



Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms

DISTRICT 11 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Neighbors,

“Good is the enemy of great.” So begins the book by Jim Collins entitled, *Good to Great*. While this book examines what makes a company great, as opposed to simply good, I was struck by the parallels to our District, and City as a whole. Are we forging a path to greatness, or, are we simply resting on good? Resoundingly, the answer is, “We are a great District and City!” However, I can still see good in our rear view mirror.

With the sweeping passage of pension reform, which has helped shore up our City’s reserves from roughly \$4 million dollars just two years ago, to almost \$100 million dollars today, as well as an overall decrease in crime across our City, there is no question that the City Council and the Mayor and his Administration are working together to ensure our place as a best in class City. To maintain that status, however, we cannot rest. Instead, we must continuously peel back every layer of our City’s fabric to reveal ways that we can improve the experiences of those

who live, work, and play in our community.

Good to Great reads “...the good-to-great transformations never happen[ed] in one fell swoop... Good to great comes about by a cumulative process –step by step, action by action, decision by decision...that adds up to sustained and spectacular results.”

By working with you, the community, as well as through the sponsorship of various legislation, and the initiation of innovative programs and events within our District, it has been my goal to establish a foundation upon which we can continue to grow and not only expect, but accept, nothing but the best for our City as a whole. With each day, we are one step closer to leaving “simply good” behind forever. By continuing to work together, I am certain that “great” is what we will see in our immediate past, and “greatest” will be the signature of our future.

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms and Community Break Ground on the Cascade-Mays Streetscape Improvement Project, Phase II

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms joined the City of Atlanta Department of Public Works Commissioner Richard Mendoza and Neighborhood Planning Unit-R to break ground in November on the Cascade-Mays Streetscape Improvement Project, Phase II.

The City of Atlanta Department of Public Works is implementing pedestrian and community improvement projects throughout the City as part of the Capital Improvements Program.

The Department of Public Works is installing new sidewalks, crosswalks and pedestrian lighting at the intersection of Cascade Road & Benjamin E. Mays Drive, SW. These additions to the neighborhood will serve to enhance pedestrian safety, while also improving the appearance of the community.

Improvements will include the replacement of existing sidewalks with newly constructed concrete sidewalks, curbs and gutters. The new concrete sidewalks will be a minimum of 6’ in width with a 2’ wide concrete paved or

sod utility strip located between the concrete curb and the sidewalk. Additional improvements include painted crosswalks, utility upgrades, street trees, trash receptacles, pedestrian lights, and public art.

The project is funded by ARRA (American Recovery & Reinvestment Act) Stimulus Funds at a cost of \$625,000.



Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms Co-Sponsors Comprehensive Pension Reform in 2011

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms was a sponsor of comprehensive legislation reforming Atlanta's once troubled employee pension funds.

The City Council voted in June to overhaul all three of the city's retirement plans – avoiding the need for personnel reductions and service cuts. The overhaul has placed the city on a path toward greater fiscal stability in the years to come.

The comprehensive pension reform plan creates \$22 million in savings the first year, reduces the city's exposure to market risk and allows the city to pay off a \$1.5 billion unfunded pension liability. The measure saves the city more than \$270 million over the next 10 years, and more than \$500 million over 30 years.

"We agreed upon a reform measure that provides significant savings that can be used for services to citizens and investment in infrastructure," Councilmember Bottoms said.

Last year's vote reflects one of the most sweeping overhauls of public-employee retirement benefits attempted by a large U.S. city in recent years, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

"I felt it was important that we adopted a plan that was fiscally prudent, sustainable and humane," Councilmember Bottoms said. "We heard from various financial experts on what we as a city needed to do for the sake of our employees, our taxpayers and Atlanta's financial future."

"I'm proud that this City Council gave the Mayor our unanimous support in reforming a once troubled pension system."



Construction Begins on New Fairburn Road Bridge

The construction has begun on the new Fairburn Road bridge over the CSX railroad. The project, located down the street from Deerwood Elementary School, will be completed in 2013.

