WESTSIDE TRAIL OPENING SOON!

The completion and grand opening of the Westside Trail is finally approaching! In November 2014, we broke ground on the Westside Trail and later this summer, we’ll be able to say it’s officially complete. Despite wild weather conditions, unexpected underground infrastructure, and a burst of other development projects demanding resources around the city, we’ve managed to keep the project on track.

The concrete trail is poured, ramps and stairs are nearly complete, lights are installed, and security cameras are being mounted. Hundreds of large trees and grass plugs are already planted. Watch the progress: beltline.org/photos.

Stay tuned for an announcement of the dedication date. We hope you’ll plan to come see the ribbon cut on this monumental addition to Atlanta’s mobility and greenspace efforts!

NEW VIDEOS

Our series “Business on the Atlanta BeltLine” visits some of the many enterprises along the Atlanta BeltLine, and explores how the Atlanta BeltLine and its culture have impacted their business. The co-owners of Monday Night Brewing opened their first brewery in 2011 in northwest Atlanta. Their initial success led them to look for more opportunities to engage the community in other parts of Atlanta, and in 2016, they signed a lease for a second location on the Atlanta BeltLine’s Westside Trail. Go to bit.ly/2qdaiPg to see the video.

Mayor Reed led the groundbreaking on Monday Night Brewing’s new facility on the Westside Trail.

New in “Life on the Atlanta BeltLine,” we feature a look at the lives of two residents at Reynoldstown Senior. Reynoldstown Senior Residences is an independent-living, affordable senior housing facility servicing residents 62 years and older. The property is located in the heart of the historic Reynoldstown neighborhood which is one block from the future Eastside Trail extension. See the whole video at bit.ly/2p3Lc5h.

Residents gather in the common areas at Reynoldstown Senior. Photo: The Sintoses.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATES

The Atlanta Housing Authority (AHA) and Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. have partnered to advance the Englewood District. AHA announced in April that it is seeking private-sector developers to create a sense of place and belonging with affordable and market-rate housing in the area. The Englewood District is adjacent to Boulevard Crossing Park on the Atlanta BeltLine’s future Southside Trail. District Framework Planning will kick off in July, in conjunction with the updates of Subarea 2 and 3 Master Plans.

In June 2017, ground was broken on the development at DeKalb Avenue on the Eastside Trail’s extension. The $80 million mixed-use project by North American Properties is planned as residences, offices, retail, and restaurants, with 30 percent of the residential units classified as affordable.

In addition, Phase II of the Lofts at Reynoldstown Crossing is under development, with procurement under way. The primary goal of the development will be multifamily affordable housing, with 40 percent of units or more designated as affordable workforce homes.
President & CEO Corner:

The next few months will be record-setting for the Atlanta BeltLine. We are thrilled to be on the brink of opening up four more miles of multi-use trails for your enjoyment. The Westside Trail and Eastside Trail Extension are nearing completion—stay tuned for opening dates.

As the Atlanta BeltLine program continues to grow, we are expanding our community engagement and planning efforts. We want to ensure that each one of you is involved in providing input into the design of parks, trails, and transit in your neighborhood. New postcards are hitting mailboxes of neighbors close to the trail. Every meeting will be sharable on social media channels and through Eventbrite. Media will receive notifications of meetings so that they can spread the word. If you would like to be added to an email list to be notified of upcoming public meetings in your community, please email engage@atlbeltline.org.

As always, we appreciate your support and involvement as we advance the Atlanta BeltLine.

—Paul Morris

EASTSIDE TRAIL EXTENSION UPDATE

Construction of the Eastside Trail extension south to Kirkwood Avenue is nearly finished. All pavement has been poured, and new landscaping, curbing, and crosswalks have been installed on Wylie Street. New handrails and lighting have been installed in the Krog Tunnel along with the pavers that complete the portion of the trail beneath Hulsey Yard. A speed table with rapid-flashing beacons has been installed on Irwin Street for safe crossing on the trail, and a speed table will also be installed on Kirkwood Avenue. A pedestrian scramble will be installed on Krog Street and DeKalb Avenue to halt vehicular traffic and allow safe crossing for pedestrians. Note that a portion of the trail between Irwin Street and Edgewood Avenue will remain closed until the completion of the development at 670/690 DeKalb Avenue. Construction of this development is expected to be complete in spring 2019. Ultimately, the result will be a safer pedestrian experience for trail users and, in the interim, is approximately the same travel distance to detour around the construction site.

