

# **NPU-H**

# **Community Master Plan**

## **Design Workshop**

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**NPU-H**, City of Atlanta, TSW

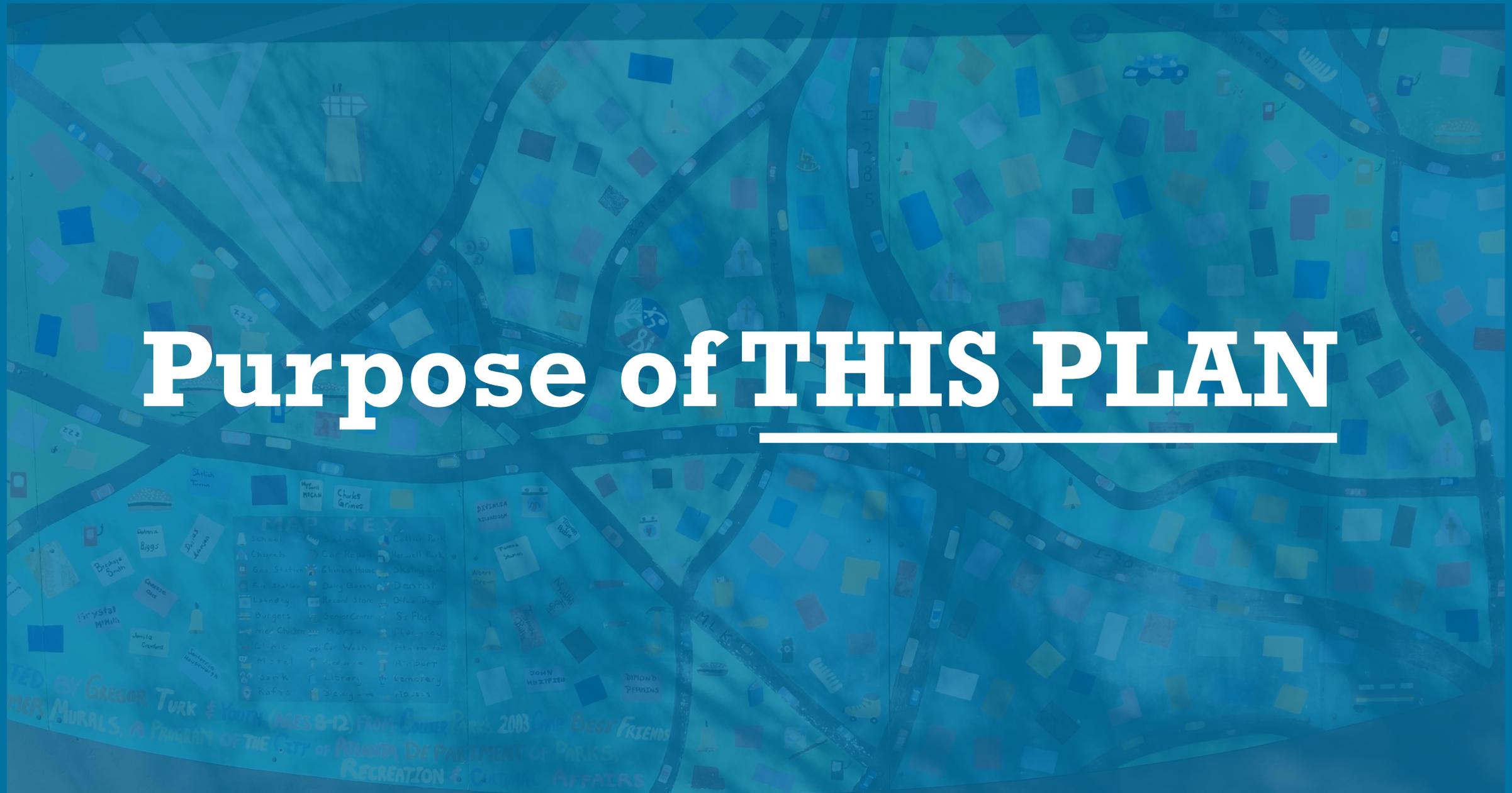


Department of

**CITY PLANNING**

# Purpose of THIS PLAN

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# We Want To...

- Build on previous planning efforts
- Develop a vision guiding growth and development in NPU-H and strategize ways to implement that vision.
- Set goals for what the NPU-H community strives to be.
- Recommend new policies and future projects.
- Develop concept plans for two key areas.

