# Keynote:

# Expanding Your Community's Fiscal Health Toolkit



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**Council for Quality Growth – Quality Development Conference** 

8/11/23

BALTIMORE | BOSTON | CHICAGO | DETROIT | LOS ANGELES | NEW YORK | PITTSBURGH | SALT LAKE CITY

Arctaris.com

#### Arctaris at a Glance

Arctaris Impact Investors is a private fund manager driving economic, social, and environmental impact in underserved regions across the U.S.



Investing in underserved communities for **14+ years** 



Growing national investment footprint and **on-the-ground** partnerships



Arctaris Impact Investors partners with **governments**, **institutions**, and **foundations** to support its impact investments<sup>1</sup>



Investing in **operating businesses**, infrastructure, and real estate



Investing with a goal of **robust returns** and **measurable impact** 



# Office-to-Residential Conversions: A Catalyst of Resilient Urban Growth



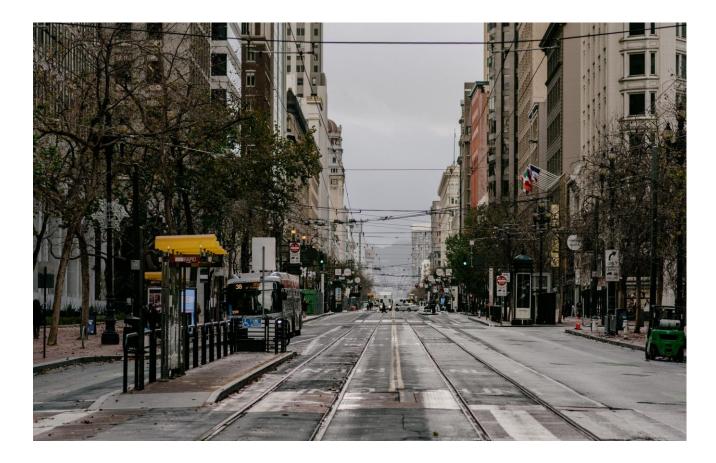
Work-From-Home and **Disruptions** in the Office Real Estate Market

Office-to-Residential Conversions: Opportunities and Challenges

Tools, Tips, and Tricks toIncentivize Office-to-Residential Conversions



#### Hybrid work is here to stay, and its effects are substantial



# -15%

Foot Traffic Near Stores in Metro Areas (Stabilized Future vs. 2019 levels)

-30%

Office Attendance (Stabilized Future vs. 2019 levels)

-13%

Demand for Office Space (Project Future Level (Moderate Scenario) vs. 2019 levels)

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Source: Mischke et al. "Empty Spaces and Hybrid Places: The Pandemic's Lasting Impact on Real Estate," McKinsey Global Institute, Jul 2023.



### Here in Atlanta, these effects could be especially profound

Declines in city revenue...

... can have far-reaching negative effects across the city

Restaurant and other

small business

closures



Potential Decline in City Property Taxes (% of General Fund Revenue) (From 2022 Levels)



Potential Lost City Revenue due to Decline in Property Taxes (Annual) (From 2022 Levels) Lost revenues for schools, sanitation, housing, small business programs and other critical services



Lower **foot traffic** and **transit ridership** 



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Source: <u>City of Atlanta 2024 Proposed Budget</u>, CoStar <sup>1</sup>Based on the following assumptions: 1) Commercial real estate accounts for 50% of all property tax in Atlanta, 2) assessed values of office real estate fall by 20%. This figure is likely conservative.