URBAN FARM UPDATE

The Atlanta BeltLine’s Urban Farm on the Westside Trail is going strong. Operated by Aluma Farm, the six acre site is now occupied by four acres of active crops. The farmers hire neighborhood residents for both pay and volunteer positions, and have set up a local Community Supported Agriculture program. The farm has doubled production this year and is currently growing a wide range of vegetables, leafy greens, and herbs. Aluma Farm sells their produce at restaurants, local farmer’s markets, and at a stand at the farm.

New! In the coming months, a farm barn will be built on site, complete with solar panels that will provide electricity to keep the structure off the power grid.
### ABI BOARD NEWS

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. is excited to welcome our new board member:

**Commissioner Lee Morris** joined ABI’s Board of Directors as the Fulton County appointee and Commissioner of Fulton County’s District 3.

![Commissioner Lee Morris](image)

### ABI STAFF NEWS

Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. is excited to welcome the following new staff:

**Vicki Cimkentli** joined ABI as the Executive Assistant to the President and CEO.

![Vicki Cimkentli](image)

**Natasha Graham** joined ABI as the Senior Paralegal.

![Natasha Graham](image)

**Keith Hall, AICP** joined ABI as the Senior Transit Project Manager.

![Keith Hall](image)

**Jori O’Hanley** joined ABI as the GIS & IT Manager.

![Jori O’Hanley](image)

### HOME RESOURCES

The Atlanta BeltLine Partnership has created a helpful guide to help people navigate buying, renting, maintaining, or paying taxes on a home near the Atlanta BeltLine. Download the Homeowner Resource Guide here: [beltline.org/homeowner-resource-guide](http://beltline.org/homeowner-resource-guide).

### SOUTHSIDE TRAIL UPDATE

Design on the Southside Trail is advancing after extensive community engagement and GDOT review. The Southside Trail is a 4-mile corridor connecting the Westside Trail at University Avenue to the Eastside Trail at Memorial Drive. A recent public meeting focused on review of 50% designs and several key areas of the Southside Trail, including the crossing at I-75/85, the Annie E. Casey site, and the connection at Confederate Avenue. The high-level design drawings, which are available for review at [beltline.org](http://beltline.org), show possible trail alignment, stormwater infrastructure, access points, and future transit. Artistic renderings show the possibilities for welcoming public spaces that feature public art and design elements.

Bill Kennedy Way

Bill Kennedy Way (BKW), the road that connects Memorial Drive and Glenwood Avenue over I-20 at the Atlanta BeltLine corridor, presents a unique design opportunity of its own. In 2016, community meetings were held to invite input on the trail alignment on BKW. Considering the development at Glenwood Park and traffic exiting I-20, it was determined that the east side of BKW is the best alignment for the trail. Plans are at approximately 25% design, and include the 14-foot trail, transit consideration, and state-of-the-art shared space between Faith Avenue and Glenwood Avenue.

A rendering of potential design of the Atlanta BeltLine along Bill Kennedy Way.
In May, the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership’s first major event of 2017—the Washington Park Jamboree—brought healthy food options, music, and free, family-focused activities to this historic park located steps away from the northern end of the under-construction Atlanta BeltLine Westside Trail. This marked the official kick-off of the 2017 Atlanta BeltLine Partnership free fitness class series and featured a variety of live fitness demonstrations led by professional instructors. As with most Atlanta BeltLine events, volunteers—more than 50 of them in this case—played a key role in the success of Washington Park Jamboree. Our awesome volunteers—provided through our partnership with Hands On Atlanta—were indispensable during set up and take down and helped make sure all attendees had a good time during the event.


“Commissioner Garner”

“We are deeply saddened to hear the news of the passing of Commissioner Joan Garner. Joan served as a vital member of the Atlanta BeltLine Board of Directors, championing our affordable housing initiatives and lending her guidance and support to so many other important efforts. More importantly, Joan was an integral part of our Atlanta BeltLine family being a long-time resident of the Old Fourth Ward and serving the community in so many ways. On behalf of the ABI Board and Team, we extend our sincere condolences to Jane and all of her loved ones during this difficult time. In honor of Commissioner Garner, and in recognition of the love she shared for the arts, we are dedicating the 2017 Atlanta BeltLine Partnership exhibition in her name.”

—John Somerhalder, Chairman of the Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. Board of Directors

In May, ABI hosted a Supplier Diversity Outreach Open House. ABI has ongoing needs for individuals and companies to provide local professional services for architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, and planning. ABI is committed to the practice of non-discrimination in the selection of team members and relationships with subcontractors with a desire to reflect diversity in the participation of companies engaged in the Atlanta BeltLine project. This open house event served to connect businesses with ABI and with one another.