

MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

November 2024

If you're not already an MLPA member, please [join/renew](#) today! If you are a member, we really appreciate you. Email volunteer@mlpa.org to get involved!

OVERVIEW AND QUICK LINKS:

- [President's Note](#)
- [MLPA Neighborhood Watch Program Needs Street Captains](#)
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PRESIDENT'S NOTE





2024 Annual Meeting at Morningside Presbyterian Church

At the MLPA Annual Meeting, a healthy crowd of residents gathered at Morningside Presbyterian Church for a meaningful and engaging discussion. We were honored to welcome our elected officials, who shared important updates on issues relevant to our community. A heartfelt thank you to Alex Wan, Stacey Evans, Michelle Long Spears, Saira Draper, Matt Westmoreland, and Ken Zeff for their passionate leadership at the city, county, and state levels.

We also had the privilege of hearing from representatives of APD Zone 2, Zone 6, and the Burglary Unit, along with our own MLPA Patrol Lead, Rick Vasquez, for a robust discussion on the ongoing burglaries that have impacted our area. While these incidents remain a concern, progress in the investigation has been made and we are hopeful that arrests will follow soon. In the meantime, residents were reminded of several common-sense safety tips, such as:

- Getting to know your neighbors and exchanging contact information.
- Notifying neighbors when you're out of town.
- Always calling 911 if you see something suspicious.
- Being cautious about sharing vacation plans with rideshare drivers or package delivery services.
- Taking advantage of the Security Plus membership, which allows MLPA patrols to monitor your home while you are away.

The meeting also included the election of the new MLPA board, and a few minor updates to the association's bylaws. For those who couldn't attend, you can view [the presentation slides here](#). Be sure to check it out for highlights and accomplishments from the past year!

Thank you to everyone who participated, and we look forward to another year of collaboration and community growth.

Don Campbell
president@mlpa.org

NEWS & UPDATES





MLPA Neighborhood Watch Program Needs Street Captains

Street captains are the communication backbone of the neighborhood. The service they perform is invaluable in maintaining a wide communication network for sharing important safety information and helping to keep our neighborhood safe. This is especially important in light of the increased number of burglaries this year ... 14 year-to-date, compared to 6 in 2023.

Please consider doing this valuable service for your neighbors. It takes a bit of effort to hand out the introductory information and collect email addresses. To help you get started, we can provide you a partial list of neighbors and sample flyers to use on your street. After collecting email addresses, street captains typically spend less than 1 hour per month.

STREETS WITHOUT STREET CAPTAINS:

Courtenay Ct
 Courtenay, Wayne to N Highland
 E Morningside
 Hillpine Lane and Hillpine Terrace
 Lanier Place, N Morningside to Cumberland
 Marstevan
 McLynn, Lanier Blvd to Amsterdam
 Middlesex
 N Highland, Amsterdam to Morningside Village
 N Morningside, Lanier to N Highland
 N Pelham
 Pine Ridge
 Plymouth
 Wellbourne

We need you. Please volunteer NOW!!! If you are willing to be a street captain, please send an email to NeighborhoodWatch@mlpa.org.



Morningside-Lenox Park Needs Your Help!

We just need ~\$13,000 More to Purchase 5 License Plate Readers (LPRs).

If you are not aware, there has been a significant increase in burglaries in our neighborhood in 2024. To put the situation in perspective, the interior of our neighborhood (not including Cheshire Bridge and Piedmont Roads) has experienced 14 burglaries to date this year, and for the same period last year, there were 6 – an increase of over 100%!

One of the other tools that the police advocate for are License Plate Reader cameras (LPRs). Currently, MLPA has 11 LPR cameras deployed at the perimeter of the neighborhood. The full perimeter plan envisions 16 cameras, and so the challenge us all is to fund the 5 additional cameras by the end of 2024. Each camera costs \$8,500.