# **Office-to-residential conversions** are an appealing remedy, though they pose several challenges

### Benefits:

- Can provides new uses for underutilized buildings
- ✓ Can increases supply of housing
- Could increase foot traffic and diversify uses in central business districts
- ✓ Could help maintain real estate tax revenue; prevents foreclosures

### Challenges:

- ? Different architectural layout; typically requires significant renovations
- ? Costly to convert
- ? Difficult permitting and / or zoning hurdles
- ? Rapidly changing market environment
- ? Particularly costly to generate substantial affordable housing units

#### Local leaders can use the following tools to incentivize these conversions..





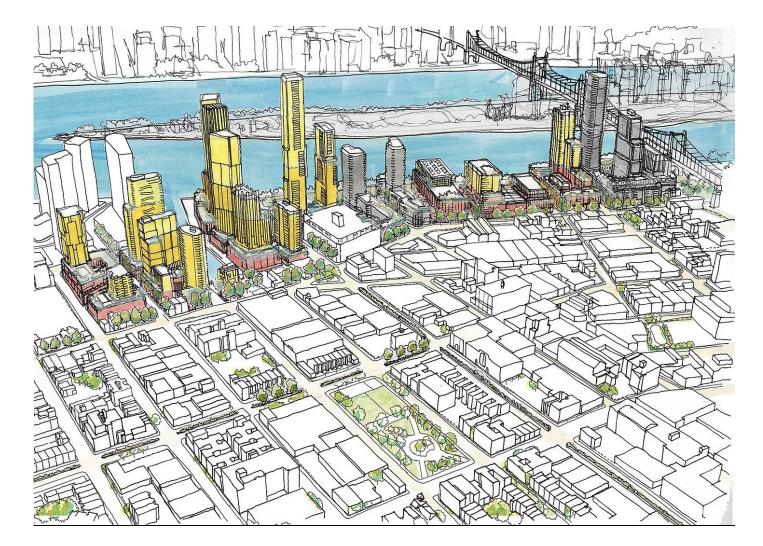
- Helps identify which buildings can be converted
- Eliminates a high-risk expense and bottleneck developers are unlikely to pay for







- Can increase number of buildings eligible for conversion
- Prevents delays and cost overruns







- Reduces major ongoing cost to converted properties
- Has successfully been used to incentivize conversions in the past





# 4 Tax-Advantaged Equity

#### Benefits:

- Reduces financing burden
- Can provide additional opportunities for affordable housing units





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- Reduces or eliminates property taxes on the converted property
- Allows cities to benefit in financial upside





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# Tool #6Provide AnchorTenants

- Reduces risk for developers and investors
- Ensures use of converted property







- Simple and straightforward
- Can bring considerable attention and interest to conversions





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Link to article

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# MATT BEDSOLE Director Atlanta's Housing Innovation Lab









