

## Mayor Franklin Forms BeltLine Partnership

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Atlanta (July 26, 2005) --- Mayor Shirley Franklin announced today the creation of an advisory committee known as the BeltLine Partnership. The BeltLine Partnership is charged with coordinating progress on the BeltLine between the city and the numerous groups already working on the BeltLine concept. Ray Weeks, chief executive officer, Weeks Properties Group, was named as the chair of the BeltLine Partnership in April.

“The BeltLine represents a significant initiative towards driving economic development in the city and increasing green space, housing and transit in Atlanta,” said Mayor Franklin. “The project will stimulate economic growth while creating 37,500 permanent new jobs and 48,000 year-long construction jobs for our city. The BeltLine will improve the overall quality of life in Atlanta and act as a blueprint for Atlanta’s future growth. The selection of these individuals, all of whom are leaders in their respective communities and fields, reinforces how important the BeltLine project will be for the entire city.”

“The composition of the BeltLine Partnership represents the diverse audiences with interests in the BeltLine and its progress,” said Ray Weeks, chair of the BeltLine Partnership. “The group includes leaders from the corporate, neighborhood and faith communities citywide. Our common goal is to advance the BeltLine and make the mayor’s vision for this project a reality.”

The BeltLine Partnership members announced today include:

- Clara Hayley Axam, Project Director, The Enterprise Foundation, Board of Directors, MARTA
- Dr. Gerald Durley, Pastor, Providence Missionary Baptist Church of Atlanta
- Helen Davis Hatch, Vice President, Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates, Inc., and Trustee of the Urban Land Institute
- Richard L. Holmes, Senior Vice President, Georgia Power

(more)

The BeltLine Partnership members announced today also include:

- Philip I. Kent, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Turner Broadcasting System, Inc., Chairman, Central Atlanta Progress
- Christopher Glenn Sawyer, Partner, Alston & Bird, and former national Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Trust for Public Land
- Timothy C. Tuff, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, John H. Harland Company
- Mtamanika Youngblood, President and Chief Executive Officer, Center for Working Families, Inc., and Vice Chair and past President of the Historic District Development Corporation, a leading non-profit builder of affordable homes in Atlanta

For additional information on the BeltLine Partnership, the BeltLine project and how to become involved with the BeltLine, visit [www.BeltLinePartnership.org](http://www.BeltLinePartnership.org).

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