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The strength of Atlanta has always been the unique and powerful synergy between our public and private sectors. It is a partnership that fuels the city’s progress as a global business hub and inspires investment in the diverse communities that make life so rich and vibrant here in the nation’s cradle for civil and human rights.

As we close out our first year, I am confident that the City of Atlanta is as strong as it has ever been ... and right on track to make great strides in the coming years of this Administration.

I am proud of the work that has been done in our first year to fulfill our pledge to build One Atlanta. We have leveraged resources to strengthen our working families, increase affordable housing, improve education and training for our growing workforce, reform our criminal-justice system, transform the heart of downtown, protect immigrants rights and level the playing field so all of our communities maximize their potential.

Together, we have made significant progress. We have shown that government can work for the good of all. However, we still have much to do. To truly become One Atlanta, all of our residents must have the opportunity to compete and to succeed.

By aligning progressive leadership with collaborative action on every front, I know that we will achieve our vision for

One Atlanta - an Affordable, Resilient and Equitable Atlanta.

- Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms
A SAFE, WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE CITY

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The City of Atlanta is proud to be on the leading edge of municipalities ending the predatory practice of cash-bond requirements for low-level offenses. Far too often, this system has forced destitute and low-income people behind bars for extended periods of time for minor violations, simply because of their inability to post cash bond.

Such detentions have a significant impact on people’s lives, affecting their ability to maintain their jobs and homes. Cash bond policies inordinately affect low-income citizens, while people with means arrested for the same violation can quickly access their freedom.

On March 1, the Department of Corrections began implementing an ordinance eliminating cash bonds as a condition to secure pre-trial release.

This action fulfilled our campaign promise to reform our criminal-justice system by ensuring that all people coming through the Atlanta courts are treated equitably and fairly. This is not about being soft on crime. In fact, Atlanta experienced a 2% decrease in overall crime last year. This is about the equity and fairness of our system regarding people who are presumed innocent under the law.

Across the nation, cities, counties and states are moving away from cash bonding as an essential step towards meaningful criminal-justice reform. The Atlanta ordinance also retains the ability to impose bail and other conditions for certain offenders including violent offenders, repeat offenders, and offenders who fail to appear for their initial hearing.
The City of Atlanta joined a national coalition of 40 U.S. cities and counties, along with the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, to file an amicus brief seeking to prevent the termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Governments that joined the coalition include Atlanta, Los Angeles, New York, Dallas, Houston, Chicago, Washington D.C. and Philadelphia. This litigation is significant to the coalition because 51.4 percent of all currently active DACA recipients—more than 350,000 individuals—live in the metropolitan areas of the 40 cities and counties.
Together, they urged the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to uphold an existing nationwide injunction against the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that is currently preventing DHS from terminating the DACA program.

Metro Atlanta is home to DACA recipients, the eighth-largest metro area for approvals in the United States. Seventy percent of 47,000 potential Georgia DACA applicants live in Metro Atlanta. A recent study showed the loss of DACA workers would cost Georgia’s economy, approximately $994,182,808 in state GDP.

The amicus brief states that local jurisdictions will suffer direct economic harm if DACA is rescinded, due to the removal of hundreds of thousands of workers, business owners and taxpayers from their respective economies.

The brief also states that ending DACA will make communities less safe and would lead to DACA recipients being much less likely to report criminal activity to law enforcement out of fear of deportation.

In 2014, the City of Atlanta established the Welcoming Atlanta initiative. Welcoming Atlanta builds upon Atlanta’s proud tradition of inclusion by ensuring immigrant and refugee neighbors are seamlessly integrated into the fabric of our communities. The initiative brings together city government and community leaders to support new Atlantans to help ensure the city remains a global leader in the 21st century. Welcoming Atlanta fosters a connected community where all Atlantans can fully participate in civic life, contribute their talents to grow the economy and work together with those entrusted to protect public safety - making Atlanta a safe and friendly place to live and do business.

“Six years ago, President Obama took action to create a pathway for law-abiding immigrant youth to avoid deportation and have a shot at achieving the American Dream. While administrations may change, the City of Atlanta’s values have not. Instead of tearing families apart and using young people as bargaining chips, governments should work together to protect hardworking youth who make our economies and communities stronger, and make meaningful strides in creating a sensible immigration system.”

- Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms
The Fight The Blight program is an important step forward in fulfilling the City’s commitment to creating clean, safe and thriving neighborhoods for all of our residents. By demolishing neglected and abandoned properties, we can restore pride in our communities. The Bottoms Administration’s proactive approach to targeting blight is grounded in building long-term, sustainable neighborhoods that are safe and welcoming. Fight The Blight helps deliver the potential for economic investment. It will foster a sense of community renewal in neighborhoods that have been ignored too long.

“By demolishing neglected and abandoned properties, we can restore pride in our communities. This initiative is an important step forward in fulfilling my Administration’s commitment to creating clean, safe and thriving neighborhoods for all of our residents.”

- MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS
Mayor Bottoms’ commitment to tackling blighted and abandoned properties began while she served as Councilmember for District 11. During her tenure on the Atlanta City Council, she led the demolition of a number of blighted properties, including an abandoned multi-family structure in Southwest Atlanta’s Allison Courts.

Mayor Bottoms kicked off the next phase of the Fight the Blight initiative with the demolition of three dilapidated properties on Bolton Road in Northwest Atlanta. The demolition of one of the properties had been in discussion for six years, and in less than 90 days, the Bottoms Administration was able to get this dangerous eyesore out of the community. This is the City’s largest demolition of a dilapidated property in recent history.
“I commend the Atlanta Police Department for prioritizing a culture of respect with Atlanta’s LGBTQ community. Atlanta must remain a community where all people live their lives openly, feel safe, and be free from discrimination.”

- MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS

Outreach to the LGBTQ community is vital to the Atlanta Police Department (APD) because of the need for stronger understanding and trust with all the communities they serve.

To that end, the APD launched its first-ever LGBTQ Citizens Police Academy, a two-day program on April 17 and 18.

The specialized program was facilitated by APD’s LGBTQ Liaison Unit officers, Senior Police Officer Eric King and Officer Courtney Mack.

The program consisted of information on core Citizens Police Academy topics including homicide, human trafficking, use of force and more. All of the topics were accompanied by conversations on the challenges faced by the LGBTQ community and how to better partner with police.
Mayor Bottoms announced the formation of the Mayor’s LGBTQ Advisory Board, comprised of city leaders, experts and advocates. The Mayor’s LGBTQ Advisory Board makes recommendations that help shape the City’s policies and engagements with Atlanta’s LGBTQ communities and serve as a bridge between City Hall and LGBTQ residents.

