

# Westside Promise Zone

Third Round



## Lead Organization:

City of Atlanta,  
Department of Planning and  
Community Development

## Population:

16,430

## Poverty Rate:

49.88%

## Unemployment Rate:

19.14%

## Key Partners:

Atlanta Housing  
Authority,  
Atlanta Public Schools,  
Atlanta Regional  
Commission (ARC),  
Atlanta University Center  
Consortium, Inc.,  
Atlanta Workforce  
Development Authority,  
Invest Atlanta,  
United Way of Greater  
Atlanta

The Westside Promise Zone (WPZ), located just west of downtown Atlanta, has struggled in recent years with a declining population, blight, poverty, unemployment and a crime rate that is twice as high as the city-wide rate from 2014-2015. There is limited commercial activity: only 2 percent of total land area within the WPZ is commercial use. Much of the area is a food desert and services like health care are limited. Housing stock in the WPZ is older and more distressed than in the rest of the city.



Despite the area's needs, it has a number of key assets, including a rich Civil Rights history, the presence of a cluster of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other strong anchor institutions with deep commitment and investments in the community.

Several catalytic projects will fuel revitalization, including \$1.4 billion for construction of the new Atlanta Falcons football stadium, which has a \$30 million Community Benefits Agreement. Additional projects include the 22-mile Beltline network of public parks, trails, housing and transit and an Atlanta Housing Authority Choice Neighborhoods redevelopment of 566 units and related improvements.

The city and its partners have set the following goals to take advantage of this momentum for the larger Westside Promise Zone neighborhood:

- Spur Community Infrastructure
- Reduce Violent Crime
- Increase Economic Activity
- Improve Educational Outcomes
- Expand Access to Quality Affordable Housing
- Create Jobs

**“The City of Atlanta has shown time and again that we can mobilize capacity and resources to deliver real and lasting change for our residents. Thank you for the opportunity to help us rebuild this important community.”**

*Kasim Reed, Atlanta Mayor*