**We need  
your help!**

# ATLANTA CITY DESIGN

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**INVEST ATLANTA**

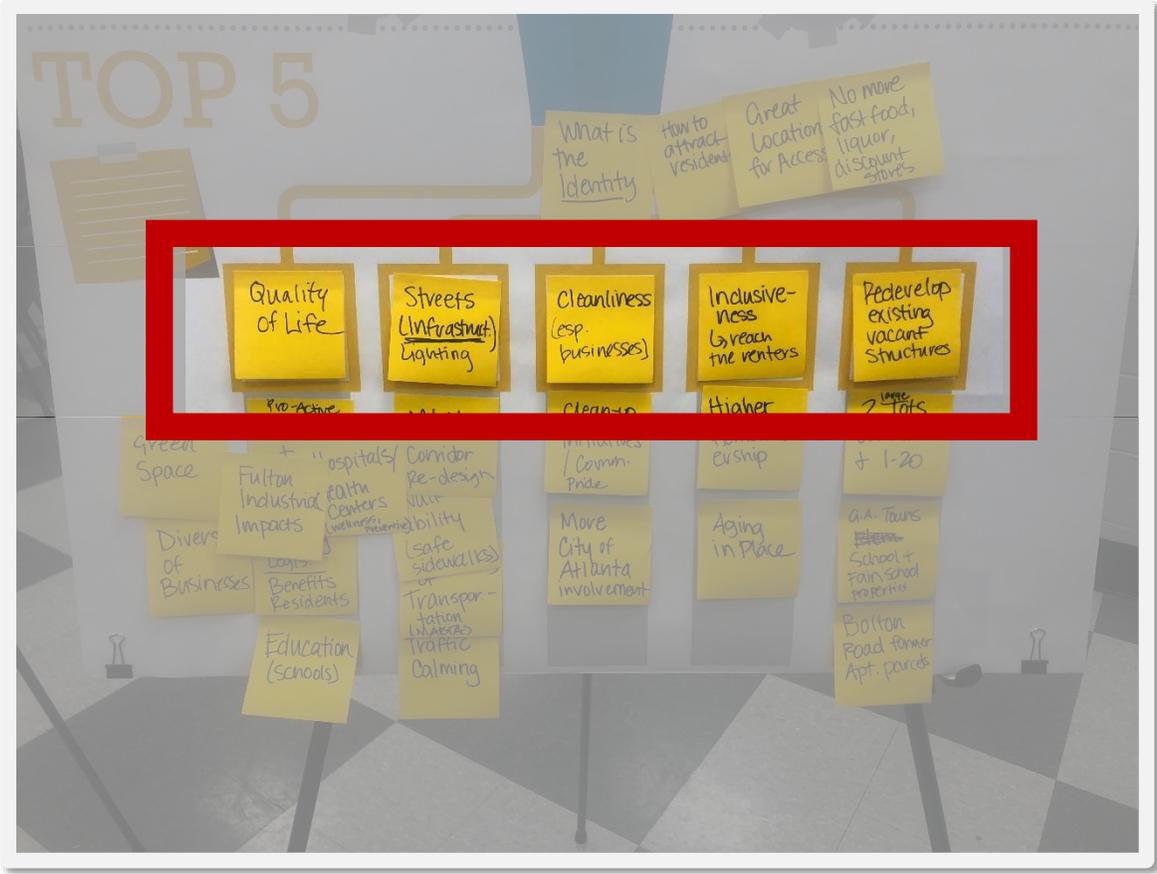
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A large group of people, mostly older adults, are seated in an audience. A man in the center is standing and gesturing with his hands. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The text "What We Heard" is centered over the image.

# What We Heard

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# We first heard from the Steering Committee



# Major Feedback Summarized



Quality of Life



Transportation

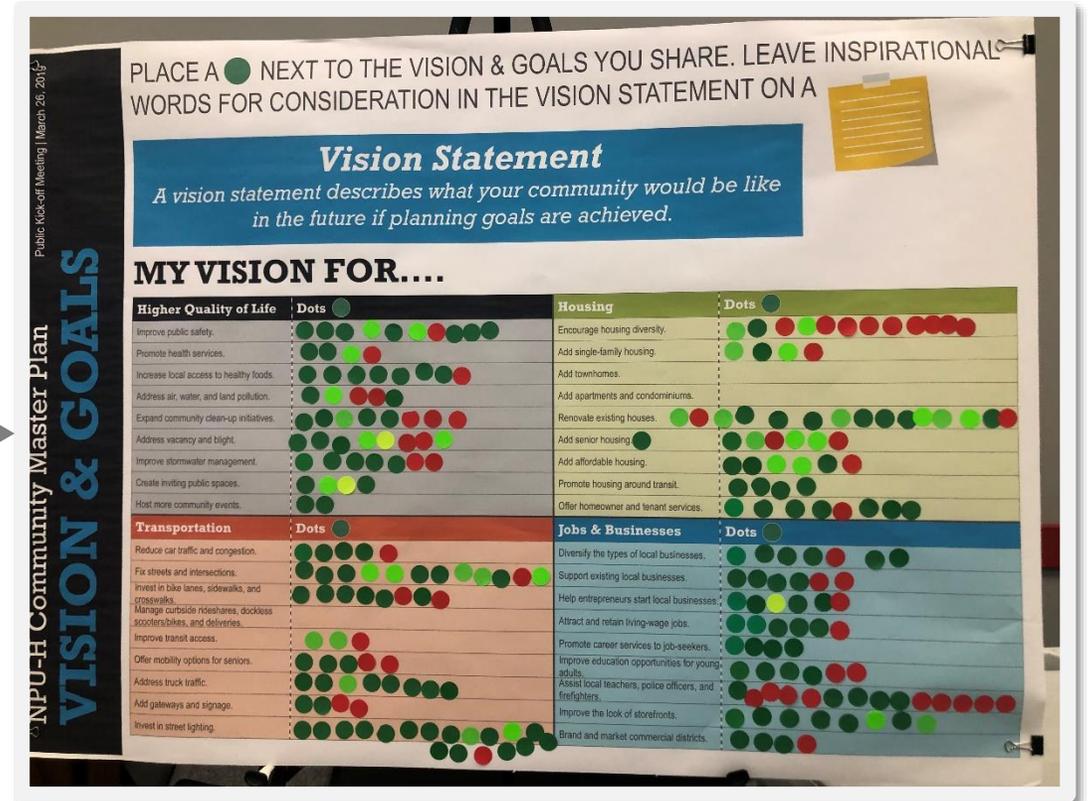
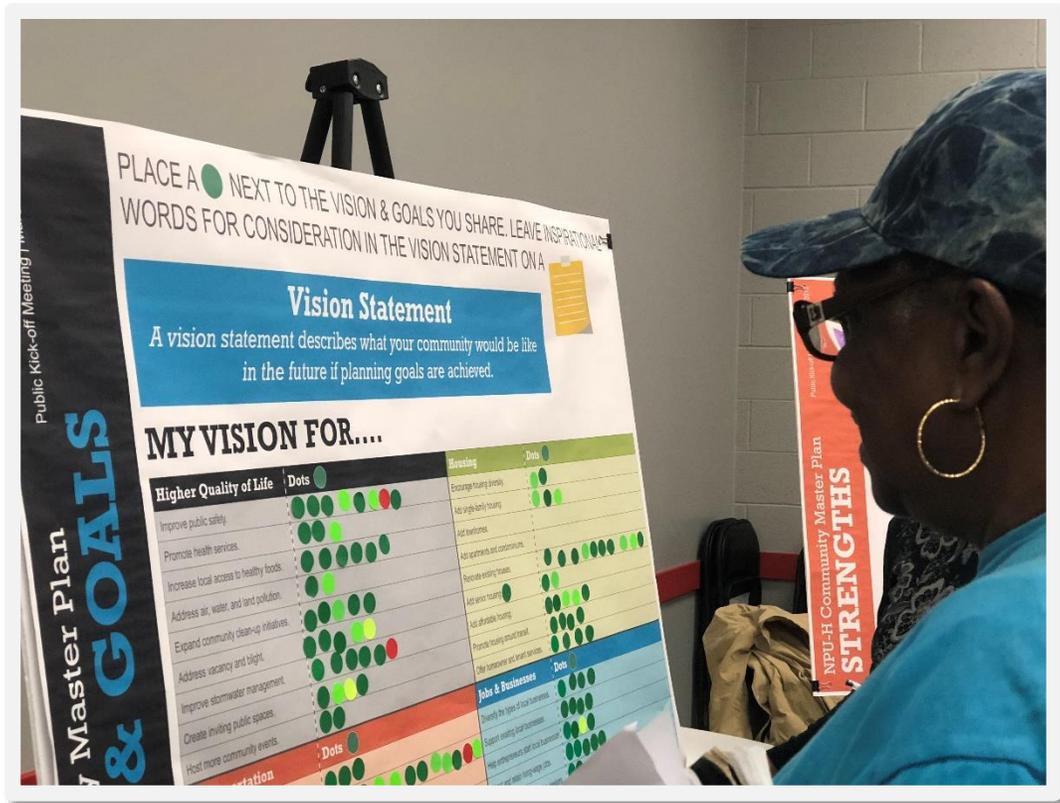


