# HOUSING CHOICE & HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

**TRIANGLE COMMUNITY COALITION • MAY 14, 2019** 

#### WHO IS KRONBERG WALL?



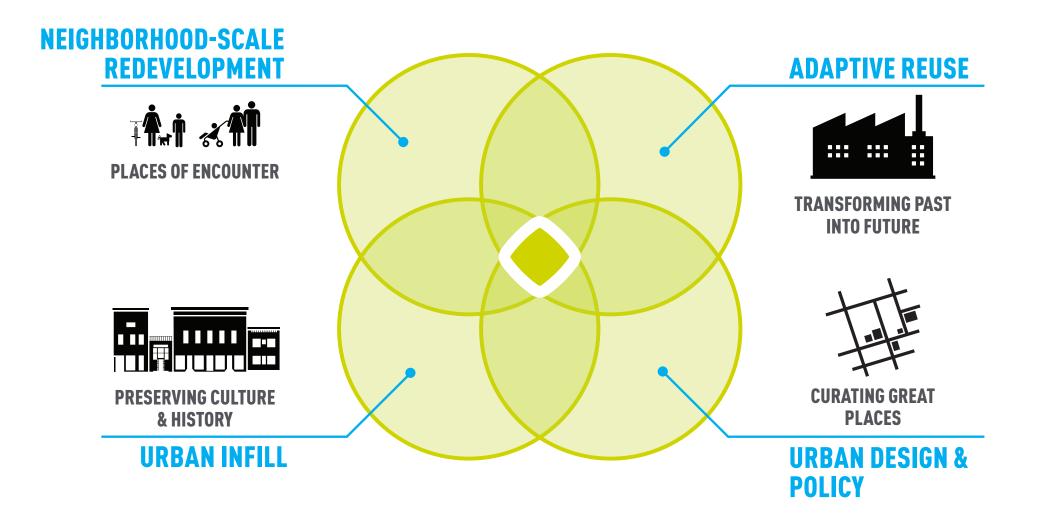


WE ARE A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM THAT UTILIZE OUR SKILLS IN ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING, URBAN DESIGN, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, POLICY MAKING AND REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

**TO MAKE NEIGHBORHOODS BETTER** 

#### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**







We believe <u>walkable areas with existing</u> <u>infrastructure</u> are the easiest targets for quick and cost-effective antidotes to **SPRAWL**.



We believe walkable areas with existing infrastructure are the easiest targets for quick and cost-effective antidotes to **HOUSING SHORTAGES**.



We believe walkable areas with existing infrastructure are the easiest targets for quick and cost-effective antidotes to **UNAFFORDABILITY**.



We believe walkable areas with existing infrastructure are the easiest targets for quick and cost-effective antidotes to **LACK OF SUSTAINABILITY**.



## INTRODUCTION: ATLANTA TODAY

#### ATLANTA // INCOME INEQUALITY



# At 18 to 1, Atlanta has the highest income inequality of any city in the nation.

#### NOTE:

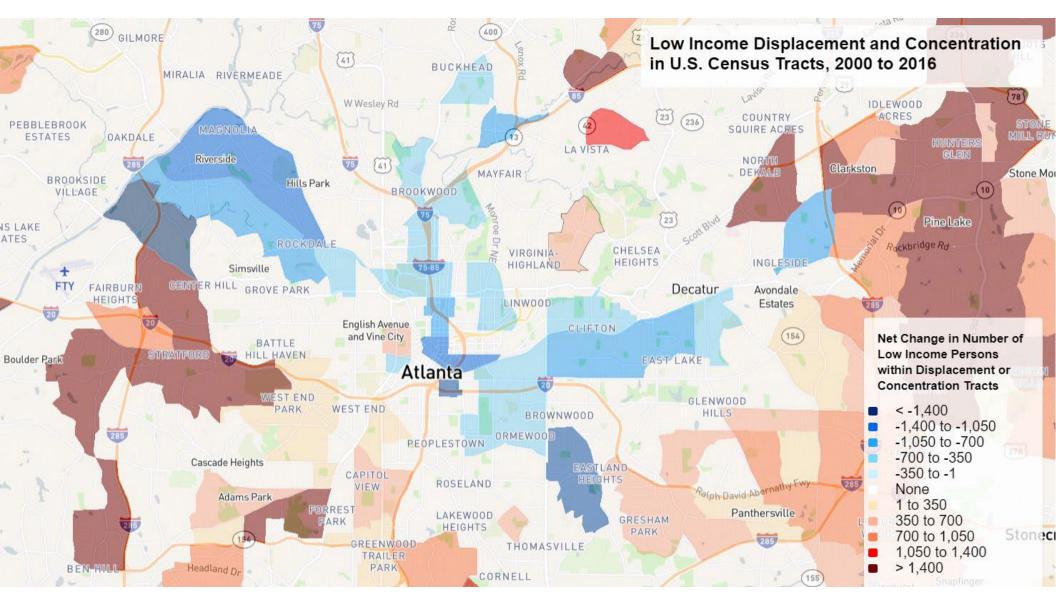
18 TO 1 RATIO MEANS THAT THE TOP 5% OF HOUSEHOLDS EARN INCOMES 18 TIMES AS HIGH AS THE BOTTOM 20% OF HOUSEHOLDS

