear yard from 6 feet to 8 feet.	MLPA: Approval	Approval
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Special Events

Event Name/ Applicant	Class/# Participants	Event Location/Date	Recommendation
Concerts in the Park Kelly Edwards/Bob Scarr Atlanta Symphony Orchestra	Class D/ 9,999 Participants Recurring Event	Piedmont Park June 27, 2024	Support
Virginia Highland Porchfest and Rock N Run Mallory Izbicki	Class D/9,000 Participants Recurring Event	John Howell Park – Virginia Ave – Virginia Circle – Adair Avenue – Greenwood Avenue – Frederica Street May 18, 2024	Defer to March
Light the Night Mallory Izbicki	Class D/8,000 Participants Recurring Event	Piedmont Park October 5, 2024	Defer to March
404 Day Ricky Mayberry (Randall Fox)	Class E/500 Participants	Piedmont Park Large Pavillion April 4, 2024	Support
Piedmont Park Arts Festival Randall Fox	Class E/1,999 Participants	Piedmont Park August 17-18, 2024	Support

NPU-F Action: Motion by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rebekah Falkler to approve the Consent

Agenda carries by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed.

7. Matters for Voting

Alcohol License Applications (LRB)

Event Name	Event Location	Type of Business/Request
CVS #7689 James E. Foreman	1520 Avenue Place	Pharmacy Change of Agent

Druid Hills Report:

Alcohol Report: Requesting beer and wine consumer off-premise. Located in Emory Pointe shopping center below residential properties with several parking spaces immediately adjacent, and a public parking garage. They meet all distance requirements per code and have adequate parking. Stated operating hours are 8 am to 12 midnight daily.

COMMENTS:

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend approval made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman carries by a vote of 10 ayes and 0 nays.

Alcohol License Applications (LRB) Review and Comment				
Name of Business	Type of Business	Applicant	Property Address	Request
Snooze, an A.M. Eatery	Andrew Knapp	Restaurant	931 Monroe Drive NE (NPU-E)	Change of Agent

Board of Zoning Adjustment Applications (BZA)
All applications on the Consent Agenda

Special Events

Event Name	Class/# Participants	Event Location/Date
Park Tavern Spring Fest 2024 Paul Smith & Lee Henderson	Gated Event/ 1,500 Participants Recurring Event	Park Tavern – 500 10 th Street March 9 – March 16-17, 2024

Comments:

Nothing is really changing for this event after 14 years. They just may not do as many crawfish as last year.

NPU-F Action: Motion to support made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman carries by a vote of 10 ayes and 0 nays.

Christ Covenant Worship Service Terrell Henderson & Leslie Dickinson	Gated Event/1,300 Participants New Event in Piedmont Park	Piedmont Park – Legacy Fountain March 31, 2024
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Comments:

Number has gone down to 200 people. This is a Sunday morning Easter Service. Application was opposed by Vicky due to level of noise on a Sunday.

NPU-F Action: Motion to support made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman carries by a vote of 8 ayes and 1 nays.

Atlanta Dogwood Festival Rebekah Carter-Jones	Class A/70,000 Participants Recurring Event	Piedmont Park April 12-14, 2024
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Comments:

Nothing really changing after 91 years.

NPU-F Action: Motion to support made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman carries by a vote of 12 ayes and 0 nays.

Pure Heat Community Festival Melissa Scott	Class C/19,999 Participants	Piedmont Park – 400 Park Drive NE September 1, 2024
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Comments: No one is here to represent this event.

NPU-F Action: No objection to defer.

Zoning Review Board Applications (ZRB)

[U-23-26](#) 1492 Piedmont Avenue NE

Applicant seeks a special use permit to operate an outdoor dining terrace. [PROPOSED PLANS](#)

Comments:

APPLICATION DEFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

[U-23-40](#) 690 Courtenay Drive NE

Applicant seeks a special use permit to operate a children’s hospital. [SITE PLAN](#)

Comments: Permit is to add a greenhouse. Growing of herbs, flowers and various things for horticultural therapy. The Hillside hospital the youth and adolescent mental treatment facility. The permanent is for us to add a greenhouse for horticulture therapy program.

NPU-F Action: Motion to support made by Rich Sussman 2nd by Kay Stephenson carries by a vote of 11 ayes and 0 nays.

