



## From the Chairman of the Board:

As 2012 draws to a close, it is a good time to reflect on the year's accomplishments and look ahead to the future. The Atlanta BeltLine achieved some key milestones over the past year. The opening of the 2.25-mile Eastside Trail, the first trail segment to be built in the old rail corridor, has been enthusiastically embraced and used by the public. Tens of thousands of people have been out enjoying the trail since its official opening on October 15.

The Atlanta BeltLine also received a Record of Decision for the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement for Transit and Trails, a critical study conducted with MARTA on behalf of the Federal Transit Administration, that makes the project more competitive for future federal funding. It also establishes the transit and trail alignment and selects modern streetcar for the transit technology.

Finally, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) and the city completed the master planning process for all 10 Atlanta BeltLine subareas with recommendations for land use, transportation improvements and greenspace. ABI is now working with its partners, stakeholders and the community to create the Atlanta BeltLine Implementation Plan, which will be the strategic roadmap for completing this transformational project. Please stay involved and help us continue to move the Atlanta BeltLine forward.

—John Somerhalder



## WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE ATLANTA BELTLINE?



**Pictured Above:** At the Citywide Conversation in November, residents ranked criteria that are most important to them when building the next phases of the Atlanta BeltLine. **Photo Credit:** Christopher T. Martin.

*With several new parks and trails now open as part of the Atlanta BeltLine, how do we chart the course for the remainder of this long-term project?* The Atlanta BeltLine Implementation Plan will be the compass that guides Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) and its partners in the execution of this transformative project for the City of Atlanta. The Implementation Plan is a 20-year plan in five year increments that will serve as a long range strategic plan. A series of public meetings in November and December presented how the plan will be developed, discussed how the public's input will be incorporated, and shared insight into how the decision-making process will be based on a priorities matrix in order to determine the sequence in which projects are built.

Breakout sessions encouraged attendees to review and rank the proposed project  
*Continued on page 4...*

## \$3 MILLION DONATION MOVES PROJECT FORWARD

*In November, The Atlanta BeltLine Partnership received a generous gift from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation to support the Atlanta BeltLine project's expansion, specifically the development of the gateway connecting the Eastside Trail to Historic Fourth Ward Park. The \$3 million dollar grant will also support the development of the portion of the Eastside Trail through Reynoldstown; design for this trail segment will begin by the end of the year. "I applaud the Woodruff Foundation for their generous gift and confidence in the Atlanta BeltLine's ability to connect communities, revitalize neighborhoods and redevelop entire areas of Atlanta," said Atlanta*

*Continued on page 2...*



**Pictured Above:** Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed inaugurated the Eastside Trail after the dedication on October 15. **Photo Credit:** Christopher T. Martin.



## SOUTHWEST CONNECTOR TRAIL

The Southwest Connector Trail is a PATH Foundation-led project that will ultimately connect to the Atlanta BeltLine through the Westview neighborhood in southwest Atlanta as part of the 33-mile network of paved trails. The trail winds through a serene stretch of woods, originating at the existing Lionel Hampton Trail, passing by Beecher Hills Elementary School, and emerging onto Westwood Avenue. Construction is underway now. When complete, this trail will run 4.5 miles. Phase I of this project along with the Eastside Trail, the West End Trail and the Northside Trail will bring the total of permanent trails to nearly seven miles along and near the corridor.



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



*Jasmine Amussen and Ed Smith rank among the Atlanta BeltLine's "super-volunteers." Jasmine is a team leader for the Ambassador program and Ed is lead volunteer for the local festival program.*

As someone who never had a driver's license, Jasmine always relied on her bicycle, public transportation, or her own two feet. When she and her boyfriend Edward Smith moved to Atlanta, they found out that they had unwittingly moved just down the street from the Atlanta BeltLine and immediately wanted to learn more. Leveraging volunteerism as a gateway to discovering a city and its people, Jasmine and Ed jumped right in.

"There is no project like the Atlanta BeltLine that is engaged in every community," says Jasmine. "The Atlanta BeltLine has addressed every concern I've had about transportation projects in the past and has actively engaged people about their concerns. This is truly a community project, and that drives me, even when I think I can't possibly squeeze in another day!"