DATA SOURCE: BROOKINGS INSTITUTE

https://www.brookings.edu/research/city-and-metropolitan-income-inequality-data-reveal-ups-and-downs-through-2016/

#### ATLANTA // LOW INCOME DISPLACEMENT





DATA SOURCE: INSTITUTE ON METROPOLITAN OPPORTUNITY https://myottetm.github.io/USMapBoxIMO/USLwDispConc.html?fbclid=lwAR0099yHTZQHThGQW6V2rJji5f88fm07J75QGTps-

#### ATLANTA // RISING COST OF LIVING



## At 63%, Atlantan's have some of the highest housing & transportation costs for moderate income households in the nation.

#### NOTE:

THE AVERAGE ATLANTAN SPENDS 63% OF THEIR INCOME ON HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS - THE SIXTH WORST OF THE NATION'S 25 LARGEST METROS

DATA SOURCE: ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

https://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/sites/default/files/publications/housingaffordability\_fulldeck.pdf

#### ATLANTA // COST-BURDENED HOUSEHOLDS



### **COST BURDENED**

> 30% INCOME SPENT ON HOUSING

## **EXTREMELY COST BURDENED**

> 50% INCOME SPENT ON HOUSING

#### **ATLANTA // HOUSING AFFORDABILITY**



48%

+28%

+9%

OF RENTER HOUSEHOLDS
IN ATLANTA ARE COSTBURDENED (14% ARE
EXTREMELY COST BURDENED)

CHANGE IN MEDIAN RENTS SINCE 2000

CHANGE IN MEDIAN INCOMES (INFLATION ADJUSTED)

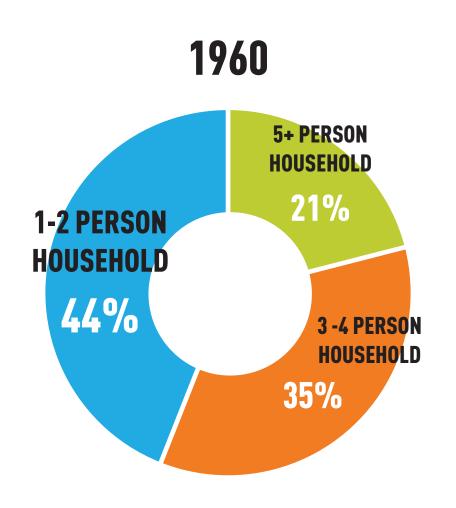
-19%
NET CHANGE IN AFFORDABILITY

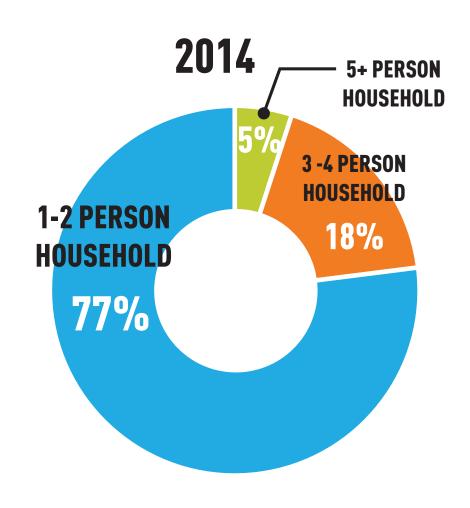


# THE BOTTOM LINE LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING HURTS EVERYONE, BUT IT HURTS THE POOR THE MOST.

