

**A RESOLUTION BY
THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE ATLANTA HOUSING AUTHORITY WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OLD FOURTH WARD MASTER PLAN PROCESS TO IDENTIFY AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS OF PALMER HOUSE AND ROOSEVELT HOUSE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, earlier this year the Atlanta Housing Authority (“AHA”) announced plans for the relocation of the residents of Palmer House beginning in January 2008 and the residents of Roosevelt House beginning in April 2009; and

WHEREAS, the AHA has deemed Palmer House and Roosevelt House obsolete because of their deteriorating physical condition; and

WHEREAS, many of the residents of these two Downtown highrises are elderly and/or live with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, many of the residents of Palmer House and Roosevelt House are the original urban pioneers of Downtown Atlanta, having chosen to live in the city center decades ago in order to access quality medical care, public transportation, and social and cultural opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in August 2007 the City’s Department of Planning agreed to collaborate with residents, business owners, developers, and other stakeholders on an update to the 1993 Master Plan for Atlanta’s Old Fourth Ward, and in January 2008 the Affordable Housing Focus Group of the Master Plan will begin researching best practices in urban planning for individuals to “age in place” in urban centers, and will identify opportunities for incorporating those best practices into the updated Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Old Fourth Ward Master Plan offers the City a unique opportunity to expand its portfolio of quality, affordable, intown housing, and an historic opportunity to organize a neighborhood around urban planning principles that will enhance the ability of seniors and people with disabilities to access services and participate fully in the life of the City, to the benefit of all Atlantans;

THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The Atlanta Housing Authority is requested to work in conjunction with the Old Fourth Ward Master Plan process to identify affordable housing opportunities in the Old Fourth Ward for Palmer House and Roosevelt House residents, and to coordinate the relocation schedules of Palmer House and Roosevelt House residents with opportunities identified through the Old Fourth Ward Master Plan.

Section 2: Owners of significant property in the Old Fourth Ward, including Atlanta Medical Center and Wingate Management, and those with significant business interests in the Old Fourth Ward are urged to participate fully in the Old Fourth Ward Master Plan process and to identify projects in the Old Fourth Ward capable of providing quality, affordable, intown housing for seniors and people with disabilities.

Section 3: As part of the Council review of the Old Fourth Ward Master Plan, representatives from the Old Fourth Ward Master Plan Advisory Committee and the Affordable Housing Focus Group will brief the Council’s Community Development/Human Resources Committee on their findings and recommendations.