Housing



Jobs & Businesses

# Next Up! Confirm With Stakeholders



# Issues Most Important In Each Category



Quality of Life

- Address vacancy & blight
- Improve public safety
- Improve storm water management
- Increase local access to healthy foods
- Expand community clean-up initiatives

# of votes

28

26

24

23

21

# Issues Most Important In Each Category



Transportation

- Invest in street lighting
- Fix streets & intersections
- Invest in bike lanes, sidewalks, & crosswalks
- Address truck traffic
- Add gateways & signage

# of votes

33

30

19

18

15

# Issues Most Important In Each Category

3

Housing

- Renovate existing houses
- Offer homeowner & tenant services
- Encourage housing diversity
- Add senior housing
- Add affordable housing

# of votes

31

16

15

14

13

# Issues Most Important In Each Category

4

Jobs & Businesses

- Assist local teachers, police, & firefighters
- Improve the look of storefronts
- Diversify the types of local businesses
- Improve educ. opportunities for young adults
- Attract & retain living-wage jobs

# of votes

25

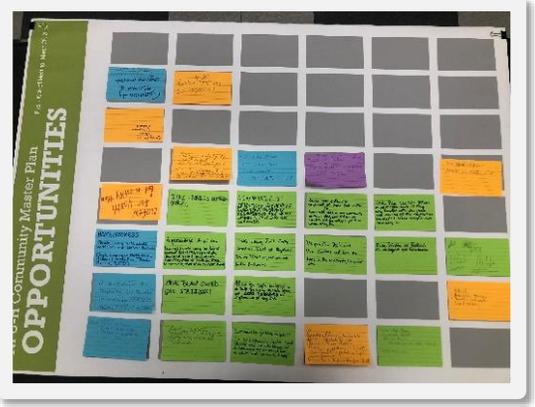
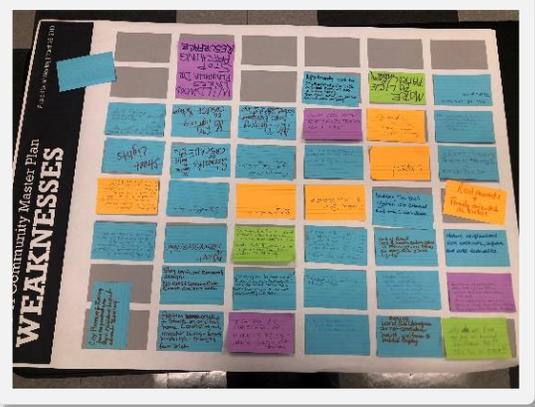
25

17

17

15

# SWOT Analysis



# Strengths Feedback Summarized

- History & generations of families
- Neighbors who look out for each other
- Good location and access to Downtown, I-20, I-285, airport
- Tree coverage and nature

# Weaknesses Feedback Summarized

- Lack of street lighting, especially on major thoroughfares
- Procedures for resident input about zoning
- Lack of affordable housing for aging-in-place
- Lack of sidewalks
- Property maintenance
- Lack of restaurant, shopping, services options

# Opportunities Feedback Summarized

- Encourage black-owned businesses
- Re-open pools and recreation centers
- Traffic calming on key corridors, like Benjamin E. Mays and Adamsville Drive
- Add low-cost grocery stores
- Encourage mixed-use development that doesn't cause displacement
- Promote community get-togethers for clean-up, education about healthy living

# Threats Feedback Summarized

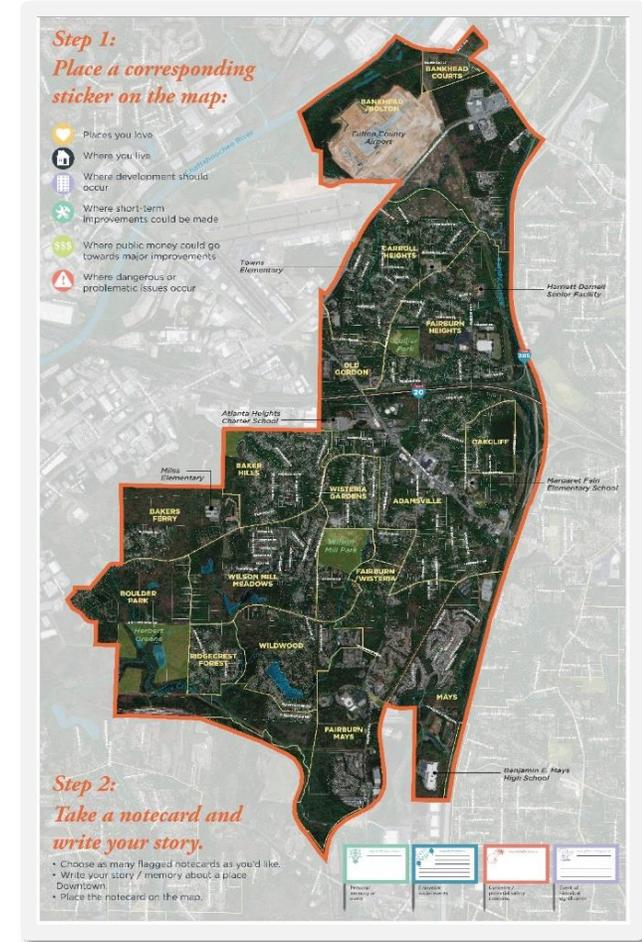
- Traffic congestion on major streets
- Lack of sidewalks, or narrow sidewalks
- Inadequate police and fire protection
- Dumping trash and lack of property maintenance
- Too many low-cost retail options and no diversity of restaurants / retail

# Story Telling Activity

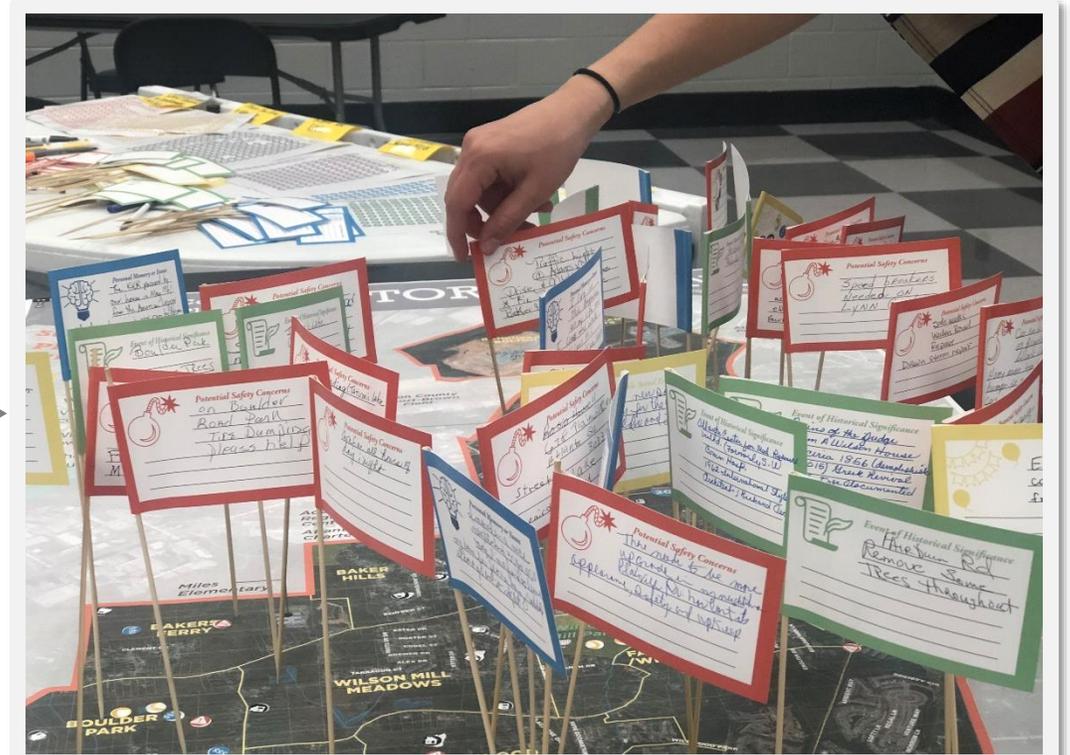
- **Stickers:** Places you love & want to keep, where you live, where development could occur, where long- and short-term improvements could be made



- **Notecards:** Personal memory or event, enjoyable social event, potential safety concern, event of historical significance



# Story Telling Activity



# Safety Concerns Feedback



## Safety Concerns

- Crime & gunfire
- Speeding traffic on Cascade Road, Bakers Ferry Road, Lynn Circle, Brownlee Road
- Condition of roads – Baker Hill, Boulder Park Drive, others
- Youth truancy
- Tire and trash dumping
- Flooding during storm events
- **Major concerns on:** Hemphill School Road, Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

# Enjoyable Social Event Feedback

- Picnics with neighbors and card playing
- Educational community events for kids
- **Most-loved places:**
  - Margaret Fain Elementary School
  - Boulder Park neighborhood
  - Herbert Greene Nature Preserve
  - Wildwood neighborhood
  - Oakcliff neighborhood
  - Collier Park



**Favorite  
Places**

# Events of Historical Significance Feedback

- G.A. Towns Elementary School building (1962) – International Style structure by architect Richard Aech
- Ruins of the Judge William A. Wilson House – built circa 1856 (demolished 2015)
- Atlanta Center for Medical Research Building



Historical  
Significance

# Personal Memory Feedback

- Attended elementary school at Towns and High School at Harper
- I moved into this nice neighborhood 35 years ago, now I'm afraid to leave my home.
- The KKK passed by our house in May 1961 from the American Legion. The American Legion is now run by African Americans.