To help us get off to a great start, our City Councilman Alex Wan has secured matching funds of \$7,500. We have made great progress to date and already have enough donations (including the funds from Councilman Wan) to purchase 3 cameras. **So, our next goal is to fund 2 more cameras.**

Alex Wan, City Council Member Match \$7,500
 Funds Raised to Date \$21,535
 Gets Us, 3 Cameras \$29,025
 Plus,

***** REMAINING 2024 Goal \$13,465 *****

Gets Us, 5 Cameras \$42,500

Here are two ways of donating towards the LPR campaign:

1. The first one is to Zelle or Venmo a donation directly to the MLPA Treasurer. This method is NOT tax-deductible. If you wish to donate through Zelle or Venmo, please use this email treasurer@mlpa.org and indicate that this is for the LPR campaign.
2. The second way is a tax-deductible donation to the Atlanta Police Foundation which is a 501(c)3 organization, and your funds will be directed towards the campaign. Please send a check made out to the Atlanta Police Foundation and a completed [LPR Tax- Deductible Donation Form](#) by mail to:

MLPA
 Attention: LPR Fund
 PO Box 8156
 Atlanta, GA 31106

If you would like to use your Donor Advised Fund, please contact [Fred Ehlers](#) to coordinate the gift with the Foundation.

Please contact your employer for a possible match in donation funds.

You can also find the donation information on the [MLPA website](#).

Thank you for your generous support of our campaign to increase security in our wonderful neighborhood.

2024 LPR Campaign Recognition

\$1,000+

- Johanna and Jonas Reisinger
- Arun and Jen Singh
- Fred Ehlers and David Lile

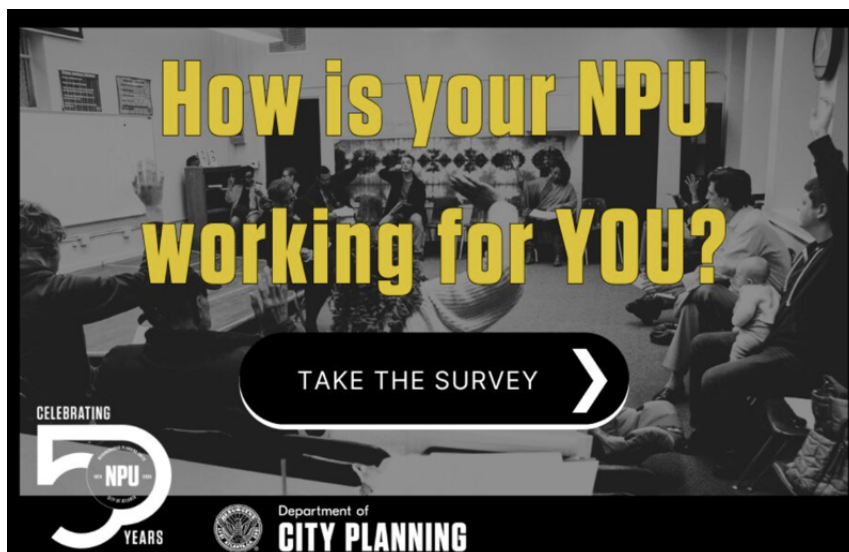
\$500-\$999

- Bill and Barbara Conn
- Eric Potsdam and Colin Swenson

< \$500

- Ana Abreu-Velez and Michael Howard
- Alison and Andrew Akard
- Michael Busboom
- David Cavender
- Craig and Nancy Cuttner
- Kristin Goran
- Carolyn Howard
- John Kejwan
- Larry and Lyn Kirkland
- Anne Maher

- Robert Murry
- Kay and Bob Solomon
- Marc Tammes
- Rick and Phyllis Wingo
- Victoria Yang



Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) Survey

From the Department of City Planning

Day after day, there are observations and concerns about what goes on in your community - safety, traffic, development, events, parks, etc.... Did you know that every single resident in Atlanta is part of a neighborhood planning unit (NPU), which sends recommendations on your behalf about development, transportation, parks, and your overall quality of life to City Hall every month? Decisions are made by those who show up. If you're not in the room, someone is speaking for you, without you.

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your experience with your NPU, whether you participate or not. (Morningside-Lenox Park is in [NPU-E](#).) The survey should take 5-10 minutes to complete and will help us identify opportunities to strengthen the NPU system. Take the survey at bit.ly/NPU50



TOY DRIVE

Spread the joy of the season by participating in our Christmas Toy Drive! This heartwarming event aims to collect new, unwrapped toys for children in need, ensuring that every child experiences the magic of Christmas.