The Advisory Board has five key priority areas:

- LGBTQ Youth
- LGBTQ Health
- Trans Affairs
- LGBTQ Economic & Community Development
- LGBTQ Arts, Entertainment and Culture

Almost immediately upon taking office, Mayor Bottoms appointed the City of Atlanta’s first-ever full-time LGBTQ Affairs Coordinator, Malik Brown. Brown is the first City official to solely focus on better connecting Atlanta’s LGBTQ community with Atlanta City Hall.

To kick off 2018 Atlanta Pride, Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms held a historic Pride reception at Atlanta City Hall. More than 600 LGBTQ Atlantans and allies filled the atrium of Atlanta City Hall to hear celebrations of pride. In addition to Mayor Bottoms, Congressman John Lewis, Human Rights Campaign President Chad Griffin, Thomas Roberts, and openly gay LGBTQ police chief Erkia Shields made powerful remarks. Entertainment included openly gay comedian Jaboukie Young-White, the Atlanta Gay Men’s Chorus and Atlanta Women’s Chorus and Southern drag troupe, the Armorettes.
A SAFE AND WELCOMING CITY

“I want to underscore my unwavering commitment to the LGBTQ community. I want you to know that you are welcomed, embraced and celebrated by our Administration and by the City of Atlanta.”

- MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS

In 2018, Atlanta received a 105 on the Human Rights Campaign’s Municipal Equality Index (MEI). This is the City’s highest-ever score, and the 6th consecutive perfect score.

The City of Atlanta also achieved MEI “All-Star” status—the only Georgia city to do so—for scoring above 85 despite being in a state with no LGBTQ-inclusive state-level protections.

The MEI examines how inclusive municipal laws, policies, and services are of LGBTQ people. Cities are rated based on non-discrimination laws, the municipality as an employer, municipal services, law enforcement and the City leadership’s public position on equality.

MALIK BROWN
The City’s first-ever, full-time LGBTQ Affairs Coordinator.
UNPRECEDENTED 30% PAY RAISE FOR ATLANTA POLICE OFFICERS ALIGNS COMPENSATION WITH NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

OCTOBER 2018

Building on sustainable initiatives to improve public safety, Mayor Bottoms signed legislation authorizing an unprecedented 30 percent pay increase for Atlanta Police officers. These raises in salary across the board are part of a focused effort to support the men and women of the Atlanta Police Department and make Atlanta the safest big city in America.

In the wake of a comprehensive compensation study, commissioned by the Atlanta Police Foundation, the salary hike stabilizes Atlanta’s police force, enhances the retention of experienced officers and strengthens recruitment efforts.

Already, APD is seeing a new wave of interest among applicants, which include former officers working for other cities in Metro Atlanta.

The increase — 30 percent over the next three years — ensures that APD wages are competitive with other agencies in the region and in similarly sized urban centers nationwide.
IN MAKING THE POLICE RAISES A REALITY, MAYOR BOTTOMS NOTED THAT IT IS TIME FOR THE CITY OF ATLANTA TO TAKE CARE OF THOSE WHO TAKE CARE OF US.
As we work to achieve our vision of an Atlanta that is welcoming and inclusive, with equal opportunity for all, it is untenable for our City to be complicit in the inhumane immigration policies that have led to the separation of hundreds of families at the United States Southern border.

- Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms
Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms signed an Executive Order directing the Chief of the Atlanta City Department of Corrections to take the necessary action to permanently stop receiving U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees under the current agreement with the United States Marshals Service.

Mayor Bottoms openly contended that civil offenses do not warrant criminal consequences, and no one should be jailed solely because they seek the American Dream.

To assist the City in determining the best path forward, the Mayor convened an Advisory Committee on Immigrant Detention made up of advocates, representatives of ICE and Department of Corrections staff. After numerous meetings and public input, the committee recommended that the City should no longer accept ICE detainees.

In addition to the Executive Order, Mayor Bottoms announced several new initiatives to support immigrants in Atlanta including a partnership with Uber, Catholic Charities, and Lutheran Family Services to provide free transportation and meals to families separated at the US-Mexico border and reunited in Atlanta.
SOUTHEAST ATLANTA RESIDENTS, COUNCILMEMBER CARLA SMITH AND MAYOR UNITE TO TURN THE PAGE ON CONFEDERATE AVENUE’S LEGACY

On October 1st, the Atlanta City Council voted unanimously to approve changing Confederate Avenue to United Avenue, and East Confederate Avenue to United Avenue S.E. Councilmember Carla Smith, representing District 1, sponsored the measure.

Mayor Bottoms signed the legislation two days later, alongside Councilmember Smith, neighborhood advocates and advisory council members. A third street, Confederate Court, will also be renamed Trestletree Court.
“For our community to truly be One Atlanta, we must write a new chapter in our own history. The imagery and symbolism of these names and monuments represent systematic injustice, persecution and cruelty. That is not who we are as a city.”

The renaming of the streets was recommended by the 11-member advisory committee established last fall to address Confederate iconography in Atlanta. A three-member panel will implement the remaining recommendations made by the advisory committee.

In making the recommendation to amend the street names, the advisory group noted that the imagery and symbolism of these names and monuments represent systematic injustice, persecution and cruelty, and therefore, are not representative of Atlanta today.

Mayor Bottoms recognized Councilmember Carla Smith for her leadership and advocacy for this change, and noted that the historic bill serves as further proof that there is no limit to what can be accomplished when communities and civic leaders work together.
THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS, COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES

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ATLANTA TACKLES POTENTIAL DISPLACEMENTS WITH CITYWIDE REHAB PROGRAMS

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, Invest Atlanta, the Atlanta Housing Authority, and Choice Atlanta partnered to develop a new citywide initiative to strengthen affordable housing opportunities in the City of Atlanta, helping low income residents avoid displacement. The initiative includes three unique Heritage Owner-Occupied Rehab (OOR) programs, which provide forgivable loans to residents to make critical health and safety repairs on their homes.

The Heritage Owner-Occupied Rehab programs are major strides in demonstrating Atlanta’s continued commitment to preserving housing affordability for homeowners and renters alike.

With public-private partnership programs like ORR, a future for Atlanta where zip code does not determine prosperity is more possible than ever before.

Geared toward seniors, veterans, disabled heads of households and families who have lived in their homes for at least five years, these Heritage programs will collectively reinvest more than $9 million in areas such as the Westside TAD and Choice Neighborhoods. They include one citywide program, Atlanta Heritage, and two neighborhood-specific programs:

**ATLANTA HERITAGE:** The $5 million citywide program will provide up to $30,000 to eligible City of Atlanta homeowners, and is funded under the Housing Opportunity Bond, a $40 million bond issuance unanimously approved and supported by Atlanta City Council in March 2017.

**WESTSIDE HERITAGE:** The $2 million OOR program is for residents in Westside TAD neighborhoods (Vine City, English Avenue and portions of Castleberry Hill) and is funded by the Vine City Trust Fund and Westside TAD tax-increment financing.

“We must make a meaningful commitment to longtime residents who have built their homes and raised their families in the City, to ensure they will not be pushed out by rising property values.”

- MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS
**CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS HERITAGE:** This $2 million OOR program for residents in the Choice Neighborhoods (Ashview Heights and Atlanta University Center Communities) is supported by a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant, as well as City of Atlanta and Atlanta Housing Authority Moving to Work funds.

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms and members of the Invest Atlanta board approved 15 resolutions to provide more affordable housing, as well as create new jobs and bring additional investment to Atlanta’s communities. The actions taken by the board will result in 502 affordable housing units, 522 new full-time jobs and $277 million worth of economic investment to the City.

Major projects the board approved include:

**272 AFFORDABLE MULTI-FAMILY UNITS AT THE VILLAGES OF EAST LAKE:** The Urban Residential Finance Authority (URFA) board approved the preservation and renovation of 272 affordable housing units at the Villages of East Lake. The passage of an inducement resolution will provide $43 million in tax-exempt bond financing and extend affordability at the development for 30 years. Two hundred seventy-two of the development’s 542 units will be reserved for those earning 60 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) or below.

**196 AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING UNITS AT PEACHTREE ROAD SENIOR TOWER:** The URFA board approved an inducement resolution to support $16 million
in tax-exempt bond financing for the acquisition and rehabilitation of Peachtree Senior Tower, an existing public housing tower serving seniors and young, disabled individuals. The 196 units will be available to those earning an AMI of 60 percent or less, and RAD project-based vouchers will enable tenants to pay no more than 30 percent of their income on rent.

**34 AFFORDABLE MULTI-FAMILY UNITS AT 143 ALABAMA:** A $2 million Westside TAD grant approved by the Atlanta Development Authority (ADA) board will support the renovation of the historic Atlanta Constitution building at 143 Alabama Street. The developer, Pope & Land, is renovating this historic building into office space and ground-floor retail. Working with Place Properties, the developer will also build 112 new residential units, 34 of which will be income-restricted to households earning 80 percent of AMI.

**CHATTahooCHEE LAND SWAP:** The ADA board approved a fair market exchange of land with Chattahoochee Trails, LLC for the assemblage of the Chattahoochee River Greenway and a proposed mixed-income housing and retail development. The development team has agreed to a minimum of 20 percent workforce housing targeting residents earning between 60 to 120 percent of AMI. Housing will range from apartments for rent to townhomes for sale.

**500 JOBS AT NEW STARBUCKS OFFICE:** The ADA board approved an Economic Opportunity Fund grant of up to $250,000 to support the creation of a satellite office for Starbucks Corporation in the City of Atlanta. This was a competitive project that Invest Atlanta, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Metro Atlanta Chamber and Georgia Power worked on in partnership. The company will create an estimated 500 fulltime jobs, with a total estimated investment of $16 million and an economic impact of $190 million.

**GEORGIA AQUARIUM EXPANSION:** The ADA board approved a $7.5 million Westside TAD grant that will support The Georgia Aquarium as they seek to develop a 68,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art facility to house a one-of-a-kind predator exhibit, which will display aquatic life not presently available to visitors. The $108 million total capital investment will add a dynamic new architectural element to Downtown Atlanta, while adding 22 fulltime employees and 20 part-time employees. Currently, the Georgia Aquarium generates $5.5 million in sales tax, and the expansion will generate an additional $1.3 million.

**UPDATING THE FAÇADE OF HISTORIC HEALEY BUILDING:** The ADA board approved a Westside TAD Downtown Façade Improvement grant of up to $199,820 to support the renovation and improvement of the exterior of the historic mixed-use Healey Building in Downtown Atlanta. The Healey, completed in 1913, was the last major skyscraper built in Atlanta preceding World War I. The internal and external improvements will significantly enhance the appearance of the building to prospective tenants, keep rents competitive and attractive by subsidizing exterior improvements, and bring the commercial space to current market standards.

**PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) TO SUPPORT ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GREEN JOBS:** The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board approved the issuance of $500 million in bonds to support the PACE financing program to provide property owners with access to private capital to finance improvements that reduce energy and water consumption. The PACE program will ease access to private capital for green building projects, reduce energy bills and increased property values, create local green jobs, and sustain Atlanta’s role as a leader in sustainability.
Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms and members of the Invest Atlanta board approved 15 resolutions to provide more affordable housing, as well as create new jobs and bring additional investment to Atlanta’s communities. The actions taken by the board will result in 502 affordable housing units, 522 new full-time jobs and $277 million worth of economic investment to the City.

Major projects the board approved include:

272 AFFORDABLE MULTI-FAMILY UNITS AT THE VILLAGES OF EAST LAKE:
The Urban Residential Finance Authority (URFA)

550 HOUSING UNITS FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

The City of Atlanta and Atlanta Housing partnered to develop 550 permanent supportive housing units through the HUD-funded initiative HomeFirst, which will assist in providing stable, affordable housing and other services they need to thrive. The HomeFirst initiative, which will be administered by Partners for HOME, builds on the $50 million investment unveiled in 2017 and focuses on assisting the chronically homeless through permanent placement and project-based rental subsidies.

While progress has been made in reducing homelessness in Atlanta, this initiative demonstrates the City’s commitment to addressing chronic homelessness with public-private partnerships that build sustainable opportunities for those citizens with the most urgent needs. In addition to the 550 housing units, the grant funds support services including behavioral health, skill development and social connectivity.

This collaboration also involves Invest Atlanta, the United Way Regional Commission on Homelessness, and Partners for HOME, a public–private entity commissioned by the City to proactively manage the continuum of care for Atlanta’s homeless population.

$60 MILLION IN NEW MARKETS TAX CREDITS ALLOCATION FOR INVEST ATLANTA

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms announced that Invest Atlanta had received $60 million in New Markets Tax Credit allocation from the U.S. Department of the Treasury to provide gap financing for economic development projects that help create jobs and revitalize neighborhoods in Atlanta. This latest award is the sixth given to Invest Atlanta in the last 10 years and will be used by Atlanta Emerging Markets, Inc. (AEMI), Invest Atlanta’s New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) entity, to fund catalytic development projects in low-income areas.

This latest New Markets Tax Credit award is one of the largest in the nation. Invest Atlanta continues to receive higher award amounts with each application, which enabled the agency, through AEMI, to invest in 22 projects since 2010 that have created more than 3,250 jobs in areas that are often overlooked by conventional capital markets. Some of AEMI’s recent NMTC investments include:

• PITTSBURGH YARDS – a $6.5 million AEMI investment to help finance redevelopment at 352 University Avenue in Southwest Atlanta.

• GRADY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – a $12 million investment to help finance Grady’s $76 million expansion and renovation of its new Emergency Department building.

• FAMILIES FIRST – an $8.5 million investment to convert a former Atlanta Public Schools building in Atlanta’s Westside into the organization’s new 38,000 square-foot headquarters.
Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms welcomed longtime fair housing advocate Terri Lee as the City of Atlanta’s first Chief Housing Officer during a convening of more than 100 cross-sector leaders who comprise the City’s HouseATL Task Force.