Personal  
Memory

# Survey Closes May 10<sup>th</sup>!

- **NPU-H Strengths:**
  - Good place to live no matter what age
  - Senior services and programs
- **Quality of Life:**
  - Better access to healthy foods
  - Different places for shopping, eating, drinking, entertainment
  - Improve public safety
  - Address vacancy and blight
  - Preserve & improve community parks, recreation, cultural spaces
- **Jobs & Businesses:**
  - Diversify local businesses
  - Attract and retain living-wage jobs
  - Improve look of storefronts
  - Improve education opportunities for young adults
- **Transportation:**
  - Fix streets, crosswalks, and sidewalks
  - Invest in street lighting
  - Promote transit around new and existing housing
  - Improve busy intersections
  - Build bike lanes
- **Housing / Redevelopment:**
  - Neighborhood-oriented development (retail, sit-down restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, medical facilities)
  - Offices and hotels
  - Renovate existing housing and encourage more housing options
- **Economic Development:**
  - Should have a “people” focus
  - More support for local entrepreneurs / start-ups
  - Support for teachers, polices, firefighters

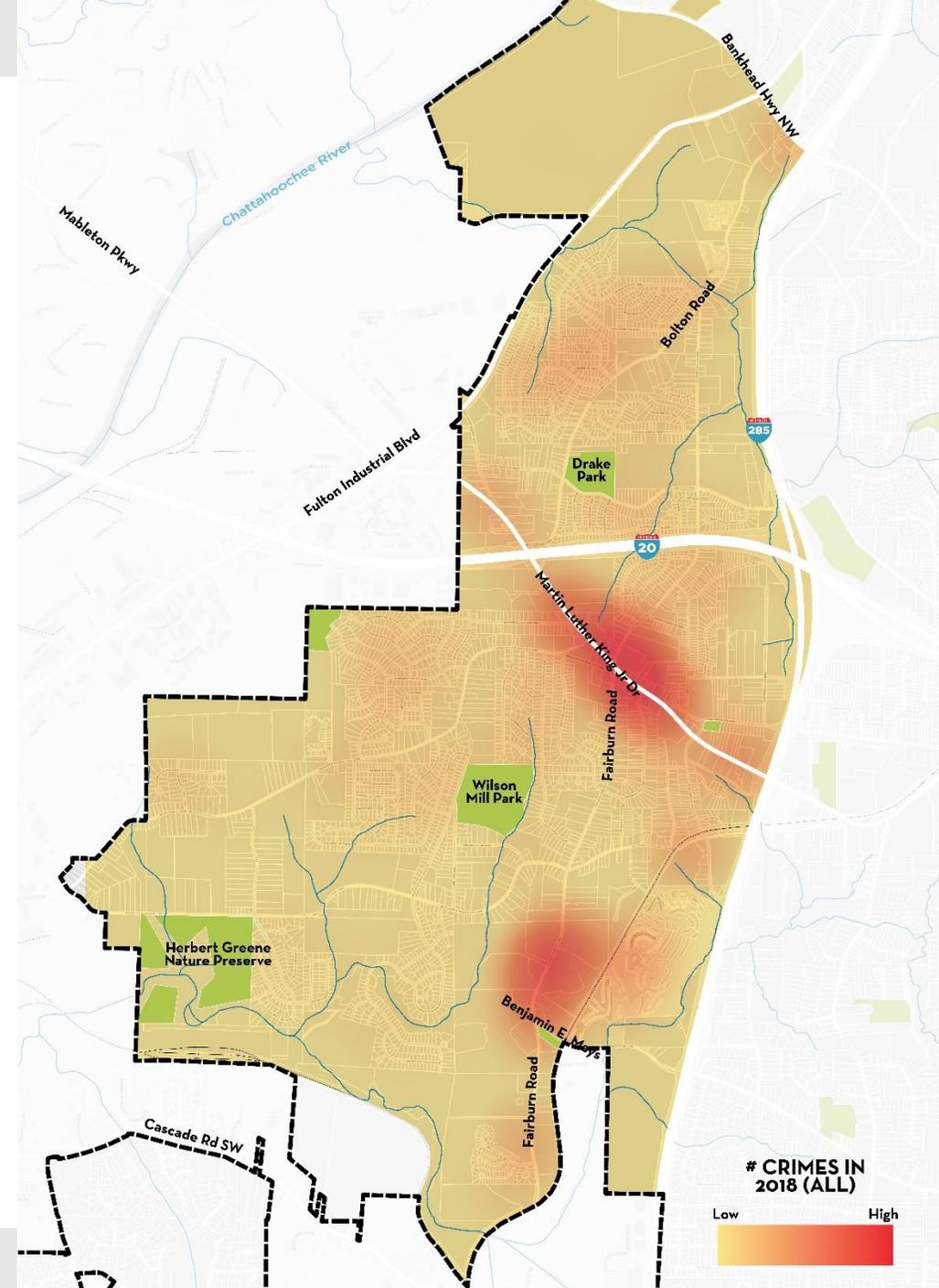
A photograph of a forest with many tall, thin trees, overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The word "Analysis" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the image, with a white horizontal line underneath it.

# Analysis

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# Crime

- # Crimes (all) in 2018 throughout NPU-H
  - MLK, Jr. Drive & Fairburn Road
  - Fairburn Road & Benjamin E. Mays & nearby apartment complexes
- Less crime occurs around parks



# Demographics & Code Enforcement

- See the fact sheet available at the front of the room
  - NPU-H-specific demographic information
  - Code enforcement history

A photograph of four diverse individuals, two men and two women, standing outdoors in a grassy area. They are all wearing light-colored t-shirts with the word "VOLUNTEER" printed on them and lanyards with identification badges. Each person is holding up a large, empty speech bubble or thought bubble. The background shows a building and some trees. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent yellow filter.

# Goals & Principles

## THE VISION

A woman and a man are looking at a sign with handwritten notes. The sign is on a stand and has several lines of text, including "Safety Concerns", "I Love Wilson", "Mill Park", and "I Love". There are other signs and papers around them, suggesting a community meeting or workshop.

