ATLANTA
Preservation Center

February 27, 2025

Lauren Blaszyk, AICP
Atlanta Regional Commission
229 Peachtree St, Suite 100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
lblaszyk@atlantaregional.com

RE: Atlanta's Ashby Station Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) 2025 Application - Letter of Support

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Ian Michael Rogers, President
Amanda Rhein, Vice President
Megan Hodgkiss, Secretary
John T. Williams, Treasurer
Danielle Willkens, At-Large

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
David Y. Mitchell

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Howell E. Adams III
Jennifer Ball
Megan Hodgkiss
Cecily McLeod
Amanda Rhein
Ian Michael Rogers
April Stammel
Kristen Thomas
John T. Williams
T. Michelle Williams
Danielle Willkens

HONORARY TRUSTEES
Bryan M. Grant III
Nowland Gwynn
Rainey Rembert Woodward

Dear Mrs. Blaszyk,

The Martin Luther King Jr. Main Street supports the City of Atlanta's application for the Ashby Station Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) study. This plan will focus on the heart of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, with an emphasis on connections with the adjacent Ashby MARTA station, culminating in a more walkable, active, and resilient commercial corridor.

For decades, the Ashby Station has connected the Historic Westside Atlanta neighborhoods to the region's transit system, and the adjacent neighborhood commercial district is an economic and cultural center significantly contributing to the area's identity. As this district evolves, the Martin Luther King Jr. Main Street is a committed community partner and advocate for a more cohesive and active neighborhood commercial district served by the Ashby station.

Historic Preservation provides a better way to appreciate the value of America's historic places as definers of our national character. It is accepted as a key component for a thriving livable community that can support varied and rich experiences. Understanding how to retain historic character and cultural diversity, should be embraced as a universal goal, and an outcome of this effort.

This LCI study and its Action Plan will support priority projects for critical investments for neighborhood and regional accessibility to Ashby MARTA station and position this historically significant area for the future.

We proudly support the City of Atlanta's 2025 application for the Ashby Station LCI study and will be active participants in the planning effort. We are particularly excited to make our storefront at 760 Martin Luther King as a place for the community to meet, exchange ideas, and build relationships during the LCI planning process.

David Yoakley Mitchell

ATLANTA PRESERVATION CENTER 327 ST. PAUL AVENUE SE ATLANTA GA 30312-3129 www.PreserveAtlanta.com (O) 404-688-3353 (F) 404-688-3357

THE PURPOSE OF THE ATLANTA PRESERVATION CENTER IS TO PROMOTE THE PRESERVATION OF ATLANTA'S ARCHITECTURALLY, HISTORICALLY AND CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT BUILDINGS, NEIGHBORHOODS AND LANDSCAPES THROUGH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY.