06-R-1576

A RESOLUTION

BY COUNCILMEMBERS

ADOPTING AN APPROPRIATE FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION REALTED TO THE BELTLINE TAD AS OUTLINED IN ORDINANCE NO. 05-O-1733; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 05-O-1733 establishes the BeltLine Redevelopment Area and Tax Allocation District Number Six – BeltLine; and

WHEREAS, the BeltLine Project is a project of critical importance to the future of the City of Atlanta, encompassing an unprecedented investment in new parks, trails, transit, affordable housing, and economic development, among other benefits; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 05-O-1733 specifically recognizes "the importance of community involvement in the BeltLine implementation process, as well as the importance of balanced and equitable development of the city in a manner that preserves the dignity of existing residents and ensures equal participation by all residents in the many benefits, direct and indirect" of the Beltline; and

WHEREAS, Section 8(e) of 05-O-1733 requires that "the Atlanta Development Authority shall propose and City Council shall review and adopt an appropriate framework for citizen participation related to the BeltLine TAD"; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Development Authority has worked closely with the Atlanta Planning Advisory Board, the BeltLine Network, the BeltLine Partnership and the members of the Atlanta City Council to develop a framework for citizen participation that will ensure ongoing and meaningful input into the planning, design and implementation of the BeltLine.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The BeltLine Citizen Participation Framework is hereby adopted, consisting of five elements, as follows: (1) the establishment of a BeltLine Tax Allocation District Advisory Committee; (2) a community representative on the Board of Directors of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.; (3) the creation of the position of "citizen participation advocate" within Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.; (4) a formal community reporting requirement on the part of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.; and (5) the creation of a citywide "citizen engagement framework" to address certain BeltLine issues. Each of these components of the Citizen Participation Framework is more specifically described below.

Section 2. The Atlanta Development Authority shall create the BeltLine Tax Allocation District Advisory Committee ("the BeltLine TAD Advisory Committee" or "the Advisory Committee") no later than August 1, 2006. The initial membership of the Advisory Committee shall be approved by a separate Resolution of the City Council. The Advisory

Committee shall have the duties and responsibilities outlined in Section 8 of Ordinance 05-O-1733. The Advisory Committee shall meet on a quarterly basis or as otherwise appropriate.

Section 3. The Atlanta Development Authority shall create a permanent position on the Board of Directors of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. to be filled by a community representative. Such representative shall be appointed by the City Council. The term of such position, and all duties and responsibilities, shall be equal to that of every other member of such Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Atlanta Development Authority shall ensure the creation of a position within the organizational structure of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. to be known as "citizen participation advocate". The primary responsibility of such position shall be to inform the community on current BeltLine issues and to ensure the active and meaningful participation of the community on matters related to the BeltLine, including through the citizen engagement framework outlined below.

Section 5. The Atlanta Development Authority shall ensure that Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. each year convenes at least quarterly formal community meetings to report on the status of the BeltLine. Such meetings shall be comprehensively advertised; shall be open to the public; shall be held at a convenient and central location; and shall focus on the status of the most significant aspects of the BeltLine. At such meetings the public shall have the ability to present questions directly to the senior staff of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.

Section 6. The Atlanta Development Authority, in conjunction with the Department of Planning and Community Development, shall adopt a "citizen engagement" framework to ensure that NPUs, neighborhood groups, and other concerned organizations and individuals have the opportunity to have direct input on BeltLine planning, design and implementation issues.

a. **Structure.** The framework shall be structured around "study areas" of approximately four Neighborhood Planning Units each, which shall be referred to as "BeltLine Planning Units." The members of these "BeltLine Planning Units" shall meet as appropriate to develop, discuss and provide advice on the planning, design and implementation issues related to the BeltLine as a whole and to their immediate areas.
b. **Membership.** The BeltLine Planning Units shall be comprised of all interested participants and such membership shall not be limited. Each BeltLine Planning Unit shall establish a meeting schedule, which shall be published by the Atlanta BeltLine Inc.
c. **Additional Participation.** The appropriate members of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. and the City's Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development shall participate in the framework, and one City Planner shall be assigned to assist each study group.
d. **Responsibilities.** The duties and responsibilities of BeltLine Planning Units shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) **Vision.** Each study group shall agree on a shared vision for the relationship between the BeltLine and their communities.

(2) **Community Benefit Policy.** Each study group shall provide input to the community benefit principles and policy in accordance with Section 19 of the Ordinance establishing the BeltLine Tax Allocation District.

(3) **Master Plan.** Each study group shall assist in developing master plans for the BeltLine as a whole and their immediate areas to be adopted into the Comprehensive Development Plan through the City's existing NPU and planning processes.