#### ATLANTA // HOUSEHOLD SIZE

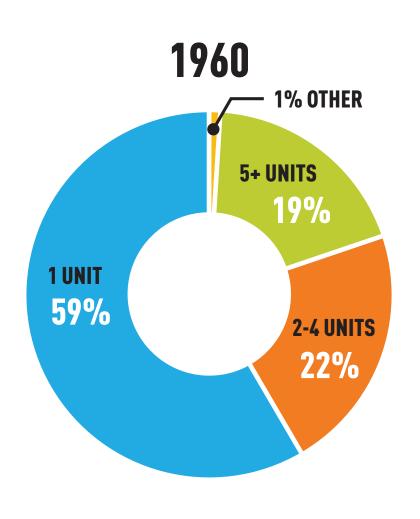


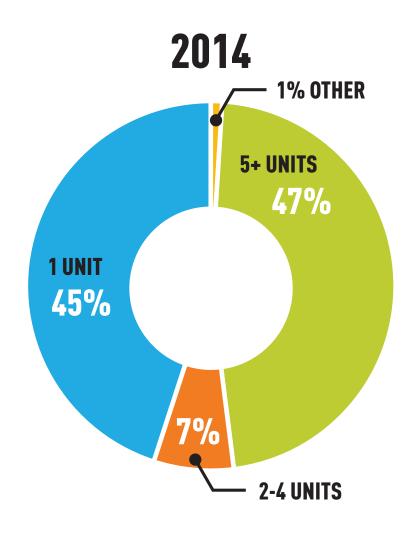




#### ATLANTA // HOUSING TYPES







Data Source: Bleakly Advisory Group



# THE BOTTOM LINE OUR CURRENT HOUSING STOCK ISN'T NEARLY AS DIVERSE AS WE ARE.

#### ATLANTA // CITY GROWTH



CURRENT POPULATION OF CITY
OF ATLANTA

473,000

2040 PROJECTED POPULATION

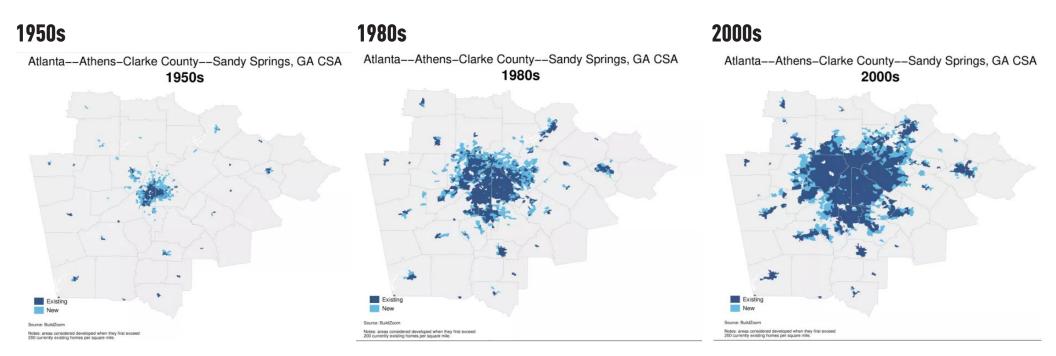
1,200,000

**INCREASE OF** 

727,000

#### ATLANTA // METRO GROWTH





FROM 1950 TO 2000...

METRO LAND GROWTH WAS NEARLY **6X**THAT OF METRO POPULATION GROWTH

CITY OF ATLANTA LAND GROWTH WAS NEARLY 4X
THAT OF CITY OF ATLANTA POPULATION GROWTH

#### LOW DENSITY REQUIRES MORE INFRASTRUCTURE



<b>†</b> Population	Feet of pipe/person	Fire Hydrants/1,000 people
<b>1949</b> <sub>33,500</sub>	righting 5	Source: Sanborn Maps and LCG Records
<b>2015</b> 121,000	היי	\$\\ \alpha \\ \a
3.5x	<b>10</b> x	<b>21.4</b> x