Let's take what we  
heard & start  
shaping the vision  
**TOGETHER**



# **DRAFT** Vision Statement

Create a vibrant and safe community for the NPU-H neighborhoods by offering diverse housing options, thriving businesses, accessible transportation, connections to nature, and a high quality of life for all.

# **DRAFT** Goals

## 1. Create a high quality of life for all residents

- See Board for the corresponding Principles

# **DRAFT** Goals

## 2. Focus redevelopment on priority vacant properties and abandoned structures

- See Board for the corresponding Principles

# **DRAFT** Goals

## 3. Promote inclusiveness for all people

- See Board for the corresponding Principles

# **DRAFT** Goals

## 4. Improve the cleanliness and appearance of properties, streets, and parks

- See Board for the corresponding Principles

# **DRAFT** Goals

5. Improve mobility by investing in existing infrastructure, increasing safety and security of transportation modes, and expanding transportation options.

- See Board for the corresponding Principles

# MLK Innovation Corridor Project

**\*\*See DPW representative for more information\*\***

## Part of 2016 City of Atlanta Comprehensive Development Plan

City of Atlanta was recently awarded a \$10 million TIGER Grant for the Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Innovation Corridor Project

- This \$27 million project spans approximately 7.2 miles from Northside Drive to Fulton Industrial Boulevard and includes a combination of federal, state, and local funding.
- Project will provide additional pedestrian and bicycle facilities:
  - multi-use trails
  - linear park
  - raised landscaped medians
  - pedestrian crossing islands
  - repaired sidewalks
  - ADA upgrades
  - two-way cycle track
  - traffic signal improvements
  - upgraded signs and markings
  - lighting improvements
- This section is a State Route, so DPW had limited options to make changes to roadway.
  - Existing median with HAWK signal in front of CT Martin Rec Center
  - Remaining work includes crosswalks, sidewalk repairs



# Atlanta Transportation Plan

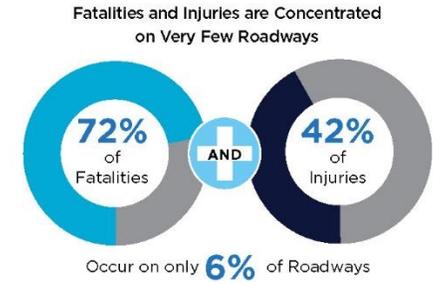
Fairburn Road was identified as a High Injury Network. These are roadway segments where investments in safety improvements can reduce fatal and injury crashes in the City.

This street connects a large part of NPU-H and includes multiple nodes and development types

## SAFETY

### REDUCING FATALITIES AND INJURIES TO SAVE LIVES

Atlanta has higher crash death rates than our peer cities and national averages, both for total crashes and for pedestrian crashes. This is partly because Atlantans drive more than their peers in many other cities. To begin addressing the high crash rates in Atlanta, a High Injury Network was identified. The High Injury Network includes streets where the majority of fatal crashes occur and where there are higher concentrations of vulnerable street users, such as people walking and bicycling. Existing crash data did not include demographics and required processing to identify bicycle crashes. Better data is critical to identify concentrations of vulnerable populations involved in crashes and propose better safety improvements in the future.

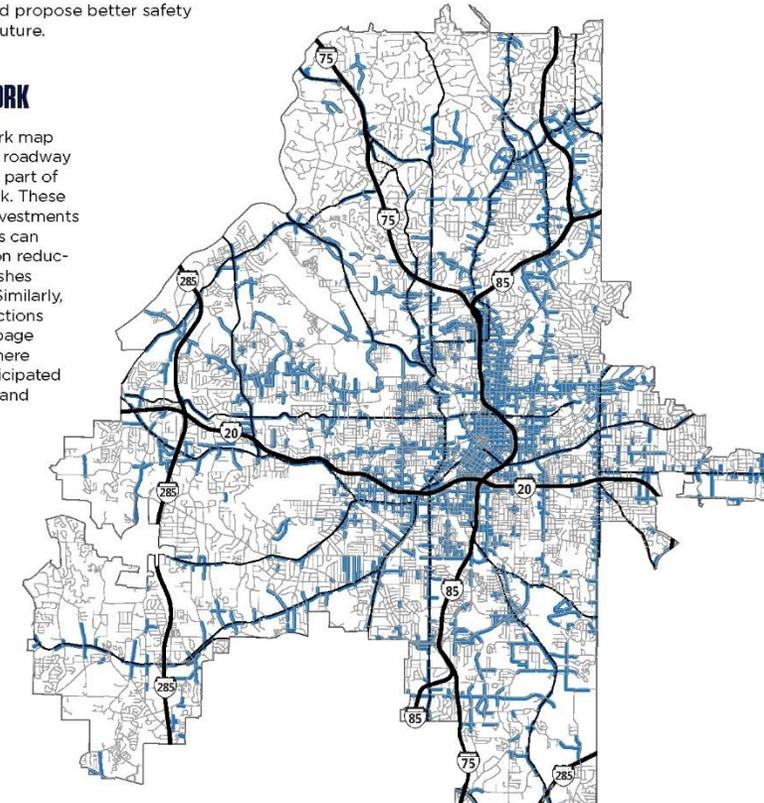


### HIGH INJURY NETWORK

The High Injury Network map on the right shows the roadway segments identified as part of the High Injury Network. These are roadways where investments in safety improvements can have outside impacts on reducing fatal and injury crashes in the City of Atlanta. Similarly, the High Injury Intersections map on the following page shows intersections where safety projects are anticipated to rapidly reduce fatal and injury crashes.

