



MOVING ATLANTA FORWARD

— TOGETHER —



City of Atlanta
Mid-Year Report | 2023
Mayor Andre Dickens

From the Desk of Mayor Dickens

Six months into 2023, and there is so much that we can be proud of in our work to move Atlanta forward.

We announced a historic \$200 million housing investment to ensure that all Atlantans – legacy residents and newcomers alike – have access to affordable, quality places to call home. Incredible progress has also been made in empowering and engaging young Atlantans through the ATL Year of the Youth initiative.

We continue to invest in the future of our city, putting to work millions of dollars to transform our neighborhoods and improve quality of life. This year, we launched new projects like the infrastructure improvements along Dekalb Avenue and acquired 48 acres of land for new parks and greenspace.

We remain focused on building *One Safe City*. A key part of that is being able to recruit and retain top personnel and provide facilities and equipment that match our public safety needs. Regarding crime, our efforts are showing real results: Atlanta has seen a 25% year-over-year decrease in violent crime, including a 35% decrease in homicides.



And this is only the beginning. Thanks to my partnership with the Atlanta City Council, the City's new budget directs vital investments across our city. We are focused on delivering on those investments in a transparent, ethical and efficient way so that opportunity is shared and no one gets left behind.

Atlanta has so much going for it, and that's not just my opinion! *WalletHub* named our city the best place for recent college graduates to start their career, and *Workamajig* ranked Atlanta the top city for creatives.

There is no limit to what we can achieve when we work together, Atlanta. I will continue to draw circles not lines, to lean in for our young people and to work to keep all our communities safe and welcoming for everyone.

I invite you to partner with me and my administration in our efforts to move Atlanta forward. To learn how you or your organization can get involved, reach out to our City Departments and Offices using the contact information listed on page 14 of this report.

Andre Dickens
61st Mayor of Atlanta





ATL 2023 Year of the Youth

2023 is Atlanta’s Year of the Youth. This means that we’re doubling down on our efforts to make our city the best place in the nation to raise a child. Throughout the year, in cooperation with City partners, we are working to expand services and amplify programs to ensure that we are reaching and engaging all our young people, from diapers to degrees.



Educating, empowering and engaging our young people takes a village. That’s why Mayor Dickens partnered with Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta in April for the 404 Mentorship Challenge – which has already exceeded its goal by registering more than 700 mentors. This initiative called on all of Atlanta to support our youth by becoming a mentor. One month later, Mayor Dickens kicked off the 2023 Summer Youth Employment Program which helps connect young Atlantans with paid job, internship or apprenticeship opportunities – including with the City of Atlanta.



Over \$5 million

The Dickens Administration's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget includes over \$5 million in investments to ensure that our work to provide our young people with the tools and resources they need becomes a standard throughout Atlanta's Year of the Youth and beyond.



\$1 million

In youth development grants awarded to 23 community-based organizations. These organizations serve over 6,200 K-12 students in Atlanta.



More than 700

People registered to mentor Atlanta youth as part of the 404 Mentorship Challenge.



\$20 million

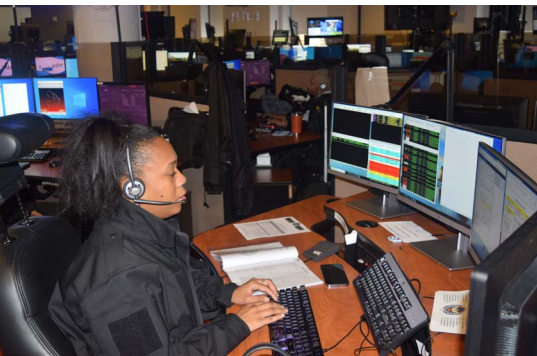
For early childhood education. The Dickens Administration reached its \$20 million investment goal thanks to funding from the City of Atlanta, Atlanta Public Schools and \$10 million from public-private partnerships.

To learn more about the ATL Year of the Youth initiative, visit:
www.ATLYearOfTheYouth.com



One Safe City

Public safety is Mayor Dickens' top priority. This translates to investing in our first responders to ensure that they have the vehicles, equipment and facilities needed to keep all our neighborhoods safe. It also means investments focused on recruiting and retaining top-tier teams. The Dickens Administration's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget renewed these investments.



Mayor Dickens' One Safe City plan aggressively targets gangs, guns and drugs while also addressing the root causes of crime. This balanced approach has already yielded results. There has been a 25% year-over-year decrease in violent crime, including a 35% decrease in homicides. The City's work includes preventative measures to keep communities safe. For example, in response to the uptick in the theft of Kia and Hyundai vehicles, the Atlanta Police Department distributed steering wheel locks and clubs to residents owning those models.



