### AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE 2022 EAST POINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE WHICH INCLUDES THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT MAP AND COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM

### APPLICATION NO: 2022CPA-001-10 ASSOCIATED APPLICATION NO: N/A

WHEREAS, the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 established the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning requiring that local governments prepare a Comprehensive Plan Update; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2014, new rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs became effective governing *Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning*; and

WHEREAS, the new rules are found in Chapter 110-12-1 and established for the purpose of providing a framework for the development, management and implementation of local comprehensive plans at the local, regional and state government level; and

WHEREAS, local comprehensive plans show important relationships between community issues, are fact-based resources for constituents that track implementation of community-based policies, create an environment of predictability for business and industry, investors, property owners, tax payers and the general public and help local governments recognize and implement important economic development and revitalization initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of East Point's 2022 Comprehensive Plan Update has been reviewed and approved by the Atlanta Regional Commission and Georgia Department of Community Affairs as being compliant with the *Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning*.

#### NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF EAST POINT, GEORGIA AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** The 2022 East Point Comprehensive Plan Update including the Future Development Map and Community Work Program, is adopted in accordance with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs *Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning*.

**Section 2**. This ORDINANCE shall be codified in a manner consistent with the laws of the State of Georgia and the City of East Point.

**Section 3.** (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all Sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ORDINANCE are, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ORDINANCE, is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of the ORDINANCE. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ORDINANCE is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ORDINANCE.

(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this ORDINANCE shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the ORDINANCE and that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of the ORDINANCE shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and effect.

**Section 4**. ALL ORDINANCES and parts of ORDINANCES in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

Section 5. Penalties in effect for violations of P	Part 1 of the Code of Ordinances, City of East Point, Georg
	INANCE shall be and are hereby made applicable to the
ORDINANCE and shall remain in full force and	effect.
Section 6 The offective data of this ODDINAN	ICE shall be the date of edention unlose otherwise energies
herein.	ICE shall be the date of adoption unless otherwise specific
Public Hearing Held:	: <u>July 17, 2023</u>
First Reading:	<u>Waived</u>
<b>APPROVED</b> this <u>17th</u> day of <u>July</u> 2023.	
	SPONSORED BY:
	beana Holiday Ingraham AF32062C45613E707519AE34173445EA contractworks.
	Deana Holiday Ingraham, Mayor
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	ATTEST:
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Antavius Weems, Interim City Attorney	Keshia McCullough, City Clerk
	Page 3 of 3



# EAST POINT G E O R G I A

# City of East Point Comprehensive Plan 2022-2023 Update

prepared by the

Atlanta Regional Commission

## Acknowledgements

#### **City of East Point**

Hon. Deana Holiday Ingraham - Mayor Sharon Shropshire - Council Ward A At-Large Lance Robertson - Council Ward A Karen Rene - Council Ward B At-Large Dr. Josette Bailey - Council Ward B T. Starr Cummings - Council Ward C At-Large Myron B. Cook - Council Ward C Joshua B. Butler, IV - Council Ward D At-Large Stephanie Gordon - Council Ward D

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This document was prepared by the Atlanta Regional Commission using funds from the State of Georgia.



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# **Executive Summary**

Local governments use planning to define and manage how they want to grow, develop, and achieve goals to benefit their people, neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions. Updating the Comprehensive Plan offers an opportunity for the community to look beyond the execution of day-today services and consider where it wants to be in the future - and what has to be done to get there.

This update to the City of East Point Comprehensive Plan, undertaken by the City and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), builds on previous Comprehensive Plans in laying out a vision, setting priorities, and charting a course for the future. As with most comprehensive plans, the document aims to inform land use, transportation and capital investment decisions. It also looks at economic development, housing, quality of life, natural resources, and other key issues critical to the City.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) requires that local Comprehensive Plans be updated every five years. It also maintains rules and regulations that must be followed during the planning process to ensure the preparation of a plan that represents the community's vision. This framework is intended to promote planning for strong, vibrant communities. As part of these requirements, East Point's plan includes the following elements:

- Community Goals
- Issues and Opportunities
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Transportation
- Land Use
- Report of Accomplishments
- Community Work Program

# Location

Located in Fulton County, Georgia, the City of East Point, at almost 15 square miles, is situated between the City of Atlanta just to the north, Hapeville to the southeast, and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and the City of College Park to the south.

The City is roughly bounded and in some cases bisected by I-85 to the east, Camp Creek Pkwy. on the south, I-285 to the west, and Langford Pkwy. (SR 154) to the north (Map 1.1).

This proximity to the busiest airport in the world, downtown Atlanta, major interstates and other assets, positions the City as a desirable place to visit, live, and work.

# History

East Point, named for its original location as the eastern terminus of the Atlanta and West Point railroads, was chartered on August 10, 1887. From 1820 to 1930, the City grew from a Native American territory with few people to a manufacturing city that housed more than 10,000 people.

Early history shows that East Point was prosperous due to its location on, and connection to, various transportation networks. From the railroad, to the horse and carriage, to the automobile, East Point has always been recognized for its location and accessibility. Even today, the commercial downtown area relies heavily on its link to the MARTA rail station located on Main Street.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, industry began to cluster along the east side of the Central of Georgia rail line, roughly bounded by what are now Norman Berry Drive, R.N. Martin Street and Holcomb Avenue. Factories included the White Hickory Wagon Works, Blount Carriage and Buggy Works, Couch Brothers Cotton Mills, Atlanta Utility Works, and Oak Knitting Mill.

During and after the Great Depression, East Point experienced struggles similar to other cities. Times were difficult, and little development activity took place. In the late 1940s, the City experienced a notable building boom. Many of those structures, along with earlier 19th and 20th century structures, remain today.

By the 1950s, the East Point was a thriving community of the Tri-Cities (East Point, Hapeville and College Park), rooted in industry but evolving as well. As the nearby airport grew and ultimately became Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, it produced a significant impact on East Point's development and economy, along with that of other nearby communities. Other major employers in the area contributed to East Point's maturation as well.

Like many cities in the 1970s, East Point pursued efforts to address urban disinvestment and adopted a redevelopment plan. In the 1990s, the City undertook a master planning process and other planning efforts. More recent strategies in the 2000s have been directed at supporting equity; health; urban agriculture; smart redevelopment; quality neighborhoods; business and economic development; and access to transit.

The Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance and the ATL Airport Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) have also had a positive impact on investment in East Point. The CIDs cover about 15 square miles around the airport and include portions of East Point, mainly in the southwest area of the city. The CIDs are empowered to fund beautification, public safety, and infrastructure projects focused on transportation and water. This increased investment in East Point is intended to attract and retain employers and residents.

In the last decade, East Point has seen new development pressures, similar to its nearby neighbors Atlanta, College Park and Hapeville. This is due in large part to the city's proximity to the airport, downtown Atlanta, major southside employment centers, hotels and convention/hospitality facilities, MARTA, and the interstate highway system. To address these pressures while preserving the city's character, this plan seeks a shared vision for East Point - as the City continues its substantial recent efforts to envision a strong, equitable, innovative future.

# **Equity Statement**

The below statement was crafted as part of important thought leadership and contributions from a range of community stakeholders and leaders. This work included the 2019 adoption of an Equity Resolution, the 2020-2021 development of an Equitable Growth & Inclusion Strategic Plan, and since 2021 a partnership with the Morehouse School of Medicine to advance health equity in East Point. This equity statement was workshopped with the city's Health Equity Community Advisory Board in August 2022 and recommended for inclusion in this plan by the City Council in January 2023.

"Equity is the fair and just inclusion into society in which all can participate, prosper and reach their full potential." (East Point Equitable Growth and Inclusion Strategic Plan, 2021). East Point is committed to equity, inclusion, social and environmental justice, and dismantling the structural and systemic racism that has negatively impacted our neighborhoods, environment, and health. Equitable policies and programs are needed to address past harms and to eliminate present and future harm to people of color, families, seniors, people with disabilities, people with mental health and substance use conditions, individuals identifying as LGBTQIA+, and other marginalized communities. Equity is achieved when life outcomes are not determined by skin color, education, ability, wealth, sexual orientation, or gender.

East Point will prioritize equity in terms of health and quality of life through policies that reinforce and promote access to healthy foods; safe and affordable housing; excellent education; resilient neighborhoods; and accessible, affordable, high-quality, comprehensive health care for its residents, employees, and visitors. Health and quality of life equity will be achieved when "every person has the opportunity to live the healthiest life possible." (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017).

Through local grassroots level advocacy work, engaged and responsive leadership, and collective commitment, East Point will continue to draw upon the strength, knowledge, and resilience of the community, acknowledging that equity is both the path and destination for the city. All of these efforts will support a strong local economy built on the strengths and assets of the community.

The Office of Equity, Inclusion and Empowerment (OEIE) will lead, coordinate, and report on the progress of efforts to embed equity throughout the city's policies, procedures, and practices. The diverse perspectives and experiences of East Point residents, employees, the business community, local government, and advocacy work by and for the community are what empowers us to shape the future of our city into one that provides just, equitable access to opportunities and resources needed to ensure all members of our community thrive.

# **Chapter 2**

# **Existing Conditions**











# **Demographic Trends**

Between 2000 and 2010, the population of East Point decreased by 15%, from a peak of roughly 39,600 residents to a 30-year low of approximately 33,700. The population has since risen by 14% to about 38,400, almost making up for losses in the first decade of the millenium (Figure 2.1). In comparison to similar cities in the metropolitan area, East Point's population has held relatively constant and is signifcantly larger than those of College Park, Forest Park and Union City (Figure 2.2) (Hapeville is not included as it is well under 10,000 in population). The median age of East Point's residents is 34.7, slightly younger than the median age in Fulton County as a whole (Figure 2.3).

#### Figure 2.2: Population Comparison



#### **POPULATION COMPARISON**

#### Figure 2.3: Age Distribution



#### Figure 2.1: Population Change



The population of East Point underwent relatively little change in racial composition between 2010 and 2019 (Figure 2.4). The share of black or African American residents rose by about 5% from 73% to 78% of the total population, while the white population remained constant at about 16%. Residents identifying as a race other than the categories shown below, decreased from 7% to 3% of the total population during that same time span. Individuals identifying as two or more races rose from 1% to 2% of the population. The Asian population remained the same at 1% of the total. Approximately 14% of residents of any race identified as Hispanic or Latino in 2010; that proportion decreased to 7% in 2019.

#### Figure 2.4: Racial Composition



Between 2010 and 2019, East Point's racial makeup experienced a few notable changes.

The proportion of black residents increased by about 5% while the white population remained relatively constant. The proportion of residents identifying some race other than those listed in the charts above decreased, from 7% to 3%.

14% of residents of any race identified as Latino in 2010, and this percentage decreased to 7% by 2019. Data Source: American Community Survey, 2010 and 2019

# **Housing Trends**

#### Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy

The Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy (MAHS) is an interactive digital toolkit designed to help inform challenges and solutions to the region's housing challenges. ARC launched the MAHS in 2019 to equip communities with detailed housing market information and targeted strategies to address housing needs.

The MAHS divides the region into ten submarkets based on similar housing characteristics. Roughly 74% of East Point is classified as Submarket 4: lower priced core neighborhoods vulnerable to increasing housing costs (Map 2.1). Another significant portion of the city (18%) is classified as Submarket 3: rapidly changing core neighborhoods experiencing the greatest increase in housing costs regionally. The remainder of the city is divided evenly between Submarkets 1 (higher priced core neighborhoods) and 7 (suburban neighborhoods with lower to moderate housing and the biggest increase in rentership). The median home sale price in East Point as of 2020 was \$173,000, a 255% increase from 2013. Note: This data does not reflect recent trends of significant increases in housing prices across most markets.

Suggested strategies for Submarkets 3 and 4 include preserving the supply of existing affordable housing, promoting housing stability for existing residents, and developing leadership and collaboration on affordability - both by building internal local government capacity and through cooperation across different sectors and organizations. More information can be found online at metroatlhousing.org.

# Map 2.1: Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy Submarkets

#### **East Point**

#### 74% SUBMARKET 4

Lower-priced core neighborhoods vulnerable to increasing housing costs

#### 18% SUBMARKET 3

Rapidly changing core neighborhoods experiencing the greatest increase in housing costs regionally

#### 4% SUBMARKET 1 Higher-priced core neighborhoods

#### 4% SUBMARKET 7

Suburban neighborhoods with lowerto-moderate-priced housing, biggest increase in renters



#### CITY SNAPSHOT

Median Home Sale Price (2020)	\$173,000
Change in Median Home Sale Price (2013-20)	+255%
Home Sale Price Per Sq Ft (2020)	\$119.00 sq ft
Percent Change in Home Sale Price Per Sq Ft (2013-20)	+181%
Median Building Area of Home Sales (2020)	1,349 sq ft
Data source: ARC analysis of Zi sale transactions, 2013 & 2020.	
further in the DATA EXPLORER	3

#### Potential tactics:

Data Source: metroatlhousing.org

Ê	Preserve Affordable Supply Ensure that housing units remain accessible to low- to moderate- income households.





	Fotential tactics.			
Jable units remain proderate-	PROVIDE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES	CREATE POLICY INCENTIVES	COORDINATE ACROSS AGENCIES AND AMONG GOVERNMENTS	ADDRESS BLIGHT
ng Stability y of families lay, access, of housing in rental,	STABILIZE EXISTING RESIDENTS	PROMOTE HOME BUYING	CREATE QUALITY RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES	PREVENT EVICTION
rental.				
ship & n education, collaboration es.	BUILD CAPACITY AND INTERNAL RESOURCES TO ADDRESS HOUSING	PROMOTE CREATIVE COLLABORATION	BE A LEADER IN HOUSING	

# **Housing Trends**

East Point gained roughly 1,000 housing units over the last decade, with most of that growth coming in the form of multifamily housing - particularly properies with 10 or more units. In fact, Census estimates suggest slight declines in other housing types between 2010 and 2019 (Figure 2.5).

Note: Due to sample sizes, the breakdown of housing units by structure type should be considered as a rough estimate.

As could be expected, there was a parallel shift toward a greater share of units being rented instead of owned over this same period; a slight decrease in the percentage of owned units; and a decrease in the proportion of vacant units. Compared to the region as a whole, East Point has a higher than average proportions of rental and vacant units and a lower than average proportion of owner occupied units (Figure 2.6).

#### **Figure 2.5: Housing Types**



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2010 and 2019

East Point gained roughly 1,000 housing units over the last decade, with most of that growth coming from multifamily housing.

In fact, Census Bureau estimates suggest a slight decline in stock among most other housing types between 2010 and 2019



#### **Figure 2.6: Housing Tenure**



#### **HOUSING TENURE**

As of 2019, the largest portion of renters were spending between \$1,000 and \$1,499 on housing costs each month, followed somewhat distantly by renters spending \$800-899 per month. While housing costs for homeowners more were evenly distributed, the greatest portion of homeowners spent in the \$1,000-\$1,499 range monthly. Notably, more than 45% of owners paid less than \$1,000 a month for housing (Figure 2.7).

In 2020, the median annual income for homeowner households \$61,288, compared to only \$36,450 for renter households. While just 16% of owners make over \$100,000 a year, only about 3% of renters are in that income range. At the other end of the spectrum, about 17% of owners make less than \$25,000 per year, while that proportion for renters is roughly 34% (Figure 2.8).

#### Figure 2.7: Monthly Housing Costs



Most renters spend between \$1,000 and \$1,499 on housing costs each month, while housing costs for homeowners are more evenly distributed, though the greatest portion of homeowners also spend in this range monthly.

Data Source: American Community Survey, 2019

#### Figure 2.8: Household Income by Tenure



# **Economic Trends**

East Point's median household income was \$43,453 in 2019. About a quarter of households make over \$100,000 annually. 13% of households make less than \$25,000 per year (Figure 2.9).

The city's largest industry is Accommodation and Food Services, comprising about a quarter of the city's jobs. Another quarter is made up of employment in the Waste Management and Remediation (Administration and Support) industry (Figure 2.10). The top two industries in terms of where Hapeville residents are employed are Transportation and Warehousing and Accommodation and Food Services (Figure 2.11).

#### Figure 2.10: Workplace Area Characteristics



#### Figure 2.9: Income Distribution



#### Figure 2.11: Resident Area Characteristics



#### **RESIDENT AREA CHARACTERISTICS**

# Map 2.2: Broadband Access

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Georgia Broadband Program tracks access to broadband for homes and businesses across the state. According to data from DCA and the Federal Communications Commission, nearly all locations in East Point had access to broadband provider service as of 2021 and are thus considered "served." The City is therefore well positioned to recruit households and businesses alike. City officials should consider pursuing Georgia Broadband Ready Community status as well.

Note: Statistics are based on a fixed, terrestrial broadband definition of 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up, and where the broadband service is available to more than 80% of locations in a census block. Census blocks that did not meet this definition are delineated as "unserved."

## **BROADBAND AVAILABILITY**



#### Description

This map focuses on unserved broadband statistics for Georgia counties. Click in the map or search by county to see county statistics. Census block level availability will appear once zoomed in.

County statistics are based on a fixed, terrestrial broadband definition of 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up, and where the broadband service is available to more than 80% of locations in a census block. Census blocks that did not meet this definition are delineated as 'Unserved'. The map depicts access to broadband, not subscription to broadband.

Broadband data is provided by the various Internet Service Providers of Georgia.

Location data are from commercially available sources.

# **Transportation Trends**

Just over 13,000 people commute from outside East Point into the city each day for work, while close to 14,000 East Point residents leave the city each day to work in other areas; only approximately 600 residents both live and work in the city (Figure 2.12). About three-quarters of East Point residents leaving home to work either in the city or beyond, use a car for their commute, with 65% driving alone and 10% carpooling (Figure 2.13). 17% use public transportation, and 5% work from home. The majority (55%) of Hapeville's residents have a commute time between 15-45 minutes (Figure 2.14).

#### Figure 2.13: Mode of Transportation

#### **MODE OF TRANSPORTATION**



75% of residents use a car to get to work each day. The vast majority of those drive alone, while about 10% carpool. 17% of residents use public transit, and 5% work from home (in 2019).

Note: This data does not reflect the influence of the pandemic on transportation patterns.

Data Source: American Community Survey 2019

#### Figure 2.12: Traffic Flows



#### Figure 2.14: Commute Time



#### Map 2.3: Where People Who Work in East Point Live

#### WHERE PEOPLE WORKING IN EAST POINT LIVE

People who work in East Point, but do not live there, commute from a range of locations across the metro area, with heavy concentrations coming from the City of Atlanta, southern Fulton County, central and southern DeKalb County, and northern Clayton County.

5-9 Jobs/Sq.Mile 10 - 24 Jobs/Sq.Mile 25 - 48 Jobs/Sq.Mile 49 - 83 Jobs/Sq.Mile 84 - 127 Jobs/Sq.Mile



#### Map 2.4: Where People Who Live in East Point Work

Many East Point residents are employed outside the city, spread across many different areas. Notable employment centers for East Point residents include College Park, Hapeville, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, central Atlanta, Buckhead, Cumberland, and Perimeter.

#### WHERE EAST POINT RESIDENTS WORK



Data Source: LEHD Origin Destination Employment Statistics, 2018

# **Health and Equity**

East Point has higher than average rates of diabetes, frequent mental distress, high blood pressure, and obesity. Compared to north Fulton County, East Point residents have shorter life expectancies by more than a decade (Figure 2.15). Poor health outcomes and health inequities are highly associated with social factors such as housing, access to healthy food, and environment/land use (Figures 2.16-2.17). Broadly speaking, 80-90% of health outcomes are linked not to medical care but rather to social determinants of health (Magnan S. (2017). Social Determinants of Health 101 for Health Care: Five Plus Five. NAM Perspectives. Discussion Paper, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC. <a href="https://doi.org/10.31478/201710c">https://doi.org/10.31478/201710c</a>).

#### Figure 2.15: Regional Disparities in Life

#### Expectancy



#### Figure 2.16: Regional Disparities in Economic Indicators

	East Point, GA	Fulton County, GA
Population	34,957	1,060,000
Poverty Rate	23%	14.40%
Median Household		
Income	\$43,453	\$80,013
Median Property Value	\$139,800	\$357,500
% Black (non-Hispanic)	77.50%	43.80%
% White (non-Hispanic)	11.80%	39.30%
% White (Hispanic)	4.49%	4.79%

#### Figure 2.17: Regional Disparities in Economic Indicators

Housing	Land use/ Environmental Justice	Healthy Food Access
92% of housing supply in revitalization zones	25% of COEP residential land is within 1,000 feet of at least one industrial parcel	91% live in a USDA- designated Low- Income Low-Access (LILA) census tract

East Point was selected as one of the first 29 "small" cities added to the City Health Dashboard or CHD (see <u>https://www.cityhealthdashboard.com</u>) in 2022. Data from the CHD compares more than 35 measures across more than 750 U.S. cities. Fig. 2.18 below shows a range of CHD data for the City of East Point. A complete East Point profile is accessible at <u>https://www.cityhealthdashboard.com/ga/east%20point/city-overview</u>.

Community input from this planning process anecdotally confirms the data in this section. Many of these issues result from past and present environmental injustice and inequities fueled by systemic racism. East Point is committed to advancing equity through this plan and resulting policies and projects, hence the centering of an equity statement in Chapter 1, Introduction. Additional information on equity is in Chapter 5, Issues and Opportunities.

#### Figure 2.18: City Health Dashboard Data on Health and Social Outcomes



# **Community Engagement**

Figure 3.1: Project Schedule

# **EAST POINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE - SCHEDULE**

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Chapter



# **Community Engagement Process**

Public engagement is a key part of any planning process, critical to understanding vision, goals, and needs. Insight from East Point community members and other stakeholders drove the development of this plan. Key engagement activities and outcomes are summarized here, and further details can be found in the appendix.

The outreach process included consultation with City staff and officials and a Steering Committee. It also featured a project website, an online survey, and an in-person public public open house. Having multiple means of data collection, along with the timing of activities, was intended to tie to the key milestones and inform the plan. An overview of the project schedule is in Figure 2.15 on the opposite page.

#### **Project Management Team**

The project management team included representatives from the City and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). This team met monthly to discuss progress and select materials and data to be presented during public outreach.

#### **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee was made up of representative members of the East Point community who provided guidance to the planning team, served as ambassadors of the plan, and helped engage the public. The group included members of the community at large, elected officials, and City staff. Committee members are listed in the Acknowledgments section at the beginning of this plan document. The committee met three times during the planning process:

- Steering Committee Meeting #1 was held virtually on March 23, 2022. The purpose was to familiarize the committee with the project and process and to introduce members to each other and the project team. Existing conditions data were shared to get committee members thinking about their city. The project team then facilitated an online polling session and discussion of the needs and opportunities in the existing plan relative to land use, economic development, natural and cultural resources, population and housing, and transportation.
- Steering Committee Meeting #2 was convened virtually on July 13, 2022. The meeting included interactive polling on the community goals from the existing plan, sorted in similar categories as the needs and opportunities discussed in meeting #1. The project team also went over initial results from the online survey - which had opened in mid-May in connection with each goal category.
- Steering Committee Meeting #3 was held virtually on September 14, 2022. The project team presented summarized findings across the different issue areas and obtained further refinement and feedback from the committee.
- Steering Committee Meeting #s 4-6: City staff facilitated three additional meetings to affirm plan goals on Jan. 18, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, 2023.

#### **Project Website**

A project website was established as the hub of information for this comprehensive plan update. The site provided information about the planning process, noted key milestones and dates, and housed the online community survey. All meetings and announcements were made available via <u>publicinput.</u> <u>com/EastPointPlanUpdate2022</u>.

#### **Online Community Survey**

Surveys are an important method of information gathering, generating data that is essential for developing an understanding of the community and its needs. A community survey was designed to gather input on a variety of topics.

The project website featured an online survey composed of 21 substantive questions and nine demographic questions. City staff and Steering Committee members led the charge of marketing the survey to the community in social media, on the City website, in City announcements, and through personal interactions.

The survey garnered 175 unique participants; 935 views; 3,611 responses to questions; and 436 comments. It also yielded 72 subscriptions, which aided in marketing for the subsequent Public Open House.

In terms of content, the survey solicited input on assets and challenges; quality of life; natural, historic and cultural resources; future development and land use; housing; transportation (including bicycle and pedstrian); parking; downtown issues; economic development; and city services. The survey was made available via the project website in mid-May 2022 and advertised on the City's website and social media. The QR code linked to the survey was also shared with the Steering Committee and on flyers at the Public Open House in August.

Results of the survey were used to supplement statistical data and input from the public open house and other avenues to represent the public's voice regarding the future development of East Point. A full summary of the online survey results can be found in the appendix.

#### Figure 3.2: Flyer Marketing Project Site/Survey

# CITY OF EAST POINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY

Communities guide growth and development through planning. We are now updating the City's long-range Comprehensive Plan.

Visit our website to learn more, take the survey, and help plan the future of East Point:

https://publicinput.com/EastPointPlanUpdate2022

You can also use the camera app on your phone to scan the QR code at right.





#### Figure 3.3: Project Website Landing Page



#### Figure 3.4: Project Website Engagement Page







COMPLETE Public Hearing 1 February 21, 2022

Public Engagement

Gathering input from the community is one of the cornerstones of the planning process. It is required for local comprehensive plans in Georgia, and it ensures that plans reflect the full armse of each community's needs and values. Engagement for East Point's 2022 plan update includes the following:

- · Survey found on the previous tab of this project website
- Public meeting/open house held at City Hall on August 31
- Consultation with a Steering Committee more information below

#### Steering Committee

Welcome

To comply with state standards, City officials have assembled a Steering Committee composed of community members, city staff, and elected officials. The role of the Committee is to serve as a sounding board for plan content and concepts; review draft materials; provide insights on public engagement; and act as ambassadors of the planning process to their friends and neighbors. Committee members include:

- Ben Shivers
- Brittany Byrom
  Camil Williams
- Carrie Ziegler
- Demetris Johnson
- Fitzgerald Smith
  Gloria Speed
- Gioria speed
   Jaynaia Griggs



#### Figure 3.5: Example of Survey Results

How would you characterize East Point's **pace of development** in recent years? For context, the City's population grew by 14% from 33,712 to 38,358 between 2010-2019. The City added about 1,000 new housing units during that span, an increase of roughly 8.5%.



Figure 3.6: Example of Survey Results

How would you rate East Point's housing needs?

	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Affordable Housing	45%	41%	14%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Senior Housing	49%	42%	8%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Density	38%	56%	7%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Mixed-Income Housing	69%	27%	4%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less

128 respondents

134 respondents

#### **Public Open House**

A public open house for this plan update was held on August 31, 2022 in the Council Chambers at East Point City Hall. The purpose of the event was to acquaint the public with the comprehensive planning process and to gather their input to inform the content of the plan.

Participants first reviewed baseline conditions information presented in the next section of this document, to get them thinking about their community and issues. They then reviewed and offered feedback on the Issues and Opportunities from the 2017 plan and documented their opinions on the City's current and future strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Attendees also reviewed information and gave input in the areas of future land use and development, housing, transportation, natural resources, and parks/ greenspace.

Lastly, particpants engaged in a Do-It-Yourself budgeting exercise in which they were given a limited number of "Planning Bucks" to deposit into containers representing city services and needs. The game features more containers (services/needs) than the amount of money given to each person, meaning they must make choices and prioritize services and needs.

Selected Open House images, feedback and budgeting results are shown on the following pages. Additional information is found in the appendix.

#### Figure 3.6: Public Open House



#### Figure 3.7: Public Open House



#### Figure 3.8: DIY Budgeting Exercise Results



#### Figure 3.10: Future Growth Preference Map



#### Figure 3.9: DIY Budgeting Exercise Results



#### Figure 3.11: Transportation Issues Map



#### **Key Points Identified in Engagement**

Distilling input from the online survey, Steering Committee engagement, and Public Open House, the following key discussion items were identified.

#### Land Use and Development

- Fully leverage MARTA rail and bus access
- Channel new growth to nodes and corridors
- More attention to redevelopment and infill in:
  - » Downtown
  - » Washington Road
  - » Willingham Drive
  - » Cleveland Avenue
- Scale, walkability, transit, streetscaping, stormwater management, public art
- Mix uses where appropriate vertical or horizontal
- Tie together Main St. program/manager, Economic Development, permitting
- Legacy industrial areas for are key for adaptive reuse and future redevelopment
- Warehouse/logistics/light industrial is only appropriate in business park area south of Camp Creek Parkway and west of I-285

• Maintain traditional urban and suburban residential neighborhoods largely as-is

#### Housing

- Need more diverse housing options
  - » Balanced mix of price points
  - » Multi-family near downtown rail transit and major corridors
  - » Townhomes downtown and downtown-adjacent
  - » Missing Middle (duplexes, triplexes, small apartment complexes) spreading out and filling in from there, focusing on main corridors
  - » Cottage court and tiny home (nomenclature is important) infill where appropriate
- Scale, walkability, transit, streetscaping, stormwater management
- Affordable and senior housing remain key issues
  - » Explore land banking/land trusts
- Leverage MARTA rail and bus access

#### **Transportation**

- Fully leverage MARTA rail and bus access
- Improve roadway conditions/maintenance in general

- Reduce dangerous vehicle speeds in general
- Improve key intersections
- Ensure bike/ped safety on key corridors
- Bike/ped infrastructure
  - » Gaps, maintenance, lack of sidewalks in residential neighborhoods, etc.
  - » Pursue trails and multi-use paths wherever possible
- Parking
  - » Plenty downtown but management, private vs. public, location, arrangement, walkability to destinations, and signage are the important details
  - » Perception that privately managed parking sites make enough money to stay as-is, which deters their sale and redevelopment

#### Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources

- Streams and wetlands and the natural areas surrounding them need attention
  - » Restoration
  - » Maintenance
  - » Access and enjoyment

- Need more parks and greenspaces of all kinds
  - » Include community gardens and other city agriculture plan recommendations
- Could better leverage historic and cultural resources
  - » Creates a clearer community identity and character/uniqueness
  - » Attracts new energy, activity, people, businesses, institutions

#### Health, Equity, Quality of Life, and Public Safety

- Integrate Health Equity into plan some overlap with other elements but needs own space in plan
- Leverage recent and current initiatives:
  - » Equity Resolution
  - » Equitable Growth and Inclusion Strategic Plan
  - » City Agriculture Plan
  - » I.G.N.I.T.E. Housing Committee
  - » Healthy Point Initiative
  - » Advancing Health Equity Project
- Policing Committee and public feedback on need for better crime reporting/transparency and improved public safety overall

# Chapter 4

# **Contributing Plans & Studies**



WILLINGHAM CORRIDOR STUDY

Public Meeting October 13, 2021







# **Contributing Plans & Studies**

The City of East Point's Comprehensive Plan works in conjunction with other plans to build on momentum, ensure consistency, and reduce redundancy. This is in line with the plan's purpose to serve as a high-level management or umbrella document that connects the community's different plans, efforts and initiatives. Since the adoption of the 2012 and 2017 Comprehensive Plans, East Point has conducted or participated in several such efforts that address many of the needs identified in this plan. These plans typically featured public input and concluded with recommendations and implementable projects. Below is a list of major plans and projects that have been completed or initiated in recent years and are important for the City going forward. Others are listed on the following pages as well.

#### Housing

- Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy (2019-present)
- Fulton County 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan (2020) and Annual Action Plan (2021)

#### Transportation/Land Use

- 2050 Southern Fulton County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) (2020)
- Fulton County Transit Master Plan (2018)
- AeroATL Greenway Plan (2018) and Greenway Model Mile Feasibility Study (2020)
- Willingham Corridor Study (2022)

#### **Economic Development**

- Metro Atlanta Regional Economic Competitiveness Strategy (2017) being updated in 2022
- Aerotropolis Atlanta Blueprint (2016) being updated in 2022 as "Blueprint 2.0"

#### **Natural Resources**

• Finding the Flint Initiative (2017-present)

#### Quality of Life, Health and Equity

- East Point/Morehouse School of Medicine "Advancing Health Equity" Project (2022)
- East Point Equitable Growth and Inclusion Strategic Plan (2021)
- East Point City Agriculture Plan (2021)

## Housing

#### **Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy**

The Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy (MAHS) is an interactive digital toolkit designed to help inform challenges and solutions to the region's housing challenges. ARC launched the MAHS in 2019 to equip communities with detailed housing market information and targeted strategies to address housing needs.

The MAHS divides the region into ten submarkets based on similar housing characteristics. Roughly 74% of East Point is classified as Submarket 4: lower priced core neighborhoods vulnerable to increasing housing costs (see Map 2.1 in Chapter 2 of this Comprehensive Plan). 18% is classified as Submarket 3: rapidly changing core neighborhoods experiencing the greatest increase in housing costs regionally. The rest of the city is divided evenly between Submarkets 1 (higher priced core neighborhoods) and 7 (suburban neighborhoods with lower to moderate housing and the biggest increase in rentership). The median home sale price in East Point as of 2020 was \$173,000, a 255% increase from 2013. This does not reflect recent trends of significant increases in housing prices across most markets.

Suggested strategies for Submarkets 3 and 4 include preserving the supply of existing affordable housing, promoting housing stability for existing residents, and developing leadership and collaboration on affordability - both by building internal local government capacity and through cooperation across different sectors and organizations. More information can be found online at <u>metroatlhousing.org</u>.



#### Fulton County Consolidated Plan (2020-2024)

Fulton County's 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan is a comprehensive planning document outlining a coordinated approach to housing. community development, and homeless needs using U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funds. It provides guidance on the investment of HUD dollars and outlines priorities for using the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds over the next five years. It covers the Fulton County entitlement jurisdiction, which includes unincorporated Fulton County and the cities of Alpharetta, Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Milton, Mountain Park, Palmetto, South Fulton, and Union City.

Every year, the County must produce an Annual Action Plan to detail specific activities to carry out the Five Year-Consolidated Plan's priorities and goals. The most recent Annual Action Plan was developed in 2021.

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan primarily identifies and addresses HUD's three priority goal areas: decent housing, a suitable living environment, and providing economic opportunity.

#### **Decent Housing**

The provision of decent housing assists both the homeless and persons at risk of becoming homeless in obtaining housing, retains the existing units in the housing stock; increases the availability of permanent housing in standard condition and at affordable costs to low- and moderate income families. Decent housing also increases the supply of supportive housing with services needed to enable persons with special needs to live independently and provides affordable housing to low-to- moderate income persons which are accessible to job opportunities.

#### Suitable Living Environment

The provision of a suitable living environment improves the safety and livability of neighborhoods, increases access to quality public and private facilities and services; reduces the isolation of income groups within a community or geographical area by offering housing opportunities for persons of lower income and revitalizes deteriorating or deteriorated neighborhoods; restores, enhances, and preserves natural and physical features of special value for historic, architectural or aesthetic reasons; and conserves energy resources.

#### **Provide Economic Opportunity**

The provision of expanded economic opportunities creates and retains jobs; establishes, stabilizes, and expands small businesses; provides jobs to low income persons; makes available mortgage financing for low income persons at reasonable rates using nondiscriminatory lending practices, provides access to capital and credit for development activities that promote the long-term economic and social viability of the community; and provides empowerment and self-sufficiency opportunities for low income persons to reduce generational poverty in federally-assisted public housing.

The County and its entitlement cities aim to achieve these goals using CDBG, HOME and ESG funds by addressing several locally specific goals established in the Five-Year Plan:

#### Decent Housing Goal #1 - Affordable Housing Construction and Preservation

- Support the development of rental housing affordable to low- and moderate-income households, including projects located near employment, transportation, and other community resources and for seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, or other special needs households, such as people who are formerly homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- As economically feasible, consider possible opportunities to extend the useful life of existing affordable rental housing by funding acquisition and/or rehabilitation activities

- Support development of for-sale housing units affordable to low- and moderate-income households, including homes located near employment, transportation, or other community resources.
- Increase the number of first-time homebuyers through down payment and closing cost assistance.
- Encourage agencies to develop affordable forsale housing that is accessible to people with disabilities.

#### Decent Housing Goal #2 - Down Payment Assistance

- Support development of for-sale housing units affordable to low- and moderate-income households, including homes located near employment, transportation, or other community resources.
- Increase the number of first-time homebuyers through down payment and closing cost assistance.
- Encourage agencies to develop affordable forsale housing that is accessible to people with disabilities.

#### Decent Housing Goal #3 - Homeowner Rehabilitation

• Preserve the existing affordable housing stock by assisting income-eligible homeowners with housing rehabilitation and repairs, with an emphasis on housing problems affecting health and safety.

#### Decent Housing Goal #4 - Rental Assistance

- Assist income-eligible renter households with tenant-based rental assistance.
- Collaborate with agencies in the Continuum of Care (CoC) and others to assist households at-risk of homelessness with short-term rental payments, utility assistance, rapid rehousing, or other assistance.
- Collaborate with agencies in the CoC and others to assist people who are homeless through provision of and access to emergency, transitional, and permanent housing to enable them to move to appropriate housing and achieve greater stability.

# Decent Housing Goal **#5** – Homelessness Housing and Prevention

- Assist income-eligible renter households with tenant-based rental assistance.
- Collaborate with agencies in the Continuum of Care (CoC) and others to assist households at-risk of homelessness with short-term rental payments, utility assistance, rapid rehousing, or other assistance.
- Collaborate with agencies in the CoC and others to assist people who are homeless through provision of and access to emergency, transitional, and permanent housing to enable them to move to appropriate housing and achieve greater stability.

# Suitable Living Environment Goal #1 - CDBG Public Services

• Fund eligible public services to serve low- and moderate-income residents, youth, seniors, people with disabilities, and other special needs populations.

#### Suitable Living Environment Goal #2 – ESG Homeless Supportive Services

 Collaborate with agencies in the CoC and others to provide coordinated supportive services and case management to people experiencing homelessness to support moves to appropriate housing and greater stability

# Suitable Living Environment Goal #3 – Fair Housing Education and Enforcement

- Provide assistance to eligible households which might include but is not limited to:
- Fair housing education services to help residents, community organizations, and housing providers understand fair housing rights and responsibilities.
- Provide fair housing complaint investigation services.
- Consumer education and awareness around predatory lending fraudulent mortgages, and other housing scams.

# Suitable Living Environment Goal #4 – Facility and Infrastructure Improvements

• Work with other County departments, cooperating cities within Fulton County, and nonprofit agencies.

• Fund infrastructure improvements and public facilities such as sidewalks, street lighting, pedestrian facilities, ADA improvements, and community centers in income-eligible areas.

Note: Refer to the Fulton County Consolidated Plan full report for Needs Assessment, Evaluation of past performance and information on the citizen participation process. Documents are available via HUD's search function at <u>fultoncountyga.gov/</u> <u>communitydevelopment</u>.


# **Transportation**

# 2050 Southern Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan (SFCTP)

Completed as an update to a previous 2013 plan, the 2050 Southern Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan (SFCTP) was approved by all participating municipalities in 2020. The plan was conducted to update local transportation plans that are made a part of the regional transportation planning process. The consulting firm Modern Mobility Partners (MMP) contracted with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) - the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization or MPO - on behalf of the cities of Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Palmetto, South Fulton, and Union City, along with a small portion of unincorporated Fulton County.

The primary goal of the SFCTP was to serve as a roadmap for implementing a shared transportation vision for the area communities. The plan resulted in policy and prioritized project recommendations across all modes for all eight municipalities and the southern Fulton region as a whole. The SFCTP focused on serving the travel needs of people and goods, including residents, commuters, workers, and visitors, to enhance the quality of life in southern Fulton County.

The recommendations in the SFCTP accounted for future land use patterns, including East Point's, and made financially constrained transportation recommendations to reflect anticipated future development. It outlined specific prioritized actions, policies, and projects categorized into short-term (1-5 years), mid-term (6-10 years) and long-term (11+ years). Elements of the SFCTP included stakeholder and public engagement; existing conditions and needs analysis; policy and project identification, evaluation, and prioritization; revenue forecasting and project cost estimates; and ultimately developing a financially feasible plan.

Plan documents are online at <u>southernfultonctp.org</u>.





# Fulton County Transit Master Plan

In 2016, voters in Fulton County, outside of the City of Atlanta, approved a 3/4-cent special purpose local option sales tax for transportation (T-SPLOST). Funding raised from T-SPLOST can be spent only on transportation improvements, such as roads, bridges, sidewalks, and bicycle paths. In February 2017, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and Mayors affirmed that a plan was needed to determine potential expansion of transit services in Fulton County. The Atlanta Regional Commission in collaboration with MARTA, Fulton County, and the 14 participating cities helped fund and manage this study.

The Fulton County Transit Master Plan includes a review of each city's community vision and economic development strategies, an analysis of existing transit services and needs, a market analysis, transit scenario development, and a financial model to determine the potential for expanded transit services within Fulton County. The Master Plan included an extensive public engagement process that reached more than 850 participants face-to-face at public meetings, special population meetings, stakeholder interviews, community events and more than 2,400 participants through online surveys.

More information is at <u>https://www.fultoncountyga.gov/inside-fulton-county/fulton-county-initiatives/</u><u>fulton-county-transit-plan</u>.



# PLANNING FOUNDATIONS



#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Sig piding priorights were identified through the planning process. These priorighes were developed based on each cityls community vision, existing planning documents, interviews with elected officials and stakeholders, and brain betweep controls from arous the county. Guidleg principles were prioritized through as accord acurd of placit meetings and an online saves, Tier 1 principles assets as the highest priority in both north and south from, while Tier 5 principles were been prioritized through as readward proposed transact controls and mode types based on their consistency and explicitable to that constants. These metricules uses and through the same that the full thread through the accommunity with the transact. These metricules uses and thread through the accommunity that community.



# AeroATL Greenway Plan

The AeroATL Greenway Plan was led by the Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance and the Aerotropolis Atlanta CIDs, now known as the ATL Airport CIDs. This project was funded by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) under a 2017 grant, with matching support from the Alliance, the s, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (H-JAIA), East Point, College Park, Hapeville, Forest Park, Fulton County, and Clayton County.

Completed in 2018, the AeroATL Greenway Plan provides a visionary framework for trail connectivity across the Aerotropolis region. The study area includes H-JAIA and the surrounding cities mentioned above, totaling approximately 48,000 acres.

This study integrates previous plans and initiatives and incorporates the current needs and opportunities identified by local representatives of the cities and counties listed above, key stakeholders, and the general public. The result is a true multi-modal network that will provide area residents, visitors, and workers with safe and enjoyable connectivity around the world's busiest airport.

The recommendations address community goals and opportunities including:

- Connect communities to area amenities and everyday services
- Connect to and loop around Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (H-JAIA)

- Enhance economic development opportunities in Aerotropolis downtowns and future development sites
- Create a system that is unique to south metro Atlanta.

Priority trail areas for the City of East Point were drawn from the East Point PATH Trail System Master Plan and include trails along Main Street, adjacent to the Wagon Works, and the Sumner Park trail that connects the Park to Tri-Cities High School. Map 4.1 at right shows the "Wheels and Spokes" concept underlying the Greenway Plan's regional concept.

More information is at <u>https://aas.com/project/</u> <u>study-aeroatl-greenway-lci/</u>.

# AeroATL Greenway Model Mile Study

In 2020, seven jurisdictions took the next step towards implementation of the Greenway Plan, winning a grant from ARC to develop plans and concepts for a "model mile" in each of their communities. Known as the AeroATL Greenway Model Mile Feasibility Study, the initiative organizes these local partners to engineer, fund, and build their model miles - the first of more to come that will ultimately connect these communities to each other.

The East Point Model Mile will provide a trail experience embedded into the redevelopment of the historic collection of buildings along the northsouth MARTA and CSX rail lines known as The East Point Warehouse District. It is rich with placemaking opportunities, mobility and transportation connectivity, and historic features.



The trail extends through downtown East Point and through private property, including the historic Buggyworks and Wagonworks buildings, connecting to Tri-Cities High School near the northern terminus of the segment and the newly completed East Point PATH Trail. The private property owner-developer of the East Point Exchange project intends to honor the historical significance of the existing structures and wants to integrate the property into the trail to create a regional mixed-use destination. The trail connects to the MARTA pedestrian bridge, and a future phase will provide a pedestrian bridge over Norman Berry Drive. See Map 4.2 below.

The goals the East Point community deemed important are:

- Mobility: expand mobility options to access downtown East Point, Tri-Cities High School, residential areas, and employment centers.
- Revitalization: catalyze redevelopment of the Warehouse District.
- Safety: create safe connections to downtown East Point, the existing PATH Trails, and Tri-Cities High School.

More information is at <u>aeroatl.org/special-projects/aeroatl-greenway-model-mile</u>.



# East Point PATH Trail System Master Plan & Implementation Strategy

Completed in 2016, the East Point PATH identified 24.5 miles of bicycle and pedestrian trail connectivity opportunities in East Point. The plan aims to connect the downtown business district, city parks, neighborhoods, major visitor areas and employment centers identified in the initial planning meetings. For implementation, the proposed PATH trail system is divided into 16 trail segments. The plan includes of summary of each segment including:

- Overview of existing conditions
- Segment opportunities & benefits
- Potential obstacles
- Estimated costs

The plan also identifies a range of trail facility types most suited to the master plan network, including greenways, side paths, cycle tracks, and neighborhood greenways.

More information is at <u>https://www.eastpointcity.org/</u> <u>wp-content/uploads/2022/01/PATH-Trails-Master-Plan.</u> <u>pdf</u>.





# Figure 4.1: Typical Greenway Trail Section



## Map 4.3: East Point PATH Trail System



# Where Main Street Meets Metro: Designing a Walkable East Point

Completed in 2015 by the Walkable and Livable Communities Institute (WALC) in partnership with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness Partnerships to Improve Community Health program (PICH), this 2-day workshop and report studied walkability/pedestrian challenges in East Point.

The process concluded with a set of Community Goals and Priorities as well as a set of recommendations organized into short-term, mid-term and long-term for both downtown and Washington Road.

Broad goals included making walking safer and more inviting; redesigning and improving the street network; celebrating the city's identity; and slowing downtown vehicular traffic.

#### Georgia Tech Sidewalk and Ramp Condition Data Collection and Analysis/Project Prioritization Memo

Completed by the Georgia Institute of Technology School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, this two-part process served as a follow-up and more detailed study following the WALC process.

The report outlined federal transportation network (including sidewalks) accessibility design standards and guidelines.



These federal standards defined the parameters used to determine the compliance and conditions of sidewalks and curb ramps. Next, the report quantified and mapped sidewalk and curb ramp conditions.

Finally, the Project Prioritization Memo identified and prioritized sidewalk segments within East Point by physical condition.

# Fulton County TSPLOST II

In November 2016, Fulton County residents voted to approve a 0.75-cent sales tax for transportation purposes (TSPLOST I). The funding was to be generated from within Fulton County, outside of the City of Atlanta - which includes the City of East Point. The sales tax began on April 1, 2017 and ran for five years.

In 2021, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and mayors of the County's cities north and south of Atlanta signed a Memorandum of Understanding requesting a referendum to extend the tax for another five years. The tax (TSPLOST II) was passed by voters in the November 2, 2021 General Election referendum to remain at 7.75 percent. Taxes were levied beginning April 1, 2022 and will conclude on March 31, 2027.

Funding from this initiative can be spent only on transportation improvements, such as roads, bridges, sidewalks, bicycle paths, and other transportation-related purposes included in the legislation. A Citizen's Oversight Council, comprised of an appointed individual from each city, is tasked with overseeing the program's progress and implementation. Each city is responsible for managing and implementing its approved project list.

Tier-1 Projects from the 2016 TSPLOST 1 list continued to be funded with revenue collected through April 2022. Tier 2 and 3 Projects from the 2016 TSPLOST I list were rolled over to Tier 1 of the new 2021 TSPLOST II.

Extensive information is at <u>fultoncountyga.gov/projects</u>, including an interactive project map that allows the user to filter projects by city. East Point-specific information is also online at <u>eastpointcity.org/public-works</u>. East Point's TSPLOST II projects are detailed in Figures 4.2 through 4.3.



# Figure 4.2: Fulton County TSPLOST II Interactive Project Map - Screenshot

# Figure 4.3: Fulton County TSPLOST II Project List - East Point

#### City of East Point TSPLOST 2022-2027 Project Description

Project	Project Number	Tier	Cost	Description	
Tier 1 City Wide Resurfacing and Maintenance	EP-2000	1	\$12,316,142	Paving and Roadway Maintenance throughout the City. Improvements will also include quick response projects, drainage improvements such as curb and gutter, and sidewalk and ADA enhancements.	
EP Path #2 - TBD	EP-2001	1	\$5,000,000	Construction of the next phase of the East Point PATH trail and multi- use side path network. Location to be determined.	
City Wide Sidewalk Program (TBD)	EP-2002	1	\$1,000,000	Improve pedestrian access and safety by identifying sidewalk gaps an ADA facility deficiencies throughout the City of East Point.	
City Wide Traffic Calming (TBD)	EP-2003	1	\$500,000	Identified Traffic Calming projects throughout the City of East Point. Projects TBD.	
Sylvan Road Sidewalks (Cleveland Avenue to City Limits - Hapeville)	EP-2004	1	\$150,000	This project proposes constructing 5 foot sidewalk and ADA ramps on the west side of Sylvan Rd from the existing sidewalks to the City Limits (Hapeville)	
Sylvan Road Sidewalks (Winburn Drive to City Limits -Atlanta)	EP-2005	1	\$150,000	This project proposes constructing 5 foot sidewalk and ADA ramps on the west side of Sylvan Road from the existing sidewalks to the City Limits (Atlanta)	
N Commerce Drive Sidewalks (Shelby Lane to Redwine Road)	EP-2006	1	\$100,000	This project proposes construction sidewalk along the east side of N Commerce Drive from Shelby Lane to Redwine Road. This will improve pedestrian access to/from Camp Creek Marketplace.	
Dodson Drive Sidewalks (Earl Godfrey Circle to Hogan Road)	EP-2007	1	\$150,000	This project proposes construction 5 foot sidewalks and ADA ramps along Dodson Road from Earl Godfrey Circle to Hogan Road.	
Dodson Drive Connector Sidewalks (Washington Road to Stone Road)	EP-2008	1	\$150,000	This project proposes construction of 5 foot sidewalk along Dodson Drive Connector from Stone Road to Washington Road.	
Headland Terrace Bike and Pedestrian Improvements	EP-2009	1	\$150,000	This project proposes a road diet of Headland Terrace which will include foot sidewalks, striped parking, as well as traffic calming measures. The project will provide a pedestrian connection between Paul D West Middle School and Hamilton E. Holmes Elementary School	
City Wide ITS Enhancements - Traffic Signal and pedestrian signal upgrades	EP-2010	1	\$500,000	Upgrades to existing traffic and pedestrian signals to improve operation and safety.	
Welcome All Rd Intersection Improvements (GDOT PI 0016063) - Local Match Funds	EP-2011	1	\$1,800,000	The project goals are to: a) improve traffic operations at SR 6/Camp Creek Parkway and Welcome All Road Connector, b) improve traffic operations at Welcome All Road and Welcome All Road Connector and c) reduce the number of crashes.	