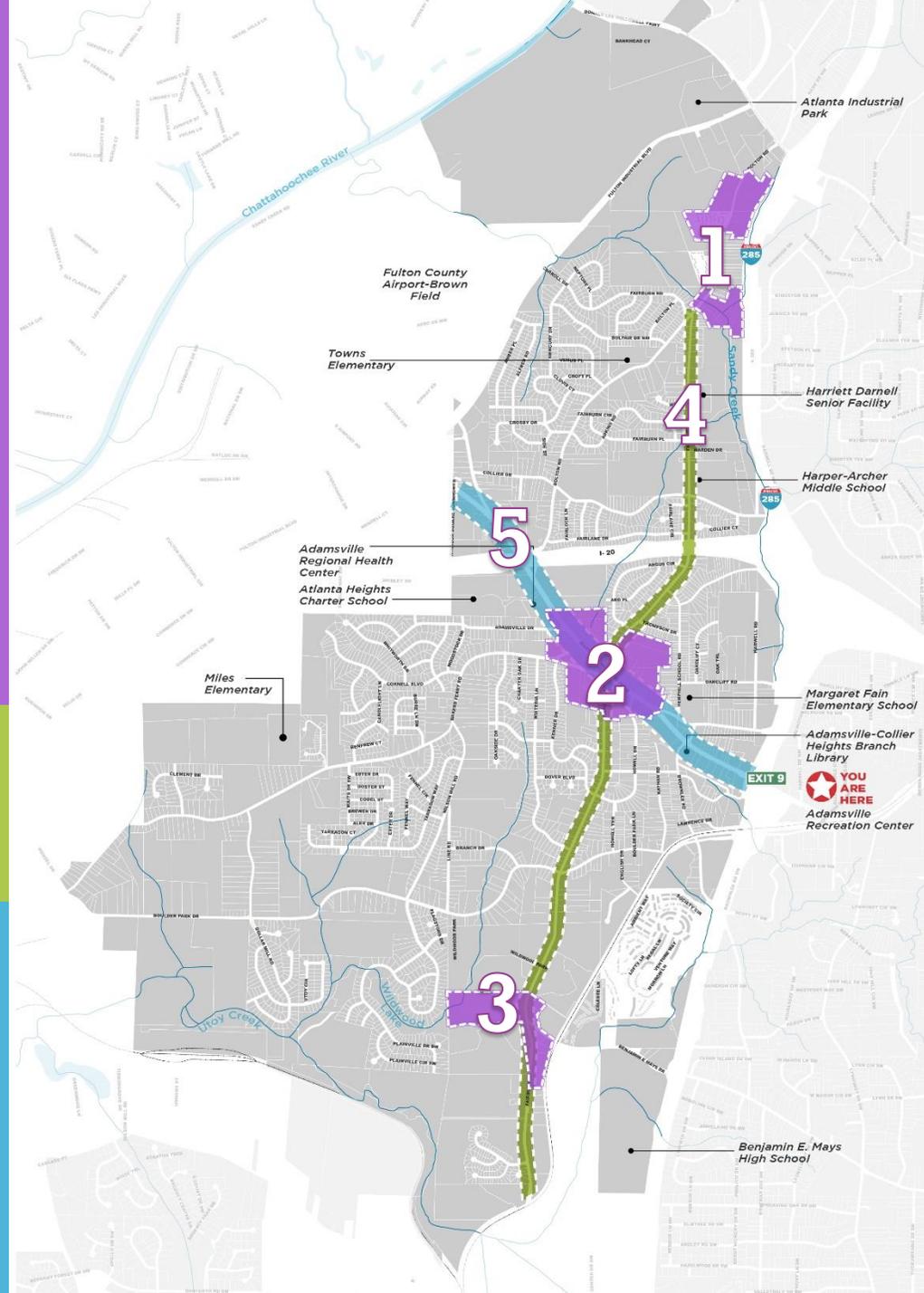
#### High Injury Network (2012-2016)

