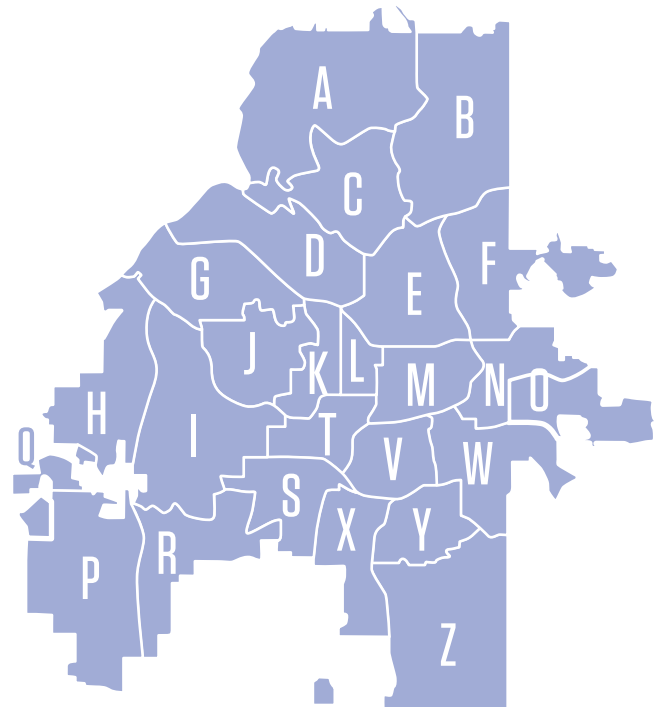


# NPU LAUNCHES REMOTE MEETINGS

The Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) system was created in 1974 as a way for Atlantans to participate in government and guide the future of the city. Each neighborhood in Atlanta is included in one of the 25 NPUs. Among other things, the NPUs make recommendations to the Mayor and the Atlanta City Council on land use and zoning cases, special events permits and alcohol licenses. Their role is integral to many city processes.

The Department of City Planning provides staff support to the NPUs. Since closure of City Hall and the Mayor's stay at home order, we have been working to give the NPUs the tools they need to continue their regular monthly meetings. Last week the Department of City Planning hosted a virtual meeting with NPU leaders to offer Zoom and ElectionBuddy, two online platforms that will enable the NPUs to meet virtually and vote electronically. Seven NPUs have held successful virtual meetings thus far, using various technological platforms, and we expect most others will do so in the coming weeks.



NPU Assistant Director Leah LaRue said “We are really happy to be able to offer this type of support to the NPUs, avoiding disruption to the important work they do. It’s been great to see all the first time attendees who are now able to participate in civic engagement from the comfort of their own homes. People are finding a way to stay connected to their community through NPU meetings.”

For more information on NPUs, visit [bit.ly/NPUAtlanta](https://bit.ly/NPUAtlanta) and follow on social media @NPUAtlanta.