# CITY OF ATLANTA AFFORDABLE HOUSING OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



- Mayor's housing goal
- New Housing Bond
- Public Land Development



#### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS CREATED OR PRESERVED OVER THE NEXT EIGHT YEARS**

### WE CAN ACCOMPLISH MORE TOGETHER





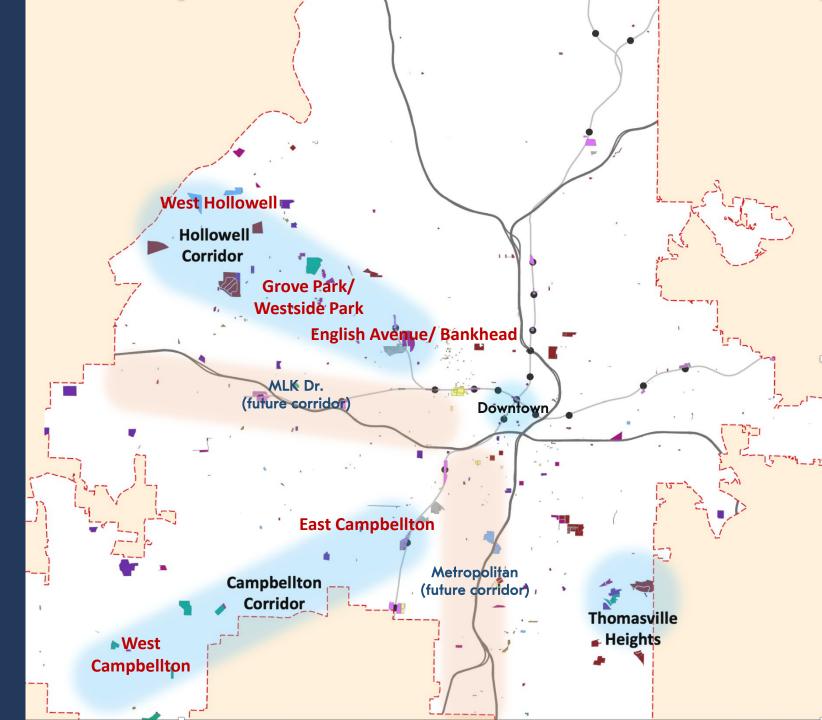
# **ADVANCE AFFORDABLE HOUSING**



# **BE GOOD STEWARDS OF PUBLIC LAND**

### Mayor's Neighborhood Strategy

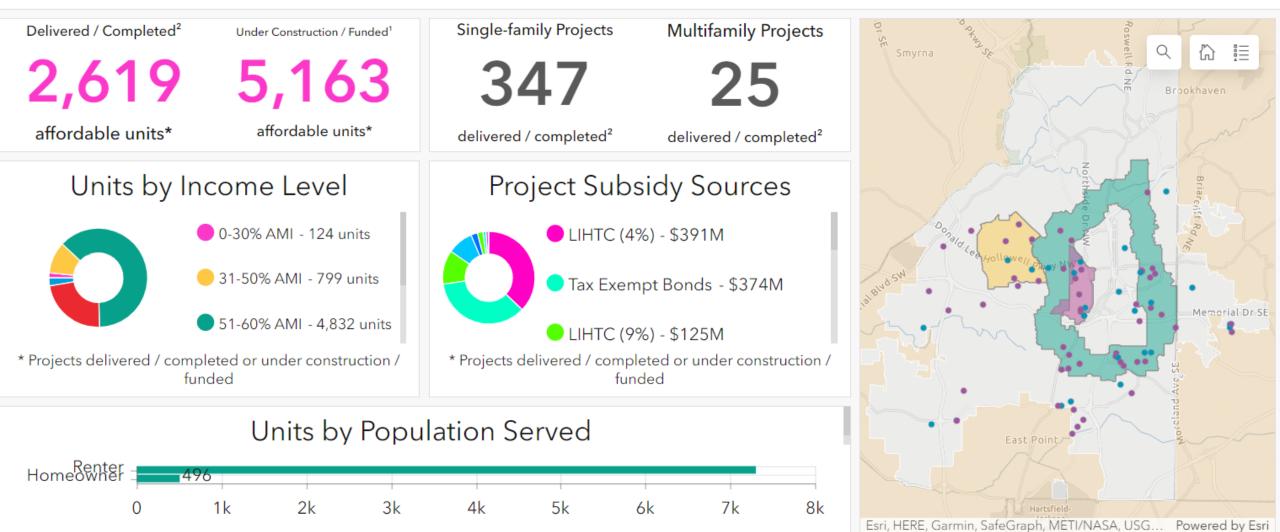
- Revitalize growth corridors through coordinated public investment while preserving affordability for future generations.
- 7 neighborhoods
  - Thomasville Heights
  - English Avenue/Bankhead
  - Grove Park
  - West Hollowell/Bowen
  - East Campbellton
  - West Campbellton
  - Downtown