The Atlanta Fire and Rescue Department (AFRD) responded to more than 41,200 emergency calls since the beginning of the year. The majority of these calls were medical in nature. That is why every Atlanta firefighter is also an EMT and able to provide critical care responses all over the city. AFRD operates five ambulances at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. An upcoming substation in SW Atlanta will include ambulances and help the Department boost emergency response times and coverage.

More than 17,200 registered cameras and more than 16,200 integrated cameras are part of the Connect Atlanta security camera network. To join, visit www.ConnectAtlanta.org.

The City is building a modern, permanent home where Atlanta's first responders can train. The site will include training facilities, spaces for community use as well as over 300 acres of publicly accessible, protected greenspace. To learn more about the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center, visit: www.ATLTrainingCenter.com

To learn more about the City's public safety initiatives and how you can get involved, visit: www.OneSafeCity.com



A City of Opportunity for All

Atlanta is growing, welcoming new residents and businesses every day. The Dickens Administration wants to encourage this, while ensuring that everyone is able to take advantage of the opportunities that this growth brings. That's why the Moving Atlanta Forward agenda is rooted in the idea of *A City of Opportunity for All*. This means access to affordable housing; arts and culture; job and training opportunities; and parks and greenspaces – for everyone. To make this a reality, Mayor Dickens is investing in what makes Atlanta great and what uplifts Atlanta's communities.



Mayor Dickens announced a \$200 million investment to move us even closer to his goal of creating or preserving 20,000 units of affordable housing by 2030. This investment is in addition to the over \$100 million Mayor Dickens activated for affordable housing during his first year in office. More than 5,800 units of affordable housing have been built or are in development.

Our initiatives go beyond housing construction in order to directly help Atlanta residents. Thanks to a partnership with Tyler Perry, two programs were put into place for low-income seniors. The City launched a pilot program to freeze property taxes for 20 years for 100 qualified seniors. In addition, the overdue, unpaid property taxes of over 700 low-income seniors were paid.

In May, Mayor Dickens announced the creation a housing help center and the expansion of work targeting substandard housing and nuisance properties.



\$190 million

New capital investment brought to the city by Invest Atlanta, making a \$623 million total economic impact on the economy. This includes \$4.2 million in grants and loans provided to Atlanta's small businesses and creatives.

48

Acres of land acquired for new parks and greenspace.



\$55,000

In funding to support nonprofits serving trans and gender-expansive Atlantans. These funds are the City's largest single investment in the transgender community to date.



A City Built for the Future

Moving Atlanta Forward is about preparing our city and residents for the future. That's why the Dickens Administration is directing investments into projects that improve our streets and sidewalks, parks and recreation centers as well as watersheds and greenspace.

Climate resilience is key to our work to transform Atlanta. This includes a range of projects from fresh food access to energy use to tree protection. For example, we relaunched the Clean Energy Advisory Board to help us transition to lower-cost and lower-carbon energy sources. We're also doubling down on our preservation of Atlanta's tree canopy. We have rolled out the first round of updates to the City's tree protection ordinance and announced plans to plant 8,000 in Downtown Atlanta by 2028.

This spring, we celebrated the first projects funded by the \$750 million, voter-approved Moving Atlanta Forward Infrastructure package. Federal and other funding will allow us to go even further in our efforts to transform, beautify and prepare our city for a bright future.





This spring, the City broke ground on the Center for Diversion and Services. This 24/7 facility will open in 2024 in Downtown Atlanta and provide an alternative to jail for those experiencing poverty, substance use or concerns related to mental health. Through providing resources like showers, legal assistance and behavioral health screenings, the Center will target the systemic issues that may lead some people to engage in criminal activity.

The resurfacing of Dekalb Avenue has begun. This follows months of work to combat flooding and improve watershed infrastructure. New bike lanes and street signals are part of the project which will improve travel and safety conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and commuters.

More than 4,750

Potholes repaired by the Pothole Posse during the first six months of 2023. Report potholes in your neighborhood by contacting ATL311 by calling 311 or 404-546-0311 or visiting www.atl311.com.

To learn more about the Moving Atlanta Forward Infrastructure package and projects, visit: www.AtlantaGA.gov/2022Infrastructure



Effective & Ethical Government

The Dickens Administration is taking steps to keep the City of Atlanta innovative and dependable. A City that works for and with Atlantans to solve problems and make improvements that enhance everyone’s quality of life. This requires transparency, efficiency and fairness in City programs and business practices. Mayor Dickens has made integrity a key component of the City’s operational culture, implementing processes and checks to build trust and make sure that communities are equally supported and served.