The primary responsibilities of the new Chief Housing Officer include establishing policies and goals for the City’s affordable housing strategy; coordinating with public-private agencies to identify key investment opportunities; communicating with the community in order to fully understand housing needs; and ensuring bold thinking, collaboration and accountability across City agencies as the challenge of affordable housing is addressed.

The HouseATL Task Force was formed earlier this year in support of Mayor Bottoms’ $1 billion affordable-housing initiative and includes such organizations as the Urban Land Institute Atlanta, The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, Central Atlanta Progress, the Center for Civic Innovation, and the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.
The Gulch redevelopment legislation establishes a new model for leveraging land development to achieve both economic growth and community good. Never in the history of the city has a single development deal been negotiated in a way that will have such far-reaching, generational impact.

The Atlanta City Council, Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, CIM, Invest Atlanta and many community, public and private-sector partners aligned over several months to produce this historic redevelopment plan – the single largest development in our city in nearly 50 years. The City of Atlanta and its partners will remain vigilant in their work to ensure that no communities are left behind as the city grows and prospers by way of historic investments such as the Gulch.
The redevelopment will transform 40 acres of vacant land into office, residential and retail space, and add new infrastructure, roads, sidewalks and parks to the city’s center. This project will bring economic vitality to a long-undeveloped part of downtown with affordable housing, workforce training, enhanced public safety, and job opportunities.

**HISTORIC COMMUNITY BENEFITS RESULTING FROM THE GULCH DEAL INCLUDE:**

- $28 million investment into a citywide affordable housing fund;
- Required minimum affordable housing residential units of 200 or 20%, whichever is greater;
- $2 million commitment for workforce training;
- $12 million investment into a citywide economic development fund;
- Commitment to unprecedented levels of minority and female owned businesses with a goal of at least 38% utilization and an offer of 10% equity;
- $12 million commitment towards the construction of a new seven-bay fire station.

**ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE COUNCIL-APPROVED DEAL INCLUDE:**

- CIM assuming all financial risk, including all design and construction expenses, and serving as the sole purchaser of the new TAD bonds;
- CIM paying taxes in full, only receiving the benefit of TAD supplemental payments as reimbursements once compliance on obligations and expenses has been independently verified.
- For qualified expenses, Invest Atlanta will make reimbursement payments to CIM for up to 12.5% of total project costs or through 2038, whichever occurs first.
- Reducing TAD bond proceeds available to CIM from $500 million to $32 million, with up to $8 million in bond proceeds available to Empowerment Zone Communities.
During her inaugural State of the City address, Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms laid out a plan to give all Atlanta residents the same access to opportunity. To help achieve that goal, the first-ever fully staffed Mayor’s Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, also known as One Atlanta, was established to leverage the combined powers of government, private and non-profit partners to dismantle systemic inequities and barriers to opportunity. In its first year, One Atlanta made inroads to ensure equitable access to all City services, economic and workforce development.

Examples of which include the department’s engagement with the legislation to eliminate cash bail bonds, protection of the DACA program, partnership with the City Accelerator program and a variety of LGBTQ initiatives.

- Affordable Housing
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Economic Development
- Health Disparities
- Homelessness
- LGBTQ Affairs
- Workforce Development
- 2020 Census: ATL Counts
CITY OF ATLANTA SELECTED FOR ACCELERATOR PROGRAM TO HELP STRENGTHEN LOCAL MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES & CREATE JOBS

The City of Atlanta joined the City Accelerator program, an initiative of the Citi Foundation and Living Cities, to foster innovation and promote collaboration among urban leaders to address pressing issues cities face today. Atlanta joined four other cities in this latest City Accelerator cohort – El Paso, Long Beach, Newark and Rochester – who will work together over the next year to pursue a range of projects that support the growth of local minority-owned businesses and the creation of additional jobs in each community.

The City Accelerator program includes a $100,000 grant to each cohort city to support local business and job growth. The City of Atlanta’s initiative will fund a program providing access to affordable real estate and technical assistance to economically underserved businesses in Southwest Atlanta. The initiative was launched at Pittsburgh Yards™, a 30-acre, mixed-use site under development. Invest Atlanta, the City of Atlanta’s economic development authority, will lead the project in partnership with One Atlanta: The Mayor’s Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. The Mayor’s Office of Innovation and Performance and local community Partner, The Annie E. Casey Foundation will collaborate.

The Accelerator program addresses four major challenges experienced by minority-owned businesses: limited access to capital based on traditional underwriting criteria; debt service payment capabilities; difficulty purchasing commercial space; and preparing for business growth. All five cities selected for this Accelerator program are considered majority-minority communities based on socio-economic makeup, where more than 50 percent of a city’s population represents social, ethnic and/or racial minorities.

This classification enables urban centers to address the barriers minority-owned businesses face, including access to capital, connections to industries and navigating regulations.

In addition to a $100,000 grant, Atlanta will receive a combination of coaching, technical assistance and implementation resources in the coming year. Technical assistance for the effort will be provided by Rodrick Miller, President and CEO of Ascendant Global, an economic development consulting firm. Miller has previously served as the President and CEO of the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation and the New Orleans Business Alliance.
WORLD-CLASS EMPLOYEES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

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The largest expansion of transit in Atlanta in more than 40 years, More MARTA will facilitate an equitable and layered public transportation system with 17 new projects, including 22 miles of light-rail transit (LRT), 14 miles of bus rapid transit (BRT), 26 miles of arterial rapid transit (ART), two new transit centers, additional fixed-route bus service, and upgrades to existing rail stations.

With development stretching from Greenbriar in Southwest Atlanta to Emory University, More MARTA moves the City closer to the vision for One Atlanta through a versatile, integrated mobility system that connects to existing infrastructure and reaches deep into communities where residents will have much greater access to job, education and entertainment centers. Dependable public transportation is the lifeblood of commerce and accessibility in all major metropolitan cities. A commitment to One Atlanta requires that equity concerns are incorporated into programs where public dollars are spent. The More MARTA program prioritizes transit projects that connect the city’s educational and economic activity centers, enhance mobility options, especially for seniors and individuals with disabilities, and dramatically improve the overall customer experience.

More MARTA is partially funded by approximately $2.7 billion generated by a half-penny sales tax approved by Atlanta voters in 2016. Additional public and private funding will be sought to advance and expand key aspects of the program. A two-year examination of technical data, performance measurements, and community surveys led to an awareness that residents were most supportive of transit investments along the BeltLine, in the Clifton Corridor, and along Campbellton Road.
Fix-It ATL is an infrastructure repair program designed to eliminate potholes and beautify public spaces. The City is filling more than 4,000 potholes per quarter. The second phase will address graffiti removal, illegal tire dumping, beautification and cleanup.
YOU REPORT IT, WE’LL REPAIR IT
It is unanimous - potholes are a problem, an emotional issue that aggravates residents on a daily basis. They jeopardize public safety, damage vehicles and cost time and money.

