From the desk of the President and CEO:

As 2011 comes to a close, it is a good time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year that will set the stage for 2012. In the fall and fall we opened three new parks that Atlantans will enjoy for generations to come. Construction began on the Eastside Trail with a scheduled completion in April 2012, and segments of transit on the Atlanta BeltLine were included on the final Transportation Referendum list which the region will vote on next summer.

Most recently, ABI was able to further advance the important goal of creating affordable housing through the acquisition of an unfinished loft development that when complete, will provide as many as 38 new affordable homes on the Atlanta BeltLine at the Lofts at Reynoldstown Crossing. In addition to these major milestones, Art on the Atlanta BeltLine, the City’s largest temporary public art exhibit, had an extremely successful second year with 33 percent more installations and performances than its inaugural year.

All of these exciting initiatives will carry us into 2012 with great momentum as we continue to create affordable housing, trails, and prepare to build the first new transit segments in the City of Atlanta since the MARTA regional rail system.

We encourage you to stay involved, volunteer, attend events and help shape your neighborhoods through Study Group meetings and other opportunities. Please visit us online for the most up to date information on all of these exciting new developments and programs and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and now Google+.

We are deeply appreciative of the opportunity to build your Atlanta BeltLine. Best wishes for the holiday season and the New Year!

-Brian Leary

On October 13, the Atlanta Regional Commission unanimously approved a final transportation project list that will be put before voters in a referendum in 2012. The list contains approximately $602 million for a City of Atlanta transit project that starts at MARTA stations in Midtown and Downtown and connects to the east and west sides of the Atlanta BeltLine.

Look at this map to see where the route goes and what key destinations it reaches. With more than 100,000 jobs within 1/4 mile of the route, it will be tremendously helpful in getting people to jobs and major regional activity centers and recreational destinations currently not served by rail transit.

For more information on the City of Atlanta’s transit project, visit www.TransformMetroAtlanta.com.

For more information on the Transportation Referendum, visit: www.BeltLine.org.

Credit: Christopher T. Martin

About the Atlanta BeltLine
The Atlanta BeltLine has the extraordinary potential to transform the City of Atlanta. It will combine parks and green space, trail and transit, 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 re-development 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.
**Construction Update: The Eastside Trail**

The first phase of the Eastside Trail, a multi-use trail from the Ponce City Market running south more than two miles from 50th St. and Monroe Dr., is progressing all along the corridor. The target date for completion of this section of Atlanta BeltLine trail (originally scheduled for early next year) is April 2012. The Eastside Trail, which is funded by a combination of public and private philanthropic sources, will be the first finished section of Atlanta BeltLine trail in the old rail corridor. The PATH Foundation is the construction manager. The corridor is closed to the public until construction is completed.

Reconstruction of the Edgewood Avenue Bridge in coordination with the City of Atlanta has altered the schedule for the southernmost section of the trail, 0.25 miles between Irwin St. and Dekalb Ave. Work on its demolition and reconstruction will proceed from mid-2012 until spring 2014. That section of the trail will be completed when work on the Edgewood Bridge is finished.

For updates on construction, please visit EastsideTrailBeltLine.org.

**Rocking Out for the Atlanta BeltLine**

By Emily Libman, Atlanta BeltLine Contributor

Party at Ponce wasn’t starting for a few hours when I arrived at what was formerly City Hall East. Excited to be participating in the interviews of the tremendous talent that agreed to play the benefit concert, I eagerly walked up the event site. Only a few people milling around setting up, and as I passed the stage heading for the entrance, I saw several Indigo Girls soundchecking only a few feet from me.

Inside, chefs were preparing their stations, awaiting hungry crowds eager to sample food from some of the hottest restaurants in town. Special tours showed off the plans that will transform the enormous space into Ponce City Market, a development that will include retail, entertainment, office, and residential spaces. Partygoers poured in from the surrounding neighborhoods. Shawn Mullins mentioned that before ticketholders piled in, the performers at Ponce was ready to go, and the energy awaited hungry crowds eager to sample food like her get around town.

Soon the performers were whisked away to finish preparations for the evening’s entertainment. Partygoers poured in from the street, eagerly anticipating the show. The Party at Ponce was ready to go, and the energy throughout the crowd of 2,000 attendees mirrored the sentiments of the performers taking the stage, which is in the verge of one of the most exciting changes in its recent history, and we are all a part of it.

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**Atlanta BeltLine Master Plans Move Ahead**

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. continues its master planning process by working with community members to refine plans for future land use, green space and transportation improvements. Two new Master Plans were adopted in 2011: Subarea 4 (Memorial-Glenwood) in July, and Subarea 6b (Moreau-Piedmont) in early December.

Subarea 4 runs north from Irwin Street to Dekalb Avenue/Decatur Street and includes portions of the Cabbagetown, Grant Park, Ormewood, Glenwood Park and Reynoldstown neighborhoods. Subarea 6b parallels Monroe Drive, from Ponce to Avondale Avenue north to the Buford Highway Connector.

In August, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. resumed its master planning process for Subarea 8 (Upper Westside-Northside) and will continue to meet with Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) groups to develop the Subarea’s special community characteristics. The BeltLine recently hosted a forum to develop Subarea 8’s Master Plan in early 2012 to conclude the Atlanta Beltline’s master planning process for all 10 Subareas.

**Atlanta BeltLine Running Series - Eastside 10K**

Cold morning weather did not stop the runners, volunteers or tailgaters that participated in the final race of this year’s inaugural Atlanta BeltLine Running Series. Following the Southside and NoHO 10K series that took place earlier this year, the Eastside 10K marks the third race of the Atlanta BeltLine Running Series. More than 900 runners turned out on December 3 to run (and walk) through the various neighborhoods on the eastside section of the Atlanta BeltLine as well as Piedmont Park, Historic Fourth Ward Park and Freedom Park. Congratulations to Wil Cramer (34:24) and Lina Nguyen (40:32) for winning their respective male and female groups.

In conjunction with the race, there was an SEC Football Championship Tailgate Challenge at Park Tavern that brought out 11 Atlanta-based alumni associations. Alumni groups were judged based on the level of school spirit and enthusiasm at the race; Auburn University received the first place prize, followed by the University of Georgia, Kansas State University and Vanderbilt University. The race and Tailgate Challenge highlighted the progress and accomplishments along the eastside segment of the Corridor and raised money for the BeltLine.

**ABI Graduate Fellows**

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. has launched its fall fellowship program to provide invaluable work experience for qualified graduate students who will contribute to the project’s scope of work and development. The fellows are:

- Jeffrey Ader, Georgia State University
- Dáhiana C Architecture and Planning, Georgia State University
- Paul Foster, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Whitney Fuller, Georgia State University
- Meghan Inman, The University of Georgia
- Keenan Yates, Georgia Institute of Technology

**Upcoming Events**

- **Date**
  - 12/7/11 8:30-9:30 AM
  - 12/7/11 12:30 PM
  - 12/30/11 6:30 PM
  - 3/16/12 11-7 PM

- **Meeting/Event**
  - Atlanta BeltLine Quarterly Meeting
  - Atlanta BeltLine Quarterly Meeting
  - 2nd Annual Organic Land Care Symposium
  - 2nd Annual Organic Land Care Symposium

- **Location**
  - Atlanta BeltLine
  - Atlanta BeltLine
  - 21st Street Bistro
  - Atlanta BeltLine

- **ABI Resources, 10 Peachtree Place NE, Atlanta, 30309
  - ABI, 10 Peachtree Place NE, Atlanta, 30309

**For more information, please visit**

- [Calendar.BeltLine.org](http://Calendar.BeltLine.org)
- [Facebook.com/AtlantaBeltLine](http://Facebook.com/AtlantaBeltLine)
- [facebook.com/runatBeltLine](http://facebook.com/runatBeltLine)

**There’s No Place Like Home - On the Atlanta BeltLine**

New Affordable Housing with the Lofts at Reynoldstown Crossing

As part of its mission to create affordable workforce housing, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. (ABI) acquired the former "Triumph Lofts" development from a receiver to provide critically-needed affordable housing in a desirably-located part of the city. The development, now named "Lofts at Reynoldstown Crossing," is located at the intersection of Chester Avenue, Memorial Drive, and the Atlanta BeltLine corridor, just north of the I-20 and Glenwood Park. A one-day sale event was held on December 10 which featured a drawing of qualified buyers making under $68,000 - the Atlanta area median income.