

DPCD Insider

An external publication
produced by the DPCD Office of
Public Relations.



Department of Planning and Community Development Provides Update on Services

Residents had an opportunity to provide input on their level of satisfaction with selected city services as part of the Atlanta City Council's 2013 City Budget Review Process on Saturday, March 24 during a citizen input meeting at the Boisfeuillet Jones Atlanta Civic Center.

The community meeting was held from 1 until 4 p.m. inside the Piedmont Room. DPCD Commissioner James Shelby provided an overview of the department's budget and services provided to residents. He was

joined by other city leaders and City Council members.

Attendees were surveyed on their satisfaction with an array of city departments in performing their duties from repairing potholes and sidewalks to response times for public safety calls. Attendees also had an opportunity to provide feedback on what level of service is needed to reach their satisfaction. DPCD had an information table with handouts at the event.



Photo L-R: Atlanta City Council President, Ceasar C. Mitchell; Council member Felicia Moore; Commissioner James E. Shelby.

Our Major Goals:

Launch Permitting Consolidation and Improvements.

Update the City of Atlanta Tree Ordinance.

Launch Tree Canopy Study.

Support State and Local Transportation Initiatives and Create Policy.

Implement design review for Sunset Avenue historic district.

Complete the Development Impact Fee Study and amend the 1993 Ordinance.

Manage the NSP I and III programs and contracts to acquire foreclosed/abandoned properties for rehabilitation or redevelopment.

Complete a housing inventory study to assess the overall condition of the existing housing stock, and establish a strategy for future investments.

Manage Lead Safe Atlanta Program to reduce lead hazards in properties occupied by children.

Last month, the Department provided an overview of its FY 2012 budget status to city council members. The presentation to Community Development and Human Resources (CDHR) members gave a high-level overview of expenditures and balances for all offices within DPCD.

In addition to a FY '12 financial overview, DPCD also gave an update on the accomplishments to date. DPCD is currently preparing budget projections for FY'13.

Permitting Improvements Underway

For the past several months, the Office of Buildings (OOB) has been busy implementing many new changes to improve the process of getting a permit. Among other things, the Office has taken several steps to improve service and consolidate the permit process. Hiring new staff, training existing staff, implementing a permit expediting service and a combination inspector program as just a few steps taken. In December 2011, Mayor Kasim Reed and city council members approved the establishment of an Enterprise Fund for OOB so that fees generated would go back to the office and not the general fund.

Lead Safe Atlanta Needs You

The Office of Housing is looking for families and caregivers who live in homes or apartments built before 1978 with children under age 6 living or visiting the premises. Why? Because hazardous lead paint may be present, which can be harmful to children



Above: Asst. Dir. of Planning Transportation Joshua Mello leads a session.

Office of Planning Hosts 2012 Atlanta Cities for Cycling Road Show

Sharing Best Practices and Lessons Learned

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the City of Atlanta has experienced a 386-percent increase in the number of people riding their bicycles to work between 2000 and 2009. That may be part of the reason why the

Below: Cycling Road Show attendees.



Office of Planning decided to host the 2012 Cities for Cycling Road Show in March.

Representatives from Boston, Austin, TX, and Washington, D.C. were in Atlanta to share lessons learned and successful planning strategies in bikeway design, bike sharing and other related topics.

This year, the City of Atlanta was awarded \$80,000 to

complete the Cycle Atlanta: Phase 1.0 study, which will create a funded and workable plan for five of the Connect Atlanta Plan Core Bicycle Connection corridors.

The City of Atlanta has several planned bicycle facility projects along core and secondary bicycle connections that are funded for construction between 2012 and 2014.

Above: Sample MARTA ad