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) agreed to replace the bridge with a new structure that will have a sidewalk and bike lanes. GDOT will pay for the design and construction of the new structure while the City of Atlanta is responsible for right of way for the project. Final design has been completed and the city has acquired the necessary right of way parcels.

Fairburn Road Bridge is a timber structure 147 feet long and 30 feet wide constructed in 1937. The bridge was originally designed to carry light traffic loads. The old structure cannot support truck or school bus traffic due to this low load rating.



Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms honors Southwest Atlanta resident and Renowned Artist Radcliffe Bailey

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms honored Atlanta artist Radcliffe Bailey with a reception and a two proclamations in August at Atlanta City Hall.

Bailey's exhibit "Radcliffe Bailey: Memory as Medicine" was on display at the High Museum of Art during the summer. The exhibit highlighted the artist's experimentation with diverse media, showcasing sculptures, paintings, installations, works-on-paper, glass works, and modified found objects. Comprising more than 25 works, "Memory as Medicine" includes new art created for the exhibition as well as works never before on public display.

The exhibition is scheduled to travel to the McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, and the Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College later this year. As a mixed-media artist, Bailey is widely acclaimed for his collages and sculptures that explore African-American history, social consciousness and his own experiences through the use of old family photographs, heirlooms, painted words, maps and much more.

Bailey and Councilmember Bottoms first met while students at Ralph Burche Middle School in District 11.



Bailey with wife Victoria Rowell

Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms hosts District 11 Town Hall Meeting



Hundreds of residents turned out for the 2011 District 11 Town Hall Meeting in February at Ben Hill United Methodist Church.

Constituents had a chance to discuss issues facing their individual neighborhoods as well as speak with top city officials regarding their concerns. Updates were also provided on on-going projects in District 11.

Various city departments were represented including Solid Waste Services, the City of Atlanta's Bureau of Code Enforcement-Housing Code Department, the Department of Watershed Management, the Atlanta Fire-Rescue Department, the Atlanta Police Department, the

Mayor's Office of Sustainability, the Atlanta Workforce Development Agency, the Atlanta Development Agency and the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services. Representatives from Fulton County District Attorney's Office and Fulton County Commissioner Bill Edwards were also on hand.

"Community engagement and dialogue are essential to ensure the services provided by the city are of the highest quality," said Councilmember Bottoms.

"Our Town Hall meetings are a great opportunity for the community to have their issues heard face to face and addressed by the appropriate City departments."

For more information contact the office of District 11 at 404-330-6054 or email City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms at kbottoms@atlantaga.gov



City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms Hosts Adoption Awareness Luncheon

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms partnered with Families First and the City of Atlanta's Department of Human Resources to sponsor an adoption awareness luncheon at Atlanta City Hall in October.

City employees and the general public learned about the process for adopting a child and the growing need for adoptive parents.

Currently, thousands of children await adoption or are in foster care, looking forward to permanent homes. These children can thrive, reach their full potential, and spread their wings when given the loving and firm foundation of family. Adoption offers a wonderful and rewarding opportunity to bring children in need and caring supportive parents together.

Councilmember Bottoms and her husband are the proud parents of four adopted children.

"As an avid adoption supporter, I believe that we must

continue to promote the adoption of children into safe and loving homes," Councilmember Bottoms said. "Too many children in Georgia are waiting in foster care programs for families to adopt them. These children should be given every opportunity to lead successful lives, and one way to make that happen is to increase the adoption of these children into safe, permanent, loving homes."



Families First has delivered empowering solutions in metro Atlanta for over 120 years, including adoption and foster care services which help give every child in Georgia a chance for a permanent home and hopeful future; services that empower working parents and help those facing

homelessness achieve self sufficiency; and supportive counseling and courses for individuals, families and children help create healthy families and relationships.

For more information on Families First and the services they provide visit www.familiesfirst.org/

More than 1,000 District 11 Youth Receive Back To School Supplies

Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms in partnership with Greenbriar Mall, Everest College, Walmart and Amerigroup distributed more than 1,000 back packs filled with school supplies at Back to School Jam 2011 in July.

