



New Parks Ready to Open!

You have seen the photos of the park groundbreakings. You have read the construction updates. You have seen the news stories about the new parks that are coming to Atlanta. This spring, the wait is over.

The first phase of Historic Fourth Ward Park is now open, and a dedication and grand opening for the entire park is scheduled for June 18. As part of the second phase of Historic Fourth Ward Park, the new skatepark is almost finished and ready for its grand opening. The skatepark was the recipient of a Tony Hawk Foundation grant, and will quickly become a destination for skateboarders all over the city and the region.

D.H. Stanton Park in the Peoplestown neighborhood will open in May. This park features photovoltaic solar panels, making it Atlanta's first energy cost-neutral park, which will provide tremendous cost savings to the City over the long term. It also features a little league-size ball field, a playground, splashpad and multi-use field. Boulevard Crossing Park Phase I, opening later this year, is located south of Grant Park. It will provide multi use ball fields to the neighboring communities.

Visit www.BeltLine.org for updates and the latest information on all of the grand openings this year!



Construction moves ahead on D.H. Stanton Park
Christopher T. Martin



Open-air theater provides a beautiful spot for outdoor concerts and special events at Historic Fourth Ward Park
Christopher T. Martin



The big bowl feature at Atlanta's first skate park.
Historic Fourth Ward Park nears completion with the help of the Tony Hawk Foundation's \$25,000 grant received last spring.
Christopher T. Martin

From the desk of the President and CEO:

This is our first newsletter in 2011, and there is already so much to talk about. All of the new Atlanta BeltLine parks and trails that broke ground in 2009 and 2010 are opening this year, and transit on the Atlanta BeltLine will be a major focus. We want you to be there to celebrate and work with us to keep moving the Atlanta BeltLine forward.

ABI is developing a Transit Implementation Strategy that will identify all of the segments required to complete the Atlanta BeltLine loop and complementary on-street connections. In 2012, voters in the Atlanta region will be given the opportunity to approve a one percent sales

tax for transit and transportation projects, also known as the Transportation Investment Act (TIA). The Atlanta BeltLine is pursuing this, along with additional funding opportunities, to deliver Atlanta BeltLine transit and provide new levels of connectivity throughout the city.

As we develop the Transit Implementation Strategy and pursue funding opportunities, we will continue to work with the community and hold public meetings to help guide our decision making process. There will be several chances for public participation regarding transit over the next year, and we've already seen a high level of interest and engagement from the first seven meetings we've held in 2011 on the subject of transit.

We have also added a new way for members of the public to engage and share opinions. Working with Peak Democracy, we have started an online forum to get additional input from the public on different topics. Check our website, www.beltline.org, to see what forums are active and share your thoughts!

We look forward to seeing you at the meetings and milestones we will have over the next few months!

See you on the Atlanta BeltLine.

-Brian Leary

Atlanta BeltLine Transit Takes Shape

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) is developing a Transit Implementation Strategy including on-street segments connecting the Atlanta BeltLine corridor to activity centers in Downtown and Midtown. Over the next six to nine months, the Transit Implementation Strategy will identify all of the segments required to complete the Atlanta BeltLine loop and complementary on-street connections. It will also match these segments to funding opportunities and develop priorities for implementation.

In 2012, voters in the Atlanta region will be given the opportunity to approve a one percent sales tax for transit and transportation projects, also known as the Transportation Investment Act (TIA). The TIA is one potential source of funding for Atlanta BeltLine transit.

Throughout the month of March, ABI sought public input, holding Study Group meetings and a new online forum run by Peak Democracy. This feedback, along with the regional TIA project selection criteria and opportunities to partner with other transit projects will help determine

which segments will be recommended for potential TIA funds.

Following the submission of the TIA recommendation, ABI will continue seeking out public input as the Transit Implementation Strategy develops. Online discussions will continue and new public meetings will be scheduled to engage Atlanta communities in the future of Atlanta BeltLine transit. Visit www.BeltLine.org for the latest updates and opportunities to get involved.



City residents join Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. in the citywide transit conversation. More than 450 people participated in this process either in person or online held in February to discuss potential transit segments.
Christopher T. Martin

Fact or Fiction:

Atlanta BeltLine transit will be built all at once as a loop.

Fiction! The Atlanta BeltLine will build transit in several segments, including the traditional 22-mile loop and on-street segments connecting to Midtown and Downtown. Through the Transit Implementation Strategy, different segments and funding mechanisms are being identified to create a seamless transit system that will connect Atlanta's diverse neighborhoods to local hotspots, MARTA and to each other.

Trees Atlanta Celebrates Arbor Day Along the Atlanta BeltLine!

This Arbor Day, volunteers gathered on the west side of Atlanta, grabbing shovels, gloves and thousands of saplings to adorn the area with a variety of native trees as part of the Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum, an effort spearheaded by Trees Atlanta.

With support and sponsorship from WABE 90.1 FM, Trees Atlanta mobilized 137 community members to get involved and help plant more than 2,700 saplings along the corridor in what is known as the WABE Grove.

Unlike traditional arboretums that are often located in parks or gardens, the Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum will follow a linear path,

lining the 22-mile corridor with foliage that will one day help communities identify each distinctive neighborhood.

Ensuring that tree planting initiatives blend cohesively with the city's existing flora creates a beautiful attraction along the corridor while promoting clean air, increased shade and neighborhood identity.

The Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum will be implemented by Trees Atlanta throughout the next two decades, and there will be countless more opportunities to get involved in the development of this piece of the Atlanta BeltLine project.



With support from WABE, more than 130 Trees Atlanta volunteers helped plant trees as part of the Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum in honor of Arbor Day.