The City of Atlanta kicked off 2023 on solid ground, with strong credit ratings and the largest reserves in the City’s history.

\$790 million Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

As the largest budget in the City’s history, it makes record investments in services and programs. The budget doubles down on the progress made during the Dickens Administration’s first 18 months and strategically supports youth programming, housing initiatives, capital improvements and more.

\$2.5 billion

Estimated direct economic impact of City of Atlanta operations and investments for the 2024 fiscal year. This is based on the General Fund, aviation and watershed budgets as well as other funds under the City’s control.

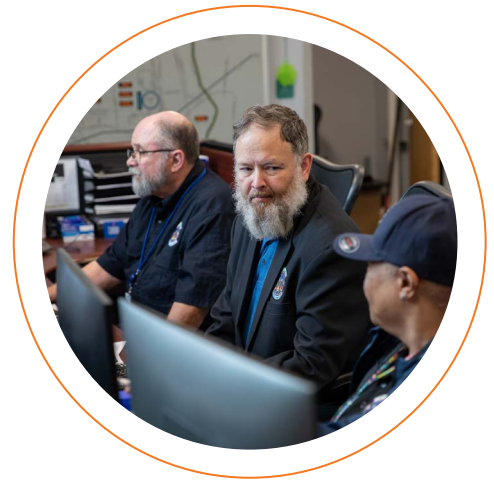


To tackle illegal dumping and keep all our neighborhoods clean and safe, the City acquired surveillance cameras, launched a tip line, inaugurated a new command center and even added two Atlanta Police enforcement officers.

Residents are encouraged to report illegal dumping to the new tip line:
404-546-3867



The City is streamlining its permitting process to reduce wait times and make it easier for applicants. The first round of updates included the creation of a simplified, user-friendly portal for submitting applications. The City also increased the number of staff dedicated to guiding applicants through the permitting process and ensuring project milestones are reached.



140 days

The City's average procurement cycle time is now 140 days, with more than 1,630 new suppliers registered during the first six months of 2023.



Key City of Atlanta Contacts

For all non-emergency City services and general information requests, please contact ATL311 by dialing 311 within the city limits or 404.546.0311 outside city limits or by visiting www.ATL311.com.

Mayor's Office	404.330.6100
Office of Communications	404.330.6004
Office of Constituent Services	404.330.6023
Office of Contract Compliance	404.330.6010
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs	404.330.6100
Office of Enterprise Assets Management	404.330.6225
Office of Film & Entertainment	311 OR 404.546.0311
Office of Human Services	404.817.6702
Office of Innovation and Performance	404.546.6842
Office of Special Events	404.330.6741
Business License & Renewal	311 OR 404.546.0311
APD/Code Enforcement	311 OR 404.546.0311
Zoning and Development	404.330.6150
Buildings/Permitting	404.330.6150
Housing Section 8	404.330.6390
Pension Services	404.330.6607
Fulton County Inmate Information	404.613.2024
Aviation	404.530.6600
City Planning	404.330.6070
Corrections	404.865.8001
Customer Service/ATL311	311 OR 404.546.0311
Finance	404.330.6430
Fire (non-emergency)	311 OR 404.546.7000
Grants & Community Development	404.330.6390
Human Resources	404.330.6360
Information Management	404.546.6110
Law	404.546.4100
Parks & Recreation	404.546.6788
Police (non-emergency)	311 OR 404.546.0311
Procurement	404.330.6204
Public Works	404.330.6240
Transportation	404.330.6165 OR 404.330.6501
Watershed Management	311 OR 404.546.0311
WorkSource Atlanta	404.546.3000
Atlanta Housing	404.892.4700
Atlanta BeltLine	404.477.3003
Invest Atlanta	404.880.4100
Inspector General	404.546.2270



www.atlantaga.gov

Subscribe to our newsletter

The Moving Atlanta Forward newsletter is an initiative of the Office of Mayor Andre Dickens. Each issue will give you the latest news about City programs and initiatives that are working to keep Atlanta safe, clean and thriving for all.

www.AtlantaGA.gov/Newsletter

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This report was produced by the Mayor's Office of Communications in collaboration with City Departments and Offices and associated Agencies.

All photos taken by City of Atlanta photographers, primarily Sylvia McAfee and Joshua Spruiel.