Please donate new and unwrapped toys for ages 10 and under.



Accepting Donations Through DECEMBER 9, 2024	ZONE 6 PRECINCT 2025 Hosea L. Williams Dr. NE Atlanta, GA 30317
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For More Information:
Contact Officer Stanio
rstanio@atlantaga.gov
404-450-4054



Holiday Toy Drive for APD Zone 6

MLPA is proud to support the Atlanta Police Department's Zone 6 Holiday Toy Drive again. For the past several years, neighbors have generously donated new, unwrapped toys to be distributed by the Quality of Life Officer, Russel Stanio, and his team. They are always most appreciative!

How to Donate Toys for Ages 10 & Under:

- Bring new, unwrapped toys to 1220 Cumberland Road **by December 6** and leave on front porch; you can use Amazon to send your donation to this address.
- Take toys to the Zone 6 Precinct by December 9 (address in graphic above).

Thanks in advance!

EVENTS





Monster Dash 2024

We had a skele-ton of fun haunting the streets of Morningside in our second annual Monster Dash 5K and Kids Dash! We're so grateful to everyone who carved out some time to make this race another smashing success, especially our amazing volunteers - neighbors just like you. And many thanks to those who came out along the route to cheer on participants; it was fang-tastic and really meant a lot!

We are also super thankful to our volunteer photographer, Kazumi Fukumoto. She was flying around to help us capture all the ghoulish fun you had. [See photos here!](#)

Beware and take care until next year!





Concerts in the Park

The MLPA wrapped up another fun and easygoing Concert in the Park series on November 1, this time at Sunken Garden. It was a perfect fall evening with great music and neighbors. Thanks to our volunteers for organizing and to all for supporting this neighborhood favorite!



Morningside Supper Club

The Morningside Supper Club had a blast - and delicious meal - at ELA last month! If you are interested in joining, please reach out to host Sarah Chatel by text (404-784-4871) or email (sarah@chatelgroup.com). Hope to see you soon!

PARKS



SIDNEY MARCUS PARK

Friends of Sidney Marcus Park

Park Renovations

Lichty Construction mobilized at the park on October 28 to begin another major park renovation. The estimate is 6-8 weeks to complete the project. We will try to keep the picnic table area open during the construction, but it may not be the most idyllic setting for a party. It may be time for Sidney Marcus Park fans to check out the other great parks in the neighborhood. One of the big projects will be fixing the drainage at the playscape, so the playscape may be closed during parts of this renovation period.

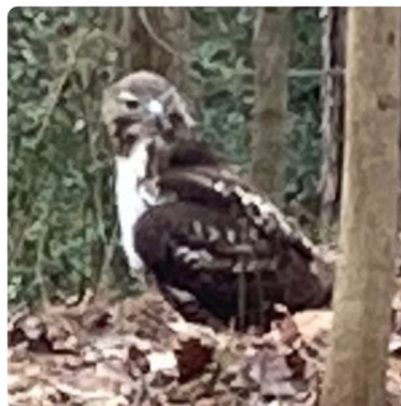
Lichty has a great deal of experience working in public spaces and will be excellent in making the construction area safe for you and your children. But **we ask that you respect the safety fences and areas that are marked "closed"**. And resist the temptation to play on the construction equipment.

We also have our aeration and seeding project on the lower area underway, so frankly, Sidney Marcus Park may not be the best destination for you in November and December. But 2025 will debut a new look at the park and another step to making Sidney Marcus Park the go-to destination for neighborhood and community activities.

Best regards,

Friends of Sidney Marcus Park

Friends of Herbert Taylor and Daniel Johnson



MLK Days of Service

We are planning to do a Weed Wrangle at Herbert Taylor Park for the MLK Days of Service. We will be working with groups of volunteers on Saturday January 11 and on Monday, January 20. These are great opportunities for parents and kids to spend time outdoors working in one of our forests. Last year's highlight was a visit, up close, with a young hawk. We meet at the kiosk at 9:00 AM for introductions and instructions before setting off to work until noon. No experience is needed and there are jobs for all ages. People can bring their own tools and gardening gloves. or they can borrow some of ours.