Jasmine volunteers as an Ambassador Team Leader for the southeast section of the Atlanta BeltLine. She distributes info (electronic and printed) about the project to neighborhoods through Ambassadors. Read Jasmine's full story online at [www.beltline.org/category/volunteer-spotlight](http://www.beltline.org/category/volunteer-spotlight) and check out the Ambassador and other volunteer programs managed by Atlanta BeltLine Partnership at [volunteer.beltline.org](http://volunteer.beltline.org).

## \$3 MILLION DONATION, con't.

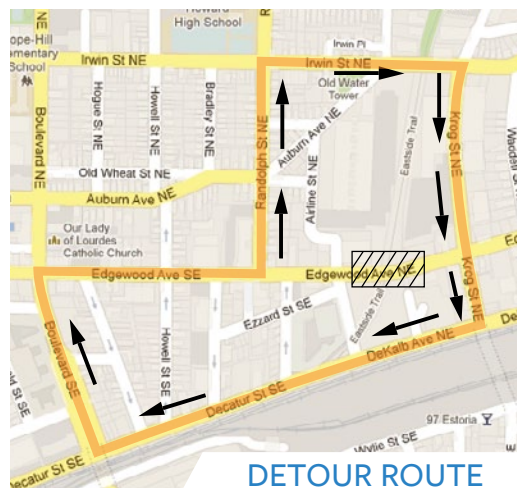
Mayor Kasim Reed. "This ambitious project is a national model for other cities to follow and is transforming the way we move around Atlanta. I am hopeful that this private funding will spur others in our city's vibrant corporate community to help out financially as well."

"This legacy gift from the Woodruff Foundation represents a commitment to Atlanta's future," said Duriya Farooqui, Chief Operating Officer for the City of Atlanta. "Without the

strong support of our business and philanthropic partners, the Atlanta BeltLine would not be what it is today."

"We are so grateful for the incredible support the Woodruff Foundation and the private sector have continued to lend to enable this transformative project to fulfill its vision of a healthier city," said Atlanta BeltLine Partnership Executive Director Valarie Wilson. With this contribution, private sector investment in the project now exceeds \$41 million.

## EDGEWOOD AVE BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



DETOUR ROUTE

*In early 2013, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. will begin work on replacing the bridge on Edgewood Avenue that passes over the old railroad corridor.* The construction project, a partnership with City of Atlanta, will detour traffic to Irwin St. and DeKalb Ave. based on the direction of travel. Once the bridge is complete in early 2014, we anticipate beginning construction of the Eastside Trail extension south of Irwin St. Thank you for your patience! Detour maps and info: [construction.beltline.org](http://construction.beltline.org).

## ATLANTA BELTLINE PARKS IN AUTUMN



*From Left to Right Above: D. H. Stanton Park, Historic Fourth Ward Park lake, Perkerson Park splashpad, Northside Trail through Tanyard Creek Park. Photo Credit: Christopher T. Martin.*



## IN MEMORIAM



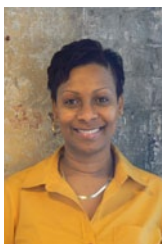
### Eugene Harold Bowens, Sr.

The Atlanta BeltLine would like to extend its condolences to the family of Eugene "Gene" Harold Bowens, Sr.

Mr. Bowens was a member and former Chairman of the Atlanta BeltLine Tax Allocation District Advisory Committee and passed away on November 23, 2012. His selflessness and care for others led him to work for Interfaith, Inc., a non-profit housing development corporation, for more than 30 years. Mr. Bowens was an inspiration to the local community and an important member of the Atlanta BeltLine family.

Mr. Bowens is survived by his wife Harriett, three children, and seven grandchildren.

## STAFF NEWS



### Cheryl Lockett, Program Management Assistant

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. welcomes Cheryl Lockett to the team as Program Management Assistant! Cheryl coordinates with

internal project managers along with partners at the City of Atlanta and outside organizations to support the Chief Operating Officer, Lisa Gordon.