- High Injury Network
- Expressways
- Major Roads
- Streets



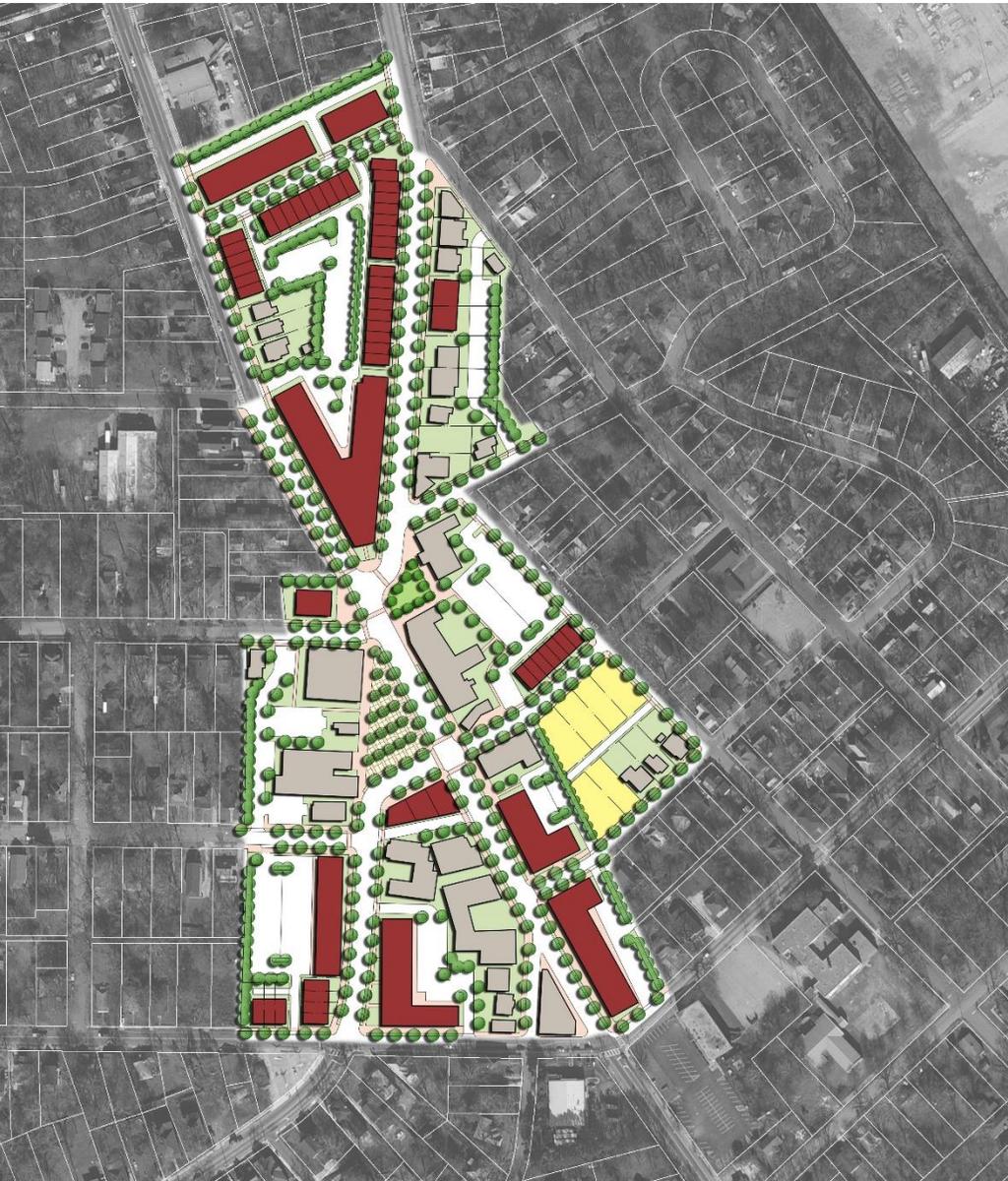
# Concept Plan Sites

1. Bolton Road & I-285
2. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive & Fairburn Road
3. Benjamin E. Mays & Fairburn Road
4. Fairburn Road Typical Sections
5. MLK Innovation Corridor Project (*Separate DPW effort*)



# Concept Plan Examples

- Land uses
- Buildings
- Street extensions / additions
- Potential open space
- Criteria for redevelopment (policy & design)





# Break-out ACTIVITIES

# Activity 1A: Visual Preference Survey for Redevelopment Sites

Choose your preferred types of development for each site

# Activity 1B: Redevelopment Sites

Help us draw concept plans for two  
redevelopment sites

# Activity 2: Developer Wish List

What would you like to require of developers when they build in NPU-H?

# Activity 3A & 3B: Streets & Access

What are your current experiences, what would you like them to be, and what is your ideal street?



**What's NEXT?**

# Project Calendar

- Design Workshop — May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM
- Draft Plan Presentation — June / July
- Presentation at NPU-H — August
- NPU-H Vote — September
- CD / HS Public Hearing — September 23<sup>rd</sup>
- CD / HS Committee Meeting Vote — September 24<sup>th</sup>
- City Council Vote / Adoption — October 7<sup>th</sup>

**Next!**

# Final Products

## Report Document that Includes:

- Existing Conditions
- Planning Process
- Recommendations
  - Vision
  - Goals
  - Policies for Housing, Transportation, Quality of Life, Jobs & Business, Natural Resources
  - Redevelopment Concept Plans (2)
  - Conceptual Street Sections for Fairburn Road
  - Policy & Design Recommendations

The screenshot shows the City of Atlanta website. At the top left is the City of Atlanta logo. To its right is a search bar with the text "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. Further right is a blue button with the text "ATL311". Below the logo and search bar is a navigation menu with the following items: "GOVERNMENT", "RESIDENTS", "VISITORS", "BUSINESS", and "I WANT TO...".

The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is a sidebar menu with the following items: "City Planning" (expanded), "Office of Buildings", "Office of Design", "Office of Housing & Community Development", "Office of Mobility Planning", "Office of Zoning & Development" (expanded), "Forms & Applications", "Plans and Studies" (expanded), "Capital Improvement Program (CIP)", "Tax Allocation District (TAD)", "Fort McPherson Zoning and Land Use Framework", "Campbellton-Cascade Corridors Redevelopment Plan", and "Urban Redevelopment Plan".

The right column displays the "NPU H Community Plan" page. At the top of the page content is a breadcrumb trail: "Government > Departments > City Planning > Office of Zoning & Development > Plans and Studies >". Below the breadcrumb is the title "NPU H Community Plan". To the right of the title are links for "Font Size", "Share & Bookmark", "Feedback", and "Print".

The page content includes an "Overview" section with the following text: "The NPU-H Community Plan will represent the collective vision, policies and strategies that will serve as guide for the future of the 17 neighborhoods in NPU-H. Participants will identify community assets, share issues, opportunities and challenges, and identify catalytic projects to spur redevelopment along the NPU H's main corridors. Participants will also provide input on future development and design concepts for existing activity centers along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Fairburn Road. The final plan will include implementation strategies to leverage public and private resources."

Below the overview is a paragraph: "Neighborhood Planning Unit-H (NPU-H) residents and businesses—in collaboration with Atlanta Councilmembers Dustin R. Hillis (Council District 9) and Andrea L. Boone (Council District 10), Atlanta's Department of City Planning staff, and the TSW consulting firm—are preparing a Community Plan for the NPU."

There is a link for "NPU H Community Plan Fact Sheet".

The "Planning Process" section states: "The planning phase is intended to bring together community members during the four to six-month planning process. Previous planning efforts, plans and studies will be reviewed and summarized. Existing conditions including current land use and zoning patterns, socioeconomic information, and demographic information will be analyzed. The community members will be able to provide input and review the draft plan during a series of three community meetings starting in mid-February and by completing a survey. Afterwards, the plan will be presented to City Council for adoption and incorporation into the Comprehensive Development Plan."

The "Community Meeting Dates" section says: "Share your thoughts and recommendations by attending these community meetings:"

There is a link for "Community Kickoff" with the following details: "Tuesday, March 26 6:30-8:30 pm".

<https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/office-of-zoning-development/plans-and-studies/npu-h-community-plan>

Email: [CommunityPlans@AtlantaGa.gov](mailto:CommunityPlans@AtlantaGa.gov)