Working in the park is a great way to learn about plants and wildlife, work up some sweat, and make new friends.

- Wednesday, Oct. 23, 9 - 11 AM Weekday Workday
- Saturday, November, 9, 9 - NOON, Second Saturday Workday
- Wednesday, November 13, 9 - 11 AM Weekday Planting

Wear long sleeves, pants, and close toed shoes for protection. Bring your favorite gardening gloves and tools or borrow some of ours. Come learn to use a weed wrench for a real power trip! Meet at the kiosk at 1343 Pasadena Ave. For questions or more information, email the Friends of the Park group [here](#).



Bench Dedicated to Neighbor's Memory

October 31, friends and family of Margie Cohen, a Herbert Taylor Park neighbor, gathered to commemorate her memory with a bench near the kiosk. The bench plaque invites those passing by to “rest and be awed by nature” in her memory.

Margie Cohen, an avid hiker and pet owner, lived next to the entrance of the park. Her life ended in September 2023 but she will long be remembered by all who rest on the bench given in her honor. The dedication was attended by Lois Cohen, Margie’s mother, Phil Cohen, Margie’s brother, several members of the Friends of HTDJ, and many of Ms. Cohen’s friends. After the ceremony, a luncheon in her honor was hosted by Lisa Johnson who now lives next to the park entrance.

Park visitors owe a debt of gratitude to the Cohen family for this very special gift in Margie’s

Frank visitors owe a debt of gratitude to the Gentry family for this very special gift in Margie's honor.



Morningside Nature Preserve

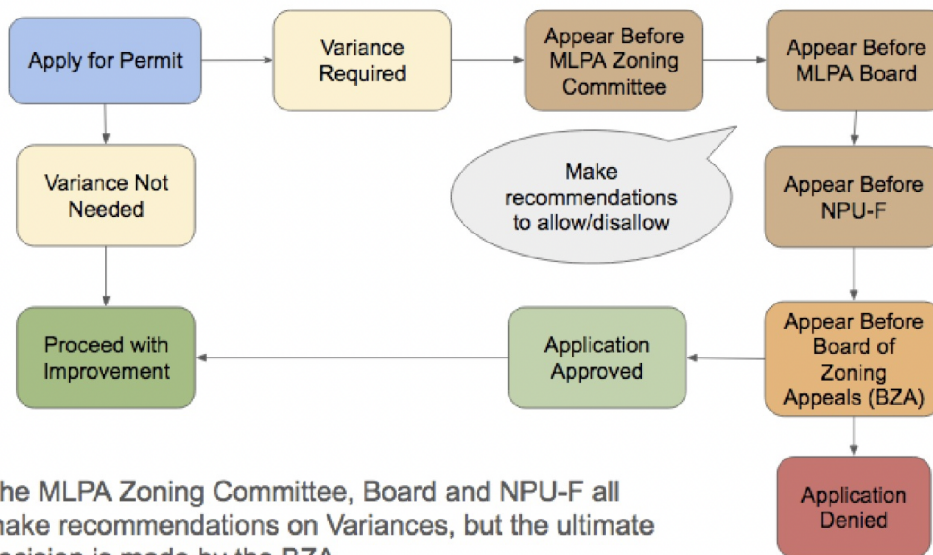
We continue to be grateful to Trees Atlanta for their efforts to maintain and restore the Morningside Nature Preserve. **On the third Saturday of each month, they host volunteers for Forest Restoration from 9:00am-12:00pm.**



You can join them, as well, to promote a healthy plant community and a sustainable forest in the Morningside Nature Preserve. Your work will improve habitat for humans who use the greenspace for recreation and wildlife that call it home. Activities include hand-pulling and cutting invasive plants such as English ivy, Chinese privet, and kudzu in a densely wooded area off trail. For more information and to register for upcoming opportunities, click the button below.

[Register Here](#)

ZONING



One zoning case was heard this month by the MLPA Zoning Committee and Board.