# Figure 4.3 cont'd: Fulton County TSPLOST II Project List - East Point

Janice Dr Intersection Improvements	EP-2012	1	\$1,800,000	The goal of this project is to design improve the safety and operation at this location. Concepts for improvement will consider:
Washington Rd @ Ben Hill Rd/W Taylor Ave Intersection Improvement	EP-2013	1	\$2,000,000	This location. Concepts for improvement will consider: This project proposes making improvements to the a six-, legged intersection of Washington Road at Ben Hill Rd/ West Taylor Ave. at Cloverhurst Dr. / Larose St. Several planned improvements which are being analyzed
N Commerce Dr @Centre Pkwy Intersection Improvement	EP-2014	1	\$350,000	This project proposes reconfiguring the existing intersection configuration by adding a dedicated left turn lane onto the southern leg of Centre Pkwy at Camp Creek Pkwy.
Project Management	EP-2015	1	\$892,500	Funding for to support programing, administration, and delivery of TSPLOST Projects
Tier 2 City Wide Resurfacing and Maintenance	EP-2016	2	\$3,266,231	Paving and Roadway Maintenance throughout the City. Improvements will also include quick response projects, drainage improvements such as curb and gutter, and sidewalk and ADA enhancements.
North Desert Drive Extension - Phase II	EP-2017	2	\$1,500,000	Phase 2 of the Ale Circle and North Desert Drive Extension project
Tier 3 City Wide Resurfacing	EP-2018	3	\$1,564,044	Paving and Roadway Maintenance throughout the City. Improvements will also include quick response projects, drainage improvements such as curb and gutter, and sidewalk and ADA enhancements.
N Desert Dr Sidewalk ( Camp Creek Pkwy to Redwine Rd)	EP-2019	3	\$674,415	This project proposes constructing 6 foot sidewalk along one side of N Desert Dr from Camp Creek Pkwy to Redwine Rd
EP PATH - Phase 3 (TBD)	EP-2020	3	\$2,000,000	Construction of the third phase of the East Point PATH trail and multi- use side path network. Location to be determined.
Tier 3 City Wide Operations and Safety Projects	EP-2021	3	\$527,772	City Wide - Operations and Safety Projects, Quick Response, Bridge Repair, Roadway Maintenance and Paving, sidewalk Repair, ADA Improvements - TBD

Total

\$36,541,104

# Willingham Corridor Study

This study was conducted over the course of 2020-2022 and funded by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), in partnership with the Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance and the Cities of East Point, Hapeville and College Park.

The study sought to reimagine the Willingham Drive and Central Avenue corridors (between Main Street and Sylvan Road in the City of East Point) from the city-edge land uses present today toward a new concept that complements and connects the surrounding neighborhoods while incorporating green infrastructure to help restore the headwaters of the Flint River. The study also envisions the corridor, now built for cars, as one designed for public transit users, hotel guests and others to walk along comfortably and safely.

The project organizes the corridor into character areas and emphasizes focus areas such as the Headwaters District (western end of corridor at Main Street), Neighborhood Node (west side of I-85), International Node (east side of I-85), and Challenge Area (Sylvan Road). The plan then identifiescatalytic sites, trail and greenspace recommendations, transportation projects and concepts, and implementation actions.



# Main Street Corridor TOD Plan - Supplemental LCI (2011)

The East Point Main Street Corridor Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Plan, sponsored by the City of East Point through a Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) grant administered by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), addresses both land use and transportation issues to support a multi-modal environment around two existing MARTA stations along US 29/Main Street.

The plan identifies catalyst redevelopment sites located near the East Point MARTA station in downtown (blocks roughly defined by West Cleveland Avenue, Main Street, Washington Street, and Church Street) and the Lakewood/Fort McPherson MARTA station to improve the viability and competitive advantage of East Point.

The recommendations of the TOD Plan are categorized within the seven focus areas identified along the corridor. Each focus area presents opportunities for growth, housing choices, connectivity and urban design enhancements at the appropriate scale to complement existing and adjacent uses and support market findings.

To create a successful mixed-income TOD in the Main Street Corridor, the plan concept established a framework of compact mixed use, mixed income development with a series of public spaces connected by trails and improved access to the MARTA rail stations for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders.

#### **Key Recommendations**

Catalyst Projects

• Commons Area redevelopment with central plaza

- Government complex expansion with structured parking facility, amphitheater, trails and plaza spaces
- East Point MARTA Station redevelopment with hotel/convention center, structured parking and plaza space



# New City Hall/Government Center Construction

The new Government Center project is located at 2757 East Point Street, next to the old City Hall Building. Phase I began construction in late 2016 and has concluded since the previous plan. It includes an approximately 32,298-square foot City Hall facility with entryways fronting East Point Street and Church Street. An outdoor "green" amphitheater/multipurpose area is in front of the building along East Point Street. Phase II will be the renovation of the adjacent historic City Auditorium to restore its use as a multipurpose event/meeting facility.

# Downtown Streetscape/Multimodal Improvements

This project was first recommended in the City's 2011 LCI study to help address pedestrian/bike safety, enhance downtown's gateway features, provide traffic calming and improve multimodal connectivity between adjacent neighborhoods, downtown and the east Point MARTA Station. Improvements along East Point Street will reduce lanes from 3 to 2, add southbound bike lanes, sidewalks, and parallel parking. Sidewalks and on-street parking will be added where possible to West Cleveland Avenue and Dorsey Avenue. White Way (one block from Main Street to East Point Street) will be converted from two-way operation to one-way operation to allow for wider sidewalks to accommodate outdoor seating and on-street parking on both sides of the road. Travel lanes on Main Street will be reduced from 4 lanes to 3 and a northbound buffered bike lane will be added. In front of the MARTA station, on-street parking where possible and pedestrian crossing enhancements will be added where possible. Lighting, landscaping, ADA upgrades, and crosswalks will also be provided.







# **Economic Development**

# East Point Strategic Economic Development Plan (SEDP)

An economic development guide for the City of East Point covering 2012-2022 addressed the following issues:

- Stimulating growth in the commercial, industrial and residential sectors;
- Encouraging expansion of East Point's economy and job base;
- Retail displacement and vacancy trends;
- Strategies to improve and reduce vacancies in the retail, industrial and office sectors;
- Identification and development of incentive strategies to create a more viable and competitive business environment; and
- Make East Point a better place to live and work for its citizens and businesses.



# Figure 4.5 SEDP SWOT Analysis

S.W.O.T.	Emerging Themes	Possible Responses
Strengths Weaknesses	Location     Strong Region     Strong Industrial Base     Strong Neighborhoods      Pop. & job loss     Governmental conflicts     Business climate     City lacks business friendly     reputation	<ul> <li>Capitalize on base of existing industries</li> <li>Neighborhoods offer important &amp; affordable quality of life amenity</li> <li>Maximize workforce incentives</li> <li>Package and promote redevelopment sites</li> <li>Maximize efforts to stabilize housing stock and neighborhoods</li> <li>"Turn the page" and redefine city's image:</li> <li>Business-friendly environment</li> <li>Getting to "Yes" vs. "No"</li> </ul>
Opportunities	<ul> <li>Airport</li> <li>Grow existing industries</li> <li>Capture more of regional pop. and job growth</li> </ul>	Target downtown revitalization     Improve key corridors & gateways     Support Camp Creek-area assets     Capitalize on MARTA TOD initiatives     Re-invigorate hospitality marketing & amenities     Concentrate on retention and expansion of exist- ing businesses     Aviation-related career academy
Threats	Declining revenue & re- sources     Outside competition     Political strife     Continued job loss	Market East Point's affordable neighborhoods     Partnership with South Fulton Medical Ctr.     Protect Camp Creek asset by addressing congestion issues     Increase local capture of retail spending

#### **Target Industry Analysis**

Based on the SEDP's baseline conditions and Competitive Assessment, target industries were recommended for the East Point's economic development recruitment efforts because of their potential to locate or expand within the City.

- Accommodations & Food Services
  - » Already a strong sector in East Point.
  - » Additional potential due to proximity to HJAIA.
- Commercial Aviation & Services
  - » Competitive advantage from proximity to HJAIA.
  - » Strong growth potential.
- Logistics & Distribution
  - » Already a strong presence in East Point.
  - » Benefits from East Point's proximity to air freight, rail service, and strong regional access to interstate network.
- Food Processing
  - » Already a strong sector in East Point's economy.
  - » Benefits from East Point's proximity to air freight, rail, and interstates.
- Healthcare Social Services
  - » Already a strong sector with Atlanta Medical Center South and Camp Creek medical offices.

- » Favorable demographics.
- » A total of \$27 million spent on health care by East Point residents in 2011—strong demand in surrounding 5-mile market area.
- » Opportunity to capture large share of south metro medical services market.
- Manufacturing & Heavy Industry
  - » Existing strong presence of heavy industry in city—one of few communities that allows these uses.
  - » Access to the rail network which is of increasing importance.
  - » Industrial areas largely buffered from conflicting uses.
  - » While manufacturing has undergone a period of long decline nationwide; demand still exists within certain manufacturing industries such as auto related, metal fabrication, food processing, and specialized products.
- Retail Trade
  - » Already a strong sector in East Point with a major region-serving concentration at Camp Creek Market Place.
  - » Opportunities to increase retention of retail expenditures by citizens of East Point by expanding retail choices in the City.

## Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

The CEDS is a regional document updated every fiveyears, as required by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the designated Economic Development District (EDD) for the 11-county Metro Region, which includes Fulton County and East Point.

The CEDS update is the region's opportunity to adapt to changing global, national, and local economic conditions and resident needs. It is a post-recession, post-COVID-19 Action Plan to reset the economy. The pandemic added focus to the vulnerability of our population, compounded by a lens on inequity, racism, and poverty, where communities and businesses of color were more impacted by the loss of jobs, income, medical care, and access to education.

This CEDS acknowledges the successes of past economic achievements and focuses on practical solutions and optional experimental strategies from business leaders, universities, educational entities, NGOs (non-governmental organizations), and economic development professionals with an expanded base of nontraditional stakeholders (nonprofits, faith-based organizations, etc.). Over the next five years ARC and its partners, including East Point, will work together to implement this action-oriented plan.

See <u>atlantaregional.org/community-development/</u> regional-economic-competitiveness-strategy.

# Aerotropolis Atlanta Blueprint

Since the mid 20th century, the Atlanta airport has been a major driver of growth – but until the 2010s, no collaborative effort existed to bring together the area's many stakeholders under a joint vision and strategy to truly leverage the airport's role as an economic powerhouse. The Aerotropolis Atlanta Blueprint (Blueprint) embodies a public-private vision for advancing the Aerotropolis partnership priorities and key initiatives to move that vision forward in the 1-5 year time frame.

The Blueprint was finalized in 2016 and documents the vision for and joint strategies of the Aerotropolis Atlanta Alliance (AAA), as well as tangible outcomes that are expected. The Blueprint also identifies existing and proposed initiatives individual partners should pursue to help further the coalition's efforts. Ultimately, the Blueprint's success will be not only the result of the formal actions of the Alliance as an entity, but also the regular activities that its many partners undertake to further joint goals.

A major update to the Blueprint, known as Blueprint 2.0, is nearing completion as 2022 comes to a close. East Point remains a critical stakeholder within this process. More information is at <u>aeroatl.org/</u> <u>wp-content/uploads/2017/06/aerotropolis-atlanta-</u> <u>blueprint-final.pdf</u>.

# **Natural Resources**

# Finding the Flint

This project was created by American Rivers, The Conservation Fund, and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). All three organizations have been leading initiatives to restore rivers and revitalize communities in metro Atlanta. Finding the Flint builds off years of research, planning, coalition building, and big ideas for the Flint River's headwaters in the Atlanta Airport area.

In recent years, collaborative Aerotropolis plans have taken off, attracting new development and redevelopment in the Atlanta airport area. Finding the Flint asks: What if the Flint River were integrated into that vision? What if this area was defined not only by the airport, but also by its natural assets?

Finding the Flint illustrates what that could look like on several sites where the river and Aerotropolis come together. The goal is to create new experiences at the water's edge, reveal these hidden headwaters, and to connect communities as we restore the river. The headwaters can provide the centerpiece for public spaces and connected trails. Meanwhile, green infrastructure can address flooding while protecting Atlanta's most valuable infrastructure investment, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. This initiative is a big vision for a healthier river and better quality of life in the airport area, comprised of project concepts that meaningfully incorporate the urban headwaters into the plans and identity of the Aerotropolis. The Finding the Flint Working Group has defined a vision for the area in these terms:

- Improve the health of the river
- Provide solutions to the airport
- Connect people to the river
- Benefit the community equitably
- Add beauty and soul to any development
- Inspire the next generation of river advocates

As the location of the Flint River's headwaters, the City of East Point remains a key partner in the Finding the Flint initiative and the resulting efforts to leverage this important resource as a multifaceted asset for the airport area.

More information is at <u>findingtheflint.org</u>.











# **Quality of Life, Health & Equity**

East Point is entering a period of unprecedented growth. Equitable policies and programs are needed to address past harms and to eliminate present and future harm to people of color, minority communities, seniors, people with disabilities, and the LGBTQ+ community.

The City of East Point is therefore committed to equity, inclusion, and social justice, and to dismantling the structural and systemic inequities that have negatively impacted the community - hence the centering of an equity statement in Ch. 1 of this plan document.

In 2019, East Point adopted an Equity Resolution, which laid the foundation for the integration of equity into all City programs, policies, and plans. Since then, East Point has adopted an Equitable Growth & Inclusion Strategic Plan and was the first City in Metro Atlanta to adopt a City Agriculture Plan.

In 2021, East Point partnered with the Morehouse School of Medicine to advance health equity in East Point through collaborative policy efforts. See <u>https://</u> <u>www.msm.edu/RSSFeedArticles/2022/February/</u> <u>msmeastpointpartnership.php</u>.

# Equitable Growth & Inclusion Strategic Plan

Over the course of 2020-2021, the Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE) worked with the City on this plan as a roadmap for the further exploration of equity solutions in East Point.

See <u>https://sites.google.com/view/epegisp/readtheplan/</u> <u>appendices/full-plan</u> for more information.

Below is a summary of key takeaways from the completed research, engagement and analysis.

#### **Engaged Community**

Residents are a source of expertise, insight and skills for any city to activate for the benefit of the greater community. Engaged residents also serve a vital role in holding all leaders accountable to representing the best interests of the community a critical requirement for equity. East Point should formalize ways for residents to engage and contribute, representing both their neighborhoods/Wards and topics of interest to them. This investment in civic leadership development will pay long-term dividends in the equitable growth of the City.

#### Just Industry

East Point should engage with residents to articulate a clear vision for the City as a home for equitable, sustainable industrial jobs; integrate this new vision into zoning code; and establish regulatory/finance mechanisms such as Impact Fees to ensure that communities are protected and directly benefit from a healthy industrial base. The City should solicit community input immediately around establishing a Community Benefits Ordinance in order to leverage this tool for short-term impact with development projects in the pipeline.

#### **Inclusive Housing**

Unlike other cities struggling with affordable housing, East Point is at the beginning of its revitalization journey and still has affordable supply while development pressures are just beginning to mount. Now is the time to align the City's policies, programs and investments to preserve existing units and facilitate the development of new affordable housing by developing new sources of revenue and land; applying housing equity principles to the Unified Development Code design; strengthening eviction prevention efforts and supporting legacy homeowners; and developing essential partnerships to prepare East Point to utilize critical affordable housing tools.

#### Equitable Economic Development

Informed by the needs, wishes, and desires of local residents, equitable economic development is inclusive of the needs of all families. By developing equity-driven policies to promote community economic development as well as leveraging its own resources to advance equity outcomes, East Point can create an economic environment where every resident is regarded as an asset and no one as a liability.

Equitable economic activity positively impacts legacy residents, low-wealth residents and historically disinvested communities of color. This can be accomlished by establishing inclusive infrastructure to govern municipal procurement and economic development; amplifying community voice through Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) and other regenerative investment strategies; and promoting oversight and accountability in the inclusion of local businesses and workforce in private development. As the first city in the southeast to commission an Equitable Growth & Inclusion Strategic Plan, East Point will be seen as a national leader in creating equitable places, people and shared prosperity. Equitable place-based strategies will strengthen the City's ability to develop land in ways that promote the economic security and well-being of all of East Point's residents.

Equitable people-based strategies focus on removing barriers to opportunity for East Point residents, preparing them to thrive. Equitable prosperity-based strategies seek to ensure that East Point residents and businesses have the tools to actively participate in economic opportunities. PSE hopes that the last year of engagement and the recommendations included in this report help position East Point to pursue equity across place, people and prosperity.

# East Point City Agriculture Plan

This process was initiated in the fall of 2018 by Food Well Alliance and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), in partnership with the City of East Point. The community engagement-led effort resulted in Metro Atlanta's first City Agriculture Plan. East Point's City Council adopted the plan unanimously in April 2021.

## What is a City Agriculture Plan?

A City Agriculture Plan provides a roadmap for a community to achieve its vision of creating a vibrant and sustainable community food system over the next 5-10 years. A community food system refers to the place-based relationships between producers, processors, distributors, consumers, and postconsumer waste disposal of food. In contrast to conventional food systems, a community food system makes these ties visible and integrates them to enhance the environmental, economic, social, and nutritional health of a community and its residents.

Urban agriculture is an integral part to the community food system and goes beyond food production in urban areas. Urban agriculture is the production, distribution, and marketing of food, pollinator plants and flowers, and related products within metropolitan areas and their edges. Within cities, urban agriculture

# EAST POINT CITY AGRICULTURE PLAN VISION STATEMENT

The East Point City Agriculture Plan aims to cultivate community pride and relationships amongst East Point residents, businesses, and local government. This plan builds, promotes, and sustains East Point's commitment towards socially equitable policies, programs, and sustainable land use practices that benefit the community food system, ensuring economic and ecological opportunity now and for future generations. encompasses community and school gardens, green roofs and backyard gardens, and other methods that maximize food production in limited space. At metropolitan edges, urban agriculture encompasses smaller-scale farms that supply farmers markets, community supported agriculture (CSA) programs, and family farms. Overall, urban agriculture is a complex activity that affects food security, community development, environmental sustainability, and land use.

The City Agriculture Plan is developed using a consensus-based and community-led process that brings together urban growers, residents, and City officials to identify community priorities. It also identifies strategies to achieve community food system priorities as well as prioritize implementation over time. A City Agriculture Plan is not meant to be a stand-alone document but is meant to identify ways in which local food can be integrated into City plans and programs.

#### How can East Point benefit from one?

Like the rest of the Atlanta region, East Point is experiencing incredible development pressure. East Point's proximity to downtown Atlanta and the world's busiest airport draws both new businesses and new residents, driving up population growth and property values. Residential land values have risen by roughly 80% from 2012-2018. Its population has grown by over 3,000 residents since 2010 and is expected to grow even more in the decades ahead. While this growth brings economic opportunity, East Point residents want to ensure that supporting and growing urban agriculture and its community food system is a both a current and future priority. This plan establishes urban agriculture as a community development strategy for East Point.

Strengthening and growing East Point's community food system has emerged as a priority for East Point residents. This plan communicates this priority and unites the existing local food community and the City government in a shared vision for urban agriculture. With the guidance of East Point urban growers and local food advocates, this plan charts a course on how the City government and its urban agriculture community can preserve and grow its existing urban agriculture network and community food system to address a range of current and future issues as well as cultivate community pride.

The full City Agriculture Plan is accessible at <u>eastpointcity.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/City-</u> <u>Agriculture-Plan.pdf</u>.



The following are Issues and Opportunities that East Point intends to work on in the future. Issues are viewed as challenges to address, while Opportunities as assets to build on. They are tied to the goals covered in the next chapter and are addressed with programs, initiatives and projects in the Community Work Program. This section is based on the Issues and Opportunities identified in the 2012 and 2017 comprehensive plans, with updates informed by community input received during the 2022 comprehensive plan development process.

# Land Use & Economic Development

## lssues

- Downtown has momentum but still underperforms as a true destination; it has not fully leveraged MARTA access and lacks unifying design for a cohesive look and feel to create sense of place.
- Reinvestment is needed on some industrial sites, "greyfields" and other commercial areas throughout the city.
- Aesthetic improvements are needed in strategic areas of the city.
- There are unknown environmental hazards that complicate the redevelopment of certain sites.
- More efforts are needed to promote small business growth in East Point.

# **Opportunities**

- Downtown has progressed toward allowing mixed uses, protecting historic character, and capitalizing on MARTA access - and the area appears poised to continue this trend.
- The MARTA station should be used, as planned, to promote public transit to ease traffic congestion and provide a basis for transit-oriented development (TOD).
- There are opportunities to link the city to nearby redevelopment catalysts such as Six West in College Park, Ft. McPherson in Atlanta, and the airport area as a whole.
- East Point has proximity to the airport and possesses modern business park and light industrial areas, with infrastructure in place, to attract the business sector in a way that few cities can.
- Willingham Drive, Washington Road, Cleveland Avenue and other key corridors are poised as redevelopment and infill development areas and enhanced multimodal thoroughfares.
- There are opportunities to support Camp Creek Marketplace's continued success without drawing business away from other parts of East Point.
- East Point can continue to capitalize on the Aerotropolis Blueprint, including its next iteration as Blueprint 2.0.

# **Natural & Cultural Resources**

#### lssues

- East Point does not participate in land conservation programs at the national, state or local level.
- More public art is needed, especially downtown.
- The results of past environmental injustice continue to persist and negatively impact East Point's natural and cultural resources, such as soil, water tree canopy, and parks and recreation facilities.

## **Opportunities**

- The City Agriculture Plan is a transformative policy document that must be harnessed for implementation.
- Finding the Flint represents an important path toward environmental restoration and creating an asset for the city.
- The Parks and Recreation Master Plan remains an important guide to facilitate investment in public amenities such as parks, trails, public open space, and greenspace.
- Several large forested tracts of land in the city, which are currently unprotected, could become community amenities if preserved.
- Residential and commercial historic assets can benefit from a Historic District, which would protect and enhance the valuable cultural resource that exists in the downtown neighborhoods.

• Stream buffers and undeveloped flood zones, which are required in the city's development regulations,

# **Population & Housing**

#### lssues

- There is a need for higher-end apartments. Young professionals need a place to live, and the city lacks the apartments to attract them.
- There are many non-conforming multifamily residential units in some of the city's single-family residential districts.

#### **Opportunities**

- Attract young families and first-time homeowners to the city in order to build a stable, diversified community.
- Robust and diverse housing choices throughout the community offer East Point residents and those outside of the community excellent housing choices for all ages and income levels.

# **Transportation**

## lssues

- Streets in the community are not designed according to their use in order to assure appropriate travel speeds, particularly through downtown, making pedestrian activity unsafe and uninviting.
- The City of East Point does not have enough sidewalks, and those that exist are in need of maintenance improvements.

- Major corridors through East Point suffer from congestion, including Camp Creek Parkway/SR 6, Main Street/US 29, Washington Road and Cleveland Avenue, due to heavy peak period traffic volumes.
- There is a conflict of scale between the city's competitive advantage in hosting industrial uses with freight truck activity and its goal of compact, pedestrian-friendly infill development.
- There are minimal dedicated bike paths, multi-use trails or bike lanes in the city or connections to multi-use trails outside the city.
- Provide a public parking deck downtown, as identified in the LCI, to remedy existing and future parking issues, providing adequate parking for retail customers.

# **Opportunities**

- Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) around the MARTA Station with streetscape enhancements will attract citizens and visitors to downtown.
- The pedestrian bridge across the MARTA and rail tracks could be enhanced as an asset and a pedestrian connection between downtown and neighborhoods to the east.
- The AeroATL Greenway Plan and Model Mile project represent critical guides for implementing bicycle and pedestrian connectivity improvements throughout East Point.
- The City can leverage the Willingham Corridor Study to create a truly multimodal transportation network for this area while contributing to equitable redevelopment and environmental stewardship.

# Health, Equity, and Quality of Life

#### lssues

- The results of past environmental injustice continue to persist and negatiely impact East Point's natural resources and people.
- Disparities and negative outcomes persist in East Point in the areas of wellbeing, life expectancy, healthy food access, and healthcare access.

## Opportunities

- Health Equity has been centered within City policy in recent years and requires continued focus and commitment going forward.
- Recent and current initiatives are in a position to be leveraged and supported in the coming years:
  - » Equitable Growth and Inclusion Strategic Plan
  - » City Agriculture Plan
  - » I.G.N.I.T.E. Housing Committee
  - » Healthy Point Initiative
  - » Advancing Health Equity Project
  - » East Point Green Buildings Policy
  - » Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Green Communities Program
- There is a citywide recognition of the need for better, more community-focused crime prevention, crime reporting, and improved public safety overall.

# Chapter 6

# **Community Goals**



This chapter documents broad goals the City desires to achieve in the coming years to address the challenges and accentuate the strengths listed in Chapter 5: Issues and Opportunities. The foundation of this section is in the 2012 and 2017 Comprehensive Plans. The 2022 update process translated Steering Committee and community input into adjustments and refinements of the goals, which are organized in the following areas:

- Economic Development
- Natural & Cultural Resources
- Housing
- Community Facilities & Services
- Land Use & Design
- Transportation
- Intergovernmental Coordination
- Population

# • Health Equity

Specific implementation actions are tied to each goal and are listed in the Community Work Program.

Understanding that equity in actions and opportunity are remiss without health and wellbeing, East Point will elevate health equity considerations into new policies and goals to improve upon the social determinants of health that shape our livelihood and community: economic stability, educational access and quality, social and community context, health care access and quality, and neighborhood and built environment.

# **Economic Development**

## Goal 1

Provide a healthy economic base under a unified economic development plan. Specifically measured by: increases to property values, rise in per capita and household incomes, increases in jobs and labor force participation rates, rehabilitation and infill development in residential neighborhoods, and expansion to the town center and regional centers.

#### Goal 2

Pursue opportunities and resources and develop policies that remediate brownfields and prevent the development of uses that knowingly contaminate East Point's soil and groundwater.

The following goals are from the East Point's **Strategic Economic Development Plan** (SEDP) completed with staff and community input in 2012.

#### Goal 3

**Expand the Business Sector**: Create new jobs for East Point residents, increase local spending by businesses, diversify East Point's employment base, increase the City's tax base, and reverse population decline.

#### Goal 4

#### **Target Downtown Development and Retail**

**Expansion**: Retain a larger share of retail spending and encourage more local spending of outside retail dollars.

#### Goal 5

## Improve East Point's Business Environment: Create a

business climate that is supportive to existing businesses and attractive for business recruitment.

#### Goal 6

**Enhance East Point's Quality of Life** - Increase East Point's attractiveness to retain existing businesses and residents and to attract new residents and businesses. Increase property values and tax base.

#### Policies

ED1	Support programs for retention, expansion and creation of businesses that enhance the city's economic wellbeing with a focus on small business, with special support for East Point
ED2	Encourage economic development, with an emphasis on rede- velopment.
ED3	Accommodate new development while enhancing existing local assets.
ED4	Promote public-private partnerships to enhance activity centers and corridors.
EE5	Encourage the development of downtown East Point as a vibrant cen- ter for culture, government, dining, residential, and retail diversity.
ED6	Establish a culture amongst city staff and citizens that supports entre- preneurial enterprise and small business.
ED7	Target reinvestment in declining neighborhoods and corridors to fur- ther encourage private sector redevelopment and accommodate future growth.
ED8	Promote and enhance the local economy by increasing the number of visitors, growing retail businesses, improving local shopping options for citizens, and expanding small business.

# Natural & Cultural Resources

#### Goal 1

Increase cultural and natural assets, measured by the creation of historic residential districts near downtown, protection of historic structures, and expansion of parks and recreation facilities by means of implementation of the parks and recreation master plan.

#### Goal 2

Use and require sustainable and environmentally friendly infrastructure building materials that have the longest lifespan and highest durability per industry standards.

NCR-1	Preserve existing park and greenspace and incorporate the connection, maintenance and enhancement of greenspace into all new development.
NCR-2	Look for opportunities to create new parks, trails and greenspace within and near neighborhoods, civic institutions and commercial areas.
NCR-3	Ensure adequate supplies of quality water through pro- tection of ground and surface water sources.
NCR-4	Encourage more compact urban development and preservation of open space.
NCR-5	Continue to protect and expand the tree canopy.
NCR-5 NCR-6	Continue to protect and expand the tree canopy. Encourage new development in suitable locations in order to protect environmentally sensitive lands or val- uable historic, archeological or cultural resources.
	Encourage new development in suitable locations in order to protect environmentally sensitive lands or val-

NCR-9	Preserve and protect existing historic residential and commercial structures adding to the social and cultural fabric of the city.
NCR-10	Reduce the impact of development on the natural to- pography and existing vegetation through limiting land disturbance activities and clear cutting.
NCR-11	Protect local and regional water resources by applying the strategies set forth in the Metropolitan North Geor- gia Water Planning District plans.

# Housing

#### Goal

Policies

Preserve the city's existing housing stock while allowing new housing that provides a variety of residential types and densities, using architecture that integrates new styles with existing structures, in safe and orderly neighborhoods, available to all income levels. Measures of success will include implementing historic district(s) near downtown, reducing vacancy rates in the city, and providing affordable options to residents across the life cycle.

H-1	Development shall provide for a variety of residential types, densities and incomes.
H-2	Neighborhoods will be communities where people have easy access to schools, parks, residences and businesses through walkways, bike paths, roads and public trans- portation.
H-3	Neighborhoods shall be strongly linked to the neighbor- hood public school concept.
H-4	Provide opportunities for senior housing, special needs and retirement housing.

H-5	Ensure that infill housing is compatible with existing neighborhoods.
H-6	Avoid the aggregation or clustering of low income housing.
H-7	Work to create affordable housing opportunities.
H-8	Encourage home ownership in neighborhoods and work with neighborhood associations for assistance where the majority of homes are for rent.
H-9	Strictly enforce building and development codes in or- der to encourage the stabilization of housing.
H-10	Promote mixed income development and encourage an affordable component in new developments.
H-11	Promote and prioritize the rehabilitation and redevelop- ment of existing housing stock and infill of new devel- opment in established neighborhoods in order to revi- talize established neighborhoods, utilize existing infra- structure and promote sustainable urbanism.
H-13	Eliminate substandard or dilapidated housing in the community.
H-14	Promote rehabilitation rather than demolition of hous- ing near downtown.
H-15	Address the non-conforming residential uses in a holis- tic manner.

# **Community Facilities & Services**

#### Goal

Provide community services and facilities in an equitable manner both socially and geographically, sensitive to all citizens' needs, in an effcient, timely and cost effective manner.

#### Policies

CF-1	Adopt best practices in government for efficient, timely, and cost effective service delivery.
CF-2	Maximize the use of existing facilities and services.
CF-3	Invest in parks and open space to provide quality of life for community members and to encourage private in- vestment in urban centers.
CF-4	Protect investments in existing infrastructure by en- couraging infill, redevelopment, and compact develop- ment.
CF-5	Ensure that new development does not negatively im- pact roads and that all capital improvements or other strategies needed to accommodate the impacts of de- velopment are made or provided for concurrent with new development.
CF-6	Make efficient use of existing infrastructure as well as future investments and expenditures for capital improvements and long- term operation and maintenance costs.

# Land Use & Design

#### Goal

Enhance the city's unique character, urban design, and sense of place through the coordination of land development and redevelopment with transportation improvements. Success will be measured by creating a walkable, livable, 24/7 town center that serves its citizens and visitors by providing an eclectic mix of historic structures amidst new mixed use structures offering residents and others a true downtown full of life and vitality. Redeveloped neighborhood centers will cater to residential needs. The city will also implement the Cleveland Avenue Corridor Master plan and Transit Oriented Development plan. Lastly, gateways will be developed at major entry points with a unified signage plan signaling arrival into and departure from the city. The city will protect gateway areas with appropriate zoning policies and tools to create inviting and distinct corridors that are welcoming and provide a foundation for thriving neighborhoods.

	LU-1	Promote investment and reinvestment directed towards redevelopment of developed areas prior to expansion into "green fields".
	LU-2	Promote development that is sensitive to the land and gives consideration to adjoining, existing and planned development as well as the overall community.
	LU-3	Promote efficient use of land by promoting well- designed, more pedestrian-friendly development pat- terns with a mix of uses and an efficient, creative use of land.

LU-4	Recreation and greenspace will become an integral facet of the community's land use.
LU-5	Guide or direct patterns of land development with land development regulations.
LU-6	Support urban and suburban development where it can be adequately served by public facilities.
LU-7	Encourage innovative land use planning techniques to be used in building higher density and mixed use developments as well as infill developments.
LU-8	Commit to redeveloping and enhancing existing com- mercial and industrial areas.
LU-9	Encourage developments that provide a mix of shop- ping, housing and jobs.

LU-10	Promote increases in densities in areas that meet community design standards, environmental constraints, and available infrastructure capacities.
LU-11	Encourage the use of landscaping, lighting, signage, underground utilities, and building design to add value.
LU-12	Make greenspace a major component in neighbor- hoods, along streets and parking lots, and within com- mercial and industrial developments.
LU-13	Establish gateway markers and improved corridor aes- thetics to create a "sense of place" for the community.
LU-14	Civic buildings will be located, designed and made ac- cessible to public transportation in a manner that en- hances the community.
LU-15	Neighborhood Center nodes should contain sites of var- ious sizes to accommodate a variety of businesses.
LU-16	Employ innovative planning concepts to achieve desira- ble and well-designed neighborhoods, protect the envi- ronment, preserve meaningful open space, improve traffic flow, and enhance the quality of life.
LU-17	The city will minimize the existence of non-conforming uses through appropriate rezoning.

#### Main Street Corridor TOD Plan Supplemental LCI - 2011 Utilize land served by MARTA rail transit parking lot for LCI-1 higher density, mixed-use development. Preserve existing single-family neighborhoods, such as Frog Hollow and Colonial Hills, and protect them from LCI-2 inappropriately scaled commercial and multi-family encroachment. Encourage a wide variety of housing types within the LCI-3 study area, including senior housing and workforce living options. Require housing affordable to a broad range of incomes within redevelopment projects to accommodate and encourage a diverse, mixed-income community; specific LCI-4 attention should be placed on housing for low- to moderate- income households, and should focus on marketrate and subsidized rental products; assist in securing affordable housing grants and associated partnerships. Encourage mixed use development along Main Street between Washington Road and W. Ware Street, as iden-LCI -5 tified on the Plan, to provide a variety of retail and office services to meet daily needs. Encourage varying types of open space and/or community gathering spaces within all new development and LCI-6 redevelopment, to facilitate an active public realm and provide needed places for socializing and programming. Examine parking requirements for all uses. Excessive parking requirements increase the cost of development, harm the environment, and use valuable land. Minimum requirements for off street parking should be eliminated LCI –7 in the downtown area, and reduced elsewhere in the study area, to promote compact redevelopment/infill, to reduce development costs, and to encourage the use of alternative modes of travel.

Land Use & Housing Policies:

# **Transportation**

#### Goal

Create a transportation system that provides a multitude of mobility options including transit, roads and walkways. With successful implementation, downtown will be linked to Camp Creek, neighborhoods will be linked to commercial centers, and Main Street will connect Fort McPherson at the north through downtown to a new entertainment and warehouse district along Willingham Drive to the regional hotel center along Virginia Avenue. These connections will offer vehicular, pedestrian and cycling options all within a multimodal corridor enhanced by unified streetscapes.

T-1	Improve connectivity between road networks, public transit, and pedestrian/bike paths.
T-2	Enhance existing neighborhoods by investing in facilities that will connect them to civic and commercial centers and corridors.
T-3	Enhance the pedestrian environment by guiding invest- ments in sidewalks, bike paths, and multi-use trails in centers and along corridors that have existing or planned transit service.

T-4	Encourage transportation corridors that support multi- ple functions, including pedestrian movements, park- ing, alternate modes of transportation and vehicular circulation.
T-5	Transportation and greenway corridors will be support- ed by the community standards of aesthetics, urban design and environmental stewardship.
T-6	Ensure that vehicular traffic will not harm the residential nature of neighborhoods.
T-7	Encourage high or urban density to be located in areas that are conducive to walking and biking and are served by transit.
T-8	Improve access for disabled persons to public facilities, commercial districts, parks, schools, etc.
T-9	Promptly address roadway safety issues, and maintain and improve roadway safety features such as regulatory signs and roadway striping.
T-10	Coordinate with adjacent jurisdictions on bicycle and pedestrian facility planning to maximize connectivity and efficiency.

## **Intergovernmental Coordination**

#### Goal

Spur successful coordination both within the jurisdiction and outside jurisdictions as well. This coordination will be the result of effective communication and collaboration resulting in benefits to East Point. Some measures of success will include: Enhanced coordination with Fulton County Board of Education, Aerotropolis Alliance, ATL Airport CIDs, Tri-Cities area cities, and the Fort McPherson Implementing Local Redevelopment Authority or MILRA (also known as the Fort Mac LRA), as well as involvement with regional agencies such as the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC).

IC-1	Establish coordination mechanisms with adjacent local governments to provide for exchange of in- formation, particularly within the Tri-Cities area.
IC-2	Maintain intergovernmental and service agree- ments with partner governments in good faith with timely correspondence to address changing condi- tions.
IC-3	Ensure coordination between East Point and the Fulton County Board of Education.
IC-4	Share services and information with other public entities within the jurisdiction.
IC-5	Promote the concept of neighborhood schools in future development and regarding the use of schools that are currently located near or in close proximity to existing neighborhoods.

IC-7	Support the educational function of parks and recreational services, public libraries, museums and other cultural amenities.
IC-8	Coordinate with the City of Atlanta and Fort McPherson Redevelopment Authority to identify poten- tial impacts of the base redevelopment and maximize redevelopment opportunities affecting both adjacent
IC-9	Work with ARC staff to ensure implementation of the Atlanta Regional Commission's Regions Plan
IC-10	Help protect the region's watersheds and water supply by applying the strategies set forth in the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Watershed Management Plan, Wastewater Management Plan, and
IC-11	Participate in the Aerotropolis Alliance and Atlanta Aer- otropolis CID's efforts to encourage and improve coor- dination on land development, planning, aesthetic and transportation improvements, and economic develop- ment around Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International
IC-12	Work with MARTA, GRTA, and ARC to support existing and future transit service in and around the city.

# Population

#### Goal

Accommodate population growth and provide educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities to all residents in a safe and aesthetically pleasing environment. Measures of success will include: increased coordination and communication with the Board of Education guaranteeing a quality education at all school age levels, which in turn will attract and retain families to the community, enhancing the stability of neighborhoods; and the provision of amenities that constitute a lifelong community and quality of life.

P-3	Housing, land use, transportation and economic devel- opment policies will aim to create conditions that allow mixed-income housing opportunities, access to job training facilities, and community supported service pro- vision for those in need.
P-3	Housing, land use, transportation and economic devel- opment policies will aim to create conditions that allow mixed-income housing opportunities, access to job training facilities, and community supported service pro- vision for those in need.
P-4	Continue to offer opportunities to the aging population by allowing them to age in place through the promotion and support of programs such as Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) and the Atlanta Region- al Commission's Lifelong Communities program.

P-5	Encourage the development of services to accommo- date increased ethnic and racial diversity in East Point.
P-6	Recruit educational and workforce training opportuni- ties for residents of East Point.
P-7	Population stabilization and growth will be encouraged through policies focused on attracting and retaining young families, enhancing services, and fostering the economic viability of East Point.
P-9	Continue to adopt policies and programs to provide a safe environment for both residents and visitors.

# Health Equity

#### Goal

Prioritize and embed health equity - achieved when every community member has the opportunity to live the healthiest life possible in the City's planning, programs, policies, and decision-making. This will address the social drivers of health that shape people's livelihood and community economic stability, education access and quality, social and community context, health care access and quality, and neighborhood and built environment.

#### Policies

The East Point Equitable Growth & Inclusion Strategic Plan and the City Agriculture Plan were developed using community- and equity-centered approaches. Both plans recommended the adoption of policies, programs, and practices that would advance equity. Adoption of the following policies would address existing health inequities in East Point:

- HE-1 **Impact Fees** provide a revenue source to support capital improvements. Under Georgia law, local governments may impose fees on developers to help finance the expansion of infrastructure systems through an impact fee system.
- HE-2 **Community Benefit Ordinances** are used as tools to prevent harmful development and planning decisions, by setting certain provisions concerning how developers must ensure that the community "benefits" from a project.
- HE-3 **Inclusionary Zoning Ordinances** aim to improve housing opportunities for working individuals and families by ensuring affordable housing options are included in zoning applications.
- HE-4 **Urban Agriculture Ordinances** are intended to encourage urban agriculture activities and remove barriers to urban agriculture in existing zoning code.
# Land Use

### Future Development Map

The Future Development Map (FDM) is a graphic representation of the future development that the city desires to achieve. The map identifies character areas, which are the neighborhoods and regions with unique development patterns that the city uses to guide future development. This section describes the vision, intent, and principles for each character area.

Zoning, development regulations, and infrastructure investment will need to evolve to accommodate character area goals and principles. Decision-makers will also use the character area descriptions as a policy guide for future rezoning decisions.

Character areas provide descriptions regarding these planning elements:

- Desired infrastructure, economic objectives, and building types
- Building form, massing, and style
- Desired use or mix of uses
- Goals to achieve the desired development types

The FDM with character area narratives allows development decisions to consider the broader context. Specifically, each character area contains distinct principles related to design and elements like transportation and economics. This replaces the old tool of a parcel-based Future Land Use (FLU) map, which typically only narrowly defined a desired use.



# **Character Area Goals**

# **Suburban Residential**

### Vision/Intent

By 2036, the Suburban Residential character area continues to foster stable, established suburban neighborhoods, building on the existing mix of housing types. These neighborhoods are predominately single-family, with some accessory dwelling units like granny flats and garage apartments. Existing multi-family along urban collector roads and at intersections will redevelop with a mix of housing types serving varying income levels built with high quality materials and with a focus on scale and design to blend with the surrounding suburban residential feel. There will also be some institutional uses like churches and schools located throughout this area. It will be characterized by homes on medium-sized lots, a curvilinear and well-connected street network, and many mature trees. This character area is primarily contained between Washington Road, Langford Parkway, Delowe Drive, and I-285. The city will carefully manage transitions of use between these major corridors and the adjacent neighborhoods through design controls.

The City envisions providing more opportunities for non-motorized transportation throughout the area, especially with regard to connecting recreation, commercial, and institutional facilities to the residential neighborhoods.

Sidewalks will be present on major roads and improved streetscape facilities, such as lighting and bicycle lanes, will enhance travel experiences for all users.

- New development or redevelopment demonstrates attention to existing adjacent neighborhoods and seeks compatibility with surrounding lot sizes.
- Improve existing pedestrian facilities and develop sidewalks and crosswalks, on major roads, where connectivity is lacking to create connected network of sidewalks and pedestrian routes and bike lanes.
- Develop plans to improve streetscape along major roads.
- Explore gateway opportunity on Headland Drive at west entry to city.
- Promote transportation alternatives and create means of access to support all modes of travel as redevelopment occurs.
- Preserve greenspace, increase and improve parks.
- Implement a trail network to include more pedestrian and cycling access, connecting to amenities and the Atlanta BeltLine.



# Suburban Residential continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- New development will be compatible with adjacent existing character with similar densities and lot sizes
- Infill transitions or neighborhood retail are at the appropriate scale and minimize impacts to existing surrounding neighborhoods with buffers, open space, and landscaping
- Sidewalks adjacent to schools and on Headland Drive, Ben Hill Road, and Washington Road
- Improved connectivity, particularly to downtown with bicycle/pedestrian path
- Traditional single-family homes with quality building materials and design
- Redevelopment of existing multi-family with quality design and materials with no more than 4 units per structure
- New development will incorporate open space and preserve existing trees
- Sustainable building and site design practices will be promoted for all new construction
- Typical zoning districts: AG-1, R1, RL

- Residential (4 dwelling units per acre)
  - Single-family residential
  - Infill residential
- Accessory dwelling units (granny flats, garage apartments)
- Institutional (e.g. schools, churches)
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Height: 1-3 stories





# **Traditional Urban Neighborhood**

### **Vision/Intent**

Located close to downtown, this predominantly residential neighborhood will continue to thrive and serve as a source of pride for the city. These neighborhoods possess a distinct community identity through architectural style and lot and street design. Homes are located on somewhat smaller but regular lots in a traditional urban neighborhood fashion, with streets generally laid out on a grid system. There is a diversity of housing types and styles represented in this neighborhood, from early twentieth-century bungalows and cottages to multi-family, triplex, and duplex units. Homes will maintain their original historic features, and historic properties will be identified and protected in a historic district. A well-established tree canopy, pocket parks, and a walkable or bikeable environment also define Traditional Urban Neighborhoods.

- Implement Historic District with historic preservation requirements and/ or design guidelines.
- Prevent encroachment of incompatible non-residential uses.

- Reinforce the stability of these neighborhoods by encouraging more homeownership.
- Maintain strong neighborhood identity and neighborhood associations.
- Support the preservation and development of senior housing units, particularly affordable housing units.
- Ensure that new development or redevelopment demonstrates attention to existing adjacent neighborhoods and seeks compatibility with surrounding lot sizes.
- Revise the zoning code to permit the current non-conforming multifamily uses to remain when redevelopment occurs.
- Improve existing pedestrian facilities and develop sidewalks and crosswalks where connectivity is lacking to create connected network of sidewalks, pedestrian routes, and bike lanes, and promote the use of these transportation alternatives.
- Review parking regulations and restrictions so that on-street parking does not impede traffic flow.
- Develop plans to improve streetscape along major roads.
- Explore feasibility of trolley/shuttle loop along major roads to connect to downtown and other adjacent commercial/retail areas.
- Preserve greenspace, increase and improve parks.



# Traditional Urban Neighborhood continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Protect historic nature of single-family homes
- Primarily single-family residential in a traditional urban setting, with small- to medium-sized blocks and a gridded street network
- Accessory dwelling units
- Signature streets within each neighborhood association with special streetscaping and signage (e.g. Montrose)
- Sidewalks fronting all properties
- Design guidelines oblige context-sensitive infill, with quality building materials and design
- Redevelopment of existing multi-family with quality design and materials with no more than 4 units per structure
- Typical zoning districts: R1, RL, R1A, RT, R2, and R3

- Residential (4-8 dwelling units per acre)
- Single-family residential
- Limited multi-family (duplex, triplex, and quadriplex) at crossroads and where existing
- Accessory dwelling units
- Institutional (e.g. schools, churches)
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Buildings are closer to one another and closer to the street than in Suburban Residential area
- Height: 1-3 stories





# **Growing Residential**

### Vision/Intent

Growing Residential neighborhoods are located near the East Point city limits; they are the newest homes in the city, with many areas developed over the past 10 years. Master planned developments provide mixed residential housing types, including single-family attached, single-family detached, and multi-family. Future planning will encourage the development of neighborhood-serving retail and community amenities in these locations. Vacant land will be appropriately developed with master planned communities or infill development that provides a mix of housing options and neighborhood retail. The city also envisions improved connections between these neighborhoods and downtown East Point, via roadway and streetscape upgrades on Washington Road and increased non-motorized transportation options, such as multi-use trails and bike lanes.

- Build strong neighborhood identity and neighborhood associations, connecting these residents to the established populations near downtown East Point.
- Research and implement the Atlanta Regional Commission Lifelong Communities program and policies to allow older adults to age in place.
- Provide adequate pedestrian facilities, such as sidewalks and crosswalks, to create connected network of sidewalks, pedestrian routes, and bike lanes, and promote the use of these transportation alternatives.
- Aggregate development and locate within walking distance of neighborhood centers.
- Create plenty of trails and outdoor recreation activities
- Support the development of neighborhood commercial/retail to make sure that these new neighborhoods are adequately served with East Point businesses.
- Develop streetscape at a scale based on road type as roads are constructed.
- Provide greenspace with neighborhood parks and larger community parks.



# Growing Residential continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Variety of residential development types: mixed-residential use development, moderate-density housing
- Walkable, human scaled neighborhoods with a variety of housing options centered near neighborhood centers with plenty of parks and open space.
- Improved connections and access to downtown
- Encourage inter-parcel connectivity and access between planned developments with no cul-de-sacs
- Neighborhood centered elementary and middle schools
- Higher density development near public spaces
- Typical zoning districts: R1, R1A, RL, RT, R2, R3, R4, CUP, MIX, AG-1

- Residential (6-10 dwelling units per acre)
  - Single-family residential, detached or attached
  - Multi-family: duplex, triplex, quadriplex, or higher densities
- Accessory dwelling units
- Neighborhood Centers with quality mixed-use development including commercial, recreation, and housing, with flexibility to change over time
- Institutional uses, especially parks or children's activities (potentially a recreation or athletic center near the soccer complex)
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Height: 1-4 stories





# **Redevelopment Neighborhood**

### Vision/Intent

While these neighborhoods have traditional urban neighborhood attributes, such as a grid street network and smaller housing lots, they are currently in need of investment. Future planning in this area will improve housing conditions and reduce the number of vacant homes and lots. These neighborhoods will include an assortment
of housing types, such as single-family, two- family, and multi-family. The development patterns in this neighborhood will resemble the Traditional Urban Neighborhoods, with a street grid network, a tree canopy, pocket parks, and a walkable environment. Historic properties will be protected, but high-quality infill and rehabilitation of structures will be encouraged so these neighborhoods are gradually rebuilt.
Future development will revitalize Redevelopment Neighborhoods by preserving their strengths, including their access to downtown and commercial nodes, and renewing financial investment and neighborhood pride.

- Increase public and private funds to help construct, acquire, and rehabilitate housing.
- Reinforce the stability of these neighborhoods by encouraging more homeownership.
- Promote diversity of housing types.

- Build strong neighborhood identity; work with established neighborhood associations to restore civic pride.
- Aggressively remove slum and blight, demolishing vacant properties with no historical value when appropriate.
- Research and implement the Atlanta Regional Commission Lifelong Communities program and policies to allow older adults to age in place.
- Support the preservation and development of senior housing units, particularly affordable housing units.
- Ensure that new development or redevelopment demonstrates attention to existing adjacent neighborhoods and seeks compatibility with surrounding lot sizes.
- Revise the zoning code to permit existing non-conforming multifamily uses to remain when redevelopment occurs with design guidelines.
- Improve existing pedestrian facilities and develop sidewalks and crosswalks where connectivity is lacking to create connected network of sidewalks, pedestrian routes, and bike lanes, and promote the use of these transportation alternatives.
- Review parking regulations and restrictions so that on-street parking does not impede traffic flow.
- Develop plans to improve streetscape along major roads.
- Explore feasibility of trolley/shuttle loop along major roads to connect to downtown and other adjacent commercial/retail areas.
- Preserve and enhance greenspace; increase and improve parks.



# Redevelopment Neighborhood continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Protect historic nature of single-family homes
- Rehabilitate homes, rather than replace, and promote context-sensitive infill
- Primarily single-family residential (bungalow, cottage, or other traditional housing styles)
- Accessory dwelling units
- Sidewalks fronting all properties
- Design guidelines oblige context-sensitive infill, with quality building materials and design
- Redevelopment of existing multi-family with quality design and materials with no more than 4 units per structure
- Will resemble Traditional Urban Neighborhoods, with small- to medium- sized lots and blocks and a gridded street network
- Typical zoning districts: R1, RL, R1A, RT, R2, and R3

- Residential (4-8 dwelling units peracre)
  - Single-family residential
  - Limited multi-family (duplex, triplex, and quadriplex) at cross-roads and where existing
- Accessory dwelling units
- Institutional (e.g. schools, churches)
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Buildings are closer to one another and closer to the street than in Suburban Residential area
- Height: 1-3 stories





# **Neighborhood Center**

### Vision/Intent

East Point's Neighborhood Centers have a variety of activities such as general retail, service commercial, professional office, higher-density housing, and some public and open space. They are located along major corridors and at transportation nodes. Neighborhood Centers will be retrofitted to make them more aesthetically appealing, more marketable to prospective tenants, and more accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists. Façade and streetscape improvements will increase the curb appeal of these sites. The city aims to recruit high-quality local or neighborhood commercial and retail to these sites, which are in prime locations for redevelopment. Many of these shops are locally owned; these sites are not appropriate for big-box retail. Neighborhood centers are characteristically walkable with abundant sidewalks, street trees, street furniture, and nearby accessible public or green spaces like plazas and parks. Over time, these centers will have developed their own individual character and identity. Festivals and local markets take place at these sites. They will not only serve as neighborhood retail centers, but as gathering places for the nearby neighborhoods.

- Create incentives for infill development to retrofit strip-type commercial development with liner buildings. Reduce building setbacks to street; revisions to the zoning code to allow for reduced setbacks from street.
- Encourage adaptive reuse of existing building stock when appropriate.
- Direct new commercial or retail tenants to locate in vacant or underutilized properties whenever possible.
- Improve public safety to reduce and prevent crime in these locations.
- Restore traditional pedestrian scale and character of these sites.
- Promote a balance of retail, service, office, dining, and residential uses, allowing mixed use development with residential uses above ground floor commercial.
- Provide public gathering spaces within each development.
- Place controls on the development of larger scale strip development by limiting the allowable square footage of each tenant space.
- Reduce multiple curb cuts with incentives encouraging shared drives, shared parking, and interparcel access.
- Explore feasibility of trolley/shuttle loop along major roads to connect to residential areas, allowing residents to run errands without driving.
- Enhance MARTA bus stops and shelters at centers to encourage the use of existing public transit routes.
- Create design guidelines for redevelopment of neighborhood centers.



# Neighborhood Center continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Vacant or underutilized strip centers will have successfully achieved adaptive commercial and residential infill
- Retrofit, clean up, and revitalize existing structures
- Parking at the side or rear of buildings
- Streetscape improvements, including sidewalks, pedestrian lighting, and street furniture
- Encourage local businesses to locate in neighborhood centers
- Clearly defined edges
- Typical zoning districts: EI, R3, C1, MIX, and CR

- Residential: 6-8 dwelling units per acre
  - Multi-family, medium-density housing located above retail
- Local, neighborhood-serving retail and office (examples: boutiques and specialty food shops, restaurants, dry cleaners, drug stores, accountants)
- Institutional uses (schools, churches) when appropriate
- Parks, greenspace, plazas, and community gardens
- Height: 1-4 stories, with greater heights at the core





# **Regional Center**

### Vision/Intent

Regional Centers in East Point include the Camp Creek Marketplace, the Virginia Avenue hotel corridor, South Fulton Medical Center (SFMC), and several airport park-andride lots. Regional centers contain revenue-generating regionally- marketed commercial and retail uses, office and employment areas, higher- education facilities, sports and recreational complexes. The existing big-box developments will have evolved either into a new use or will be enhanced with additional amenities to remain viable beyond the typical twenty-year life cycle, creatively repurposing vast expanses of surface parking. A regulatory framework that encourages flexibility of uses for these existing structures will generate economic value for the city. These areas will have successfully added public gathering spaces and pocket parks, mitigated congestion, and reduced excessive surface parking. All future development emphasizes high quality design standards and building materials and incorporates the current national best practices on energy efficiency, where possible. Future planning strategies for Regional Centers will include pedestrian-oriented designs, parking located in the rear of buildings, bicycle lanes, and improved connectivity. In particular, transit service should be offered so that visitors may conveniently travel between the regional centers, downtown, and the East Point MARTA station.

### Goals

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- Provide jobs and economic development opportunities for city residents.
- Create incentives for infill development to retrofit strip-type commercial development with liner buildings. Reduce building setbacks; bring buildings up to the road through revisions to the zoning code.
- Encourage development patterns that meet national green building standards and that incorporate alternative energy sources.
- Encourage adaptive reuse of existing building stock.
- Improve public safety to reduce and prevent crime in these locations.
- Restore traditional pedestrian scale and character of these sites.
- Provide public gathering spaces within each development.
- Reduce multiple curb cuts with incentives encouraging shared drives, shared parking, and inter-parcelaccess.
- Explore feasibility of trolley/shuttle loop along major roads to connect to residential neighborhoods, allowing residents to run errands without driving.
- Enhance MARTA bus shelters to encourage the use of existing public transit routes.



# **Regional Center** continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Existing regional centers become more pedestrian-oriented and have improved access to alternative transportation modes, reduced surface parking, and decreased congestion
- Grow South Fulton Medical Center as a regional center, with professional medical office buildings and additional services supporting hospital staff
- Traffic-calming measures
- Pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, including sidewalks, street trees, lighting, and furniture
- Integrated natural features, accessible greenspace
- Typical zoning districts: R3, R4, C1, C2, CR, CL, MI, EI, MIX, OIT

- Regionally-marketed commercial and retail uses
- Retail, office and employment centers
- Higher-education facilities
- Sports and recreational complexes



- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Camp Creek Parkway
  - Residential: 10-20 dwelling units per acre
  - Multi-family above commercial uses
  - Big box national retail, hotels
  - Height: 2-4 stories
- Virginia Avenue
  - Hotels
  - Supporting commercial uses for hotel visitors
  - Height: 2-20 stories
- South Fulton Medical Center
  - Hospital
  - Medical office buildings
  - Supporting retail and services for hospital staff and visitors
  - Height: 2-6 stories, with greater heights at the core
- Park-and-ride lots



# Town Center Subarea I: Downtown

### Vision/Intent

East Point's Town Center is divided into three unique sub-areas: the Lawrence Street mixed use site, Downtown, and the Willingham Warehouse District. Together, these subareas make up East Point's new Town Center. A mix of residential types, commercial uses, offices, high-tech industrial, government and institutional properties, and open space, including a "village green" (similar to the commons), will give East Point residents a vibrant, dynamic, and livable downtown district.

Downtown East Point is and will continue to be the heart of the city. The city envisions a pedestrian-oriented center of the community, including history, culture, business and neighborhood that is attractive to visitors, commuters, and residents. As such, historic properties will be protected as an asset and rehabilitated when possible, and any new development should blend into the historic fabric of the area. Compatible infill development will focus on providing retail, office, hotels, and residential development targeted to a broad range of income levels.

Mixed use development, with retail uses on the ground floor and office or residential uses above will be the ideal form. Development will be visually consistent, but with an eclectic mix of local businesses encouraged to locate downtown. East Point's unique personality and charm are valuable to the city, and future develop-

ment will allow these assets to thrive. Pedestrian access and open space are crucial to enhance citizens' enjoyment of East Point. An inviting gathering place, with pedestrian and bicycle amenities and facilities for outdoor entertainment, should be a focal point of the district. Streets will be pedestrian-oriented, with safe crossings, slowed traffic, and attractive amenities. The downtown will become a destination attracting individuals from all over the City of East Point and surrounding communities, and gateway signage will lead airport users to its charm and amenities.

- Implement a Historic District with historic preservation requirements and/or design guidelines.
- Identify, preserve, and protect architectural features that are unique or valuable to the community.
- Incentivize new development that makes use of existing structures.
- Locate highest densities or intensities of use in the center of downtown, around the Commons and MARTA station, and transition to lower densities to protect and buffer surrounding neighborhoods.
- Prevent downtown commercial uses from encroaching into residential areas.
- Establish an East Point Small Business Association to provide support to local businesses, with assistance with start-up costs and navigating regulations.
- Work with the Main Street Association to increase the presence of local businesses while supporting the downtown economically.



# Town Center Subarea I: Downtown continued

- Increase the amount of parking available downtown; surface parking should only be provided as an interim solution, before development allows and necessitates a parking deck with landscape screening.
- Establish way-finding or landmark features that unify the downtown and can also be used across the City in gateway signage.
- Connect the downtown to new or existing bicycle, sidewalk, and shuttle networks.
- Improve retail opportunities downtown, with a grocery store and/or other neighborhood-serving shops.
- Grow Tri-Cities High School and the Jefferson Park Recreation Center as community centers, with opportunities for residents to gather, so-cialize, and engage.
- Establish a "village green" where cultural activities can take place.
- Seek opportunities for public art as new development and redevelopment occur.
- Make downtown East Point a destination that will help grow civic pride and economic opportunities throughout the city.
- See also: Ch. 4 (Contributing Plans & Studies): Land Use & Housing Policies Main Street Corridor TOD Plan Supplemental LCI 2011

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Storefront streets, pedestrian-oriented, gathering spaces
- Mix of commercial, residential, and office to make downtown a destina-



tion day and night

- Preserve historic properties and require compatible infill
- Wide sidewalks, street trees, furniture, pedestrian-scale lighting
- High quality building materials, integrated open space, and appropriate transitions from greater to less intense uses (surrounding singlefamily residential neighborhoods)
- Minimal or no front setbacks
- Façade design requirements: large windows and varied building materials make an engaging street frontage
- Typical zoning districts: RT, R2, R3, R4, CR, MIX, EI, CL, OIT, and MX-CI
- Heavy Industrial uses, only where currently existing and with no new expansion; these uses are to be phased out and transitioned over time to flexible, innovative mixed-use sites featuring commercial and light industrial uses in alignment with MX-CI zoning

- Residential: 6-12 dwelling units per acre
- Mixed use development: retail/commercial or office on the first floor(s) with residential above
- Institutional: schools, government buildings
- Hotels
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Height: 2-6 stories, with proper height restrictions such as step-backs



# Town Center Subarea 2: Lawrence Street

### **Vision/Intent**

The Lawrence Street site will be the future home of a mixed-use, walkable, pedestrianoriented neighborhood. This area of the town center will be a safe, amenity-rich activity center with a true neighborhood feel. It will require assertive redevelopment incentives, including density bonuses, tax abatements, and infrastructure improvements and investment to convert existing vacant industrial properties into modern residential, commercial, and high-tech industrial developments. Environmental clean-up from prior industrial use is required to ensure future flexibility in use. This large tract of land will benefit from being subdivided into small blocks that connect to the existing surrounding grid network of streets to improve access and connectivity. An anchor tenant, such as a grocery store, could draw users to this area. Parking will be located interior to the buildings or lots, so the environment is inviting and pedestrian-friendly. The city envisions integrated green spaces and civic amenities.

- Initiate a master planning process to establish flexible zoning and design standards.
- Identify locations for connections between the future uses and the adjacent single-family residential subdivisions.
- Preserve natural and cultural features, including Hillcrest Cemetery, and incorporate natural features into landscaping.
- Encourage sustainable building and site design.
- Provide incentives to new development that makes use of existing structures.
- Locate highest densities or intensities of use in the center of the site, and transition to lower densities to protect and buffer surrounding neighborhoods.
- Prevent commercial uses from encroaching into residential areas.
- Identify creative solutions for future parking needs in this area.
- Provide adequate facilities for users of all modes of transportation, including motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit riders.
- Establish way-finding or landmark features that connect to downtown and can also be used across the City in gateway signage.
- Connect to the downtown via new or existing bicycle, sidewalk, and shuttle networks.
- Establish a central open space where cultural activities can take place.



# Town Center Subarea 2: Lawrence Street continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Subdivide with small blocks to improve connectivity and blend with the existing neighborhoods
- Greenspace
- Walkable, pedestrian-scale mixed use buildings
- Variety of housing options
- Typical zoning districts: CR, MIX, BP, I1, EI, MI, OIT, C1, CL, C2, and MX-CI

- Residential: 6-12 dwelling units per acre
- Mixed use, master planned development: commercial/office/residential
- Live-work lofts
- Institutional
- High-tech industrial
- Public parks, plazas, and open space
- Urban agriculture, community gardens
- Community centers
- Event centers
- Height: 2-4 stories





# Town Center Subarea 3: Willingham Warehouse District

### **Vision/Intent**

The Willingham Drive warehouse district will consist of mixed-use infill in the existing industrial environment. Loft-style housing, artists' studios, and live/work spaces will make up the residential portion of this new neighborhood and attract a new "creative class" to the city. A new entertainment retail focus will bring restaurants, bars, and nightclubs to this area, as well, drawing both East Point residents and hotel visitors from the nearby Virginia Avenue corridor. Any new use will occur through compatible infill or existing retrofitted structures. Some light industrial uses will remain, to retain local employment and the characteristic "grittiness" of Willingham Drive.

Importantly, this district, and development therein, will support and align with the recommendations of the Willingham Corridor Study, conducted from 2020-2022 and adopted by East Point City Council. This study is discussed in Chapter 4 (Contributing Plans & Studies) of this plan, and it is the primary policy for guiding growth and development in this area.

- Maintain the industrial atmosphere and the gritty personality of Willingham Drive.
- Implement flexible zoning guidelines to allow residential, entertainment, commercial, and live/work uses in this neighborhood.
- Provide incentives to new development that makes use of existing structures.
- Identify locations for connections between the future uses and the adjacent downtown and Virginia Avenue corridor.
- Incorporate new green features to reduce environmental impacts and improve the appearance of industrial districts.
- Identify creative solutions for future parking needs in this area.
- Provide adequate facilities for users of all modes of transportation, including motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit riders.
- Establish way-finding or landmark features that unify to downtown and can also be used across the City in gateway signage.
- Connect to the downtown via new or existing bicycle, sidewalk, and shuttle networks.
- Build community awareness with Art Walks, Restaurant Week, or other events.



# Town Center Subarea 3: Willingham Warehouse District

continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Development supportive of Willingham Corridor Study
- Studio and live/work spaces to attract artists to East Point
- Adaptive reuse studio space
- Live-work space
- Mixed use
- Gritty warehouse feel
- Entertainment: bars, restaurants, nightclubs
- Loft-style housing
- Typical zoning districts: MIX, CR, I1, C1, C2, CL, BP, and MX-CI
- Heavy Industrial uses, only where currently existing and with no new expansion; these uses are to be phased out and transitioned over time to flexible, innovative mixed-use sites featuring commercial and light industrial uses in alignment with MX-CI zoning

- Urban lofts, artist studio space, warehouse live/work
- Entertainment warehouse-style bars and restaurants
- Flexible mixed-use sites featuring commercial and light industrial uses in alignment with MX-CI zoning
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens
- Parking/staging lots or facilities for trucks, heavy vehicles and other industrial uses heavily discouraged
- Height: 1-3 stories



## Industrial Districts Subarea I: Legacy industrial Subarea 2: Industrial/Business Park Vision/Intent

East Point's original industrial areas are located near downtown on or near the rail line. Central Avenue is a major industrial corridor and a key road connecting East Point to Hapeville, Atlanta, and I-85. The industrial uses here include both light (including automotive repair shops and warehousing facilities) and heavy (such as manufacturing and recycling). These character areas might come with special zoning concerns but are major employment and economic providers for the city. With excellent access to major transportation infrastructure, these industrial areas will continue to be important economic assets and employment centers. The uses in this area, however, will be flexible, allowing transitions to new uses as economic demand changes. Many new users of industrial land are not customary industrial activities but those that require industrial-zoned land or lower rent, like start-ups and entrepreneurial businesses. Some of these areas are located near major gateways to the city, so it is important that while they may continue to function as industrial districts, streetscape improvements are implemented to improve the appearance of these areas. It is also critical that any negative externalities resulting from heavy industrial uses, like smell and noise, are mitigated so that this important economic sector can continue to co-exist with East Point's established and growing residential neighborhoods.

- Continue to provide jobs and economic opportunities for city residents.
- Retain existing businesses and expand as an employment center.
- Promote adaptive reuse or redevelopment of vacant or underutilized industrial properties to increase the possibilities for introducing modern industrial uses to these areas.
- Provide sufficient and attractive buffering and screening between industrial and non-industrial areas. This can include transitional areas zoned C-2 or similar.
- Steer redevelopment toward underutilized industrial areas, with sufficient existing infrastructure, rather than the expansion of development in areas that are undeveloped and underserved by infrastructure.
- Encourage light industrial and office park uses in industrial areas in close proximity to residential uses, in alignment with C-2 or MX-CI zoning.
- Use incentives such as Opportunity Zone designation to attract and retain industrial uses.
- Provide incentives for targeted business types (film studio in Subarea 1, server farm in subarea 2).
- Evaluate truck routes, and consider creating designated truck routes and prohibiting truck traffic on other roads to reduce the impact on surrounding neighborhoods.
- Coordinate with the county to manage any noxious emittances (sound, odor, etc.).



# Industrial Districts Subarea I: Legacy industrial Subarea 2: Industrial/Business Park

continued

### **Future Development Patterns**

- Design of any new facilities should include quality building materials and design
- New streetscape design standards
- Subarea 1: Legacy Industrial
  - Warehouse with rail connections
  - Appropriate buffers between residential and industrial uses
    - Buffers should provide 50-100 feet of separation
    - Buffering can also be accomplished by transitional areas zoned C-2 or similar, between residential and industrial
  - Mitigate noise/odor from industrial uses
  - Typical zoning districts: I1, I2, MI, BP, MX-CI, and WH-I
- Subarea 2: Industrial / Business Park
  - Large warehouse-type industrial uses
  - Good access to interstates
  - Appropriate buffers between residential and industrial uses



- Buffers should provide 50-100 feet of separation
- Buffering can also be accomplished by transitional areas zoned C-2 or similar, between residential and industrial
- Typical zoning districts: I1, MI, EI, BP, OIT, and MX-CI

- Subarea 1: Legacy Industrial
  - Light industrial
  - Limited heavy industrial
  - Manufacturing
  - Other uses: office, film studio
  - 1-3 stories
- Subarea 2: Industrial / Business Park
  - Light industrial
  - Warehouse/shipping/storage
  - Server farm
  - Institutional
  - 1-3 stories
- Parks, greenspace, and community gardens



# **Corridors & Gateways**

### Vision/Intent

East Point's major in-town corridors are identified on the future development map. While located within other character areas, the parcels adjacent to these corridors have unique concerns. Future planning priorities include managing growth to prevent sprawling strip development, enhancing streetscape elements, and building facilities to accommodate all types of transportation users. The city envisions gradually converting these corridors to attractive boulevards, enhancing streetscapes, enacting design guidelines for new development, employing traffic-calming measures, and providing basic access for pedestrian and bicycles that is integrated into the public transit system. Land uses adjacent to the corridors vary, including residential, commercial, and institutional, but all development should be pedestrian- oriented with attractive, well-landscaped frontage.

Major highway corridors include the developed and undeveloped land on both sides of the high-volume transportation facilities in East Point, including I-285, I-85, Camp Creek Parkway, and the Lakewood Freeway. Landscaped, raised medians will provide vehicular safety, aesthetics, and pedestrian crossing refuges; paved shoulders can be used by bicycles or as emergency lanes.

The purpose of a gateway is to provide a sense of arrival and to establish a distinct sense of place or community identity. Gateways are the developed or undeveloped

land located at strategic entry points on major thoroughfares that serves as an important announcement or means of access to the community. The city wishes to focus on the appearance of major gateways with appropriate signage, landscaping, and other beautification measures. The city has received funds and is beginning to allocate them towards gateway signage.

- Make corridors more convenient for all users, not just motorists.
- Improve signage and wayfinding signs along the corridors to facilitate travel.
- Install traffic-calming measures to reduce travel speeds in areas with pedestrian crossings.
- Improve multi-modal accessibility with strategies that encourage the use of alternate transportation modes.
- Encourage integrated modes of transportation by promoting "complete streets."
- Establish gateways as city markers that express identity so that visitors experience a definite sense of arrival.
- Commercial Corridors:
  - Shared access and parking should be encouraged whenever possible to minimize curb cuts.
  - Sidewalks are wide, free of obstructions, and in good repair.



# **Corridors & Gateways**

### continued

- Promote more dense pedestrian-oriented development along Commercial Corridors.
- Discourage continuous automobile-oriented development along Commercial Corridors.
- Identify alternate route from Washington to Camp Creek Marketplace to avoid Camp Creek Parkway.

### **Future Patterns**

- Improved streetscape: sidewalks, street trees, furniture, pedestrianscale lighting
- Bus shelters to encourage transit use
- Safe pedestrian crossing at major nodes and destinations, including Main Street at the MARTA station and Camp Creek Parkway at the Marketplace
- Gateway signage and landscaping

- Commercial Corridors:
  - Boulevard-type roadways, with landscaped medians, on- street parking where appropriate, bicycle lanes or paths, and wide side-walks
  - Commercial development to be clustered
- Potential bicycle lane or multi-use trail adjacent to Camp Creek Parkway





# **Zoning Compatibility**

A brief summary of the character areas and typical zoning districts where they exist is below. This guide should be used to link the desired physical development patterns identified in the character areas with appropriate zoning decisions and development regulations necessary to implement the character area policy intent.

Character Area	Description	AG1	R1	R1A	RL	<b>R2</b>	R3	R4	RT	CUP	EI	МІ	<b>C1</b>	C2	CL	CR	ΜΙΧ	ΟΙΤ	BP	11	12	MX-CI	WH-I
Suburban Residential	Suburban-style residential dwelling with large lots, many trees, and neighborhood schools	•	•		•																		
Traditional Urban Neighborhood	Traditional urban residential neighborhood with cottage or bungalow-style homes, mature trees, and sidewalks located close to downtown		•	•	•	•	•		•														
Growing Residential	Planned developments with a mix of housing types and neighborhood centers at crossroads, lots of open space	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				I			•						
Redevelopment Neighborhood	Revitalized urban residential neighborhoods with cottage or bungalow-style homes, mature trees, and sidewalks located close to downtown		•	•	•	•	•		•														
Neighborhood Center	Commercial/retail centers with neighborhood- serving local businesses, multi-family residential, and open space						•				•		•			•	•						
Regional Center	Regionally marketed commercial, employment, and education centers with pedestrian facilities, traffic- calming features, and greenspace						•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					

Character Area	Description	AG1	<b>R1</b>	R1A	RL	R2	R3	R4	RT	CUP	EI	MI	<b>C1</b>	C2	CL	CR	MIX	ΟΙΤ	BP	11	12	MX-CI	WH-I
Town Center Subarea 1: Downtown	The heart of East Point: Traditional walkable downtown environment with commercial, institutional, mixed use residential/commercial development, and public space						•	•	•		•				•	•	•	•					
Town Center Subarea 2: Lawrence Street	Redeveloped brownfield sites with mixed use: Residential, retail, and office buildings; high-tech industrial; abundant open space; community gardens										•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
Town Center Subarea 3: Willingham Warehouse District	Creative community, live/work spaces for artists, entertainment district, adaptive reuse of industrial structures												•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•	
Industrial Subarea 1: Legacy Industrial	Original railroad-centered industrial sites near downtown with modern warehouse/industrial infill												•						•			•	•
Industrial Subarea 2: Industrial / Business Park	Employment centers, characterized by new warehouse-type facilities and modern, high-tech industrial tenants										•	•						•	•			•	
Corridors & Gateway	Not independent character areas, rather strategic corridors with characteristic streetscape, pedestrian facilities and signature signage	egic Not Applicable																					

**Chapter 8** 

# Community Work Program

# **Report of Accomplishments 2017-2022**

			2018-	2022 Repo	ort of Acco	mplishments
ID	Project/Activity Description	Completed (Date)	Currently Underway (Projected completion date)	Postponed (Explanation and when it will be resumed)	Cancelled (Explanation)	Notes
				Econ	omic Development	
1	Continue to pursue Fulton County BOE approval of Corridors TAD		2025			The City was previously working with the Fulton County BOE, requesting its participation in the "Commons" site development project. This project is now a fully City-driven initiative.
2	Focus on Commons Redevelopment Implementation			2023		As of 2022 the Macauley Group is no longer involved, and a development agreement between the City of East Point and Mynd Match Development was signed. Since that time, the City has secured several Letters of Intent from interested businesses seeking to locate in this new development. A groundbreaking is anticipated in the near future.
3	East Point Street and West Cleveland Avenue streetscape and pedestrian improvements			2025		Postponed due to prioritization and budgeting of other City initiatives
4	Establish a small business revolving Ioan program	2018				As part of the City's small business incentive program, those businesses seeking a Revolving Loan Fund may qualify through the state's Department of Community Affairs. BIDA does not offer this funding program through its agency.
5	Installation of downtown bike/ped amenities (benches, trash cans, bike racks, banners)		2024			Implementation is fully underway along Main Street (Hwy. 29) and the City has successfully installed verticle street banners along Main St., Cleveland Ave., and Washington Road. Early in 2022, the City, in partnership with the Better Block Foundation, held a reimagining block party in downtown to re- envision the City's central business dictrict. This effort involved putting in parklets, tables and chairs, wayfinding, street murals, and benches. It also included volunteers, businesses, and city staff that helped to enhance the already great work from the LCI.
6	Downtown East Point website	2018				This is ongoing through a partnership with the East Point Main Street Association (EPMSA). EPMSA has secured a simple site that links to the City's main site for communication purposes. The organization works closely with the Department of Economic Department in maintaining its presence.
7	Devise and implement a capital improvement project in downtown area based on Council 2010-2011 project list		2026			The Downtown TOD Plan highlights projects, and some are funded through the streetscape grants. Some of the projects have already been incorporated such as pedestrian lanes, parking and wider sidwalks along Main Street. This project is onging.
8	Identify potential redevelopment plan for area known as Old Fourth Ward (Willingham, Central Avenue, Eagan Park, River Park, East Washington, etc.)	2021				The Willingham/Finding the Flint LCI was presented at the end of 2021. Since that time, the departments of Planning and Economic Development continue working together to move forward with plans from the study. One of the most notable efforts involves the recruitment of the city's first brewery in that area. New investment will spur other investment activities, and spur econmic growth. In addition, the area has been very successful with the film/movie industry that has resulted in numerous movie productions filmed in the area.
9	Identify and implement a capital improvement project for area known as Old Fourth Ward (Willingham, Central Avenue, Eagan Park, River Park, East Washington, etc.)		2027			Same as above

			2018-	2022 Repo	ort of Accor	nplishments
ID	Project/Activity Description	Completed (Date)	Currently Underway (Projected completion date)	Postponed (Explanation and when it will be resumed)	Cancelled (Explanation)	Notes
10	Identify and implement a capital improvement project along Cleveland Ave.		2027			The economic development department continues to market and promote this corridor that has brought about new business locations and jobs.
11	USDA Grant for Farmer's Market	2019				In 2019, through the efforts of the Economic Development and Planning departments, the City received a \$150,000 grant to improve healthier living and access to healthier foods through education. The grant award has lead to the creation of a City Agriculture Plan (CAP), the creation of a commission board, hiring of a CAP manager, as well as continued ongoing program meetings. The CAP conducted two bucket garden give aways and educational seminars on how to grow your own fresh vegtables and fruits. The program was later awarded a \$250,000 grant from the USDA to continue this work.
12	National Main Street Program Designation	2018				In 2016, the City applied to be re-established as a National Main Street Program. In 2017, the City received the certificate of recognition from The National Main Street Center and Georgia Main Street as a "2017 Main Street America Affiliate Program". The Department of Economic Development is working with the the State to complete the steps required to transition from the "Affiliate" program designation into the "Classic" Main Street program designation. At this time there is no status update regarding the current designation. However, the city continues to work closely with the East Point Main Street Association regarding its annual tourist attraction events (Taste of East Point, July 4th Celebration, Indie Green Fest, etc.).
13	Continue coordination with Fulton County Schools on land use, facility location and policies to improve educational attainment.		2027			
			r	-	Housing	
14	Implementation of 50 Worst Properties Program		2025			
15	Partnership with Atlanta/Fulton County Land Bank Authority		2025			
16	Develop and implement an affordable housing incentive ordinance		2025			
				Parks, Nat	ural & Curtural Resou	rces
17	Construction South Commerce Park			2026		
18	Egan Park Master Plan	2018				Park was redesigned (fencing, tree installations, ADA accessibility and pavilion)
19	Sykes Park Construction	2022				East Point mural painted on basketball court (Art In The Paint); 3 Mountain Bike Trails intalled (MTB); 6 Pickle Ball Courts installed; storage container placed on property; LED lights installed on tennis courts
20	Continue coordination with stakeholders involved with the Finding the Flint Vision/Effort		2027			
21	Start East Point PATH Master Plan Implementation Startegy & Next Steps	2020				Completed first Model Mile Trail

			2018-	2022 Repo	ort of Accor	nplishments
ID	Project/Activity Description	Completed (Date)	Currently Underway (Projected completion date)	Postponed (Explanation and when it will be resumed)	Cancelled (Explanation)	Notes
22	Continue Coordination with AEROATL Greenway Plan		2027			
					Land Use	
23	Washington Road Overlay District		2025			Recast as Washington Road Gateway/Corridor Design Guidelines. See LU5 in 2023-2027 CWP.
24	City-initiated residential district re- zoning				Х	No longer a City priority
25	Implement online services in Planning & Community Development Department	2018				
26	Offsite records retention facility		2024			
27	Initiate Public Arts program	2018				
28	Zoning & Overlay Amendments per LCI Plan Reccomendations	2021				
29	Study the recommended buffers & proposed land uses within the Technology/Research District & Village North Focus Areas.				х	No longer a City priority
30	Develop policy changes to improve consistency between the future land use map and the zoning ordinance.		2024			
					Transportation	
31	Main Street Scenic Byway Corridor Improvement Project (streetscape)	2019				
32	Semmes Street Streetscape	2021				
33	Downtown East Point Multimodal Improvements (Updated Streetscape Project)		2027			Construction anticipated to begin 2023
34	East Point T-SPLOST Projects		2027			From 2016-2022, approximately \$32M of revenues were collected. The TSPLOST II referendum passed in November 2021, with expected revenue of \$31.7M from 2022-2027.
35	Fulton County Transit Master Plan Coordination & Next Steps	2018				

# Community Work Program 2023-2027

		2	2023-2	027 Co	ommu	nity W	/ork Program		
ID	Project/Activity Description	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Estimated Cost	Responsible Department/Agency	Funding Source
			•	•	Economic D	evelopment		•	
ED1	Continue to pursue Fulton County BOE approval of Corridors TAD	*	*	*			\$20,000.00	Economic Development/Legal	General Fund
ED2	Focus on Commons Redevelopment Implementation	*	*	*	*	*	\$200,000 - \$5 million	Economic Development/BIDA/ City/ Legal/ CMO	General Fund/ TAD/ LCI Transportation funds/ other grants
ED3	East Point Street and West Cleveland Avenue streetscape and pedestrian improvements			*	*	*	\$4,800,000.00	Economic Development/&Z/ Public Works/ GDOT/ MARTA	ARC - LCI transportation grant/City
ED4	Installation of downtown bike/ped amenities (benches, trash cans, bike racks, banners)	*	*				\$35,000.00	Economic Development	General Fund/Sponsors
ED5	Devise and implement a capital improvement project in downtown area based on Council 2010-2011 project list	*	*	*	*		TBD	BIDA/ Economic Development/ Public Works	General Fund/ MEAG/ Hotel-Motel Tax
ED6	Identify and implement a capital improvement project for area known as Old Fourth Ward (Willingham, Central Avenue, Eagan Park, River Park, East Washington, etc.)	*	*	*	*	*	TBD	BIDA/ Economic Development/ Public Works	General Fund/ BIDA
ED7	Identify and implement a capital improvement project along Cleveland Ave.	*	*	*	*	*	TBD	BIDA/ Economic Development/ Public Works	General Fund/ BIDA/ EP Corridors TAD
ED8	Secure and implement additional USDA grants for community health initiatives	*	*				Staff Time	Economic Development/Grants	N/A

		2	2023-2	027 Co	ommu	nity W	ork Program		
ID	Project/Activity Description	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Estimated Cost	Responsible Department/Agency	Funding Source
ED9	Continue coordination with Fulton County Schools on land use, facility location and policies to improve educational attainment.	*	*	*	*	*	Staff Time	Planning & Community Development / Economic Development	N/A
					Hou	ısing			
H1	Implementation of 50 Worst Properties Program	*	*	*			\$625,000.00	Planning & Community Development, Fire & Police	MCT Capital Fund, General Fund
H2	Partnership with Atlanta/Fulton County Land Bank Authority	*	*	*			Staff Time	City of East Point & Atlanta- Fulton Land Bank Authority	N/A
НЗ	Develop and implement an affordable housing incentive ordinance	*	*	*			Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	General Fund
				Parks,	, Natural & O	Curtural Reso	ources		
P1	South Commerce Park Construction				*	*	\$700,000.00	Parks & Recreation	General Fund; LWCF; MCT & GOB
P2	Continue coodination with stakeholders involved with the Finding the Flint Vision/Effort	*	*	*	*	*	Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	N/A
P3	Continue East Point PATH Master Plan Implementation Strategy	*	*	*	*	*	Staff Time	Parks & Recreation / Planning & Community Development	N/A
P4	Continue Coordination with AeroATL Greenway Plan	*	*	*	*	*	Staff Time	Parks & Recreation / Planning & Community Development	N/A
Р5	Develop and implement green buildings policy per 2021 City Council resolution	*	*				Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	N/A
					Lanc	l Use			
LU1	Offsite records retention facility	*	*				\$1,000,000.00	Planning & Community Development	General Fund
LU2	Develop policy changes to improve consistency between Future Development Map and Character Area narratives, and zoning ordinance	*					Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	N/A

	2023-2027 Community Work Program														
ID	Project/Activity Description	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Estimated Cost	Responsible Department/Agency	Funding Source						
LU3	Conduct detailed analysis of Land Use Element of Comprehensive Plan, including Future Development Map and Character Area narratives, against current City goals and Zoning Ordinance Update goals	*	*				Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	N/A						
LU4	Update Zoning Ordinance basd on conclusions from LU2 and LU3 above	*	*	*			Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	N/A						
LU5	Washington Road Gateway/Corridor Design Guidelines	*	*	*			Staff Time	Planning & Community Development	N/A						
					Transpo	ortation									
T1	Downtown East Point Multimodal Improvements (Updated Streetscape Project)	*	*	*	*	*	\$4,800,000.00	Economic Development/&Z/ Public Works/ GDOT/ MARTA	ARC - LCI transportation grant/City						
Т2	East Point T-SPLOST Projects	*	*	*	*	*	TBD	Public Works, GDOT	GDOT & City match / City						
Т3	Fulton County Transit Master Plan Implementation	*	*	*	*	*	N/A	Public Woks / Planning & Community development	N/A						

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# **Notices of DCA-Required Public Hearings**

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### "TO THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF EAST POINT, FULTON COUNTY, GEORIGA AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES":

In accordance with the Rules of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, *Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning*, Chapter 110-12-104(1)(a), the City of East Point's Mayor and Council will hold an initial public hearing regarding the City's 2022 Comprehensive Plan Update on Monday, February 21, 2022 at 6:30p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to brief the community on the process to be used to develop the plan and opportunities for public participation in plan development, and to obtain input on the proposed planning process. All interested parties should attend. Questions should be directed to Planning and Community Development Department, Planning and Zoning Division at zoning@eastpointcity.org or 404-270-7029. This Public Hearing will be held via a virtual platform – Zoom Cloud Meetings. Please visit *www.eastpointcity.org* for more specific instructions on how to join this meeting.

\*\*\*Please note that the Mayor and City Council may discuss this item at a Work Session held on February 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom Cloud Meetings. Visit <u>www.eastpointcity.org</u> for more information.



PUBLIC NOTICE City Council Regular Meeting Monday, February 6, 2023 6:30 p.m.

The City of East Point City Council will hold its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held at East Point City Hall located at 2757 East Point Street, East Point, GA 30344 in the Council Chambers.

Members of the public may sign-up for Public Comments between 6:00 pm – 6:20 pm on the day of the meeting with the City Clerk. The meeting can also be viewed online at <a href="https://livestream.com/cityofeastpoint">https://livestream.com/cityofeastpoint</a> or via the City's Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/cityofeastpoint">https://www.facebook.com/cityofeastpoint</a>.

Individuals with disabilities who require accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting are asked to promptly contact the City Clerk's Office at 404-270-7090 to allow for reasonable accommodations.

Keshia McCullough City Clerk

Page 1 of 1
## **Community Engagement: Public Open House**

## **Event Photos**















WHAT IS EAST POINT'S WHAT IS EAST POINT'S **GREATEST STRENGTH? BIGGEST WEAKNESS?** Preximity to Downfoon/Monte/Airport inack of traffic Sense of Community access to allyper Resum for growth. PLANNING PERMITTIK City short municipe of ordinates, etc. Lack 08 Sports Lead still Dependented Proportions poor ally leadership Lack of funding for porks/groen spece/Morks. access to airport Too moon industial ercar. Downtown area is not vibrant or inviting. Down town area is not vibrant or inviting. improvement Nice Neighborhoods LocationVV Small to Dn tect City Staff Bacism Being Minid of moriet rate housing and Parking Housing Regs Neighbor hoods potential nowth accessibility to transportation Notlospital (Access to healthcare lots of environmental hazards with no plan to correct Community Engrapment E. Crucey stores & & & & (Wind dewie Wednesday) LACK of Community Engacyment industrial zoning next to residential -Shortage Keeping & clean streets and valent lofs water Customer Care Dept. Shout complements fullow LOCATION sense of community + small city, big vibes Home 1039 NC55 Home 1233 NGS ) Stage Shortages not having enough informed & engaged citizens city council is not educated in the things thay use m MARTA / ALLES to all places Lack of resturants Downfour FOUD DESERTS Recycling citywide incentives WAIKAbility Downstown one way PAIE (FAST FOURT & MAIRO S.S. NEED TO BE under local city control (Not GDOT) to COMMUNITY CENters IMAGE City operations Wayper lack of postive image Rich History of Affluency + INFLUENCE IN GROATER AT AREA Neighborhood Associations Den Moyer & Palice Chief- Progressive POTENTURE FOR MOGRESSIVE STRATEGIC GROWTH ABILITY TO ATTRACT/SUPPORT OF THE ARTS Accessbulidy to the aipart & dounthin Close to dirport, interstates, Downtown All diversity (Hy leadership win 15 Seniors + Elders = Wisdom - Asia Kuykandell Lie of your "profing " Contor Ball East Pivet needs a lot of services that are expensive but little revenue LACIL OF TEAN SPANENCY FROM CITY LEAD FESHIN A LINEAR VIEW OF GROWTH. inconsisting in code enforcement Nearby competition (Hapenile/CP) of Attracting developers muestics and all coming in





City of East Point Comprehensive Plan Update 2022







Appendix











## **Community Engagement: Project Website/Online Survey**

## Website/Survey Flyer

# CITY OF EAST POINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY

Communities guide growth and development through planning. We are now updating the City's long-range Comprehensive Plan.

Visit our website to learn more, take the survey, and help plan the future of East Point:

https://publicinput.com/EastPointPlanUpdate2022

You can also use the camera app on your phone to scan the QR code at right.





## Website Homepage

City of East Point 2022 Comprehensive Plan Update Project Website and Survey	
Welcome     Survey     Public Engagement     Subscribe       WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?	COMPLETE Public Hearing 1 February 21, 2022
One of the fundamental responsibilities of local government is planning – a word used to describe how a community shapes and guides growth, development, and character. Updating the comprehensive plan offers communities the opportunity to look beyond the execution of day-to-day services and consider where they want to be in the future - and what has to be done to get there.	COMPLETE Steering Committee Meeting 1 March 23, 2022
Local governments in Georgia are required to update their comprehensive plans every five years, and East Point's next update is due this year. Check back here regularly to get up-to-date information about the update process and to participate in engagement	COMPLETE Online Survey Our suvey was open from mid-May to early

## **Online Survey Results**

12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional	Commission - Report Creation	12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission What are the <b>three (3) strongest assets</b> in East P	
Cit	y of East Point 2022 Co Update			Neighborhood full of large hardwood Small town 10 minutes from major city Proximity to major transportation: MARTA, railroad, airport	
	Project Engagem			7 months ago (105 Agree	
	views 944 responses	participants 175 comments		Convenient to MARTA Loads of business development potential Small-town feel in a major metro 7 months ago @ 75 Agree	
	3,611	436		Beautiful old homes on large lots; wildlife, mature hardwoods and stream to Atlanta	ns; East Point is located close
	SUBSCRIBERS			7 months ago	€ <u>69 Agree</u>
	72			The walkable downtown area has a lot of potential for shops and restaura destination with proper planning.	ants. It could become a
				7 months ago	€ <u>59 Agree</u>
				Proximity to airport	
				7 months ago • <u>57 Agree</u>	
				The best thing about East Point is that it's close to Hapeville, where intere works are encouraged to thrive.	sting businesses and public
				7 months ago	€ <u>56 Agree</u>
				Close proximity to a large city with a small town feel	
				7 months ago (• <u>38 Agree</u>	
				There is diversity - in culture, age, family dynamics and incomes, among o need to reflect that diversity and not cater to one pre-dominant group's s level, etc. Truly make East Point community offerings welcoming for every	tyle of music, food, income
				7 months ago	⊕ <u>33 Agree</u>
				Convenient to MARTA 7 months ago ③ 32 Agree	
				Easy access to MARTA, airport, all major interstates and multiple thoroug	bfares
					D Agree
				Strongest Assets! 1) Proximity to the busiest airport in the USA 2) Unique & Historical Character 3) Business Potential (w/ better or easier permitting process).	
				7 months ago ( 27 Agree	
				Convenient to MARTA Small-town feel in a major metropolitan area Beautiful forested areas	
				7 months ago (1) 25 Agree	
				Close proximity to large city and amenities associated with city living while neighborhood community. The people make the city great!	e having a small
				7 months ago	⊕ <u>21 Agree</u>
				The wonderful people living here! The old historic homes and buildings the protected and salvaged to the highest ability and not be allowed to be rip with new construction, eliminating all of East Point's historic charm. Proxi Marta.	ped down and/or replaced
				7 months ago	⊕ <u>20 Agree</u>

3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creat	ion	12/24/22, 3:40 AM		Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation	
	Growing small business community			Location to the airport.	Location to Atlanta. ITP affordability.	
	7 months ago ( ) <u>18 Agree</u>			7 months ago	⊕ <u>3 Agree</u>	
	<ol> <li>The vision, passion and resilience of East Point residents who have the vision of what is po possible in our city.</li> </ol>	ositive and		Our neighborhoods, our	r diversity and our proximity to Atlanta, Marta and the airport.	
	<ol><li>The potential to be a great small city infused with the elan of art, culture, enterprise and c while maintaining a small town feel.</li></ol>	ommunity				
	<ol> <li>Location: proximity to major metropolitan areas, small progressive cities, good transporta corridors and modes of public transportation.</li> </ol>	tion		there!	iot even get enough staff to pick up weekly trash and yard debris. Let's star	rt
	7 months ago	⊕ <u>14 Agree</u>		7 months ago	۲	<u>3 Agree</u>
	Tree-lined streets, variety of housing sizes, variety of types of neighborhoods, variety of style housing, active neighborhood associations. 7 months ago			2. Well-defined historic and commerce.	VARTA, freight rail, interstates, close to airport downtown has tons of potential to be a vibrant, walkable center of cultura	l life
	/ montos ago			3. Proximity to Atlanta 7 months ago		3 Agree
	My husband and I purchased a home near Downtown EP. He's in high end real estate, and w future of EP - Entertainment District, The Commons, and Phase 1 and 2 of downtown EP. Al development coming soon to CP called Six West. Things that can be worked on are -Grocery Store - Washington Rd/ Taylor repaved - The Center Park sign and fountain's updated			It's a small tight knit dive 7 months ago	© erse community without a lot of big city fuss © <u>3.Agree</u> od/Old Fourth Ward to East Point 2 years ago. I love the small town feel an	
	7 months ago	⊕13.Agree		friendliness and diversit	ty of my new neighbors. I miss the variety of businesses I could easily walk with a pool! My dogs and I enjoy walking safe streets with little traffic.	
				6 months ago	•	2 Agree
	The 3 strongest assets are:1.The Residents 2. The Potential for Growth 3. The Location (Trans Hub)	sportation		Why do we have illegible	e street signs?	
	7 months ago	• 9 Agree		5 months ago	• <u>1 Agree</u>	
	Quaint neighborhoods Parks Walkability				he East point community is its close proximity to the major city Atlanta. Its d being close to the airport	
	7 months ago ③ <u>8 Agree</u>			6 months ago	•	1 Agree
	East Point needs to be careful that it doesn't outgrow itself like has happened in parts of Atla other Metro cities.			Proximity to Airport In metro area Great dog park		
	/ montus ago	⊕ <u>8 Agree</u>		7 months ago ⊕ <u>1.Agree</u>		
	Very responsive public works, utilities, sanitation, etc, especially public safety			Proximity to Atlanta Proximity to airport		
	7 months ago ( <u>6 Agree</u>			Small homes in quiet ne	eighborhoods	
	Housing not as expensive as nearby communities			7 months ago	⊕ <u>1 Agree</u>	
	7 months ago O5.Agree The three strongest assets East Point has, a Mayor with a vision for the future, responsivene	ss and			y government does not live up to that potential. Inclusiveness and diversity nent is straggled by the current and past administration.	/ is
	"getting the job done" of the sanitation department and their employees, and the eastpoint reservoir.	water		3 months ago		
	7 months ago	⊕ <u>4 Agree</u>		Depending upon location	on, inside the city.	
	Although the city is convenient to airport, the airplanes continue to be disruptive			Diversity, walkable down	ntown Marta access	
	7 months ago (© <u>4 Agree</u>			5 months ago	ntown, warta access	
	The three things I see that East Point has going for it are: access to public transit, historical q neighborhoods and amazing potential for a thriving downtown district.	uaint			a/airport, Progress is being made in downtown/commons area of East Poi of businesses in the area.	nt,
	5 months ago	⊕ <u>3 Agree</u>		6 months ago		
	Close to Atlanta, Atl airport, and Marta; small town feel/cute with less traffic than Northside affordable.	towns;		nothing to add 7 months ago		
	S months ago	⊕ <u>3 Agree</u>				
	Two years ago I moved up EP from Sandy Springs. I enjoying residing in a community with V seniors and 1 s time homebuyers. I look forward to the day when cars are not speeding dow residential streets. I pick up trash from the streets and sidewalks daily.					
	6 months ago	⊕ <u>3 Agree</u>				

12/24/22,

#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

I love that East Point is a diverse community that feels like a small town but is close to everything in Atlanta. It's wonderful that there is Marta downtown and a walkable downtown with some restaurants, and even a great dive bar! I also love the historic charm and nature

I think it's sad that the fact that EP is close to Hapeville (a growing, active, interesting community) should be considered a selling point. Why can't we be a growing, active, interesting community ourselves? The only thing holding EP back is EP (government) it's self..

months ago

Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation What are the three (3) biggest challenges facing East Point currently? -Permitting process is scaring business/development opportunities away -High poverty level leads to high crime rates -EP is close to being a food desert 119 Agree City council's continuing inaction outmoded cumbersome policies, peocedures, statutes which discourage iinvestment by commercial enterprises (who would attract spending revenue and tax revenue to town center and vicinity.) Crime Blight due to both residential and commercial absentee owners. Wasteful spending by city council on extravagant unprofitable events 80 Agree
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 80 City leaders do not have a vision for sustainable economic growth; heavy industry is located steps from residential neighborhoods; many residents are not civically engaged ⊕68 Agree Nearly impossible for businesses or homeowners to make investments in the city, thanks to labryinthine permitting process and unresponsive customer service. €<u>61 Agree</u> -Crime -Lack of healthy/quality grocery stores and restaurants -Lack of pedestrian friendly infrastructure € <u>60 Agree</u> Downtown Main Street needs a manager to promote our downtown area. We need planters, outdoor eating venues, better business promotion. ⊕51 Agree No easy access to a bigger grocery store e.g. Aldi, Lidl, Publix. 7 months ago 48 Agree Derelict and vacant lots allowed to be overgrown and eyesores, which hurts community pride and attractiveness. The owners of these properties should be made to clean them up or face steep fines that reimburse the city for doing so. ⊕40\_Agree Code enforcement being unfair. Residents receive citations for small issues when city-owned areas are untouched for months. ⊕ <u>33 Agree</u> Limited/ no protected biking infrastructure ①25 Agree Biggest Challenges: 1) CRIME!! 2) Too small or overworked police force 3) Planning/Zoning/Permitting is not business or resident friendly. Contractors don't want to do business because it is so cumbersome. ⊕ <u>23 Agree</u> Limited shaded sidewalks/some streets with no sidewalks at all High property crime rate

No live music venues Not many local businesses 7 months ago <u>22 Agree</u>

https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

12/24/22, 3:40 AM

Atlanta Regional Commission - Report C	reation	12/24/22, 3:40 AM	
The permitting process is cumbersome, outdated, and run by City employees who don have an obligation to provide good customer service. A person shouldn't have to move earth to build a simple garage on their own property, for example.			I'm glad unrespo business
7 months ago			if it's not thinking laws sho
Code enforcement is a joke. Permitting is needs a complete overhaul.			7 months
7 months ago (18 Agree			
Money mismanagement Poor customer service City council members are untrustworthy and appear fiscally unresponsive to constitue Problems don't get fixed, they are bandaged or ignored until the only resolution is repl			l like to v have no trail/boa I would a 6 months
7 months ago	0 <u>17 Agree</u>		
No modern apartment buildings. Not everyone can or want to live in a house.			Failing in No over
7 months ago (⊕17.Agree			Several
Public schools are a challenge at best. This leaves many feeling the need to move or pa	y for k-12		7 months
education. 7 months ago	⊕ <u>16 Agree</u>		Council <sup>4</sup> and wor
I came here with such high hopes in 2018. The elected officials are not listening to nor			5 months
place to solve the huge problems this city faces. East Point has fallen significantly behin cities because of mismanagement and it saddens me terribly. I'm leaving soon as I see the better. Calling 911 after reporting 14 repetitive shots from an automatic weapon dc warrant a siren, ride by, nor a visit from an officer and the police station is literally bloc	no changes for besn't even		The peri Code en leaderst
taxes go to not much that makes life better here. Farewell EP & good luck.			for, by a 7 months
7 months ago	⊕ <u>15 Agree</u> ■		
Lack of private economic development.			Governr From all
7 months ago			city for t I called i
Very limited walking options (although some improvement have been made in the last	2 years)		City ma down h
7 months ago ③	12 Agree		7 months
The city needs to make it easier for gig and single-family businesses to operate in the c corporate businesses these smaller business not only help support the city but also the			Downto
7 months ago	<u> </u>		permitti right or
The lack of development in the downtown sector and the City Councils inability to creat	e a vision for		5 months
economic growth and sustainability. College Park, Hapeville, and the City of Atlanta whi East Point is growing rapidly. Lots of growth happening in these cities due to their prog council. Our City council is dated or aged and it is reflected in the cities down town area of east point needs to work on the total operations in regards to transparency in permi	ressive city a. Lastly, the city		Leaders likely cru 285.
for businesses and residents. 6 months ago	€ <u>10 Agree</u>		7 months
-	O ID ARIEE		Code er
<ol> <li>Lack of city leadership's vision for and ability to chart a well-considered, layered and course toward the type of city residents want and deserve. Their priorities are off-base toward minimal actions as bandaids to big problems in order to keep residents quiet. T</li> </ol>	and geared		blight Traffic e Lack of f
incapable of doing the intense work required to PLAN comprehensively, LEAD selflessly efficiently.			7 months
<ol> <li>The City's inability to effectively and efficiently manage the small public issues that h smoothly, appear welcoming (to law-abiding people and enterprises) and encourage co engagement and pride.</li> <li>City Indexidual Information for the state of the state o</li></ol>	mmunity		Hostility Incomp Lack of I
3. City leadership's lack of respect for the worth of residents, the value of small busines uniqueness of community organizations and the dimensions that they bring to the con how to move our city forward in a cohesive, yet expansive, manner. Trust is absent on I	versation about		7 months
7 months ago	⊕ <u>10 Agree</u>		1. City le 2. Plann
Implode Code ENFORCEMENT & Permits!! They are crippling our city!			3. Resid 7 months



Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

12/24/22, 3:40 AM

12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation	12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation
	Downtown and other plazas need an overhaul, which means they should all look the same. I remember visiting one city and all of the plazas/shopping centers were the same with updated paint, marquees, etc. We need another grocery store which everyone on council should advocate for there's no reason		What are <b>three (3) words or phrases</b> you would use to describe East Point to someone unfamiliar with the community?
	ctor we need another grocery side which every she on control should advocate for their sino reason why we should have an ALDI, LIDL, or SPROUTS! 6 months ago @2.Agree		Charming potential but downtown is underutilized, lacks consistent restaurants/cafes/bars with outdoor seating and boutique shopping to bring interest and revenue, needs bike lanes particularly
	Bumbling city council. Planning & Zoning ineptitude. Mismanagement of funds.		alongside the rail/Main street to connect us to belt line and west end area and therefore to a larger artistic community
	7 months ago @ <u>1 Agree</u>		7 months ago (0.57 Agree
	The homelessness and food insecurity issue may bring crime. The answer is NOT to over police, but instead we need a closer grocery store and a rest station for the unhoused.		Diverse, lovely neighborhoods Great location In need of improved infrastructure including high quality grocery sore, better school options, and
	4 months ago		improved bike/ pedestrian access
	The three things I see as a challenge in Was Point are: the lack of vision from long term council members, safe and abundant outdoor seating and gathering areas, and the trash on public and private		7 months ago (© <u>50 Agree</u> Consistently considered "up and coming" but falling short.
	property has grown out of hand. S months ago		7 months ago (1) 48 Agree
	nothing to add		Impossible permitting process; No long-term vision for growth; Nice neighborhoods.
	7 months ago		7 months ago
			Lacking vision Convenient to Atlanta venues. Affordable
			7 months ago () <u>36 Agree</u>
			Friendly neighbors, easy access to city, airport, and great metro area, lacking thriving local small businesses and entertainment. In other words, many reasons to live here, but few reasons to shop or visit, even for an evening.
			7 months ago
			Great potential; Underserved; Needs creative leadership
			7 months ago @ 22 Agree
			Relaxing Light traffic
			Quiet 7 months ago @22 Agree
			Huge unseen potential due to government and elected officials holding EP back No police presence nor protection Wonderful neighbors
			7 months ago (© <u>15 Agree</u>
			Archaic policies especially in permitting
			7 months ago () <u>15 Agree</u>
			NOT the "most dangerous city in America" 7 months ago (13 Aprese
			C LEDDER
			Strong sense of community Bright future
			Needs help with infrastructure 7 months ago 9 12 Agree
			Developing
			7 months ago ①12 Agree
			A TAX Revenue MONEY PIT. Antiquated ways of doing things. Nothing gets done correctly without a struggle.
			7 months ago <u>③11 Agree</u>
https://publicinput.com/Reporting	/ReportPreview/17702	https://publicinput.com/Reportin	ig/ReportPreview/17702

12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation	12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation
	Quiet 7 months ago ③ <u>9 Agree</u> Slow to enact needed longterm economical change, charming potential but in danger to being left		EP is not well managed as evidenced by high crime rates and low permitting or building rates. The grocery store and other shopping options permitted in town offer a feel of a low budget area where it seems the government administration is okay with substandard offerings to its citizens. The area is not well maintained throughout as illustrated by the amount of trash that exists and stays on roadways, the non existing sidewalks that are grown over with weeds, and other areas that are meant to be free of
	behind , proximity to downtown and the airport is awesome.	20	debris but are prevalent with refuse.
	East point is a food desert. The lack of opportunity for residents to get good food sucks. East Pointers	<u></u>	S months ago
	have to travel outside of the city for decent food. The city has to change their antiquated policies to reflect more of a progressive city and bring it into the new millennium. City leaders do the minimum		Diverse, friendly, stagnating 5 months ago
	and it really effects residents.	20	I like living here, can't think of anything to add. 7 months ago
	Crime		Convenient
	Fixer uppers Hostile government		Lots of governmental corruption and ineptitude Tragic waste of potential
	7 months ago O <u>3 Agree</u>		7 months ago
	Boring 7 months ago @lAgree		Great people, great opportunity but short sighted, bumbling leadership. 7 months ago
	Great on paper, lacking in reality High potential Languishing under incompetence and poor leadership		<ol> <li>Beautiful Diverse Neighborhoods</li> <li>45 mins from Gas South Arena in Gwinnett to 30 mins from Peachtree City</li> <li>City leaders with no compassion for the Residents.</li> </ol>
	7 months ago O 2 Agree		7 months ago
	Convenient to downtown & airport Lacking vision Great public safety dept		There are some really nice neighborhood yet crime is not well managed. The first responders do their best but are short staffed to get a handle on all that is happening that creates a bad stigma from other communities. It is and will always be home to me but I have no desire to recommend it to someone new to the are ato live.
	7 months ago <a>This equation (0.1 and 0.1 and</a>		7 months ago
	Quite 7 months ago @2.Agteg		Nothing really to say with this 7 months ago
	A true bedroom community: pleasant quiet neighborhoods but next to nothing to do: few restaurants, no music, theater or art venues to speak of. But really friendly neighbors and convenient to MARTA, freeway and airport.		7 months ago
	6 months ago (© <u>1 Agr</u>	ee	City manager-led governance 7 months ago
	Small town, great feel but lacks consistency and a true vision.		/ monus ago
	6 months ago <u>©1Agree</u> Potential. Location. Lacking in progress.		Quality of life can be defined as the standard of health, comfort, and happiness experienced by an individual or group. How would you rate the <b>quality of life</b> that you experience in East Point?
	7 months ago (© <u>1 Agree</u> underutilized potential; proximity to airport & Atlanta;		10% High
	restaurant diversity 7 months ago OlAgree		21% Low
	Not as scary 7 months ago ③ <u>1 Agree</u>		
	This city has great potential but can't seem to get out of its own way to progress forward based on its inbound population. The older neighborhoods have great charm and small town feel. The people vote in and appointed don't seem to reflect all the population in their area and seem to cater to a subset of residents.		69% Average
	5 months ago		
	Trees, quiet, litter, food desert, maintenance lacking. S months ago		156 respondents

#### https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation
/hat places in East Point are most important to you? (e.g., local businesses, parks, places of worship, community centers, buildings, etc.)
Local business are important to me and the ability to walk/bike to them and enjoy outdoor community spaces.
7 months ago (1) 75 Agree
Grocery Stores           7 months ago         © 72 Agree
the 'potential' for a better downtown

I'm hopeful

nonths ago (1) 50 Agree

Downtown - need to focus more investment in this area-more staff and more money - make permitting easier/hire more permitting staff to manage the process and answer businesses questions expeditiously, hire more staff to do more trash pick-ups/lifter pick-ups (or hire a company to do it), designate officers that walk thru the downtown area regularly to detour crime, invest in more staff and funding for beautification, street activation activities, wayfinding, etc. Fund the PATH system that connects the neighborhoods to the downtown.

#### Parks

٧

#### Home; ArtsXchange; neighborhood sidewalks 7 months ago (\*) <u>26 Agree</u>

Historic Homes and neighborhoods

#### months ago (19 Agree

Bike Path Chairs Downtown Mainstreet (needs revitalization though)

### months ago (18 Agree

#### Small Town feel

7 months ago ① 15 Agree

## Public schools are a challenge at best. This leaves many feeling the need to move or pay for k-12 education. 7 months ago <u>0.14 Agree</u>

Walkable to old historic buildings converted into cool, eclectic, artistic businesses (as the poor buyer of the Washington Road car dealership has tried to do) City of EP & elected officials have TOTALLY ruined this great opportunity we could have been enjoying for years now! (So tragic 7 months ago 012 Agree

#### Jefferson Park neighborhood 7 months ago (\*) <u>12 Agree</u>

Oz Pizza

## 7 months ago ① <u>11 Agree</u>

Parks. The road to Hapeville.

#### 7 months ago ③ <u>8 Agree</u>

Grocery stores, PARKS, we need plans for recreation centers, and more sidewalks. I believe East Point could have their own beltline if thought was really put into it.

#### ⊕<u>5 Agree</u>

⊕ <u>32 Agree</u>

# Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation Kupcakerie 7 months ago Od Agree Not a single place in East Point is important to me.

7 months ago (1) 4 Agree

12/24/22 3·40 AM

#### Activities for children, parks, walkable restaurants and bars, grocery stores

ths ago

## Our neighborhoods, the bike path and the East Point Historical Society, which is continually overlooked, ignored and maligned by city leadership.

2 Agree

⊕ <u>2</u> A
--------------

① 2 Agree

#### Jefferson Park Neighborhood, The PATH trail, Taco Pete.

/ months ago

#### There is a lot of underutilized pavement in the downtown district that is owned by banks. More and more people are banking on line and the parking areas could be used for food trucks, popup markets, buskers, gathering spaces, parking for other businesses, etc. Potential is there, vision is not. The new incoming population leave fast Point to visit grocery stores, barber shops, hair salons, bars and breweries. All of these services could and would thrive with the foresight and understanding of what today's East Point residents are asking for. It's not that the current administration isn't hearing these request, it's that they are not listening. Nor are they string enough to bump this city to the next level. Comprehensive plans, zoning laws and business development should evolve based on its residents. Five year plans are great but need to keep up. These plans need to be reviewed annually and project for the next five years. Take step back, look in your Ward and truly see what is going on there and compare it the surrounding area. Is it living up to your standards and potential? If so, you are losing yourself and need to step down and let progression move in.

5 months ago 

East Points Main Street starting from Route 166 down to college park. The first section of Main from Rt
166 is baron, without any decor/foliage. You also can't tell you're in east point until you get downtown.
Downtown is the peak but there should be some attraction leading up to it; foliage, welcome road
signs, good local businesse, etc. Main Street near colonial hills is not inviting.

nths ago		⊕ <u>1.Ag</u>

A grocery store would be nice. The whole downtown sector needs to compete with neighboring cities. and main highways need more access to cafes/ shops/ and boutiques. No major retailers in town like an H&M, Urban outfitters or forever 21.

ago		(

I think the old municipal buildings (auditorium/library) are beautiful and I wish they would be used for something.

The old ball field is another piece of history that I wish would be preserved and put to use. I'd love to see a network of parks and paths along the creeks connecting neighborhoods

#### Neighborhood. But that's it. Everything else seems like it's in shambles due to lack of effective leadership 7 months ago What places in East Point are most important to me are: 1. Our homes 2. Our local businesses 3. Our Entertainment, Arts, and Theater 4. Our Neithborhoods

months ago <a>
 </a> <a>
 </a> ①1Agree

#### Historic Homes & Businesses Local Businesses being supported National Chains feeling secure to open/reopen business in our city.

s ago () <u>1 Agree</u>

#### https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

#### https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

① <u>1 Agree</u>

1 Agree

#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

East Point needs BLACK OWNED businesses and a rest station for the unhoused

Connally Nature Park

5 months ago

Multiple healthy grocery store options; places for young people to gather safely/better schools; safe water pipes and sidewalks

5 months ago

Brake Pad

Sykes Park, pickleball courts, recreation facilities and caring staff

The Connally Drive Nature Park East Point Dog Park The old Baptist church downtown on Main Street 7 months ago

No comment necessary

Chairs 7 months ago

Connally Nature Park East Point bike trail (which is far too short!) Dick Lane Velodrome Thumbs Up Cafe Kupcakerie Chairs Sykes Park

Use this map to point out the places in East Point that are most important to you. (e.g., local businesses, parks, places of worship, community centers, buildings, etc.)



What are East Point's **most significant natural and environmental resources**? What role should the City play in helping to preserve and protect these?



What are East Point's **most significant historic and cultural resources**? What role should the City play in helping to preserve and protect these?



#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

12/24/22, 3:40 AM

How would you characterize East Point's **pace of development** in recent years? For context, the City's population grew by 14% from 33,712 to 38,358 between 2010-2019. The City added about 1,000 new housing units during that span, an increase of roughly 8.5%.



134 respondents

Where would you like to see **future development** focused?



How would you rate East Point's housing needs?

	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Affordable Housing	45%	41%	14%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Senior Housing	49%	42%	8%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Density	38%	56%	7%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less
Mixed-Income Housing	69%	27%	4%
	Need More	Right Amount	Need Less

128 respondents

innac mound yo		t Point's <b>most import</b>		? What r
	should the City p	play in helping to addre	:ss this nééd?	
into affordable ho East Point so that	using. Perhaps East Pe something could be d	blighted residential propert pint would benefit from hav one with these houses whic ls or criminals spend time.	ing a land trust and lar	nd bank in
7 months ago				⊕ <u>74</u> /
	ousing: buildings whic	h can provide small comme	rcial/retail space bene	ath mediu
density housing. 7 months ago				
7 monuns ago				⊕ <u>51</u> /
	ng - we have plenty of line build nice cond			
7 months ago		⊕ <u>36 Agree</u>		
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5 III I		and a state of the state		
Apts/condos and/o		or industrial structures that t would maintain visual inte ne yet.		
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Condominiums an	-			
7 months ago	<u>● 14 Agree</u>			
		walkable sidewalks that ha uld be reduced in favor or n		
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https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

	5	1 -
	nging. Additional housing will be required at A to affordable housing- the fact is there is a der	
7 months ago		⊕ <u>5 Agree</u>
	ng. There is no need for this many abandoned current problem before you start building mo	
5 months ago		⊕ <u>4 Agree</u>
More apartments and condos fo	r young professionals, more affordable housi	ng for families
5 months ago		⊕ <u>2 Agree</u>
We need more high-end housing	a	
6 months ago (1) 2.Agr	<u>10</u>	
Tiny home community to boost builds that are displacing legacy	nome affordability. There are too many "high residents	end" new construction
3 months ago		
Housing affordable for workers	n local businesses who would like to live here	
3 months ago		
Incentives for elderly/generation homes if the schools aren't up to	al legacy residents. More mixed-income hous par!	ing. NO MORE "high end"
3 months ago		
Let the unhoused squat!!! Or bu places to stay too	ld a rest station!!!! Teenagers, "criminals" and	the unhoused deserve
4 months ago		
actually enforce, fine and collect	omes and not only request the home owner on infractions. When you look beyond the tra its potential beauty by holding residents and d or own.	ish and blight this is a
5 months ago		

No,

How would you rank your satisfaction with East Point's transportation system?

	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion
Traffic Safety	12%	22%	39%	17%	4%	5%
	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion
Traffic Congestion	2%	6%	44%	35%	13%	2%
	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion
Road Conditions	16%	35%	35%	12%	2%	-
	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion
Pedestrian & Bicycle	37%	40%	13%	4%	-	6%
Safety	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion
Public Transportation	5%	14%	43%	20%	9%	9%
	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion
Parking	10%	20%	43%	18%	2%	7%
	Poor	Below Average	Adequate	Good	Excellent	No Opinion

128 respondents

#### https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702





Are there any areas in East Point you feel are particularly **dangerous for pedestrians or bicyclists**?