"I was pleased to again partner with our corporate sponsors and donors to present this much anticipated and motivational event in 2011," said City Councilmember Bottoms. "The response we received from area students and their parents was tremendous. It is a rewarding experience to provide our children with essential back to school items, and the joy on the children's face makes it all worthwhile."

"We were also excited to present the 2011 Back to School Jam to give back to the Southwest Atlanta community and the families in which we serve," said Greenbriar Mall Marketing Director Gwendolyn Motley. "Our children's educa-

tion is vital to the growth of our community and Greenbriar Mall takes pride in being partners of their success."

Families were also entertained by several live performances.



Delta Sigma Theta Atlanta Alumnae Chapter honored for Alzheimer's awareness efforts

For devoted service to the Atlanta community through their support of the Walk To End Alzheimer's Disease, City Councilmember Bottoms presented a proclamation to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Atlanta Alumnae Chapter in October at Atlanta City Hall.

In addition to their participation in the 2011 Walk To End Alzheimer's, members of Delta Sigma Theta Atlanta Alumnae Chapter hosted a community forum on Alzheimer's at Zion Hill Baptist Church.

While researchers do not know exactly what causes Alzheimer's disease, they have identified factors that signal greater risk, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, lack of



exercise and diabetes.

"It is important that we continue to support further research and funding in hopes of someday bringing an end to Alzheimer's," Councilmember Bottoms said. "This is a disease that impacts so many families."

Movies in the Park @ John A. White Park



Residents of District 11 enjoyed a free showing of the hit movie "The Karate Kid" John A. White Park.

The event was sponsored by Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms and was part of the Movies in the Park series hosted by the City's Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

"We are accustomed to having to travel outside of our community for family fun and entertainment. I am grateful that I've been able to keep the fun right here at home," said Councilmember Bottoms. "This event enabled us to fellowship as a community and enjoy the beautiful resources, like John A White Park, that we have in our own backyard."

District 11 Neighborhood Jazz Concert

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms hosted a Neighborhood Jazz Concert in John A. White Park in conjunction with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs in May.

The exciting jazz concert was part of the 34th Annual Atlanta Jazz Festival and featured District 11 residents Jodi Merriday and Julie Dexter.

Merriday is an up-and-coming jazz vocalist and spoken word artist, and Dexter is a world renowned, classically trained, award winning British vocalist.



City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms sponsors Youth Financial Literacy Program at the Andrew & Walter Young Family YMCA

Dozens of youth from across Atlanta attended a four-week financial literacy program, sponsored by Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms at the Andrew & Walter Young Family YMCA on Campbellton Road

The Youth Financial Literacy Program provided workshops and courses to educate children in grades 8-12 and ages 14-18.

“The financial preparedness of our city’s youth is essential to their well-being and of vital importance to our economic future,” Councilmember Bottoms said.

“It is important for our children to become financially literate at an early age so that they are better prepared to make decisions and navigate an increasingly complex financial marketplace,” she said. “It is my hope that they will take the

lessons learned and help educate their peers and in some instances enlighten their parents.”

The workshop was facilitated by District 11 resident Rashida Winfrey. Several volunteers participated in the program.



viaCycle launches the Southeast’s first major bike sharing program in Atlanta

The City of Atlanta, Georgia Institute of Technology and viaCycle launched the first major bike sharing program in the Southeast at an event in November on the campus of Georgia Tech.

The six-month pilot program will be implemented in four locations on the Tech campus with 35 bicycles, providing easy access to popular campus centers.

“The City will continue to support viaCycle to build a regional bicycle network that augments the Atlanta Belt-line and other development projects,” said Councilmember Bottoms. “viaCycle and our innovative partners at Georgia Tech are helping Atlanta to truly become modernized, more innovative and more sustainable.”

Encouraging Atlantans to get out of their cars is a focal point of many of the initiatives in Connect Atlanta – the city’s first comprehensive transportation plan.



Andrew & Walter Young Family YMCA Receives \$15,000 Donation Thanks to Archer Western Contractors

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms was the special guest at the annual Archer Western Charity Golf Tournament at the Canongate 1 Gold Course in Sharpsburg in October.