To eliminate potholes and address other infrastructure concerns, the City of Atlanta launched Fix-It ATL in October. Through March 2, 2019, the City has filled 4,632 potholes. The deployment of Fix-It ATL coincided with the launch of the ATL311 phone app, a new platform through which the public can report problems and concerns regarding City services.

The delivery of basic services and upkeep of the city is one of the most fundamental responsibilities of any municipal government. Residents and businesses deserve world-class services and a city as beautiful as it is efficient.
In an effort to increase efficiency and build a world-class digital infrastructure to help residents save time and money, Mayor Bottoms announced the launch of the City’s new ATL311 mobile app in August, an initiative she originally called for while serving as a member of Atlanta City Council.

ATL311 is the City’s primary channel for non-emergency services and information.

Whether the user is a resident, business owner or visitor, help is just a click away. With the ATL311 mobile app, reporting problems such as potholes, graffiti removal and solid-waste services is convenient and efficient. Residents can also track the status of service requests and access a wide range of information with the MyCity function within the new app.

Mayor Bottoms first envisioned the development of the app as an easy way to receive and respond to the concerns of residents, business owners and visitors. It is one example of using technology to improve local customer-service experience.
The City of Atlanta’s first Annual Bicycle Report highlights the City’s progress toward becoming a top-tier bicycle friendly city and includes ridership and bike share data, key 2017 bicycle infrastructure projects and bicycle planning initiatives.

In March 2015, residents approved the $250 million Renew Atlanta Bond Program which authorized improvements, upgrades and repairs to infrastructure and transportation throughout Atlanta.

With more people embracing cycling as a means to navigate the City, the goal is to build additional miles of bicycle lanes and new infrastructure, so riders can travel more efficiently and feel safer doing so.

Under Mayor Bottoms Administration, the City plans to continue the expansion of bicycle accessways by utilizing TSPLOST funding to double Relay Bike Share stations and make bikes available to more communities throughout the city.

A specific focus will be on restructuring roadways to add new trails and protected bike lanes in communities that lack ready access to affordable transportation options.

To further this key portion of the City’s transportation mission, the Department of City Planning hired Cary Bearn as Chief Bicycle Officer, part of the Office of Mobility Planning. Bearn leads efforts to enhance the public realm and strengthen Atlanta’s standing as a bike-friendly community.

Bearn’s role also includes partnering with multiple organizations to expand infrastructure and enhance the biking environment as outlined in the new Atlanta Transportation Plan.

The Chief Bicycle Officer position is supported by the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation through a five-year $250,000 challenge grant to the City through the Atlanta Bike Coalition.
“With the ever-growing number of people embracing cycling as a means to navigate our City, building miles of new bicycle lanes and providing safer infrastructure for cyclists preserves our reputation as a city that respects and supports alternative modes of transportation.”

- MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS
UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Climate Action and former New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg named Atlanta one of the winning cities of Bloomberg’s American Cities Climate Challenge this year. This $70 million program that will accelerate these cities’ efforts to tackle climate change and promote a sustainable future for residents.

Bloomberg praised Atlanta’s innovative and ambitious climate-action plans to reduce city-wide emissions with specific projects to cut emissions from the city’s transit and buildings sectors, which typically total 90% of citywide emissions.

Through the Climate Challenge—part of Bloomberg’s American Cities Initiative, a suite of more than $200 million in investments to strengthen city halls and advance critical policies—Atlanta is accepted into a two-year acceleration program that provides powerful new resources. By 2020, the Climate Challenge will help Atlanta achieve:

- A sustainable and resilient building stock supported by clean energy upgrades and existing building code enforcement,
- Expand Atlanta’s infrastructure for electric vehicles via the recently enacted EV Readiness Ordinance, which can serve as an example for cities around the country;
- A Complete Streets Ordinance to allow for coordination of traffic signals throughout the city and prioritization of sidewalks and last-mile connectivity, especially in under-served neighborhoods.

Under Mayor Bottoms’ leadership, Atlanta has accomplished the following:

- **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BOND CHALLENGE (EIB):** Through a partnership with 100 Resilient Cities, Neighborly, and Quantified Ventures, Atlanta will be the first city to issue publicly offered EIB’s to fund $12.9 million in green infrastructure projects in Proctor Creek Watershed.
- **100% CLEAN ENERGY PLAN:** Released plan to transition Atlanta to 100% clean energy by 2035.
- **PROCTOR CREEK GREENWAY:** Completed first three miles of Proctor Creek Greenway, running from Bankhead MARTA to W. Highlands Trail.
- **SOLAR ATLANTA:** Installed solar on 20+ City of Atlanta facilities.
• **ATLANTA BETTER BUILDINGS CHALLENGE:** Expanded energy savings to almost 20%. Added Atlanta Public Schools to the program (10 M square feet), more than a 10% increase. Ready to launch ABBC 2.0, which will be the first program in the country to incorporate waste management and well-being into the metrics.

• **ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACT:** Implemented energy & operational savings retrofits on 100+ City of Atlanta facilities valued at $160 million with no up-front capital expenditures for the City.

• **ENERGY STAR RANKING:** Atlanta named the #4 city in the U.S. for Energy Star rated facilities.

• **SOLARIZE ATLANTA:** Collaborated with nonprofit and philanthropic partners to create Solarize Atlanta, a community-based group purchasing program to increase access to solar energy for residents, businesses, faith-based and nonprofits.

• **EV READY ORDINANCE:** Enacted the country’s most aggressive EV (electric vehicle) ordinance. (authored by then-Councilwoman Bottoms) The ordinance requires that all new parking spaces associated with new construction for commercial and residential occupancies must have the infrastructure for electric vehicle charging stations installed. “EV Ready” does NOT require the physical charging station. The electrical panel load capacity and raceway/conduit must be sized for the load capacity of the charging station. We successfully started enforcing this code July 1, 2018.

• **ALTERNATIVE FUEL CONVERSION PLAN:** Through a strategic partnership with the Electrification Coalition (EC), the Mayor’s Office of Resilience developed Atlanta’s Alternative Fuel Conversion Plan, published in July 2018. This nine-page document serves as a guide for the City to achieve its commitment of transitioning 20% of its suitable fleet to electric vehicles by the end of 2020.

• **RANKED THE #38 GREEN FLEET:** in North America out of 100 Best Fleets.

• **GROW-A-LOT:** Revitalized 10+ vacant city parcels into community gardens in low-income food deserts. Parcels include four community gardens built within the first 100 days of the Bottoms Administration, as well as the largest food forest in the U.S.

• **SUSTAINABILITY AMBASSADORS:** Launched eight-week course to train & educate City of Atlanta residents on sustainability best practices and to become sustainability advocates in their communities.