- [V-24-209 1045 McLynn Ave NE](#)
 - MLPA Recommendation for Approval

Shape Atlanta's Future

City of Atlanta's dedicated [Plan A](#) team invites you to discuss Plan A's Vision and Goals and Urban Design during Round 3 meetings this October. The overall vision for Atlanta will be discussed on October 21. On October 23, talks will highlight Atlanta's Urban Design.

Plan A Round 3 meetings run through February 2025 with greater efforts to engage more residents at nine public meetings corresponding to the nine chapters of the plan draft available at atlantaforall.com. Plan A is the update to the City's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) required every five years under state law. It sets forth the vision, goals, policies, and actions for future physical growth and development in Atlanta. Public input is critical to updating the plan.

Community Meeting Schedule

#	Round 3 Community Meetings	Date	Time	Location (7 Study Areas)
1	Open House All Chapters	Thursday, October 10	5:30-8PM	Bank of America Building, 600 Peachtree St NE NPU-M, CD-2 (Northeast Study Area)
2	Atlanta's Future – Plan A Vision and Goals	Monday, October 21	5:30-8PM	E. Rivers Elementary, 8 Peachtree Battle Ave NW NPU-C, CD-8 (Northside Study Area)
3	Urban Design Chapter	Wednesday, October 23	5:30-8PM	Fanplex, 768 Hank Aaron Dr. SE NPU-V, CD-1 (Intown South Study Area)
4	Economic Development Chapter	Tuesday, October 29	5:30-8PM	Carver High School, 55 McDonough Blvd SE NPU-Y, CD-1 (Southside Study Area)
5	Historic Preservation Chapter	Monday, October 29	5:30-8PM	Atlanta Preservation Center, 327 St Paul Ave SE

		November 18		NPU-W, CD-1 (Eastside Study Area)
6	Transportation Chapter	Monday,	5:30-8PM	Plywood Place, 933 Lee St SW
		December 16		NPU-T, CD-4 (Intown South Study Area)
7	Housing Chapter	Wednesday,	5:30-8PM	John Lewis Invictus Academy, 1890 D.L. Hollowell Pkwy NW
		January 29		NPU-J, CD-9 (Northwest Study Area)
8	Climate Resilience Chapter	Thursday,	5:30-8PM	Vicars Community Center, 838 Cascade Ave SW
		January 30		NPU-S, CD-4 (Intown South Study Area) (TBD)
9	Open House All Chapters	Thursday,	5:30-8PM	City Hall, 55 Trinity Ave SW
		February 6		NPU-M, CD-4 (Northeast Study Area)

The Plan A update is happening simultaneously with the Zoning 2.0 Ordinance Rewrite, which is a separate initiative that will create the tools to implement Plan A.

AROUND TOWN

PiHi Day Out
 November 30, 2024 • Noon-8 PM

SHOP 'N STROLL | **ANSLEY MALL**

*** Join your neighbors to support Small Business Saturday**
*** All-day deals and specials**
*** Meet Atlanta Police and Firefighters**

SPONSORED BY



Deck the Halls with Hillside

Get into the festive spirit and join us for our annual holiday crafting workshop! Like last year, our Horticultural Therapists will guide you in creating something beautiful for your home. We'll provide all the supplies and some yummy treats, and you bring creativity and fun!

On **Saturday, December 7th**, we will host two crafting sessions where you and your family can create festive wreaths and centerpieces in Hillside's cozy Dining Hall.

[Tickets are on sale now!](#) Join us from 10-12pm or 1-3pm. This event is great for the whole family and is \$70 per project. Buy a ticket for each of you, or come and work on a project together!





Celebrate Fall Flavors at Morningside Farmers Market!

What's in Season?

apples, arugula, bell peppers, bok choy, butternut squash, carrots, cherry tomatoes, delicata squash, flowers, garlic, hakurei turnips, heirloom tomatoes, herbs, melons, microgreens, okra, radish, seminole squash, shishito peppers, spicy peppers, sweet potatoes, watermelon and more!