Legislation

[Z-23-87](#)

An Ordinance by Councilmember Marci Collier Overstreet to amend the 1982 Atlanta Zoning Ordinance, as amended, to require a special use permit for the development of one or more detached single-family dwelling, as a permitted principal use and structure, with fewer than 750 square feet; and for other purposes. [FACT SHEET.](#)

The intent is to provide protection for single-family neighborhoods in the mentioned zoning districts to permit new development while being compatible with neighborhood character.

Per Section I. Special use permit (SUP) requirements for the development of one or more detached single-family dwellings, as a permitted principal use and structure, with fewer than 750 square feet. Unless otherwise expressly noted in the district regulations, issuance of a special use permit, the manner prescribed herein, is required for the development of one or more detached single-family dwellings as a permitted principal use and structure, with fewer than 750 square feet.

Please note the highlighted language. The proposed Ordinance speaks to permitted principal uses (main structure) on the lot. The proposed Ordinance is not applicable to ADUs (**accessory** dwelling units), as an ADU is not a permitted principal use it is an **accessory** use and is found in the permitted **accessory** uses and structures section of the single family districts and permitted PA (permitted **accessory** in the SPI Districts).

This legislation will not affect the construction of ADUs in any district **where they are permitted.**

Example: **How this would work if adopted.** Should an applicant desire to construct a **single family detached structure fewer than 750 sq. ft.** on a lot that is zoned R-4. The minimum lot size is 9000 sq. ft. The proposed principal (main) structure is 750 sq. ft. An application for a special use permit would be submitted to the Office of Zoning and Development. The application would be routed to the NPU. The application would be heard in a public hearing before ZRB, and the legislation would be approved or denied by City Council.

The application would be evaluated based upon the compatibility of the character of design of the proposed structure consistent with adjacent properties and the neighborhood.

- 8. Presentations - None
- 9. Planner's Report – Doug Young

We have additional upcoming classes for NPU University. Here is this month's NPU Planner's report: <https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/neighborhood-planning-units/updates>

- 10. Neighborhood and Committee Reports

Lindridge Martin Manor	We will have our quarterly board meeting either the first or second Wednesday of the month and I'll make sure you have that date.
Piedmont Heights	n/a
Morningside Lenox Park	n/a
Virginia-Highland	Jan 31 joint meeting with Morningside for Amsterdam at 6pm at the Redlight Café. Next town hall will be held in February.
Edmund Park	n/a
Emory/CDC area/ Druid Hills	n/a
Parks, Trees & Environment (Rich Sussman)	Fulton County chopped down 9 water oaks on the Ponce Library property just before Christmas. You may remember that this NPU worked to save those trees several years ago. Tree Advocate, Stephanie Coffin, requested a meeting with the FC administrator who is responsible for making this decision. It was attended by Kay, Rich, Debbie and Stephanie.
Education (Leah Matthews)	Pre K lottery opens Feb 1 and charter on Feb 29th
Communications (Marla Johnson)	Transitioned the function from Kay Stephenson to Marla Johnson.

Public Safety (Kay Stephenson)	Nothing to report
APAB (Debbie Skopczynski, Voting Member)	The first meeting of APAB in 2024 is next Saturday, January 20 th . Bylaw changes have reduced the number of officers to 2 (president and vice-president) and set the stage for reducing the number of committees.
2023 Community Impact Project Status Reports	We successfully met the deadline for the CIG Close-out. Now getting ready for the 2024 CIG program.
Chair Report	<p>NO Updates on SAP-23-012 1783 Cheshire Bridge Road. (former Rhodes Bakery location.)</p> <p>The 2024 Community Impact Grant program was announced last week. Essentially, it's the same program as in previous years. One change is that NPUs can ask for a grant up to \$10k. The amount of the grant award will be determined by how many NPUs submit requests (the overall \$ available is \$110K). Please let me know if you are interested, We need to submit proposals at the end of February which means voting on projects at the February meeting.</p> <p>An SAP was submitted for Dirty Tea. It was reviewed by the VaHi planning committee and comments were submitted to Planning.</p> <p>It's a new year, and we are updating the Resident Registration list. If you have not registered as a resident in the last 12 months, you must re-register. If you can't remember when you registered, go ahead and do it again. Only current validated residents will be able to vote on the upcoming Amsterdam Walk application, expected to come to the NPU in February. Best bet is to register early.</p> <p>Still looking for a co-secretary and vice-chair.</p> <p>NPU-F will continue to meet virtually on the third Wednesday of the month.</p>

11. Old Business - None

12. New Business - None

13. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm. Motion by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman.