



Peachtree Segment in Buckhead Now “Complete”

Mayor Reed helps cut ribbon on project that transformed Peachtree Road in Buckhead

ATLANTA (December 11, 2012) – The Buckhead Community Improvement District today marked the completion of Phase II of the Peachtree Road transformation. The project converted a one-mile stretch of Buckhead’s main traffic artery into a signature boulevard, with granite curbing and medians, hardwood trees, seasonal color landscaping, bike lanes, wider sidewalks, modern lighting, buried utility lines, street furniture, and dedicated left turn lanes at signaled intersections.

“Transforming Peachtree into a complete street is fundamental to creating a walkable urban place, which the market is increasingly demanding,” said Buckhead CID Executive Director Jim Durrett. “We are achieving this while also improving traffic flow on this signature street.”

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed joined representatives from the Georgia Department of Transportation and civic groups to cut the ribbon on the project.

“Every great city has an iconic street, and Peachtree is ours,” Mayor Reed said. “The transformation of Peachtree Street in Buckhead is making this street a beacon that tells the world we are a world-class destination.”

Phase II of the transformation cost \$32-million, funded with nearly \$11-million in federal stimulus funds, \$5-million in state DOT grants, a \$4-million Atlanta Regional Commission grant, \$1.5-million from the City of Atlanta Quality of Life Bond Program, \$3.3-million in rights of way donated by property owners, and \$6.5-million from the Buckhead CID. The Georgia DOT managed the project, with consulting from URS and HGOR. InfraSource served as lead contractor.

“Completion of the second phase of this project along Peachtree is another example of successful partnerships between the Georgia DOT and local organizations,” said GDOT Deputy Commissioner Todd Long. “Working with the Buckhead CID, we have delivered a project on a major roadway that works for everyone whether they bike, walk, or drive this route. Our design policy to utilize the *Complete Streets* concepts when new projects are being developed will ensure that we bring the public more endeavors like this one today.”

Phase II of the transformation starts at the MARTA overpass where Phase I left off and runs north to Roxboro Road. Phase III, which is in development, will extend south past Maple Dr. to E. Shadowlawn Ave. The endeavor began more than 10 years ago as the signature project of the newly created Buckhead Community Improvement District, a quasi-government entity that

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collects three dollars for every \$1,000 in assessed value from non-resident property owners in the district for investment in improvements within the district.

Other CID-funded programs and projects for 2013 include the construction of the pedestrian bridge over GA 400 and entrance into MARTA's Buckhead Station, construction of streetscape improvements in the Buckhead Village area around W. Paces Ferry and Peachtree, and improvements on Piedmont Road near Habersham Road that will address morning and afternoon traffic congestion in that important corridor.

About Buckhead CID

The objective of the Buckhead Community Improvement District (BCID), working with the City of Atlanta and its community partners, is to meet the challenges resulting from Buckhead's rapid, primarily automobile-based growth, including improving traffic mobility, enhancing the pedestrian environment, creating better access to public transit, initiating intra-district transportation alternatives, encouraging better integration of land uses and improving linkages to the region's automobile, transit and bicycle networks.

www.buckheadcid.com

About "Complete Streets"

Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. The National Complete Streets Coalition was founded in 2005 with the mission of encouraging transportation planners and engineers to adhere to Complete Streets policies.

www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets

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