



# Reimagining Atlanta City Detention Center Initiative

## Public Safety Committee

# What is Reimagining ACDC?



A partnership between the City of Atlanta and Community to *transform* the city jail facility into a center for equity and wellness.



# Goals of the Initiative:



The Reimagine ACDC initiative is one of several initiatives representing a new approach to safety and wellness in the City of Atlanta. The goals are to:

1. Eliminate the need for the facility **as an arrest and process center**
2. Establish a dynamic and vibrant **Center for Equity and Wellness**
3. Engage **community, internal, and external stakeholders** in the vision, direction, and programming
4. Ensure **openness** and **transparency** throughout the planning process



# The Planning Team



# Background

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- In May of 2019, Mayor Bottoms signed **legislation** to create a **Task Force** of 52 members including government officials, business leaders, service providers, community members, and more
- Working to provide **comprehensive recommendations** for the future of the space

# Three Workgroups

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Program



Building



Policy



# Comprehensive Recommendations

- 1. Renovate & Repurpose**
- 2. Demolish & Rebuild**
- 3. Relocation of Center**

## Phases of Initiative

- 1. Phase I: Preliminary Feasibility Analysis and Conceptual Design**  
(May 2019 – May 2020)
- 2. Phase II: Detailed Analysis for Preferred Scenario Selected by the Mayor** (June 2020 - TBD )
- 3. Phase III: Pre-Development** (TBD)
- 4. Phase IV: Construction** (TBD)

# Equity and Inclusion in Reimagining ACDC



Throughout Phase One of the initiative, we worked to engage as many Atlantans as possible.

- Held events/had representation across **all four quadrants** of the City
- Engaged **Spanish speaking** population through the City's translation services
- Made materials available for those requiring **braille services**
- Intentionally engaged as many Atlanta residents as possible, with specific focus on various identity-based populations: **people experiencing homelessness, formerly incarcerated individuals, LGBTQ+ community, youth, civic organizations, faith-based communities, community groups, neighborhood associations, and many more.**
- **Broadcasted every Task Force meeting on Channel 26**

In future phases, we look forward to continuing to include even more people across the City.



# Community Engagement: Space Planning / Finance Game & Master Planning Workshop





# Status Update

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Maria Russo, Reimagining ACDC Program Manager



# Phase One Accomplishments

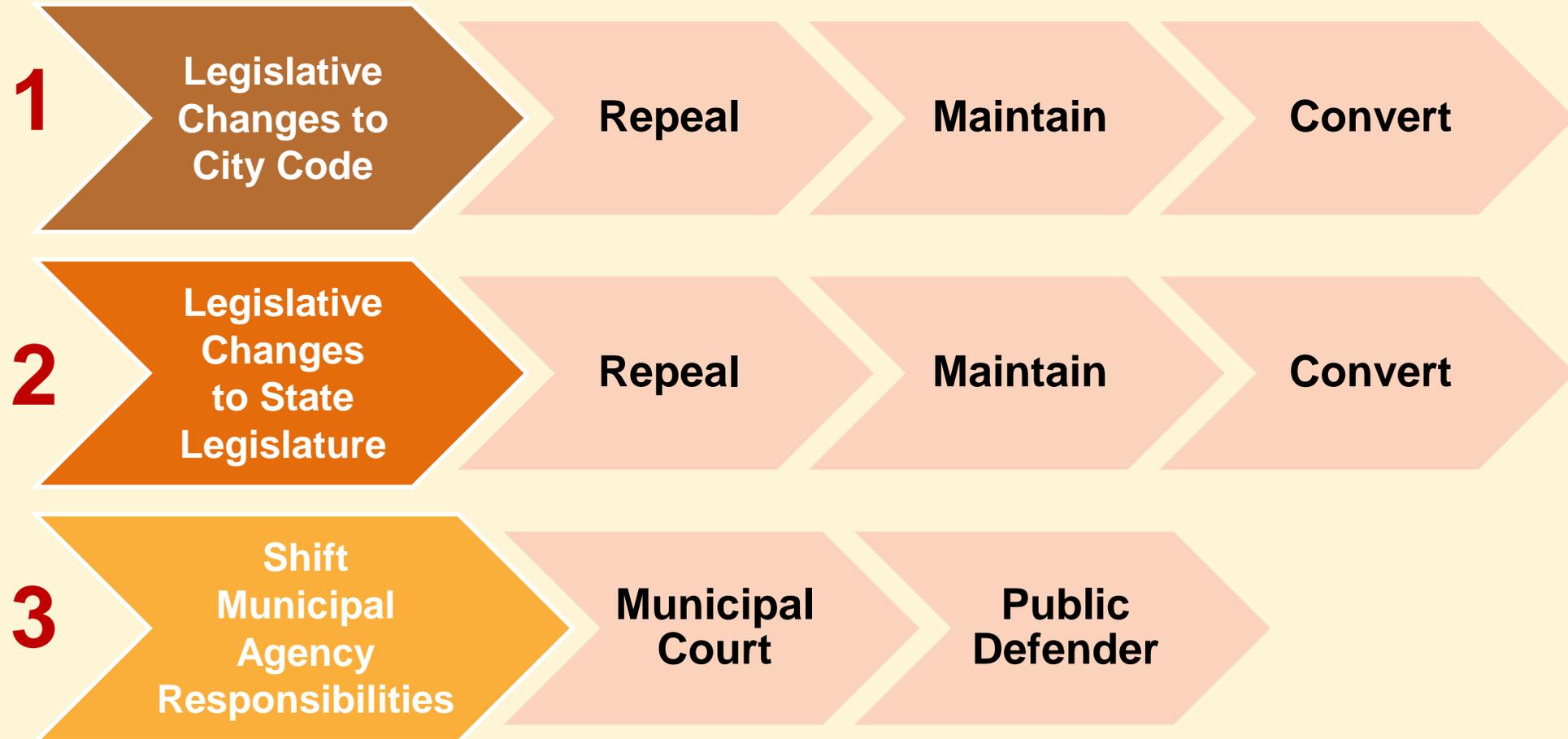
**Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms'** bold vision to transform the ACDC facility into a Center for Equity has set an unprecedented example to many cities and regions on a path to achieving equity initiatives.