#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

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The amount of parking is fine, as long as public parking always remains FREE. The moment we put up
                                                                                                                                                              meters, we will drive away visitors.
                                                                                                                                                              How come all the parking stalls on Main Street near the Library, the commons (between Cleveland and
As of now it's enough but continued expansion may bring new problems not realzied
                                                                                                                                                              Forrest) are not stripped. People complain about parking yet there must be 50 sparking stalls if only
                                                                                                                                                              they were stripped.
Parking is a waste of space in this city. Making it more walkable is a better investment.
                                                                                                                                                              Downtown
Greed for the parking real estate causes the paved areas downtown to be a parking challenge.
                                                                                                                                                              There is to much ugly parking, just concrete covered giant spaces, that also take away sidewalks. We
                                                                                                                                                              dont need more parking, we need more walkable sidewalks that have green divider from the road and
                                                                                                                                                              have trees to provide shade. Parking could be reduced in favor or more green shady sidewalks
I have heard from downtown businesses that there is a lack of convenient parking and that the
temporary White Way installation caused lack of business. There is plenty of parking in the downtown
area, however the owners of those spaces hold the real estate close to heart. Towing and booting cars
is not community minded. What people need to realize is that there is not a lot of spaces near their
                                                                                                                                                              Break ins at Camp Creek
destination but plenty of places to park. We have become a society of lazy people that don't want to
walk. The city needs to partner with local business to alleviate the parking desert in downtown, Greed,
even with parking, has no place in a thriving, potential downtown district. Let's go East Point, do it for
                                                                                                                                                              Currently, parking in East Point seem adequate, but a planned expansion must be considered as city
the people you claim to represent as well as the people you claim you bring to the area by having these
                                                                                                                                                              density grows.
                                                                                                                                                              Downtown could use a parking garage to encourage more business development and consumer
Spend the extra money to make parking underground, parking draws heat and wastes space
                                                                                                                                                              activity.
                                                                                                                                                              With the growth expectations in the downtown district parking will be challenge. There just isn't enough
                                                                                                                                                              spaces for employees and patrons to park.
                                                                                                                                                              There is enough parking. In fact, parking is often used to deter future businesses. This is a real shame
                                                                                                                                                              when other areas, such as midtown, are actually not requiring much parking at all for businesses. That
                                                                                                                                                              is because it is a waste a space that can be used for other businesses, parks etc. and will encourage
                                                                                                                                                              people to walk and bike more. In addition, it will increase home purchases in the neighborhood.
                                                                                                                                                              There has been a lot of petty crime to cars parked on residential streets, and lately even in driveways.
                                                                                                                                                              There's a lot of available parking in Downtown East Point unfortunately many of the lots are in
                                                                                                                                                              inconvenient locations compared to the businesses and quite a few lots are privately owned which
                                                                                                                                                              restrict where customers can park.
                                                                                                                                                              Zero - we have more than enough parking
                                                                                                                                                              Parking isn't a problem in the Main Street area since there are so few businesses in operation.
                                                                                                                                                              Downtown streets are confusing... too many signs, and not enough available parking with greenery
                                                                                                                                                              With improved development will require additional parking. Also bike parking, and EV charging stations
                                                                                                                                                              The lack of sidewalks throughout East Point and accessible public parking hinder growth and gathering.
                                                                                                                                                              Too many parking spaces required for downtown new business development when area is transit and
                                                                                                                                                              pedestrian focused.
```

poorly arranged downtown parking- needs to be addressed in order to also supported (hopefully) new downtown development

huge events ever month in the summer.

Too many vacant parking lots along the main thoroughfare

more parking overflow options in the downtown area

If we ever grow then y'all do need to think about parking, right now without walking to get to a place there is not that much.

As long as we have no traffic patrol in the city everyone is at risk of being hit by a speeding car or truck.

Not enough parking for downtown

Not enough parking in downtown

We need an amphitheater downtown with a parking deck! Look at DOWNTOWN SANDY SPRINGS!

We should consider the installation of a small amphitheater with a parking deck. LOOK at downtown SANDY SPRINGS!!!!

No concerns in this area

Not a major issue

There isn't alot for events downtown. Security of vehicles at MARTA lot uncertain

https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

downtown parking 7 months ago

lack of dedicated bicycle lanes.

parking spaces throughout the city especially in downtown.

#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

More parking will be needed to acommodate growing number of customers for business in town.

I don't have any concerns about parking. I have concerns about lack of well-maintained sidewalks and

I have rarely had issues parking in East Point, however there is a need for more handicap accessible

12/2

any other comments you may have about <b>tra</b> a very high number of reckless drivers (driving at very h esidential areas). More speed bumps might help. It is not safe for bicyclists (apart from the very short bike t is not a very walkable city either. Many major streets la go t desperately needs well-maintained sidewalks througho fares. Dedicated bicycle lanes would help as well. The be ustrial roads. We need sidewalks from schools to resider al areas, as two examples. Particularly during an ongoing public transportation. go t needs PROTECTED biking infrastructure to <u>0.32 Agree</u> exalks (shaded sidewalks preferably) go <u>0.28 Agree</u> ds have no infrastructure for pedestrians and are forced go t has a huge cycling community and needs protected bik go <u>0.32 Agree</u> ts ASK for speed humps PROVIDE THEM!!! go <u>0.32 Agree</u> thas a huge cycling community and needs protected bik go <u>0.32 Agree</u> thas a huge cycling community and needs protected bik go <u>0.32 Agree</u> thas a huge cycling community and needs protected bik go sto gear future developments toward humans and not or r sidewalk and bike lanes! East Point could be great with humans and not cars.	high speeds with very noisy cars at rail). Almost no dedicated bike lanes ack sidewalks. © <u>81 Agree</u> out neighborhoods and along est and newest sidewalks are often intial areas and from Wellstar to g pandemic, it is safer to walk or cycle © <u>52 Agree</u> d to walk in the road. © <u>27 Agree</u> ke lanes 20 Agree DS TO ENDI © <u>13 Agree</u> cars! Narrower streets to calm traffic
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30	① 11_Agree
had speed bumps in every neighborhood. I'm tired of pr h no consequences. Cleveland Avenue sounds like a race and dangerous.	
	⊕ <u>9 Agree</u>
e walks and less "Wind down Wednesday" which causes l	hugo traffic issue in the site
e walks and less "Wind down Wednesday" which causes l	● <u>5 Agree</u>
and racing and passing on the wrong side are rampant	
go ( ) <u>2 Agree</u>	2
more speed bumps in residential areas. People speed ev g that will keep a kid from being hit by a speeding car is a	
30	⊕ <u>2 Agree</u>
ke better crosswalks on Washington Rd. The 5- way inter 'e more sidewalks on through streets like Kimmeridge. A	
e n il il	en't enough speedbumps It lack of traffic code enforcement © <u>2.Agree</u> more speed bumps in residential areas. People speed e g that will keep a kid from being hit by a speeding car is 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10

#### https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commission - Repo	rt Creation	12/24/22, 3:40 AM	Atlanta Regional Commissio What kind of improvements should be considered to <b>enhan</b> d	
	Sidewalks should be in every community. 6 months ago ③ Lagree EP is in desperate need of traffic enforcement!			Downtown East Point has been a drag for many decades. Whatever the C College Park have successfully done to revitalize and make vibrant their c	ity of Hapeville and the City of
	7 months ago <u>® 1 Agree</u>			City of East Point should do. 7 months ago	
	I am constantly shocked at the speed folks drive down Main Street and church stre the road) as they're heading straight towards the police department. People are co mph over the speed limit! So close to the police department. It's brazen. And ridicu	nstantly going 20+		More restaurants/businesses with outdoor seating and social events. Boo shops, neighborhood meeting places.	
	police pulling them over.			7 months ago	⊕ <u>61 Agree</u>
	7 months ago Provide proper traffic calming infrastructure in neighborhoods to avoid drivers usin throughs. More sidewalks and safety buffers along roads over 25 mph. 3 months ago	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Better dinner dining options (Volaré, PAPER Plane) in town Better lunch options in town Good quality grocery store in town (Whole Foods, Publix, Kroger, Sprouts Improved menú at Chairs. More vegetarian options Outdoor seating/socializing area Attract commercial. Wagonworks also.	1
	Please bike riders can ride bikes in Atlanta. We do not need more white people on fine as they are, but sidewalks can be used for people needing to walk safely off the			7 months ago (© <u>52 Agre</u>	<u>e</u>
	4 months ago Getting around East Point by vehicle and public transit is not the challenge. It's gett			We need a coffee shop! I'm looking forward to Market 166 (and would love to see a downtown loo Too many empty storefronts.	tation for it!).
	and via bicycle that is a challenge. More sidewalks. Repaired sidewalks need to be a someone who walks the streets conditions are not always safe. Adding to the lack overgrown sidewalks, disregard for traffic signals such as stop sign and speed limit see our city employees and police disobeying these laws so they feel it's ok to do th from the top down. S months ago	of safety are s. People in this city		7 months ago Hire a MAIN STREET MANAGER and let them do their job! More planters needed downtown to make it attractive Better Businesses restuarants are needed (no more vape shops please) Sidewalks need repairs	€ <u>35 Agree</u>
	New sidewalks on Headland are not maintained. Erosion and overgrowth are comm	non		7 months ago © <u>26 Agree</u>	
	Serious concerns about pedestrian crossings to get to MARTA 5 months ago The neighborhood with "no truck zone" signs are not enforced. Colonial Hills in par everywhere but trucks are not stopped ticket or monitored at all. Poles have been	damaged, signs		Revamp the permitting and licensing procedures so that East Point is able a nice coffeeshop, a brewery, decent restaurants. We regularly lose busin Park because they are willing to work with potential business owners rath Point's city government and internal offices are too parochial. 7 months ago	esses to Hapeville and College
knocked neighbo	nocked down and sidewalks destroyed due to errant truck drivers illegally traversing the eighborhood unharmed by police.			Enhancing downtown East Point seems to be hopeless. I've attended mul sessions, etc for public art, budget sessions, the Commons area, etc. I rar incorporated into actions taken.	
			7 months ago	⊕ <u>18 Agree</u>	
	<b>2</b> 0 <b>1</b> 5	Point? % Restaurants % Business/Banking % Government Services % Other		Improved infrastructure for pedestrians (bike lanes and sidewalks) Healthy grocery options Saturday Farmer's Market instead of Wednesday More options for dining	
		Shopping Entertainment/Nightlife		7 months ago (© <u>13 Agree</u>	
		Parks/Greenspace		Literally anything. There is not a single primary reason for visiting downto occasional stop at an ATM to spend money outside of East Point.	own East Point, other than the
				7 months ago	⊕ <u>11 Agree</u>
				General stores (places to buy high quality everyday products)	
				7 months ago (11 Agree	
	124 respondents			Well a Saturday Farmers Market would be nice it would be competing for established and extremely high traffic markets that are also on saturdays to help increase the number of vendors a better location and more Outroe Wednesday Farmers Market would improve the look and the reputation of	. More support from the city each to the public for the
				7 months ago	⊕ <u>7 Agree</u>
				More family friendly businesses and restaurants More green space and landscaping 7 months ago	
				7 months ago ③ <u>5 Agree</u>	

https://publicinput.com/Reporting/ReportPreview/17702

	Atlanta Regional Commi	ssion - Report Creation
A complete overhaul of DT to incl attraction now? Oz & Chairs. That	ude dining, shopping, entertainme 's it. We can do better.	nt, green space. What is the
7 months ago		⊕ <u>3 Agr</u>
Read the agricultural plan and ma unique botanical add ONS to exis	ake our city stand out for plants, flo ting buildings.	wers, trees, locally grown food,
5 months ago		⊕ <u>2 Agr</u>
Our leadership makes sure that o	nly certain businesses are in down	town East Point. It is shameful.
7 months ago		⊕ <u>1 Agree</u>
Electronics retail/repair center		
7 months ago		
More BLACK OWNED businesses 4 months ago		
	e packages are always stolen. Resta putting trash in its place. Make par	
5 months ago		
Improve the roads leading to dow	ntown in order to invite new patro	ns. More patrons to existing
	s and vice versa. No one wants to o	
5 months ago		
73% Sanitation and Recycli	ng	89 🗸
57% Public Safety - Police a	ind Fire	70 🗸
53% Water and Sewer Serv	ice	65 🗸
43% Transportation Infrast	ructure - Streets, Sidewalks, Bikewa	ays, etc. 53 🗸
39% Parks and Recreation		48 🗸
34% Economic Development	nt	42 🗸
29% Planning and Zoning		35 🗸
25% Stormwater Managem	ient	30 🗸
19% Natural, Historic and 0	Cultural Resource Management	23 🗸
15% Building Code and Life	e Safety Code Compliance	18 🗸
6% Other		7 🗸

122 Respondents

	What do you think is missing in the City's mix of <b>employment sectors</b> ? You may select more than one choice. For context: the largest industry in the city is Accommodation and Food Service, followed by Transportation and Trade Industries.			
72%	Arts, Entertainment and Rec	reation	73 🗸	
41%	Health Care		42 🗸	
40%	Information Technology		41 🗸	
38%	Education		39 🗸	
17%	Corporate Management		17 🗸	
14%	Administrative and Support	Services	14 🗸	
13%	Government/Public Adminis	tration	13 🗸	
11%	Wholesale Trade		11 🗸	
11%	Construction		11 🗸	
11%	Finance and Insurance		11 🗸	
10%	Other		10 🗸	
6%	Nanufacturing		6 🗸	
4%	ransportation and Warehou	sing	4 🗸	
		102 Respondents		

Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

12/24/22, 3:40 AM

12/24/22, 3:40 AM

#### Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

12/24/22, 3:40 AM

If desired, please use the space below to list anything else you would like to be considered in future planning efforts for East Point that was not covered by the previous survey questions.

I would be great to have high quality stores closer to downtown. I hate going to Camp Creek for everything. Having modern, interesting developments e.g. Krog street market/Marietta square market style would bring a lot of business from residents and people outside of town. Those sort of places are attractive yo many ages/demographics! I would love to see Cleveland Ave be a sprawling business/shopping center at some point. Going from downtown EP to Cleveland Ave you would think you were in two totally different cities. 39 Agree Please focus on bringing in a close proximity grocery market into East Point. I have to drive into town or Camp Creek for any grocery needs. I don't feel comfortable shopping at Kroger on Metropolitan Pkwy. Having Aldi or Lidl in town would be HUGE for the community. (\*) 29 Agree Seek out and attract industries that need creative types and knowledge workers. Find a way to avoid having new industrial polluters in East Point. These heavy industrial manufacturers, test labs, etc. often only hire a few employees at low wages. They do not contribute to the community. 28 Agree We need a pool/full recreation center in East Point that would provide activities for all age groups. We need more sidewalks and walkable attractions to accomodate our sense of community. We need to update our water, sewer and powerlines. The sewerline/sinkhole situation on Beech Drive shouldn't need constant attention. Speed bumps in residential neighborhoods to encourage drivers to slow down (especially since we don't have sidewalks for people to walk on; this is a safety hazard. I'd love to be able to shop and support local business. 26 Agree Are the tiny homes still being developed in EP? Will the EP agricultural plan become a more dominant focal point in the city? Built on those and market the city as a sustainable hub in greater Atlanta, then expand and offer easier permitting for solar panels, front yard gardening, micro-habitat preservations, etc. 12 Agree Turning multiple blighted areas around downtown into residential/commercial developments with sidewalks. EP is located on MARTA line it doesnt have to be car-centric suburbia, it has opportunity to be a living mid density town (at least around downtown) 9 Agree Plan with multigenerational thinking in mind. I have so many teen neighbors with absolutely nothing to do. I'd love to see pools/rec spots/ better summer programming options etc. that keep them engaged and growing. Please don't just cater to the loudest demographic, our youth need infrastructure and programming so that they become better integrated into this community. This is their home and we should be making it the best place to live for them. I'd also really love to see more things to showcase the charm of our area - historic home tours, neighborhood festivals that attract from all over etc. Finally, in this planning process don't get distracted by those who claim to care about gentrification but then spend all of their energy complaining that we are not like other cities who've successfully gentrified. Focus on revitalization and multigenerational plans. Constantly ask, how do our plans impact the various age groups and demographics? What about those who will live here 30 years from now? All these brewery type ideas cater to a certain type of waspy gentrifier demographic... make sure you ask the youth what they want and dream of. What can we be exposing them to so that they are not left to their own devices? Invest in our youth now. TCHS is full of brilliant youth .... Dr. Lett I'm sure would help you all get data from them. Wishing you all the best, I can imagine this work is hard. <u>
 4 Agree</u>
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 4 Fire everyone in the Planning & Zoning department. They have failed the city. Compare us to our Tri-City neighbors. We are stifled because of them. Old East Point must make way for modern day living.

3 Agree

More neighborhood parks. More walkable sidewalks, not the ones that run right next to four lane road. with no green space in-between and no trees A strong voting infrastructure that encourages information exchange, good communication, competition and change. An active and supported EP business community/organization that values community engagement and respects residents' utilization of their establishment. Safe, clean, aesthetic parks 1 Agree The recycling center now charges for placing excess trash in the trash bin. It is not a good way to preserve the community since garbage pickup is only once a week. We want a City that is clean and not disincentivize residents to bring bulk trash or objects from the week. Seek out and attract industries that need creative types and knowledge workers. Find a way to avoid having new industrial polluters in East Point. These heavy industrial manufacturers, test labs, etc. often only hire a few employees at low wages. They do not contribute to the community. Permitting and code enforcement should stop punishing home owners and go after developers who are cutting corners and don't have the best interest. Empowered Participatory Governance, a concept where City Council and the City Manager use citizens' conversations and recommendations as a mechanism of empowerment to improve citizen engagement in local government. The most fundamental component of democracy. East Point leadership should consider analyzing citizen survey responses and use these responses as a base point for FY 23 plans, moving into open discussions with reasoning on City Council actions. Community farming and gardening infrastructure for every square mile EP needs to focus on what makes itself unique and go with that theme. Hapeville has arts, CP has restaurants, and EP could have it's agricultural plan come to life. Curbside composting, cooking, growing, fresh healthy food East Point is filthy - need more services especially around Lee St coming from McPherson to downtown EP - grass always needs to be cut, pet bins are never picked up and disgusting, trash is everywhere Which of the following statements apply to you (select all that apply)?

Atlanta Regional Commission - Report Creation

④3 Agree

⊕ <u>3 Agree</u>

1 Agree

1 Agree



132 Respondents







No data to display...



City Council Regular Meeting Minutes City Hall 2757 East Point Street East Point, GA 30344 July 17, 2023 6:30 PM Mission and Vision Statement for the City of East Point

To provide exceptional city services in the most professional, courteous and effective manner to enhance the quality of life in the City of East Point. East Point is a City of excellence in providing housing and business development opportunities, public safety, recreational and cultural activities.

The Honorable Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham

**Ward A** The Honorable Sharon Shropshire At Large The Honorable Lance Robertson **Ward C** The Honorable T. Starr Cummings At Large The Honorable Myron Cook

The Honorable Joshua Butler IV At Large

The Honorable Stephanie Gordon

Ward D

**Ward B** The Honorable Karen Rene' At Large The Honorable Dr. Josette Bailey

City Manager:

Interim City Attorney:

City Clerk:

Deron King

Antavius Weems

Keshia McCullough

## <u>Civility Pledge</u>

The way we govern ourselves is often as important as the positions we take. Our collective decisions will be better when differing views have had the opportunity to be fully vetted and considered. All people have the right to be treated with respect, courtesy and openness. We value all input. We commit to conduct ourselves at all times with civility and courtesy to each other.

## I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Honorable Mayor Holiday Ingraham called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

## II. ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Deana Holiday Ingraham	Mayor	Present	
Sharon Shropshire	At Large	Present	
Lance C. Robertson		Present	
Josette Bailey		Present	
T. Starr Cummings	At Large	Present	
Myron Cook		Present	
Joshua B. Butler IV	At Large	Present	

Stephanie Gordon		Present	
Karen Rene'	At Large	Present	
Deron King	City Manager	Present	
Antavius Weems	Interim City Attorney	Present	
Keshia McCullough	City Clerk	Present	

## III. INVOCATION - Rev. Tonjie Clark, St. Paul Missionsary Baptist Church:

## **IV. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

The pledge was recited in unison.

## V. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

## VI. PRESENTATIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Muslim American Heritage Month Proclamation

## Presented by: City Council Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham

Mayor Holiday Ingraham announced Muslim American Heritage Month. She read the following proclamation into the record.

## Proclamation

Office of the Mayor of the City of East Point, Georgia

### IN RECOGNITION OF

## Muslim American Heritage Month

**WHEREAS**, the City of East Point) takes great pride in the varied religious and cultural traditions of its residents and seeks to afford all people in East Point, Georgia the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich histories, cultures, significant contributions, and shared principles of Muslim Americans; and

**WHEREAS,** Muslim Americans contribute greatly to charitable organizations that help people from all faiths in the United States and around the world by feeding the hungry, providing recuperation efforts following natural disasters, and providing medical assistance, family services, scholastic supplies, and before- and after-school programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Muslim Americans have contributed to every part of the economy, culture, education, and identity of Georgia and the United States in making advancements in architecture, arts, business, culture, diplomacy, government, law, medicine, the military, national security, religion, and sports; and

**WHEREAS**, Muslim Americans from Georgia have made significant contributions in the development of vaccines and the global fight against polio, malaria, influenza, hepatitis, cancer, and other diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to foster and support an inclusive society that values and promotes public education, diversity, awareness, promotes religious freedom, and honors the fundamental rights and liberties of every individual and addressing the effects experienced by individuals who are Muslim American.

**WHEREAS,** There is a need for public education, awareness, discourse, and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Muslim American; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of East Point highlights the rich heritage, arts, food, music and traditions of the Muslim American community, while also recognizing their invaluable contributions to our city and society.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Deana Holiday Ingraham, Mayor of the City of East Point, along with the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May as

## Muslim American Heritage Month

In the city of East Point and encourage East Pointers to learn more about Muslim American heritage and express our appreciation to the Muslim Americans for their important work, vibrancy, and contributions that helps make the city a welcoming community for all.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, this 17th day of July 2023, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of East Point to be affixed.

## **RESULT: PRESENTED**

2. 2023 Healthy Point Recognitions

## Presented by: City Council Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham

Mayor Holiday Ingraham recognized all the participants of the Healthy Point. There were eighteen different activities to participate in. Fifty-four participants received the six-week incentive (insulated tote bag), twenty-seven participants received the eight-week incentive (gym bag), sixteen participates received the ten-week incentive (Yeti bottle), and twelve participants including a youth received the twelve-week incentive (\$200.00 gift card from Food Well Alliance).

3. Sootchy Higher Education Program

## Presented by: City Council Mayor Deana Holiday Ingraham

Mayor Holiday Ingraham introduced David Adefeso and Craig Smith, the founders of Sootchy Charitable Foundation (SCF) and Sootchy Inc. Mr.Adefeso stated Sootchy's mission is to end long-term poverty. The organization connects the underserved and underrepresented American families to opportunities they did not know existed. Mr. Adefesco stated that he will select eight cities to do a pilot program to help get every child a college education and the City of East Point fits the criteria to be one of the eight cities to do the pilot program at the end of the year.

Mayor Holiday Ingraham briefly described the process for the selection of eligible cities. The ask of Council is to allow the City of East Point to move forward with the selection process.

Councilmember Shropshire moved to allow the city to move forward through the selection process. Councilmember Cook provided the second.

Councilmember Butler inquired about funding the youth in the program. Mr. Adefeso stated one way to fund the youth in the program is through employees 401K plans where the employers would match.

Councilmember Butler suggested that this item go to Work Session. Councilmember Robertson inquired about other participating cities.

Mr. Adefeso stated they are working with Union City and Forest Park, Georgia as well as (six other cities outside of Georgia. Presently, there is no financial commitment. They are also looking to contract with the State of Georgia. Mr. Adefeso also gave a brief overview of how the program is working within the school system.

Mayor Holiday Ingraham restated the motion brought forth by Councilmember Shropshire to allow SCF to move forward with the selection process for the City of East Point. Councilmember Cook provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Sharon Shropshire, At Large
SECONDER:	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon,
	Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

4. Service Line Warranty Overview

## Presented by: Water and Sewer

Melissa Echevarria, Director of Water and Sewer gave a brief summary on the Service Line Warranty Program through the National League of Cities (NLC). The provider for National League of Cities is HomeServe. The program provides low cost warranty repairs to water and sewer lines on private property. The City of East Point has participated in this program since 2012. Justin Steinbugl, Senior Manager of HomeServe gave a brief summary of the program and its benefits. Mr. Steinbugl stated that each claim covers up to \$8,500.00.

Councilmember Rene' expressed concerns from senior citizens regarding the letters sent out by HomeServe. She noted the letter appears to have come from the City of East Point. Mrs. Echevarria stated that in 2012, the City of East Point allowed HomeServe to use their logo on behalf of the city so that residents would be more open to enroll in the program.

Councilmember Rene' posed several questions regarding the program. Mr. Steinbugl presented a breakdown of residents who use the program and its customer satisfaction rating.

Mayor Holiday Ingraham recommended that the information be more available and inquired about vendors. Mr. Steinbugl stated there is an approved vendor list that will be provided to the residents. Mrs. Echevarria stated the information will be placed on the city's website and a link will be provided on the steps to becoming an approved vendor.

Councilmember Cummings questioned the cost to residents. Mr. Steinbugl stated the lowest plans starts at \$7.00 monthly, however the cost depends on the coverage that the residents want.

<b>RESULT:</b>	PRESENTED

5. Cameras at East Point Gas Stations

## Presented by: City Council At Large Sharon Shropshire

Councilmember Shropshire stated that residents are asking for cameras to be placed at gas stations in the City of East Point. Councilmember Cummings suggested that this topic also go on the August work session.

Chief Popham noted that DeKalb County Government has passed an ordinance that all gas stations must place cameras around the store. Councilmember Cummings suggested that the City work together have an ordinance put in place for the City of East Point.

**RESULT:** MOVED

Next: 8/14/2023 6:30 PM

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Cook announced the next Budget/Finance Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 to discuss the closing of the FY23 budget and additional information on FY21. He stated that budget year 2024 will be up for discussion due to additional funding being received. Councilmember Cook also stated that he attended the MEAG Conference and gave a brief summary of the conference.

## VIII. ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA:

Councilmember Rene' moved to approve the Council Agenda. Councilmember Robertson provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

## IX. APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:

City Council - Regular Meeting - Jul 3, 2023 6:30 PM

Councilmember Rene' moved to approve the City Council meeting minutes of July 3, 2023. Councilmember Robertson provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

## X. PUBLIC HEARING:

6. An Ordinance to Adopt the 2022 Comprehensive Plan Update

## Presented by: Planning & Community Development

Councilmember Rene' motioned to open the public hearing on the ordinance to adopt the 2022 Comprehensive Plan update. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

Kimberly Smith, Director of Planning and Community Development, gave an overview of the comprehensive plan update. She stated that this has been worked on for a year and a half. The structure of the existing plan is largely unchanged and nearly all issues from 2017 are still important. The equity statement is a new component of the plan.

### Speakers in Favor:

**1. Megan Douglas** (*Morehouse School of Medicine*): Stated that health equity is needed. The more the term health equity is used, it creates a foundation for sustainability for this work.

**2. Tamie Cook:** Relayed she served on the Health Equity Board and on the board for the revision of the comp plan. She stated she has an issue with the first comment in Chapter 6: Community Goals. She also agrees that the term "health equity" be used.

3. Mark Moody - Emphasized the importance of keeping health equity in the language.

4. Zakiya Morris - Stressed the importance of keeping health equity in the plan.

### Speakers in Opposition: None.

Councilmember Rene' motioned to close the public hearing. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
MOVER:	Karen Rene', At Large
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Sharon Shropshire, At Large
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon,
	Rene'
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	Deana Holiday Ingraham

## Waive 1st Reading:

Councilmember Rene' moved to waive the first reading on the ordinance. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

## **Adoption of Ordinance:**

Councilmember Rene' motioned to adopt the Ordinance on the 2022 "Health Equity" Comprehensive Plan. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second.

Councilmember Cummings asked will this include the health equity statement.

Councilmember Rene' amended the original motion to include the 2nd paragraph in the equity statement with the addition of "quality of life and health equity". Councilmember Shropshire provided the second.

Mrs. Smith stated by adding "quality of life", Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017 would need to be removed. Attorney Weems encouraged a substitute motion to clean up the language.

Mayor Holiday Ingraham stated that she added "quality of life" after the motion, therefore the original motion stands. **The motion carried.** 

7. Ordinance Granting a Special Use Permit for a Habitable Accessory Structure Located at 3339 Harrison Road PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED

## Presented by: Planning & Community Development

Councilmember Rene' motioned to open the public hearing on an ordinance granting a special use permit for a habitable accessory structure located at 3339 Harrison Road. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

Mrs. Smith gave an overview of the special use permit for said property at 3339 Harrison Rd. East Point, Georgia. She stated the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of the permit.

Councilmember Rene' motioned to close the public hearing. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
SECONDER:	Sharon Shropshire, At Large
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon,
	Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

## Waive 1st Reading:

Councilmember Rene' motioned to wave the first reading on the ordinance. Councilmember Bailey provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

## **Adoption of Ordinance:**

Councilmember Rene' motion to adopt the ordinance granting a special use permit for a habitable accessory structure located at 3339 Harrison Road. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

## XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chapter 2 – Section 2-2002(bb) – Rule 28 - The public may speak during the Public Comment section of the agenda. Speakers must complete a comment form prior to the start of the meeting. Subject may include any subject of choice. There will be a (3) three minute time limit for each speaker. Speakers that have signed up to speak may give all or part of their time up to (3) three minutes to another speaker for a total of (6) six minutes of speaking time. Speakers may address the council only once during this time of the agenda. Speakers must identify themselves and their address prior to speaking. Questions from the speakers may not be addressed during the public speaking section of the agenda. East Point residents will have priority over other speakers. There will be a total of not more than 60 minutes for the Public speaking section of the agenda. Speakers may only address the Presiding Officer. Speakers shall observe all rules of decorum. No debate, disrespect or obscenities shall be tolerated. The Presiding Officer shall rule any such individual out of order that fails to comply with the forgoing.

- 1. James Brown East Point, GA: Stated he lives in Hillcrest and have voiced his concerns regarding cleaning and repairs around the community as well as the safety of the residents. He would like to receive more help from the City of East Point regarding this matter.
- 2. Marie Terry East Point, GA: Extended her appreciation to the Public Works Department, discussed volunteering at the Food Distribution, and being approached by a Councilmember. She also addressed her concerns for the benches and tables that were removed from River Park. She recommended that Council start listening to the residents.
- **3.** Tamie Cook East Point GA: Stated that she has resources to food banks and would be glad to share the information.

## XII. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Councilmember Rene' moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 8-12. Councilmember Cook provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

8. Council Approval of Public Safety and Community Violence Reduction Grant Terms & Conditions.

**Presented by: Finance Police Department** 

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
SECONDER:	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon, Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

9. Council Approval to Award the Task Order to Brown and Caldwell for the City of East Point Water Model Clarifier Rehabilitation FY 2024 CIP Not to Exceed \$26,928.00

## Presented by: Water and Sewer

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
SECONDER:	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon,
	Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

10. Council Approval to Award a Change Order to the Corbett Group, LLC for ITB No. 2022-1778, Multi-Year Contract for Installation of New Six-Inch and Eight-Inch Diameter Water Mains. This Change Order is Not to Exceed the Amount of \$18,000.00.

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon, Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

11. Council Approval of Selected Vendor Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc for ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan: Task Work Order No. 1 Under Contract 2022-1790. General Fund Transportation Division Engineering. Contract Not to Exceed \$45,000.00.

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon, Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

12. Council Approval of a Resolution to Establish Qualifying Dates for the November 7, 2023 Election

## **Presented by: City Clerk**

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon,
	Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

## XIII. AGENDA ITEMS:

 Council Review and Approval of the Citywide Brownfield Assessment Grant RFP #2023-1818
 Including RFP, Evaluation Memo & Cumulative Score Sheet, Awardee's Proposal Amount of \$67,900 and Copy of Contract Signed by Awardee (Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.).

## **Presented by: Economic Development**

Councilmember Rene' motioned to open the floor for discussion and possible action on council review and approval of the Citywide Brownfield Assessment Grant RFP #2023-1818 including the RFP, Evaluation Memo & Cumulative Score Sheet, Awardee's Proposal amount of \$67,900 and copy of the contract signed by Awardee (Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.). Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried**.

Derman Lawrence, Interim Director of Contracts and Procurement and Maceo Rogers, Director of Economic Development gave an overview on the grant.

Councilmember Rene' motioned to approve the Citywide Brownfield Assessment Grant RFP #2023-1818. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Karen Rene', At Large
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Sharon Shropshire, At Large
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon, Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

14. Council Approval and Possible Action of Prime Engineering Our on Call Consultant Civil/Site Design for Bryan Park Site Improvements of Bryan Park Funded by CDBG Awarded Grant in the Amount of \$170,000. the Amount of Services of \$33,150.

## Presented by: Parks & Recreation

Councilmember Rene' motioned to open the floor for discussion and possible action on Prime Engineering for Bryan Park site improvements funded by a CDBG awarded grant in the amount of \$170,000 and the amount of services of \$33,150. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

Councilmember Rene' motioned to approve the Bryan Park Site Improvement Plan by Prime Engineering Our On-Call Consultant Civil/Site Design. Councilmember Shropshire provided second. **The motion carried.** 

Cook, Butler IV, Gordon,

15. Council Discussion and Possible Action on Changes of Council Salary

## **Presented by: City Council**

Councilmember Cook motioned to open the floor for discussion and possible action on Council Salary increase. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

Councilmember Cook discussed the ads that have been and will be posted in the paper. He gave a brief overview of the salary changes (\$25,000 for the Mayor and \$21,000 for the Council). Councilmember Cook stated that they will vote on Monday, August 7, 2023.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED** 

16. Discussion on Adoption of Streets

## Presented by: City Council At Large Sharon Shropshire

Councilmember Shropshire motioned to wave the first reading on the ordinance regarding the adoption of the streets. Councilmember Bailey provided the second.

Councilmember Shropshire withdrew her motion.

Attorney Weems stated the resolution is public policy and the motion to adopt the ordinance can be made later.

Councilmember Shropshire motioned to adopt the resolution regarding the adoption of the streets. Councilmember Cook provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [8 TO 0]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Sharon Shropshire, At Large
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Myron Cook
AYES:	Shropshire, Robertson, Bailey, Cummings, Cook, Butler IV, Gordon, Rene'
ABSTAIN:	Deana Holiday Ingraham

## XIV. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL:

- 1. Councilmember Gordon: Thanked everyone who showed up in person and via online. She extended appreciation to Gary Davis with Next Level Academy for participating in the two-day event with the City of East Point as well as Yolanda Johnson who helped to make the event possible. She thanked Councilmembers Butler and Cummings for coming out as well. She stated that this year, the annual Back to School Bookbag Giveaway will be held on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at the Marketplace Camp Creek under the tent near Party City.
- **2.** Councilmember Shropshire: Addressed the comments from Ms. Terry. She also discussed the Food Distribution. She stressed that she will continue to serve the community.
- **3.** Councilmember Bailey: Thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She also thanked everyone for coming out to the HOA (Home Owner's Association) Presidents meeting. She announced on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, the City of East Point Housing meeting will take place. Per Deputy City Manager Geneasa Elias, residents can get a copy of the flyer to register.
- **4. Councilmember Robertson:** Congratulated all Healthy Point winners. He also thanked Pastor Fred Jones of Connally Drive Baptist Church. He congratulated Mrs. Brenda on winning Yard of the Month. He announced on Saturday, July 22, 2023, there will be a discussion regarding the unhoused.
- **5. Councilmember Cook:** Stated he recently attended a conference and was pleased to receive compliments from strangers regarding the work that the Mayor and Councilmembers are doing in the City of East Point. As a City, East Point's goal is to be rational and realistic when it comes to solving problems. He stated we are projecting to become a stronger city.
- 6. Mayor Holiday Ingraham: Thanked the East Point Main Street Association (EPMSA) for bringing back the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Salute to the Red, White, and Blue. She thanked everyone who volunteered to make this event happen. She also thanked Councilmember Robertson for attending and taking wonderful videos of this event and showing residents enjoying themselves. Mayor

Holiday Ingraham explained that during COVID, they talked about the need to have all the City's boards and commissions have training. She expressed she was hoping the training could be the second week of August (August 12<sup>th</sup>), however the City will need to check with GMA (Georgia Municipal Association), to see when training will be available.

## XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There are no executive session items.

## XVI. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING:

Councilmember Cook moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 pm. Councilmember Shropshire provided the second. **The motion carried.** 

WHEN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IS REQUIRED, ONE WILL BE CALLED FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUES: 1) PERSONNEL, 2) LITIGATION OR 3) REAL ESTATE