# **ON OUR WAY TO 20K**

#### City of Atlanta Affordable Housing Tracker

Affordable housing development activity since the beginning of 2022





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#### TogetherATL

# \$100M

Philanthropic Fund

GoATL

# \$100M

Affordable Housing

Impact Fund

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# 2023 нов **\$100М**

Bond program to support production, rehab, preservation

Program Components	Program Descriptions	Funding
Multifamily Preservation	Safe and Secure Housing Initiative	
	Funding to rehabilitate existing multifamily properties. Fund will be leveraged with public and private capital to support acquisition, rehabilitation, and stabilization of eligible properties.	\$15,000,000
Public Land Development	Housing Production Fund	
	Financing to nonprofit and for-profit multifamily developers offering affordable rental housing units on publicly owned land or as part of a project owned in part by a public agency. Funds will be leveraged with conventional financing to construct new mixed-income rental housing units that will serve households at up to 80% AMI, with a focus on households at or below 60% AMI.	\$38,000,000
	Public Land Infrastructure	
	Fund to support development of horizontal infrastructure on fully or partially publicly owned land. Eligible uses include but are not limited to utilities, streets, and stormwater management facilities. These funds may be deployed as grants or loans on a case-by-case basis.	\$15,000,000
Multifamily Loans	Multifamily Gap Financing Program	
	Financing to address gaps in multifamily developments offering affordable rental housing units including those applying for 4% and 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), as well as non-LIHTC projects. Loan amounts and terms will be dictated by project type, needs, and scale of additional public benefits, with lower interest rates available to projects that propose to achieve deeper affordability.	\$29,000,000
Program	Program Administration and Cost of Issuance	
Administration	Administrative costs to administer the programs.	\$3,000,000

### PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT

### MAYOR'S HOUSING STRIKE FORCE

GOAL

Unify Atlanta's Public Agencies' Approach to Land Development for Housing ACTIONS

Prioritize Projects Based on Shared Goals

Jointly Identify Needs and Challenges to Development

Coordinate Planning, Funding, and Infrastructure Investments Across Agencies OUTCOMES

- 1. Build Better, More Comprehensive Projects
- 2. Improve the Value of Public Land
- 3. Increase Available Subsidy
- 4. Speed Up Timeline of Projects
- 5. Avoid Zero Sum Thinking
- 6. Reduce Risk for Private Partners
- 7. More Effective Philanthropic Fundraising

#### CATEGORY I

#### **READY TO BUILD**

Smaller project sites that are **ready to be built in the short-term** with a greater focus on affordability and low relative infrastructure costs.

#### CATEGORY II LARGE SCALE CATALYTIC

Large-scale project sites with transformational potential that will require multiple-agency coordination, master planning, and significant infrastructure investment.

CATEGORY III

#### **REVENUE GENERATING**

Large project sites with substantial market potential that could be conveyed as a ground lease capable of generating long-term revenue for affordable housing.

CATEGORY IV

#### **COMPLEX DEVELOPMENT**

Difficult to develop projects due to **significant limiting factors**; however, these properties could be developed in the long-term given proper planning and investment.

# PUBLIC LAND HOUSING PIPELINE (AS OF MAY 2023)

INVEST ATLANTA + CITY OF ATLANTA			
1	Cooper Street (NEW)	5	Johnson Rd/Proctor Creek
2	Gun Club	6	184 Forsyth
3	Midtown Fire Station	7	143 Alabama
4	2 Peachtree	8	104 Trinity

		MARTA	
9	H.E. Holmes Transit	12	Bankhead Transit
10	Art Center Transit	13	North Ave Transit
11	Oakland City Transit		

ATLANTA BELTLINE INC			
14	425 Chappell Road (NEW)	16	Amsterdam Surplus
15	579 Garson	17	Murphy Crossing

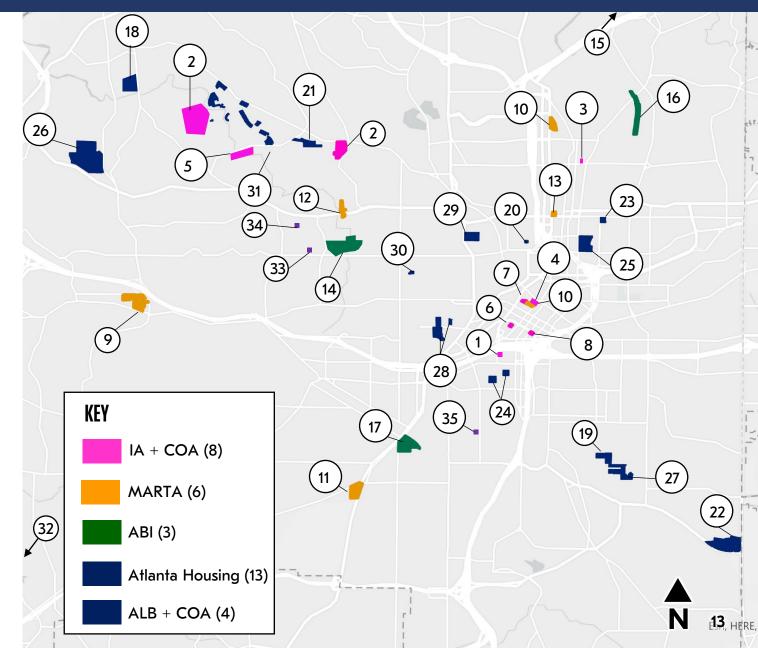
	ATLANTA HOUSING			
18	Hollywood Courts(NEW)	25	Civic Center	
19	Englewood #2	26	Bowen Homes	
20	Palmer	27	Englewood #1	
21	Johnson Road	28	Scholars Landing	
22	Thomasville Heights	29	Herndon Square	
23	North Avenue	30	Magnolia	
24	Mechanicsville	31	West Highlands	

	ATLANTA LAND BANK + CITY OF ATLANTA		
Barge Road (NEW)		34	340 Holly

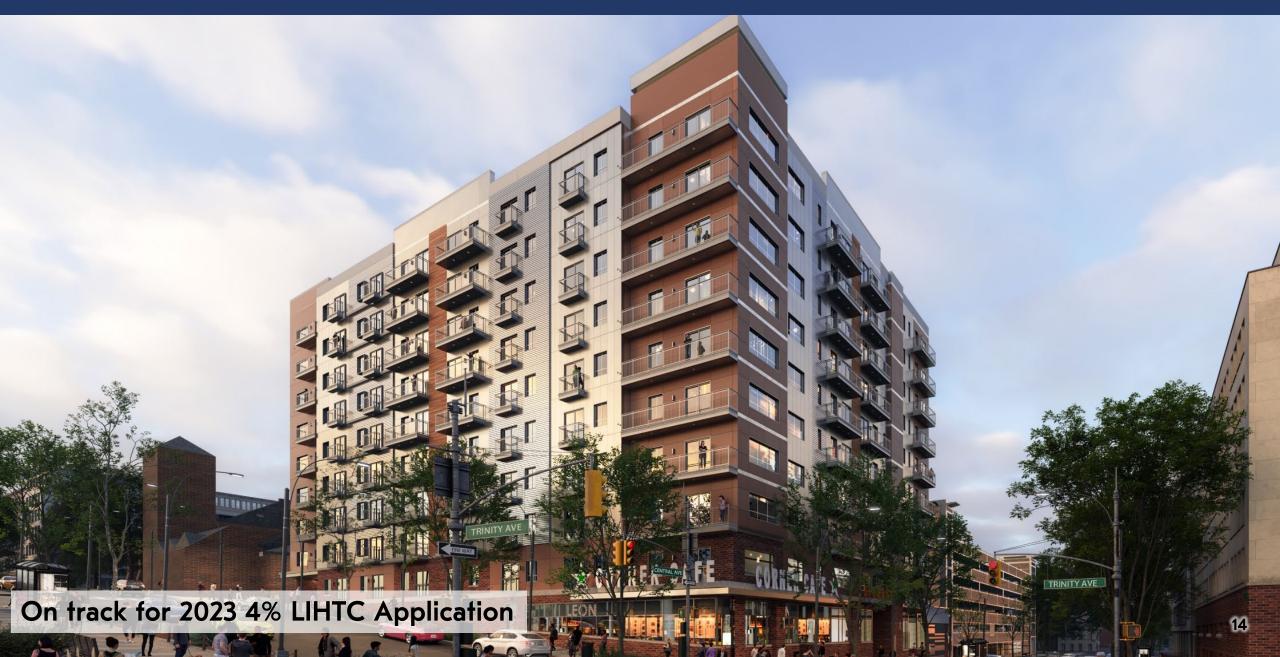
	-		
33	Hasty	Place	

32

34	340 Holly
35	1029 McDaniel



# **READY TO BUILD: 104 TRINITY AVENUE**



### **READY TO BUILD + CATALYTIC: 2 PEACHTREE**

#### POTENTIAL PROGRAM

#### I 2 Peachtree "Tower"

- RFP released to shortlist of 5
- Selection of development team by end of 2023
- Target construction start by late 2024