Morningside Farmers Market has been offering organically grown produce, local meats, breads, and goods since 1995. The market is open every Saturday morning year-round at Morningside Presbyterian Church's parking lot (1411 N. Morningside Drive NE). SNAP/EBT (food stamp) dollars are doubled for an equal amount of tokens for fruits and vegetables at the information tent. The market's location offers a spacious, tree-lined setting for market goers.



Atlanta City Council

[Click here](#) and sign up to receive alerts, updates and newsletters - plus view past communications - from our District 6 City Councilperson Alex Wan.



Atlanta Public Schools Updates

Lake Claire Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, December 7th

10:30 am - 4:30 pm

Want to support Midtown High School? Need holiday presents? Love supporting artists of all ages? Enjoy live music? We welcome you to Lake Claire to eat delicious food as you wander your way through artists hosted on neighborhood porches.

Location: Lake Claire Neighborhood on the South side of McLendon Ave: Casson St., New York Ave., Connecticut Ave., Delaware Ave., Arizona Ave., Indiana Ave., McLendon Ave. (on South side only).

It is an outdoor craft fair (rain or shine), and each artist is hosted on a neighborhood porch/yard in Lake Claire. **10% of proceeds go to supporting our local public high school, Midtown High.**

District 3 APS Board Member Ken Zeff

- Get the newest information by [signing up](#) for his newsletter!
 - Don't hesitate to reach out: kenneth.zeff@apsk12.org.
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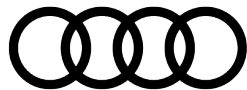
Neighborhood Meeting Schedule

All neighborhood meetings are open to the public and your involvement is always welcome. There will be a public comment period at the beginning of each MLPA Board meeting if you would like to share an idea or concern. Or just join us to learn more. We hope to see you there!

- **MLPA Board Meetings** - 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00 pm [Contact](#)
 - [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 841 3250 9005
Passcode: 797155
- **MLPA Zoning Meetings** - Typically 1st/2nd Tuesday of every month (see Zoning above), 7:00pm [Contact](#)
- **NPU-F Meetings** - 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7:00pm, [Online via Zoom](#)

2024 MLPA SPONSORS

PRESENTING



Audi Atlanta

PREMIER

ENGEL & VÖLKERS®
KEN COVERS

Celebrates Morningside

ATLANTA CITY COUNCILMEMBERS



Alex Wan, Council District 6
Matt Westmoreland, Post 2 At-Large

BENEFACTOR

[Alscan](#)

[Ansley Home Cleaning](#)

[Catherine Wilson Interiors](#)

[Copper Sky Design & Remodel](#)

[Joy Myrick | Atlanta Fine Homes/Sotheby's Realty](#)

[Pulse Performance Studio](#)

[Savi Provisions](#)

[Six Feet Under](#)

[Stretch Lab Morningside](#)

[Varuni Napoli](#)

FRIEND

Boutte Tree, Inc.

Selig Enterprises

Quick Links:

- [MLPA](#) - Morningside Lenox Park Association website
- [NPU-F](#) - Neighborhood Planning Unit F website
- [APD](#) - Atlanta Police website
- [PEDS](#) - A quick link to report pedestrian hazards to city
- [City of Atlanta](#) - City's website
- [NextDoor](#) - Neighborhood List Serve (not affiliated with MLPA)

Contact Our Elected Officials:

- [Ken Zeff](#), APS Board of Education, District 3
- [Council Member Alex Wan](#), Atlanta City Council, District 6
- [State Rep. Becky Evans \(D\)](#), District 83, Serving MLP residents in DeKalb County
- [State Sen. Elena Parent \(D\)](#), District 42, Serving MLP residents in DeKalb County
- [State Rep. Stacey Evans \(D\)](#), District 57, Serving MLP residents in Fulton County
- [State Sen. Nan Orrock \(D\)](#), District 36, Serving MLP residents in Fulton County

Neighborhood Schools:

- [Morningside Elementary School](#)
- [Virginia-Highland Elementary School](#)
- [David T Howard Middle School](#)
- [Midtown High School](#)
- [Atlanta Public Schools](#)



Join MLPA or Renew Membership

Please send questions, ideas and photos to communications@mlpa.org.

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