As a winner of the American Cities Climate Challenge, Atlanta will pursue ambitious plans to combat climate change. The City will receive a philanthropy-funded team member to facilitate the development and passage of high impact policies; new training for senior leadership to assist with implementation of their proposed climate plans; and citizen engagement support to maximize community buy-in. These tools will help ensure that Atlanta has the staff and resources necessary to turn climate action plans into reality.
The anticipated 2019 opening of the $26.5 million Westside Park at Bellwood Quarry will change the surrounding landscape far beyond just becoming the largest greenspace in the city. It will also serve as a catalyst for redevelopment of Westside neighborhoods, and become the home of a critical back-up source of drinking water for the entire city.

Upon completion, the park will encompass a total of 280 acres, nearly one hundred acres larger than Piedmont Park, and will connect Proctor Creek Greenway and Chattahoochee River Corridor with the Atlanta BeltLine. The park’s design will provide lighting, signage, well-designed graphics and will promote pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Components geared towards sustainability could include educational facilities and venues for events, weddings, and festivals. Additionally, the grand overlook area will maximize breathtaking panoramic views of the reservoir and the Atlanta skyline. Visitors will also be able to experience the quarry by ADA accessible trails leading to the grand overlook.

Since 2016, the City’s Department of Watershed Management has worked on Bellwood Quarry Reservoir, a transformative project that will hold 2.4 billion gallons of emergency drinking water, increasing the City’s emergency supply from 3 days to 30 days.

As the population continues to grow, the need for public green spaces will have to increase accordingly. The development of Westside Park at Bellwood Quarry takes a giant step forward in that direction.
CITY OF ATLANTA UPGRADES CYBER SYSTEMS

As a result of the March 2018 ransomware attack that impacted some City services, a new team of technology professionals have joined the Administration to establish Atlanta as a leader in cyber security. Over the past few months the Department of Atlanta Information Management’s (AIM) task has been to construct a stronger infrastructure to protect one of the nation’s leading municipalities.

The City has emerged stronger, wiser and more forward-thinking as it relates to the technology security required to do business in the 21st century.

AIM estimates that there are 1,000 attempted attacks made on Atlanta’s infrastructure everyday – a constant barrage of harmful forces determined to disrupt and/or profit from weak networks. Nationwide, a recent survey prepared by the International City-County Management Association and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, revealed that 25% of local municipalities are subject to cyberattacks at least as often as once every hour.

Crucial changes implemented over the past few months include increased usage of cloud services; state-of-the-art technological infrastructure investments; the development of public/private business collaborations; and ramping up of internal cyber-awareness procedures for the City’s 8,000-plus member workforce.
The City of Atlanta acquired a key railroad corridor needed to complete the Atlanta BeltLine’s Southside Trail in March, connecting the Eastside and Westside Trails to create 14 contiguous miles of the Atlanta BeltLine corridor.

The purchase was the single-largest remaining land acquisition for Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI), representing more than four miles and 63 acres of the Atlanta BeltLine’s planned 22-mile transit and trail loop.

This $26 million purchase of land from the CSX Corporation extends from University Avenue on the west side to Glenwood Avenue on the east side, running adjacent to several neighborhoods including Pittsburgh, Capitol View Manor, High Point, South Atlanta, Peoplestown, Chosewood Park, Grant Park, Boulevard Heights, Ormewood Park and Summerhill. The trail will support developments such as Pittsburgh Yards, catalyzing economic growth and equitable access for jobs, transit and other opportunities.

This inactive rail corridor that once divided neighborhoods can now be used to develop a connected environment that integrates greenspace, jobs, transit and affordable housing options for communities south of downtown. It is an exciting example of what can be accomplished when public and private sectors work together to find innovative solutions that enhance neighborhoods and propel the local economy forward.
The City of Atlanta agreed to purchase 2.94 acres of land located at the corner of Piedmont Avenue and Monroe Drive for the historic expansion of Piedmont Park and the Atlanta Botanical Garden – an acquisition that will resonate for decades to come as these attractions serve more visitors through enhanced spaces and a new connection to the Atlanta BeltLine.

As the City moves forward, the Department of Parks and Recreation will host a series of community meetings to incorporate public feedback into the design of the pedestrian trails, the trail connections and access to the Atlanta BeltLine, as well as the expanded Piedmont Park and Atlanta Botanical Garden.

The City will pay up to $20.4 million for the property with a majority of funds coming from the TSPLOST, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

A philanthropic effort to raise $80 million in private funds for the full development and expansion is being led by Carol Tomé, Chair of the Atlanta Botanical Garden Board of Directors and Chief Financial Officer of The Home Depot.
AN ETHICAL, TRANSPARENT AND FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

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- $100K Appropriation To End AIDS, 50
Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms took another critical step in making Atlanta one of the most transparent cities in the country, signing a legislative package approved by the City Council that amended the City Code to create a new Transparency Officer, restrict usage of City-issued credits cards and establish procedures for the registration of persons engaged in lobbying the City of Atlanta.

Specifically, the legislative package provides for the following changes:

**TRANSPARENCY**

- The Transparency Officer will be responsible for the City’s complete and thorough compliance with the Georgia Open Records Act (GORA).

- Open Records Requests (ORR) will be submitted through a new website specifically designed to help manage ORR’s, alongside traditional methods.

- Department heads and other designated officials will act as ORR custodians, reporting directly to the Transparency Officer. The Mayor and the City Council will also designate ORR coordinators to work with the Transparency Officer and his/her staff.

- Employee violations of the GORA are subject to immediate disciplinary action, including and up to termination. In addition, if applicable, certain violations of the Transparency Codes could be referred for criminal prosecution. And any employee who properly reports violations of the GORA shall be protected by the Georgia Whistleblower Act.

- Quarterly reports will be generated to help the public track the City’s overall compliance. Mandatory training will also be provided to City employees to make sure they have the instructional tools needed to successfully process open records requests.

**CREDIT CARDS**

- The newly introduced resolution authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to designate a Program Administrator to monitor credit card purchases and ensure compliance.

- Strict limitations on credit card issuance and usage will be set. No personal purchases will be authorized. Misuse of any City-issued credit card may result in disciplinary action, including and up to employment termination.

**LOBBYISTS**

The Administration introduced legislation to require people paid to lobby City Government to be registered with the Municipal Clerk and to disclose their clients, gifts and political contributions. The legislation directs the Municipal Clerk to establish an online portal that will allow these disclosure and activity reports to be easily searchable and accessible to the public. Similar to the State of Georgia, lobbyists will be required to wear a badge that identifies them as a registered lobbyist.
Open Checkbook is a first for the City. It is just one of the ways Mayor Bottoms is delivering on her One Atlanta vision, which includes an ethical, transparent and fiscally responsible government.