Cheryl recently moved to Atlanta from south Florida where she worked in county government for over 14 years. In her role as Executive Aide with the Martin County Board of County Commissioners, she directly assisted a County Commissioner, the Transportation Administrator, and the County Building Official. Cheryl earned her Bachelor's degree and her Master's in HR Administration from Florida A&M University.

**Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.'s fellowship program provides invaluable work experience. Current graduate fellows:**

- Giovanni Cosentino, Masters student in Geoscience with an emphasis on Environmental Geography at Georgia State
- Randy Gibbs, Masters student in Public Policy at Georgia Tech

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Time	Meeting/Event	Location
1/8/13	3-5 PM	BeltLine Aff. Housing Board Meeting	86 Pryor Street, 30303
1/9/13	8:30-10 AM	Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. Board Meeting	86 Pryor Street, 30303
1/9/13	5:30-6:30 PM	Volunteer Training	50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 910, 30303
1/12/13	9:30-10:30 AM	SW Connector Trail Groundbreaking	2257 Bollingbrook Drive, 30311
1/18/13	12-1 PM	Volunteer Training	50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 910, 30303
1/22/13	4-6 PM	TAD Advisory Committee Meeting	86 Pryor Street, 30303
2/6/13	7:30 PM	Atlanta BeltLine Night at the Hawks	Philips Arena, 30303
2/7/13	6:30-9 PM	Atlanta BeltLine Run Club	Park Tavern, 500 10th Street, 30309
2/13/13	8:30-9:30 AM	ABI Executive Committee Meeting	86 Pryor Street, 30303
2/13/13	5:30-6:30 PM	Volunteer Training	50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 910, 30303
2/15/13	12-1 PM	Volunteer Training	50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 910, 30303
3/7/13	6:30-9 PM	Atlanta BeltLine Run Club	Park Tavern, 500 10th Street, 30309
4/27/13	7 AM-10 AM	Atlanta BeltLine Northside 5k	Tanyard Creek Park, 30309

For more details on upcoming events, please visit: [events.beltline.org](http://events.beltline.org).

2013 bus tours begin on February 1—please visit [tours.beltline.org](http://tours.beltline.org) to register.

Get to know the project with an Atlanta BeltLine 101! These monthly educational presentations throughout the city will help answer your questions. Check out [events.beltline.org](http://events.beltline.org) for a full list of upcoming sessions.

## ART ON THE ATLANTA BELTLINE



Art on the Atlanta BeltLine wrapped up a third successful season as the City of Atlanta's largest temporary public arts exhibition with over 75 artists on the westside and eastside hiking trails. Read about artists and their work, view behind-the-scenes videos, and use our interactive map to discover our permanent art collection online at [art.beltline.org](http://art.beltline.org).

**From Left to Right Above:** "Music in the Park" with Kebbi Williams and Friends; "What Ties Me to You" by Misao Cates; "Dr. Schubert's Arboretum" by Geoffrey Smith; and "Railroad Workers" by Jac Coffey.

## ATLANTA BELTLINE RUNNING SERIES® COMMUNITY

### Atlanta BeltLine Running Series® Community Debuts

The Atlanta BeltLine Partnership is excited to announce the Atlanta BeltLine Running Series® Community that rewards you for your health accomplishments! Earlier this year, we created a unique experience while registering for Atlanta BeltLine Running Series® events. By participating in our 5Ks and 10Ks, you

can challenge yourself and others, form teams, track your accomplishments, and earn points that can be redeemed for exciting rewards from our partners. We want to thank you for supporting the Atlanta BeltLine and for creating a healthy community together! Visit [running.beltline.org/community](http://running.beltline.org/community) for more info.

