



Fall 2010



# COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

## MORE THAN 2,000 AREA STUDENTS AND PARENTS ATTEND NINTH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY AT GREENBRIAR MALL

More than 2,000 students and parents turned out for the Ninth Annual Back to School Rally at Greenbriar Mall on July 31st.

The event was hosted by the Future Foundation, Greenbriar Mall and Atlanta City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms. Among the surprise special guests at this year's Back to School rally were Atlanta's own entertainers Ludacris and Sammie.

"We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of our sponsors and a special thanks to the many celebrities and community leaders who took time out of their schedules to stop by and encourage our youth to reach for the stars by staying in school and getting good grades," said City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms. "Hopefully the hundreds of backpacks and supplies given away will make it financially easier on our parents as they prepare our students for the upcoming school year."

The theme of this year's Back to School rally was "Still Standing, Still Strong: Strengthening Our Communities & Families for Success." The official attendance for the 2010 event surpassed 2,000 students and parents.

"The economy is tremendously affecting so many of our families in Georgia. Triple the number of youth and families attended our 9th annual Back to School Rally. I am truly thankful our event was able to serve so many families in need," said former NBA and



Atlanta Hawk's player Shareef Abdur-Rahim, Founder of the Future Foundation.

Students in grades K-12 received backpacks filled with grade-appropriate school supplies, including crayons, notebooks, pencils, calculators, rulers and more.

"Future Foundation, City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms and Greenbriar Mall came together as one unit to help prepare the boys and girls in the Southwest Atlanta community, in which they serve, for a successful school year. We appreciate the community and we want to continue to show our support to them," said Greenbriar Mall Marketing Director, Gwendolyn Motley.

### Fire Service UPDATE!



On June 25, the Atlanta City Council passed the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget – which includes funding for fire coverage from the Fulton County Fire Department for areas of southwest Atlanta.

Along with Atlanta Fire Rescue, Fulton County will also be responsible for providing fire and emergency protection services for sections of District 11.

Currently, certain portions of District 11 are without adequate fire coverage. This new partnership will not only save taxpayers money, but it will also ensure that fire response times within the district conform to national recommended standards. District 11 will now have improved emergency services for our growing community.

### FAITH BASED LEADERS AND PRINCIPALS PRAYER BREAKFAST



From left to right: Rev. Eric Johnson, Councilmember Bottoms.....

# CITY EASES CRIMINAL PROSECUTION OF PARKING ENFORCEMENT VIOLATIONS UNDER LEGISLATION DRAFTED BY CITY COUNCILMEMBER KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS



The Atlanta City Council has clarified the penalty that can be imposed upon future violators of the city's parking enforcement laws.

District 11 City Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms, a former Magistrate Court judge, introduced legislation stating that parking enforcement violations will be prosecuted in the future as "non-criminal civil cases." The measure (Legislative Reference No. 10-O-1178) was approved by a vote of 11-0.

In previous cases, violations were prosecuted as criminal in nature, Bottoms said. "Our city laws did not clearly state that these cases are in fact civil in nature, which created some difficulty for our city solicitor."

The imposition of a civil penalty will not be recorded as a part of the criminal record of the person upon which such a penalty is imposed. The Atlanta Municipal Court is now authorized to impose a civil monetary penalty against persons who violate city parking enforcement laws in an amount of \$1,000 or less for each violation.



## MORE THAN 400 RESIDENTS ATTEND DISTRICT 11 TOWN HALL MEETING

On March 2nd residents of District 11 addressed city officials at a town hall meeting hosted by Councilwoman Keisha Lance Bottoms at Ben Hill United Methodist Church. Several top City of Atlanta Officials were in attendance to address concerns District 11 residents had about crime in their community and city services. Representatives of several city departments were on hand including Watershed Management, Code Compliance, Public Works, the City Solicitor's Office, the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services, the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department, the Atlanta Police Department, Atlanta Workforce Development, the Commission on Aging, and the Atlanta Development Authority.

Fulton Commissioner Bill Edwards of Fulton County was also in attendance.

Mayor Kasim Reed was the special guest at the town hall meeting and engaged in a lengthy Q&A session with the residents of District 11.



## Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms Joins Residents of Bonnybrook on April 17th and Ben Hill on June 5th at Annual Community Clean-ups

Councilwoman Keisha Bottoms joined Bonnybrook and Ben Hill residents recently for their annual community clean-ups.

Clean-up crews picked up trash and debris and raked and bagged leaves at several locations in the neighborhoods. Volunteers also cleaned vacant lots. The clean-up was an effort to spruce up the neighborhoods and to improve the appearance of the communities.

Every year volunteers join forces to tackle tasks such as chopping kudzu, raking and bagging leaves, and also picking up trash in several areas throughout the community.



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION

The City of Atlanta's Department of Public Works has announced that effective September 13th, yard trimmings will be collected bi-weekly on the same day as your household garbage.

There is also a new service fee as part of the 2010 annual solid waste bill to equate/accommodate market demand and cost of operations. The new \$88 annual rate is minimal in comparison to that of private haulers, whose average is at least \$10 monthly. The City of Atlanta is pleased to have minimized its service fees for at least the past 15 years. The city's solid waste bills are distributed based on the city's fiscal calendar, however fees are applicable January – December of the current year.

Also please remember that recycling collection will continue weekly on the same day as garbage collection. Items eligible for curbside recycling collection include:

- Newspaper
- Aluminum cans
- Glass bottles and jars (remove the lids)
- Steel (tin) cans
- Plastic: all food containers and plastic bottles (please rinse out) -  
**NO PLASTIC BAGS, HOSES, PIPES, or FURNITURE**
- Mixed paper
- Office paper
- Junk Mail
- Telephone directories
- Boxboard (cereal boxes, tissue boxes)
- Shredded paper tied in a clear plastic bag
- Magazines
- Catalogues
- Cardboard: broken down or cut to fit in the bin (KEEP IT DRY!)



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## COUNCILMEMBER KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS HOSTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

Councilmember Keisha Lance Bottoms hosted an Economic Development Seminar on August 14th at Ben Hill United Methodist Church to update residents on economic revitalization activities and opportunities along the Campbellton Road Tax Allocation District.

“My office is hosted this seminar to educate the public, and make residents and business owners aware of tools and assistance that may be available to them to help spur economic growth and opportunity in the area,” Councilmember Bottoms said. Representatives from the Atlanta Development Authority, the Department of Procurement, the Department of Housing, and the Department of Planning were in attendance to discuss the Campbellton Road TAD, existing homebuyer assistance programs, and other economic development opportunities and incentives available to Atlanta residents and people interested in doing business in the City.



Bottoms stated, “There are numerous tools and incentives that are available to developers and everyday citizens that will assist them in numerous areas, such as business development and home ownership. Starting a new business can be a daunting task, but with redevelopment zones such as the Campbellton Road TAD, the City offers many outstanding tools and opportunities to assist a new business owner or an existing business owner looking to expand.”

# FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS CITY OF ATLANTA

**Atlanta City Hall (main number) 404-330-6000**

The Department of Planning, Development & Neighborhood Conservation	404-330-6145
Bureau of Buildings	404-330-6150
Bureau of Permits	404-330-6150
Bureau of Housing	404-330-6390
Bureau of Code Compliance	404-330-6190
Zoning Code Enforcement	404-330-6175
Department of Cultural Affairs	404-546-6815
Department of Recreation	404-546-7985
Department of Parks	404-546-6744

Department of Public Works	404-768-4653
Recycling	404-330-6333
Solid Waste Services	404-330-6333
Arborist	404-330-6150
Traffic & Transportation	404-330-6501
Department of Watershed Management	404-658-6500
Mayor's Office of Constituent Services	404-330-6023
Municipal Court	404-658-6940
Traffic Court	404-658-6940
Parks Customer Service	404-546-6813

*Got a question or concern?*

*Feel free to call my office at 404-330-6054*



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