Open Checkbook is an innovative online financial portal that allows the public to see exactly how their tax dollars are being spent, by making it easier for the public to access City budgets, expenditures and contracts with vendors. Additionally, it allows members of the public to easily search, follow and analyze the business of the City.
In addition to installing the City’s first-ever Transparency Officer, the legislation creates a new chapter of the City Code that is dedicated entirely to transparency compliance and enforcement, including the handling of Open Records Requests and the creation of a new website that allows the public and media to submit and track requests.

Atlanta City Council also approved the Mayor’s new legislation requiring paid lobbyists to be registered with the Municipal Clerk.

The legislation also directs the Municipal Clerk to establish an online portal that will allow the filing of Lobbyist Disclosure Reports to be searchable and accessible to the public.

The City of Atlanta joins a list of major cities, including New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Birmingham and Washington, D.C. that have used similar portals to expand transparency and openness to the public.
Mayor Bottoms appointed the City’s first Transparency Officer – longtime City attorney Kristen Denius – to fulfill the compliance and regulatory component of her Open Checkbook legislation.

Attorney Denius was instrumental in drafting the groundbreaking legislation. She is viewed by local government leaders as a responsive advocate for best practices in municipal open government.

This new role, in conjunction with the City Attorney’s office, is empowered to launch investigations of City employees who are alleged to have failed to comply with state records guidelines, including the Mayor. Additionally, the Transparency Officer will direct mandatory annual training for elected officials and the City of Atlanta workforce on proper compliance with the Georgia Open Records Act.

As a matter of law, Georgia regulations require that public organizations respond to records requests within three days and provide records as soon as they are assembled. Citizens will now have free online access to the database of all documents generated from Open Records Requests to the City under the Mayor’s Open Checkbook legislation and overseen by the Transparency Officer and staff.
Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms introduced a series of measures to the Atlanta City Council which take a multifaceted approach to overhauling the City’s procurement process.

MODIFICATIONS INCLUDE:

• The transition to a new e-Procurement system, which will automate the procurement process and the exchange of information between the City and its suppliers;

• The mandate that the identification method of bid submissions be included in the invitation for bids;

• The requirement that all small purchases greater than $50 but less than $20,000 be submitted to the Department of Procurement for sourcing;

• The institution of a not-to-exceed aggregate amount of $20,000 for all small purchases for each department, per vendor per fiscal year;

• The provision of competitive compensation for Procurement Appeals Hearing Officers.

In June, Mayor Bottoms appointed retired Lieutenant Colonel David L. Wilson, II to serve as the City’s Chief Procurement Officer. A recipient of the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service, Wilson supported 40 diverse organizations throughout his career that managed $1.2 billion in commodity, service and construction contracts. He consistently led teams recognized by the U.S. Air Force for outstanding contracting and management.

Under the leadership of Chief Wilson, Atlanta’s Department of Procurement has taken critical steps to improve policies governing the City’s public bid process and align the organization with the Mayor’s focus on transparency and accountability.

PROCUREMENT REFORM MEASURES THAT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN CHIEF WILSON’S FIRST 90 DAYS INCLUDE:

• Mandatory annual ethics training for the Department of Procurement;

• Standardization of internal documents and templates;

• Establishment of new performance metrics to regularly track and measure effectiveness and efficiencies across the acquisition process;

• Establishment of a new Community Outreach team within the Department;

• Training of all appropriate City employees on the use of the new e-Procurement system.

IN ADDITION TO THE COMPLETED OVERHAUL MEASURES, THE CITY OF ATLANTA HAS A ROBUST PIPELINE OF ADDITIONAL REFORM POLICY IMPROVEMENTS WHICH ARE SLATED FOR COMPLETION IN 2019. INCLUDED ARE:

• Conducting an independent audit review on all contracts involving amounts more than $1 million;

• Restructuring the Department of Procurement to ensure a more customer-focused model;

• Creating more flexibility in acquisitions;

• Increasing Market Research requirements;

• Establishing a Procurement Management Review program.
The Georgia First Amendment Foundation (GFAF) recognized Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms and City Attorney Nina Hickson for their work in advancing the City of Atlanta’s sweeping transparency reforms at the organization’s Weltner Freedom of Information Award Banquet. Specifically, the GFAF lauded the Mayor’s legislation that created the City’s first ever Transparency Officer role which, among other responsibilities, oversees and assists in the enforcement of Citywide compliance with the requirements of the Georgia Open Records Act.

During the awards banquet, City Attorney Hickson received special recognition for her efforts in upholding the City’s open government policies, later noting that the City’s success is built upon the foundation of trust between government and the citizens it serves.

GFAF’s recognition underscored how the new transparency legislation sets new standards for how the City handles Open Records Requests and also highlighted the creation of a new website that allows media partners and citizens to submit and track open records requests.

Additionally, the organization highlighted the legislation that requires paid lobbyists to be registered with the Municipal Clerk when conducting business with elected officials and officers of the City. The sweeping transparency reforms followed the launch of Open Checkbook, an online financial portal that allows the public to track how tax dollars are spent.
The Atlanta City Council unanimously approved the $661.4 million Fiscal Year 2019 budget as proposed by Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms – her first submission in her term as the 60th Mayor of Atlanta. The budget focuses on the Administration’s priorities to build One Atlanta through enhanced public safety, economic development, equity, transparency and quality of life for all city residents.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APPROVED BUDGET, WHICH DOES NOT PROPOSE ANY TAX INCREASES OR RELY UPON THE CITY’S RESERVE FUNDS, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- A 3.1% pay increase, plus a one-time $500 bonus for the Atlanta Police Department and the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department;

- A one-time, $1000 bonus for the Atlanta Department of Corrections;

- Funding to support City employees, including a one-time bonus of $500 for all non-sworn employees and rasing the City’s living wage increase to $14 per hour;

- A $1 million increase in funding for the arts and $2.6 million for upgrades throughout the City-wide system of parks, recreation and cultural facilities;

- Funding to support the new One Atlanta Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion;

- A $400,000 earmark for the Atlanta/Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative;

- A $100,000 earmark for program resources to combat tackling the city’s HIV/AIDS crisis;

- Increased funding for the City’s Board of Ethics and Citizen Review Board, as well as the City Auditor’s Office;

- Investments in City services including $1.6 million to increase pothole crews, support the City’s clean-up crews and fund transportation maintenance needs;

- $3.5 million for upgrades to the City’s IT security and infrastructure.
CITY OF ATLANTA PROVIDES $100,000 APPROPRIATION TO HELP FIGHT AIDS EPIDEMIC

JUNE 2018

City of Atlanta employees wore red ribbons on National AIDS Awareness Day in support of ending the AIDS epidemic.
The unanimous passage of the first City budget in the Bottoms Administration signaled another historic first: a $100,000 line item that represents the broadest allocation of City funds to date dedicated to fighting the HIV/AIDS crisis.

More than 33,000 people are living with diagnosed HIV in Atlanta, a large number of them members of minority groups. According to the CDC, Atlanta has the fourth-highest rate of new HIV infections in the United States.