The Andrew & Walter Young Family YMCA was nominated by Councilmember Bottoms as the 2011 recipient of a \$15,000 contribution from the charity event.

The funds will be used toward wellness and obesity prevention for pre-schoolers.



PUBLIC SAFETY SEES IMPROVEMENTS IN 2011

Public safety saw improvements in 2011 thanks to the leadership of the Mayor and the Atlanta City Council.

Keisha Lance Bottoms served on the Public Safety Committee – the legislative body that has direct oversight of the Atlanta Police Department (APD) and the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD).

“I am proud to have served on the Public Safety Committee at a time when we are turning the tide fiscally in our city,” Councilmember Bottoms said. “Public safety will remain the number one issue for this City Council as we continue to reduce crime in Atlanta.”

In 2011, one hundred new police officer positions were created under the as part of the city’s current budget. The ultimate goal is to create a force of 2,000-plus, while also beefing up manpower at the airport and addressing violence against women and children.

Seventy-Five new fire fighter positions were also created in 2011.

Other accomplishments included:

- The purchase of two fire engines for Fire Stations #2 and #22
- The opening of AFRD Fire Station #11
- Groundbreaking for AFRD Fire Station #28/APD Zone 2 Mini Precinct
- The renovation AFRD Fire Stations #29, #32 and #35

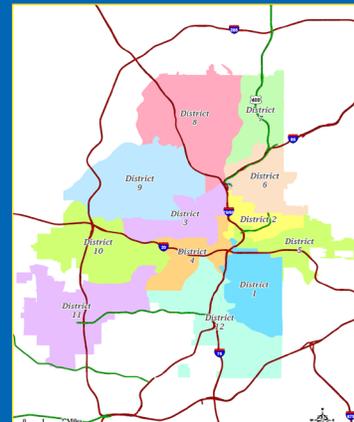
In addition, crime in the city was down overall by 1 percent. In 2011, Atlanta had reductions in homicides (6 percent), burglaries (7 percent), larceny from vehicles (6 percent) and aggravated assaults (2 percent).

City Council Redraws Council District Boundaries

Every 10 years, based on U.S. Census results, the City of Atlanta and cities across America are required to redraw representative district boundary lines to preserve the constitutional right of one person/one vote of its citizens. Based on the 2010 Census results the Atlanta City Council is seeking to maintain a balance of populations by creating 12 Council districts of 35,000 persons each (+ - 5%).

In keeping with this effort, the lines of District 11 will be redrawn to reduce the district by approximately four thousands residents. It is likely that the loss of residents will be from the historic Cascade Heights area, which will now likely become a part of District 10.

Other portions of the District will move into District 12.



Do your part to fight crime

Crime Stoppers Atlanta is a great resource for helping the department fight crime. Crime Stoppers offers a \$2,000 reward for the arrest and indictment of individuals for certain crimes. The Crime Stoppers tip line is an easy way to report crime, and you can remain anonymous. If you have information on criminal activity, please call the Crime Stoppers tip line at 404-577-TIPS (8477).

Code Enforcement now part of APD

The City of Atlanta’s Code Enforcement department recently came under the command of the Atlanta Police Department. Vacant and unkept properties are often breeding grounds for crime. The realignment will help increase the city’s ability to hold owners responsible for the upkeep of their property, while also making it easier and more efficient to cite those who fail to do so. If you would like our Code Enforcement officers to check on a property that you think is bringing your neighborhood down, we encourage you to call 404-330-6190.



Community celebrates renovation of Continental Colony Elementary School



City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms, a former student at Continental Colony Elementary School, was the special guest at the grand opening of the new building.

“It was an honor to join the students, parents, faculty and officials with Atlanta Public Schools to formally recognize this magnificent transformation of Continental Colony Elementary,” Councilmember Bottoms said. “I attended Continental Colony during the time of my parents’ divorce. The support I received from my teachers and surrounding community are a wonderful example of what happens when beautiful things happen in beautiful buildings. I trust that the legacy continues at Continental Colony.”

“October’s ribbon cutting ceremony marked the beginning of a new era of academia at Continental Colony Elementary School,” Councilmember Bottoms said.



Councilmember Bottoms Speaks to Southwest Atlanta Girl Scouts Unit on Leadership

City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms joined the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta’s Sisters of Heritage Service Unit for their annual awards ceremony held in May at Hoosier Memorial United Methodist Church. Councilmember Bottoms served as the guest speaker.

Comprised of troops from Beecher Hills Elementary School, Cascade United Methodist Church, Hillside International Truth Center, Hoosier United Methodist Church, Saint Peter Missionary Baptist Church, Venetian Hills Elementary School, World Changers Church International and Worthy’s Christian Academy, the Sisters of Heritage Service Unit is one of the most active service units in the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta Council.

The awards, which include Gold, Silver and Bronze recognitions, focus on community service and leadership.

“These remarkable young ladies have the skills and moral integrity to succeed in life,” said Councilmember Bottoms. “Through experiences gained at every level of development, the Girls Scouts organization has helped give girls across our city a solid foundation to build upon.”

The troop was also honored with a proclamation at Atlanta City Hall.



City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms Joins the Get Body Beautiful Program *Georgia's Largest Women's Wellness Campaign*

Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms joined thousands of women in metro Atlanta for Georgia's largest fitness and wellness campaign.

The City of Atlanta hosted free Saturday community fitness sessions featuring yoga, aerobics and resistance training at the Ben Hill Recreation Center in collaboration with the wellness campaign.

The campaign's kickoff included the second annual Get Body Beautiful Program and Health Expo in February at the Georgia International Convention Center.

More than 30,000 women participate in the program, which focused on healthy living, business success, finance and real estate, relationships, spiritual growth and more.

The campaign equipped participants with the lifestyle, nutrition and fitness tools needed to increase physical activity

and improve health.

"A healthy community is a thriving community," Councilmember Bottoms said. "When parents lead healthy lifestyles, their children do as well. It has been shown that healthy and active children perform better in school and often have a more positive outlook on life and have higher self-esteem."



Councilmember Bottoms Joins Fight To Reduce Childhood Obesity

Amid a growing obesity epidemic among America's youth, City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms teamed up with the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services to encourage young Atlantans to get physically active and to make the right nutritional choices for a healthier life for years to come.

Councilmember Bottoms served as the guest speaker at the expo.

"It's never too soon or too late to teach a child good nutritional habits and about the importance of exercising," said Councilmember Bottoms. "Our young people can live long healthier lives if they are regularly exposed to exercise and healthier eating choices."

Studies show that there are an estimated 10 million obese and overweight American kids who experience the on-going frustrations associated with excessive weight and often do not know where to turn.

In the 10 cities with the nation's highest obesity rates, the direct costs connected with obesity and obesity-related diseases are roughly \$50 million per 100,000 residents. And if these 10 cities just cut their obesity rates down to the national average, they would save nearly \$500 million in health care costs combined each year.

For more information on C.H.O.I.C.E.S visit www.ChoicesForKids.org



Year in Pictures



Proclamation Presentation to
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Proclamation Presentation to
Ratcliffe Baily