   early 2025

#### Goal

- Create 200+ affordable housing units
- Activate of ground floor retail
- Improve public realm at critical intersection
- Bring more housing options to downtown Atlanta

#### Tower (Story 6 - 41)

Total SF: 590k Targeted for residential conversion

> Annex (Story 1 – 7) Total SF: 120k Targeted to be maintained as office

Main Tower (Story 1 – 5) Total SF: 116k Focus of Request for Ideas

Basement (Story B1 – B3) Total SF: 74k

### **LARGE-SCALE CATALYTIC: BOWEN HOMES**

100 Ť Atlanta Housing awarded HUD \$40m Choice Implementation Grant

# **THOMASVILLE HEIGHTS REDEVELOPMENT**



#### **ATLANTA URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**



#### Atlanta Urban Development Corporation

The City of Atlanta and its partners seek the creation of a specialized entity capable of leading redevelopment of public land to achieve the following goals:

- Build a new model of public land development **not reliant on tax credits** 1.
- 2. Establish long-term affordability and control of housing on newly developed sites, modeled after the social housing approach used around the world
- 3. Work with Invest Atlanta to implement the newly created **Housing Production Fund** to provide critical capital for additional public land projects
- Add additional public land development capacity that **complements and expands housing development efforts** 4. of the existing public agencies' work

# P3 Case Study #3:

# The Gulch Redevelopment

Brian McGowan President Centennial Yards





Dr. Eloisa Klementich President & CEO Invest Atlanta





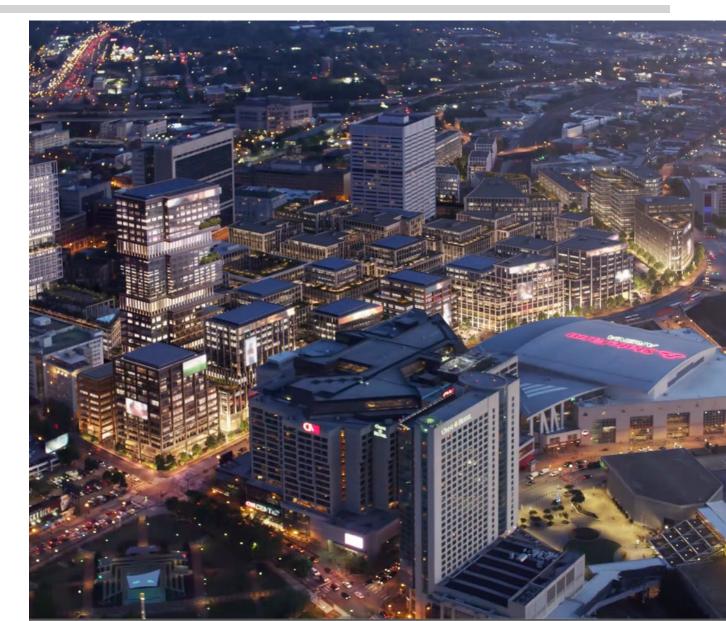
## CENTENNIAL YARDS ATLANTA



## **Centennial Yards At Completion**

- 50-acre Development
- 8 Million Square Feet Combined
- 4 Million S.F. of Commercial Space
- 4 Million S.F. of Residential Space
- \$5 Billion Projected Total Project Cost
- Bordered by Major MARTA Stations









## CURRENT FOCUS

THE LOFTS @ CENTENNIAL YARDS

- G3
- G1
- Elman
- E2
- ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT











## CENTENNIAL YARDS ATLANTA