The first step to lower these rates is to allocate funds that can be used for a number of preventative and management programs, including, but not limited to, public awareness and education, testing, housing and access to PrEP.

HIV/AIDS prevention is also a priority area for the City’s new LGBTQ Advisory Board, which works in coordination with the One Atlanta office.

The City of Atlanta is also working to expedite federal funds through the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program, which provides housing solutions for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS.
Residents who are equipped for success

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- Students2Startups Program, 59
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Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms announced the establishment of the Center for Workforce Innovation, a jobs training program focused on outcomes-based education for high-demand careers in the city of Atlanta. The Center, which will be housed at Atlanta Technical College, is the result of a public-private partnership with the City of Atlanta, Atlanta Committee for Progress and Atlanta Technical College.

The Center has the potential to transform workforce opportunity in Atlanta, by engaging the city’s most reputable companies to develop a talent pipeline for key sectors. The Center’s five partnering corporations have collectively invested an initial $2 million to pilot three career tracks including aircraft technical skills, information technology, and skilled trades, such as carpentry, electrical construction and maintenance. The initial investment will support high-quality instructors, a tuition-balance forgiveness program and wraparound services, including transportation vouchers. Year Up Atlanta and career tech-program Per Scholas will also partner to ensure that students obtain meaningful outcomes.

Initial funding for the Center was provided by Delta Air Lines, The Home Depot, SunTrust, Intercontinental Exchange and Georgia Power, with additional support from McKinsey & Co. and other Atlanta-based institutions. In addition, WorkSource Atlanta, the City of Atlanta’s workforce development agency, will provide tuition assistance of up to $10,000 to qualified students, and all students will be eligible for additional dollars through the HOPE Career Grant.
The Preparing Adult Offenders to Transition through Training and Therapy (PAT3) program is an innovative program designed to eliminate barriers and provide resources for family reunification as part of an effort to lower recidivism rates.

The PAT3 program focuses on the reentry needs of incarcerated males with children by providing job training and employment opportunities with the City of Atlanta.

Mayor Bottoms partnered with the Department of Corrections (DOC), the Department of Watershed Management (DWM) and the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) to develop the program, which will also provide re-entry counseling and classes facilitated by the Urban League of Greater Atlanta. Chief of Corrections Patrick L. Labat and Watershed Management Commissioner Kishia L. Powell led the City’s program development.
PAT3 is designed in a three-tiered process: state mandated vocational training, workforce development and employment. Upon completion of the vocational training phase, participants will become certified City employees in the Department of Watershed Management, which includes full health benefits. Program participants include detainees with 12 to 18 months remaining in their respective sentences who are currently in the care and custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections and the Atlanta City Detention Center. Inmates from the Georgia Department of Corrections must meet strict requirements to participate in the program including but not limited to: male; convicted in or return address to Fulton County, Georgia; minimum of 12 months remaining on sentence; medium or minimum security; GED/high school diploma preferable but not mandatory; no sex offenders; and no violent offenders.
The City of Atlanta faces a human trafficking challenge disproportionate to its size as thousands of children, women and men fall prey to the insidious practice of human trafficking every year. Atlanta is committed to preventing human trafficking and is grateful for the resources provided by the Pathways to Freedom grant to get the job done.

Mayor Bottoms welcomed a cadre of service providers, advocates, and government officials to City Hall to discuss labor exploitation, sexual exploitation and ways to address human trafficking.

The City’s current efforts to prevent human trafficking and support trafficking victims include Special Victims officers within the Atlanta Police Department (APD) and preventative measures at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (ATL) such as signage placed in all restrooms listing identifiable signs of a trafficked person and the telephone number for the National Human Trafficking Hotline. ATL also broadcasts a public service announcement about human trafficking on monitors in all terminals. In December, the

CITY MOVES TO PREVENT HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROTECT MOST VULNERABLE

SEPTEMBER 2018

Ouleye Ndoye Warnock, inaugural Senior Human Trafficking Fellow for the City of Atlanta (pictured above).
Atlanta City Council unanimously approved Mayor Bottoms’ legislation which established an innovative partnership with Wellspring Living, one of Atlanta’s foremost agencies in the fight to end human trafficking, to provide a path to financial independence for some of our city’s most vulnerable residents by making them part of our City’s trained and qualified workforce.

The new career-apprenticeship program, known as the Women’s Academy, is designed to provide economic mobility and a road to self-sufficiency for young women who have experienced difficulty gaining living-wage employment due to poverty, sexual abuse and trafficking.

Women on the career track of the Women’s Academy receive 10 weeks of career training, followed by a 12-week paid apprenticeship. When a participating woman successfully completes the apprenticeship, she will be considered for full employment, one of the final steps towards independence.

The City’s efforts to prevent human trafficking and become the strength for the powerless and the hope of the victims is ongoing as a top priority of Mayor Bottoms’ Administration.

“Just as there are top-level officials who plan for the City’s economic growth and development, it is equally important to have members of our Administration who plan for the safety and protection of all who come through Atlanta, particularly those who are most vulnerable amongst us.”

- MAYOR KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS
WorkSource Atlanta (WSA) was awarded a $715,000 discretionary grant by the Technical College System of Georgia for an innovative job training collaboration that will assist the City of Atlanta in the long-term goal of providing successful career strategies for local citizens.

WorkSource Atlanta plays a critical role in actualizing Mayor Bottoms’ One Atlanta vision by expanding equity and leveling the workforce playing field for all Atlantans.

The cultivation of partnerships with meaningful, community, non-profit and private organizations will extend WSA’s reach and help to fulfill the mission of assisting Atlantans with opportunity and pathways to well-paying jobs. Atlanta’s discretionary grant signals a vote of confidence from the State’s governing body.

The Administration and WSA remain committed to a thriving workforce training initiative to grow Atlanta’s economy through direct investments in the city’s most valuable assets — its residents.
In collaboration with Invest Atlanta and WorkSource Atlanta, the City of Atlanta launched Students2Startups, a mentorship program that opens doors to the technology industry, closes opportunity gaps and helps connect young innovative talent to creative entrepreneurs.

The program pairs Atlanta-based students, especially those from backgrounds underrepresented in the tech industry, with emerging startups for paid, full-time, technology-focused summer internships and ongoing professional-development opportunities.

This initiative supports Atlanta startup businesses by meeting some of their tech-support needs, while helping to retain more of the city’s budding talent, reinforcing Atlanta’s reputation as a leading city for technology-sector jobs and commerce.

Atlanta is a hotbed of startup activity underpinned by 65 corporate innovation centers, incubators, accelerators and co-working spaces in the city and metro area. Students2Startups is another way to foster a rich, diverse talent pipeline to support the City’s thriving startup ecosystem for years to come.
### CITY OF ATLANTA RESOURCES

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The best is yet to come!