Youth Leadership Workshop at
Atlanta City Hall



District 11 Redevelopment Tour



Councilmember Bottoms with Youth
Triathlon Group



Georgia Association of Black
Women Attorneys Leadership
Training



Ben Hill Community Clean Up



Frederick Douglass High School
Honors Day Program



Benjamin E. Mays Streetscape
Kickoff



Career Day at
D. M. Therrell High School



“Back to School Jam”
Backpack Give-a-way at
Greenbriar Mall



Beecher Hills Elementary School

DISTRICT 11

2011 EVENTS AT A GLANCE

February	District 11 Annual Town Hall Meeting
February	Get Body Beautiful Campaign Kickoff
February	Youth Financial Literacy Program
February	Venetian Hill Reading
March	Campbellton Road Redevelopment Meetings
March	Intown Academy 1st Reading
March	Campbellton Road Redevelopment Corridor Tour
March	Women's History Month Luncheon
March	Community Clean Up @ Southwest Community Church (Niskey Lake & Butner Road)
March	The Atlanta Chapter of Jack and Jill, Inc.-Reception and Proclamation Presentation
March	Southwest Film and T.V. Industry Careers Workshop
March	Let's Move Atlanta Initiative
March	Zone 4 Beat Redesign Meeting
March	Frederick Douglass Honors Day Program
April	Atlanta Fire & Rescue Women's Leadership Conference
May	Hoosier United Methodist Church-Hoosier Girl Scout Troop Awards Ceremony
May	Senior Fair 2011
May	Jazz in the Park- John A. White Park
May	Lunch with Ladies – Students/Beecher Hills Elementary
May	Campbellton Road Redevelopment/Rezone Meeting-Greenbriar Macy
June	The Atlanta Dream Pep Rally at Greenbriar Mall
June	Proclamation Presentation to the Girl Scouts of America
June	Ben Hill Community Association Annual Clean Up Day
July	Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys' 30th Anniversary/Town Hall Meeting
July	Back pack give-a-way and Back To School Rally 2011-Greenbriar Mall
August	J. C. Young Middle School Pep Rally
August	Movies in The Park-"Karate Kid"-John A. White Park
August	Radcliffe Bailey-Proclamation Presentation and Reception
October	Delta Sigma Theta Alzheimer's Walk Proclamation Presentation/Reception
October	Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony-Continental Colony Elementary School
October	Lunch and Learn with Families First on Adoption
November	Jack and Jill of America, Inc/Jr. High Teen Leadership Workshop
November	Cascade Mays Phase II Streetscape Improvement Project Ribbon Cutting
November	Georgia Association of Black Women Attorney's: Judicial and Public Academy
December	Southwest Atlanta Christmas Parade

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

If you have City service issues that you need help in resolving,
please contact us at 404-330-6054 or at kbottoms@atlantaga.gov



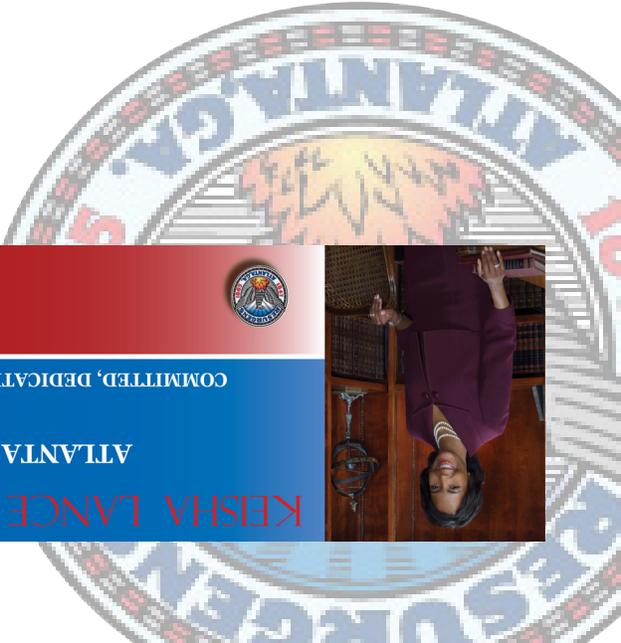
IMPROVEMENT MADE TO THREE DISTRICT 11 STREETS

Through the leadership of City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms, the City of Atlanta recently has made improvements to three heavily traveled District 11 streets.

Those streets include Tell, Butner and County Line roads.

Among the improvements:

- Tell Road, a once unpaved street, was made into a solid surface using recycled asphalt shavings.
- The open drainage swells along the frontage of each of the property owner's yards were replaced with a closed piping system.
- Sidewalk and curbing was installed.
- The all-way stops at Tell Road/Butner Road/County Line Road were replaced with high visibility Light Emitting Diode (LED) stop signs.
- County Line Road's approach to Butner Road was reconfigured for better visibility.
- Rumble strips were installed on Butner Road.
- Trees along Butner Road and County Road were trimmed for better visibility.
- Signs and markings which better defined the intersection of Tell Road and Butner Road were installed.



<p>Atlanta City Hall 55 Trinity Avenue, S.W. Suite 2900 Atlanta, GA 30303</p>		
<p>KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 11 COMMITTED, DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT</p>		