Read our 2010 Annual Report online at www.BeltLine.org

Staff News

Heather Hussey-Coker was part of the Atlanta BeltLine before Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. was formed. Starting as a volunteer, Heather now serves as ABI's Special Projects Coordinator. She is responsible for the planning, management and implementation of special projects and initiatives for the Atlanta BeltLine and coordinates activities with partner organizations.

Susan Mello has joined ABI as Project Management Assistant. As a passionate advocate for public transit, Susan is excited to be a part of the innovative project. Previously residing in Wilmington, NC and Boston, MA, Susan brings 10 years of experience working as an executive assistant.

Nicole Wesley-Smith joined Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. as the Executive Assistant to the President and CEO in December 2010. Previously, she had been serving in the same role on an interim basis. Nicole relocated to Atlanta in August 2007, where she began working in residential real estate sales, achieving recognition as Coldwell Banker Condo Store Rookie of the Year. Prior to relocating to Atlanta, Nicole worked for Intel Corporation where she was responsible for the supply chain management of several chipset families. Nicole is from Sacramento, California.

Wesley Brown is Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.'s Landscape Architect Intern and will be supporting the design and transit teams. Wesley graduated from North Carolina State University in 2009 and worked as a consultant for North Carolina Rails-Trails in 2010.

Laura Richter is Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.'s Transportation Fellow and will be supporting the transit team. Laura is currently pursuing a dual master's degree from Georgia Tech, focusing on urban design and regional planning and transportation.

Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Meeting/Event	Location
4/7/11	6 - 7 PM	Northeast Atlanta BeltLine 101	Sanctuary Real Estate, 300 N. Highland Ave, Suite B, Atlanta 30307
4/9/11	12 PM-1PM	Southwest Atlanta BeltLine 101	West End Public Library, 525 Peoples St SW, Atlanta 30310
4/12/11	6-7 PM	Westside Atlanta BeltLine 101	Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, 535 Means St NW, Atlanta 30318
4/14/11	6-8 PM	Atlanta BeltLine Advisory Board Annual Briefing	Georgia Hill Center, 250 Georgia Ave SE, #102, Room 316, Atlanta, 30312
4/15/11 – 4/17/11	12 PM-9 PM	Dogwood Festival (volunteer opportunities)	Piedmont Park
4/16/11	9 AM-12 PM	Earth Day on the Atlanta BeltLine- West End	Meeting Point: Kroger City Center, 590 Cascade Ave., SW, Atlanta, 30310
4/19/11	6-7 PM	Southeast Atlanta BeltLine 101	Historical Concepts - 490 Brasfield Square (Glenwood Park), Atlanta, 30316
4/28/11	6-7 PM	Northside Atlanta BeltLine 101	The Firkin and Lindbergh 565 Main St Suite 170, Atlanta 30349
4/30/11	8 AM-11 AM	Atlanta BeltLine Northside 5K	Atlanta BeltLine Northside Trail
5/5/11	6-7 PM	Northeast Atlanta BeltLine 101	Sanctuary Real Estate, 300 N. Highland Ave, Suite B, Atlanta 30307
5/10/11	6-7 PM	Westside Atlanta BeltLine 101	Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, 535 Means St NW, Atlanta 30318

For information on events, study groups and volunteer opportunities, visit Calendar.BeltLine.org

The Atlanta BeltLine Hosts its First Annual Organic Land Care Symposium



(From left to right) Keynote speaker, Rashid Nuri of Truly Living Well; Kevin Burke, senior landscape architect for Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.; and Ed Castro, one of the Symposium's sponsors.

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.'s senior landscape architect, Kevin Burke, orchestrated the organization's first-ever Organic Land Care Symposium which took place on March 24 at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. The event aimed to educate attendees about utilizing organic and sustainable approaches to the management of public and private open spaces.

More than 100 attendees participated in the panels with renowned local and national experts who led discussions on hot topics like cost-effective organic land care techniques, natural urban farms and low impact options for land care maintenance. With the success of the Symposium's initial year, ABI plans to provide future educational opportunities that encourage sustainable land care practices both on and off the Atlanta BeltLine.

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New baseball diamond, solar panels and playgrounds are among the new features in Peoplestown's Stanton Park. *Christopher T. Martin*

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Director of Equity/Structured Finance,
Centerline Capital Group,



About the Atlanta BeltLine

The Atlanta BeltLine has the extraordinary potential to transform the City of Atlanta. It will combine parks and greenspace, transit and trails, transportation and pedestrian access, affordable workforce housing and public art along 22 miles of historic rail segments that encircle the urban core. The Atlanta BeltLine will ultimately connect 45 neighborhoods. As one of the most comprehensive economic development efforts ever undertaken in the City of Atlanta and the largest, most wide-ranging urban redevelopment currently underway in the U.S., the Atlanta BeltLine will serve as a model of environmental sustainability, effective land use and historic preservation.

Atlanta BeltLine Inc. (ABI), formed by the Atlanta Development Authority, is the entity tasked with planning and executing the implementation of the Atlanta BeltLine with partners including City of Atlanta Departments. Its functions include specifically defining the Atlanta BeltLine plan; leading efforts to secure federal, state and local funding; continuing the community engagement process; and serving as the overall project management office to execute the Atlanta BeltLine plan, including the coordination of planning and execution activities with other City of Atlanta departments and managing all vendors and suppliers. Atlanta BeltLine Inc. is also responsible for tracking and reporting progress to the Atlanta City Council, Atlanta Public Schools and Fulton County, the three taxing authorities that authorized the BeltLine TAD legislation in 2005.



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