

Blandtown Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes

September 16th, 2025 7:00 PM

President	Yasmeen Hyder
Vice President	Joshua Jarmin
Secretary / Treasurer	Jarrett Blankenship
Residential Member at Large	David Ameijeiras

Summary of BNA Meeting September 2025

- Date/Time: 7:00 PM
- Location: Zoom
- Attendance: 29

Agenda:

- District 9 Updates, Councilmember Dustin Hillis
- ABI Atlanta Beltline Updates, Meghan Injaychock
- UWCID, Adeline Collot
- Goat Farm SITE event, Allie Bashuk, Creative Director
- Blandtown walking club, Katie Shanck
- NPU-D Business, Jarrett Blankenship

Meeting Minutes:

1. **District 9 Updates – Councilmember Dustin Hillis**
 - **Beltline:** Ribbon cutting for Section 5 and groundbreaking for Section 4 tentatively scheduled for late October.
 - **Silver Comet Connector:** Final section between The Works and Bricks apartments has broken ground.
 - **Resurfacing:** Perry Blvd and West Marietta resurfacing project underway, extending to Brady Avenue. Milling has begun; resurfacing to follow.
 - **APS 2040 Plan:** Council has no authority over APS decisions. Hillis supports keeping Bolton, E. Rivers, and Brandon clusters intact within the North Atlanta High School cluster.
 - For more information: <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/aps2040>
 - **School Capacity Issues:** APS studying closures/consolidations due to underutilization; Morris Brandon may merge campuses.

- **Illicit Parties (“Bad Club” on Fairmont):** Venue has been cited (Aug 28) and will appear before License Review Board. APD Zone 1 and License & Permits Unit monitoring. Updates will be shared with the neighborhood.
- **Infrastructure Acknowledgements:** Thanks noted for paving Huff/Ellsworth Industrial, sinkhole repair, and truck restrictions on Huff.

2. Atlanta Beltline Updates – Meghan Injaychock

- **Trail Opening:** October 30 – dual groundbreaking (NW 4) and ribbon cutting (NW 5). Mayor to attend; community celebration planned.
- **Construction Progress:** Majority of trail poured; granite, bollards, seeding in progress. Tree planting set for winter. New pedestrian lighting and traffic signals undergoing 30-day burn-in.
- **Crosswalks & Guardrails:** Raised speed table at Ellsworth will be striped; wooden guardrails extended along Marietta.
- **Community Input on Green Space:** ABI open to discussions about activation (e.g., swings, hammocks, art). Playground requests noted; requires Parks Dept. involvement due to ownership/liability. Residents encouraged to email Councilmember Hillis to advocate.
- **Resident Concerns:** ABI to restore disturbed sod/sidewalks along Culpepper and English. Stop sign compliance at Ellsworth remains an issue—paint and potential enforcement to address.

3. Goat Farm SITE Event – Allie Bashuk, Creative Director

- **Event:** SITE contemporary arts festival, Sat. Sept. 27, 5–11 PM.
Tickets: \$15 advance (discount code shared), \$20 day-of. Ticketing implemented to reduce congestion (2024 event drew ~4,500 attendees).
Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCA GA): Construction underway at Goat Farm; opening planned for early 2026 (staff to move in Jan; grand opening expected March).

4. Upper Westside CID – Adeline Collot

- **Westside Stride Festival:** Sunday, Oct. 5, Howell Mill closed 8 AM–8 PM (17th St to 8th St). Event includes inflatables, petting zoo, pony rides, fire truck, stage programming, and local vendors.
- **Road Projects:**
 - Huff Road multimodal study – neighborhood previously voted unanimously in support; adoption before NPU-D next week.
 - Huff Road widening – CID working with ATLDOT to take over project delivery.
 - Howell Mill Complete Street – utility conflicts delaying resurfacing and median landscaping; CID pressing for interim planting.
 - Ellsworth Sidewalk – 30% design received for 10-ft wide sidewalk from Huff to Beltline. Construction anticipated summer 2026.

- **Maintenance Issues:** RFB at Boyd knocked down; city notified via 311, replacement pending. CID may self-fund if city does not act.
- **New Development Question:** Novel apartments rendering shows no patio/commercial space; CID will confirm with developer.

5. **NPU-D Business – Jarrett Blankenship**

- **Upcoming NPU-D Items:**
 - Huff Road multimodal study adoption (neighborhood support reaffirmed).
 - Special use permit for pickleball facility on English Street (previously supported by neighborhood).
- **Community Event:** Meet & Greet with City Council President candidate Rohit Malhotra – Wed. Sept. 24, 7–9 PM, at Monday Night Brewing Grove. Ten slots allocated to Blandtown; RSVP required.

6. **Blandtown Walking Club – Katie Schanck**

- First walk held Sept. 15 with four participants.
- Plans for recurring walks on Mondays at 7 PM and one weekday morning option (Wed or Fri at 7:30 AM).
- Communication via Blandtown Walking Club WhatsApp (35 members currently). Group may expand to include social outings after walks.

Adjournment

- Meeting concluded at 8:50 PM.
- Next meeting scheduled for October 21, 2025.

Minutes submitted by:

Jarrett Blankenship, Secretary/Treasurer