

Application Disclaimer

PRIOR TO STARTING YOUR APPLICATION, DID YOU REVIEW THE LCI GUIDEBOOK, AND DO YOU HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE?

We strongly recommend you review the [application guidebook](#) while filling out this application.

✓ Yes, I acknowledge that I reviewed the guidebook and fully understand the program as explained.

Section 1: Applicant Information

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

City of Atlanta

NAME OF PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON

Doug Young

JOB TITLE

Director

DEPARTMENT

City Planning

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Section 2: Type of Assistance

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

- Tactical: Advances the implementation of a priority action identified in a study within the LCI area.

Section 3: Project Information

NAME OF PROJECT

Ashby Station LCI

NAME OF LCI AREA AND LAST PLAN ADOPTION DATE

Vine City/Washington Park LCI; adopted June 15, 2009

TOTAL COST OF PROJECT

\$250,000.00

PROPOSED LOCAL MATCH (MINIMUM 20% OF PROJECT COST)

\$50,000.00

PROJECT LOCATION/EXTENTS

In the surrounding MARTA Ashby Station area; Northern-most extents- Mayson Turner Road and J.E. Lowery Blvd., Southern-most extents - J.E. Lowery Blvd. and Washington Pl, Eastern-most extents - MLK, Jr. Blvd and J.P. Brawley Dr., Western-most extents - MLK Jr. Dr and Booker St.

UPLOAD STUDY AREA MAP

- [ashby-lci-maps.pdf](#)

HAS THIS PROJECT BEEN IDENTIFIED IN A PREVIOUS LCI STUDY, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OR ANOTHER RECENTLY COMPLETED STUDY?

Yes

PLEASE NAME THE STUDY, AND REFERENCE THE SECTION OR PAGE THAT RELATES TO THIS PROJECT

Vine City/Washington Park LCI; adopted June 15, 2009

IS THE PROJECT WITHIN AN EXISTING LCI AREA?

Yes

REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

- [ashby-lci-report-of-accomplishments.pdf](#)

PROVIDE A BRIEF STUDY GOAL AND DESCRIPTION. IN YOUR PROJECT DESCRIPTION, PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE SPECIFIC PRODUCTS AND DELIVERABLES THAT THIS STUDY WILL CREATE.

This Tactical study advances the vision for a safe, connected, and active Ashby MARTA station. Building off the 2009 Vine City/Washington Park LCI plan, this update focuses on achieving outcomes: eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries through safer street design, speed management, and other proven safety measures; expanding equitable and affordable mobility options through accessibility improvements, bicycle and pedestrian projects, and wayfinding to connect more people with the station's transit service; connecting the nearby neighborhood commercial district and neighborhoods; elevating the historic and public spaces around the station to make public life more enjoyable, functional, and welcoming.

The City will prepare an Action Plan with the following to guide implementation: capital project priorities for safely traveling around the station supported by technical research and public input; design concepts co-created with partners and community members for exceptional public spaces where Ashby station connects to the area's sense of place and identity as well as residential, commercial, and civic activities; recommendations for first and last mile connections, bus and train facility improvements, and transit-oriented development that best connects residents, workers, students, and visitors who most depend on the station.

HOW DOES THIS PROPOSED LCI STUDY ADDRESS A NEED IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Ashby MARTA Station serves the neighborhood commercial district at Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard. Since 1979, the station connects Historic Westside Atlanta neighborhoods to regional transit. Streets and other public spaces are critical ways people access the station, but systematic decisions have cut off the station from the commercial district and nearby neighborhoods over time.

The City has been partnering with Westside community and philanthropic groups over the years and together have successfully advanced a vision. Community members value MLK corridor's connective tissue and want to create a cohesive neighborhood commercial district with a mix of legacy and new businesses meeting the needs of residents, workers, students, and visitors.

Atlanta's newest Main Street business organization has formed out of this collaborative effort. The Martin Luther King Jr. Main Street Association is a group of business and community advocates dedicated to the commercial district's future and its significant history and identity. Partnering with Main Street Association is a unique opportunity to further engage businesses, residents, workers, students, and visitors. The partnership brings new resources to design and improve the streets and public spaces connecting Ashby station to the district and, ultimately, the Historic Westside

Atlanta neighborhoods.

HOW DOES YOUR LCI STUDY ADVANCE OR ADDRESS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING LCI PRIORITIES. IF THE APPLICATION IS SELECTED, THE ANSWERS PROVIDED WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE LCI STUDY SCOPE. PROJECTS DO NOT NEED TO ADVANCE ALL OF THE LCI PRIORITIES.

Creative Placemaking, Green Infrastructure/Climate Change

The Action Plan will include design concepts for public spaces with art co-created with partners and the community. Artists partnering with the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs and MARTA's Artbound will participate. City of Atlanta sets aside funding for public art for every capital improvement project. Department of Transportation and Department of Parks and Recreation will help identify opportunities for community-driven public art in capital projects prioritized in the Action Plan.

The Ashby station is in the Proctor Creek watershed. Proctor Creek is impaired from its headwaters about a half mile from the station to its confluence at the Chattahoochee River. Department of Watershed Management will provide technical expertise during the planning process to ensure maintenance of existing and construction of new green infrastructure projects along streets and public spaces are included in the Action Plan. Other climate resilience actions may be identified as part of the area's future transit-oriented development and first/last mile connections. Possible actions range from reusing historic buildings, addressing risks to extreme heat and cold weather (including people experiencing homelessness near the station), preserving and growing the tree canopy, increasing fresh food access, and installing EV infrastructure.

ARC STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT LCI APPLICANTS ACTIVELY ENGAGE COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LCI APPLICATION. LIST STAKEHOLDERS (E.G., COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS (CBOS), BUSINESSES AND/OR INSTITUTIONS, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS) INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS APPLICATION, AS WELL AS HOW THEY WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING PROCESS, IF THE APPLICATION IS SELECTED.

This application is supported by strong partnerships with implementing partners and community organizations. A key community member is the Martin Luther King Jr. Main Street District. The organization adds constructive insights to the study as well as provides a community hub at the 960 MLK Building within the study area—a prime location to facilitate community conversations during the planning process. Further, this plan has received support from City departments and partners with ongoing projects, culminating in an eager coalition with the shared objective of a more functional, safe, and significant district. Below are the partners involved in preparing this application with Letters of Support attached:

MLK Main Street District

Councilperson Amos, Council District 3

Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA)

Atlanta Department of City Planning

Atlanta Department of Transportation

Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation

WHO IN YOUR COMMUNITY HAS BEEN HISTORICALLY UNDER-REPRESENTED IN LOCAL PLANNING PROCESSES? HOW WILL THESE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS BE INCLUDED IN THIS PLANNING PROCESS?

Neighborhood commercial activity is increasing around Ashby Station, and the area is at the center of major upcoming sporting and cultural events. Ultimately, this study is about improving public life around the station, beginning by designing a place for people by the people.

The City will work with community members to prepare a community involvement plan with tailored outreach, education, and engagement strategies. Below are a few groups and possible activities to engage with them.

Transit users—intercept surveys of daily station users, especially workers, residents, and students.

Tourists and visitors—intercept surveys and pop-ups, especially where spectators attending the World Cup and other

major events gather.

Service industry workers—above strategies, along with meetings and engagement events at different times of day.

Small businesses—above strategies plus focus group interviews or surveys of local businesses identified in an up-to-date list.

There are unique opportunities for outreach during this study, including advertising at MARTA facilities, bus and train ride-alongs, art on the corridor, and neighborhood presentations. In 2024, the City and MLK Main Street hosted a well-attended “Jane Walk” at the corridor. The City will also have access to a dedicated community gallery and meeting space directly on MLK near the station.

Section 4: Commitment

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

- [ashby-lci-letters-of-support.pdf](#)