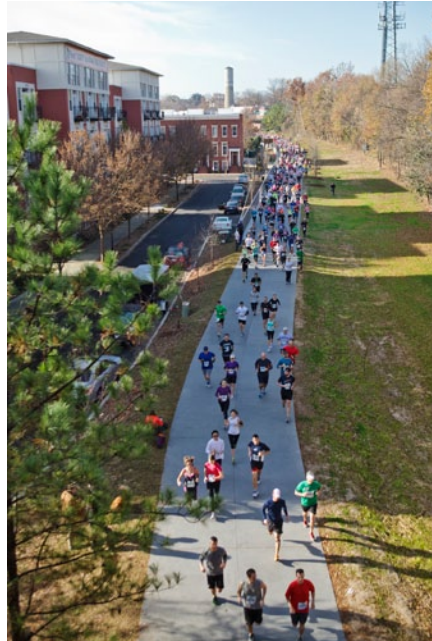
*Proceeds from the Atlanta BeltLine Running Series® races benefit the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership.*



## EASTSIDE TRAIL NOW OPEN!

*Thousands of people have taken to the new Eastside Trail since its official opening on October 15, 2012.* The Eastside Trail is the newest multi-use path to open in Atlanta with 2.25 miles traversing five intown neighborhoods. The trail is the first stretch to be built in the old railroad corridor and sparks the vision of how the Atlanta BeltLine will look in the future with modern streetcar running alongside pedestrian paths. For more info and frequently asked questions about the Eastside Trail, please visit [eastsidetrail.beltline.org](http://eastsidetrail.beltline.org).

**Pictured Below Left:** Visitors ride alongside the newly planted trees on the Eastside Trail just south of N. Highland Avenue. **Pictured Below Right:** Atlanta BeltLine Eastside 10k. **Photo credit:** Christopher T. Martin.



## WHAT'S NEXT, con't.

criteria, followed by criteria input and suggestion sessions. The major criteria categories include: project readiness, development impact, equity, consistency with City of Atlanta goals, and financial options.

Public ranking of these criteria will inform four main workstreams (transit, trails, parks, and funding) while also emphasizing brownfield remediation, jobs policy, affordable housing, economic development, and public art.

For more information and to view the presentations, please visit: [implementation.beltline.org](http://implementation.beltline.org).

## HAWKS NIGHT

*Save the date! Atlanta BeltLine Night at the Hawks is coming up on February 6, 2013.* This fun, family-friendly event is put on by the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership with proceeds going to benefit the project. This year's game will pit the Memphis Grizzlies against our hometown Atlanta Hawks in an exciting match-up! Visit [hawks.beltline.org](http://hawks.beltline.org) for ticket info and sales.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**The Honorable Kasim Reed**  
Mayor, City of Atlanta

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Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. Vice Chair

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Atlanta BeltLine Partnership Appointee

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Fulton County Board of Commissioners,  
District 5

**The Honorable Joyce M. Sheperd**  
Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. Board Member;  
Atlanta City Councilmember, District 12

**Cathy Woolard**  
Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. Board Member;  
Community Representative

## FIX IT LINE

See a maintenance issue out on the trail that needs attention? We now have a "fix it" line for that! Just call and leave a detailed message at 404.477.3687. If possible, take a photo and send it to us at [fixit@atlbeltline.org](mailto:fixit@atlbeltline.org). APD asks members of the public to be mindful of their personal safety, to be aware of their surroundings at all times, and to call 911 to report suspicious activity.

## ABOUT US

The Atlanta BeltLine is the most comprehensive economic development effort ever undertaken in the City of Atlanta and among the largest, most wide-ranging urban redevelopment and mobility projects currently underway in the United States. The Atlanta BeltLine is a sustainable redevelopment project that will provide a network of public parks, multi-use trails, transit and affordable housing along an historic 22-mile railroad corridor circling downtown and connecting many neighborhoods directly to each other. Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) is the entity tasked with planning and executing the implementation of the Atlanta BeltLine in partnership with other public and private organizations, including City of Atlanta departments and the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership. For more information on the Atlanta BeltLine, please visit: [www.beltline.org](http://www.beltline.org).



1,500 runners and walkers surged through the Eastside Trail during the Eastside 10k on Dec 1, 2012. **Photo credit:** Christopher T. Martin.

## CONTACT US

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[www.beltline.org](http://www.beltline.org)