- **Passed legislation** to close the jail
- **Launched 52 Member Task Force** from over 200 applications
- Guided a Community Engagement process reaching **over 600 residents**
- **Established 5 University partnerships:** Atlanta Technical College, Emory University, Georgia State University, Harvard University, Morehouse College
- Led a **Department of Corrections Townhall** – over 75 staff members attended
- Led a **Master Planning Workshop** at Atlanta City Studio
- Assessed decriminalization feasibility for over **50 city ordinances and state statutes**
- Engaged in an in-depth needs-assessment with **50+ stakeholder interviews**
- **Generated over 10 City and State policy recommendations** to further reduce the detention population
- **Defined 5 core program focus areas** after generating over 100 ideas
- **Conducted full assessment to examine current building condition**
- **Identified potential investors and funders,** and possibly assisting in "friend-raising" and fundraising
- **Social media following increased by 300%** from first to most recent Task Force meeting
- **Successfully designed and completed five Task Force meetings;** over 100 in attendance at each meeting





# Policy Workgroup Recommendations





# Program Workgroup Recommendations

## Focus Areas

**Housing &  
Homelessness**

**Justice Reform**

**Employment &  
Financial  
Empowerment**

**Health,  
Behavioral  
Health, and  
Mental Health**

## Recommendations

**Multi-Service,  
Holistic,  
Client-Centered  
Facility**

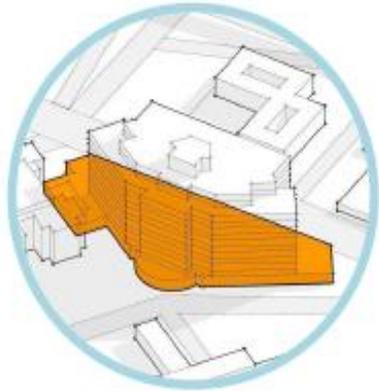
**Range  
of Housing  
Opportunities**

**Beacon of  
Community Hope  
and Inspiration**



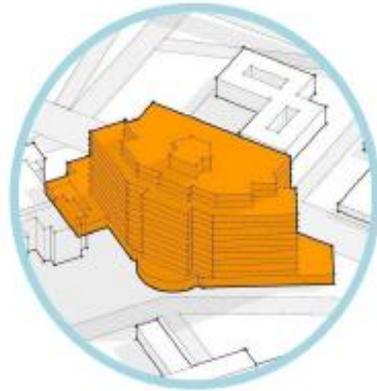
# Building Workgroup Recommendations

## 4 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES



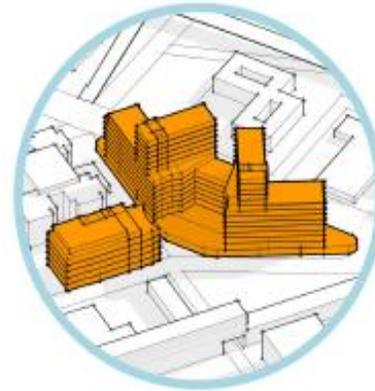
#1:  
EQUITY PODIUM

Initially Estimated  
Development Cost:  
**\$40,040,000**



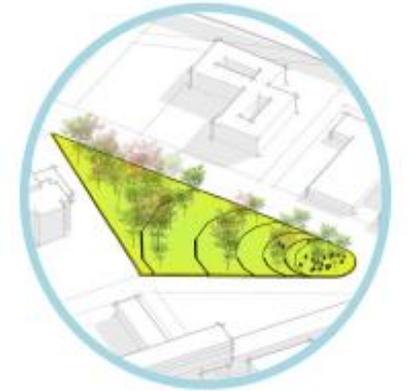
#2:  
DOWNTOWN ANCHOR

Initially Estimated  
Development Cost:  
**\$65,440,000**



#3:  
CENTER FOR EQUITY  
CAMPUS

Initially Estimated  
Development Cost:  
**\$108,080,000**



#4:  
DISTRIBUTED EQUITY

Initially Estimated  
Development Cost:  
***Undetermined***

# Next Steps

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- 1. Task Force Finalization:  
Report & Close Out**
- 2. Mayor to receive recommendations**
- 3. Begin planning and implementing  
Phase Two**





# Stay Involved

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**1** Visit our website at [reimaginingacdc.org](https://reimaginingacdc.org) to find relevant documents and stay up to date on all future public meetings.

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**2** Have an idea? Reach out to [ReimagineACDC@AtlantaGA.Gov](mailto:ReimagineACDC@AtlantaGA.Gov) to get more involved.

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# Questions?

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