#### ATLANTA // METRO GROWTH



# THE BOTTOM LINE LOW DENSITY LAND USE PATTERNS HAVE LED TO CONSUMING WAY MORE THAN WE NEED.

#### ATLANTA // GROWTH



727,000

HOUSING PEOPLE IS

AN ECONOMIC ISSUE,

AN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE,

**AN EQUITY ISSUE** 



### WHAT IS HOUSING CHOICE?

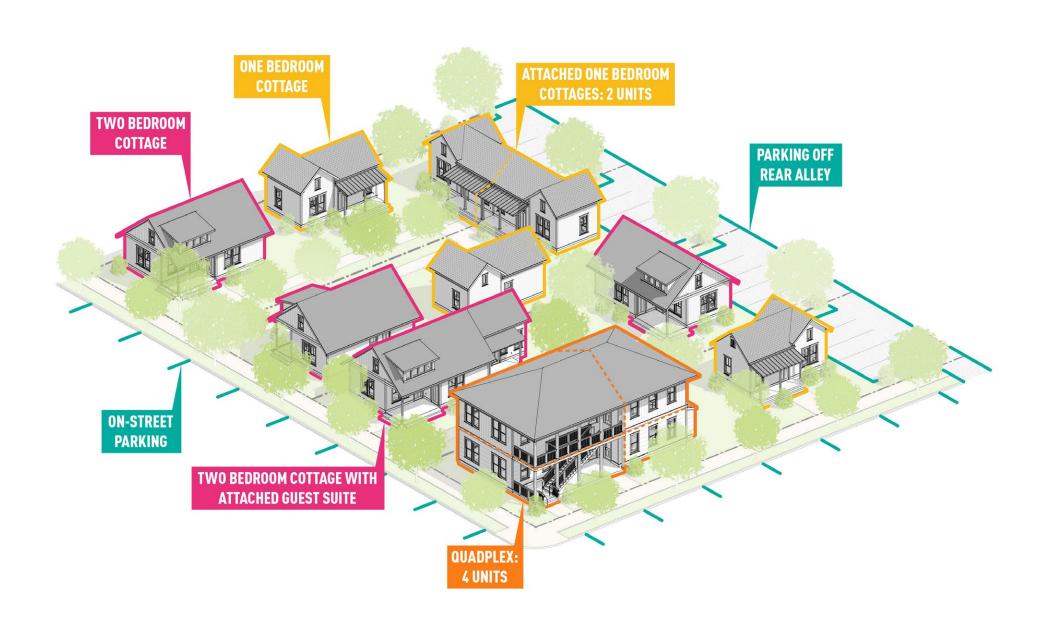
#### WHAT IS HOUSING CHOICE?



- 1. A VARIETY OF HOUSING TYPES & SIZES
- 2. ON A VARIETY OF LOT SIZES
- 3. WITH A VARIETY OF MOBILITY OPTIONS
- TO SUPPORT A VARIETY OF PEOPLE

#### WHAT DOES HOUSING CHOICE LOOK LIKE?





#### WHAT DOES HOUSING CHOICE LOOK LIKE?



- 1. SMALLER UNITS
- 2. PARKING LITE
- 3. WALKABLE / TRANSIT ACCESSIBLE AREAS
- MAINTAINS EXISTING CHARACTER

#### **ANALYSIS // WHAT DOES HOUSING CHOICE COST?**



#### **COMMON INPUTS:**

- 7500 SF LOT
- R-5 ZONING
- \$320,000 LAND COST
- 18% PROJECT RATE OF RETURN (FOR SALE)
- 11% INTERNAL RATE OF RETURN (FOR RENT)

#### **VARIED INPUTS:**

- PARKING
- **CONSTRUCTION COSTS** (RES VS COMM BUILDING CODES)

#### **ANALYSIS // HOUSING OPTIONS IN SINGLE FAMILY**



	UNIT TYPE	COST PER UNIT (FOR SALE)	MONTLY RENT PER UNIT (FOR RENT)	
LEGAL	<b>DUPLEX</b>	\$779,900		LEGAL
ILLEGAL	QUADPLEX (2 BR)	\$355,000	\$2,150	ILLEGAL
	SIXPLEX (2 BR)	\$320,000	\$1,945	
	CO-HOUSING		\$1,200	

DATA SOURCE: NEIL HELLER

Note that data is specific to Portland, OR but has been adapted slightly for Atlanta

#### **ANALYSIS // HOUSING OPTIONS IN SINGLE FAMILY**

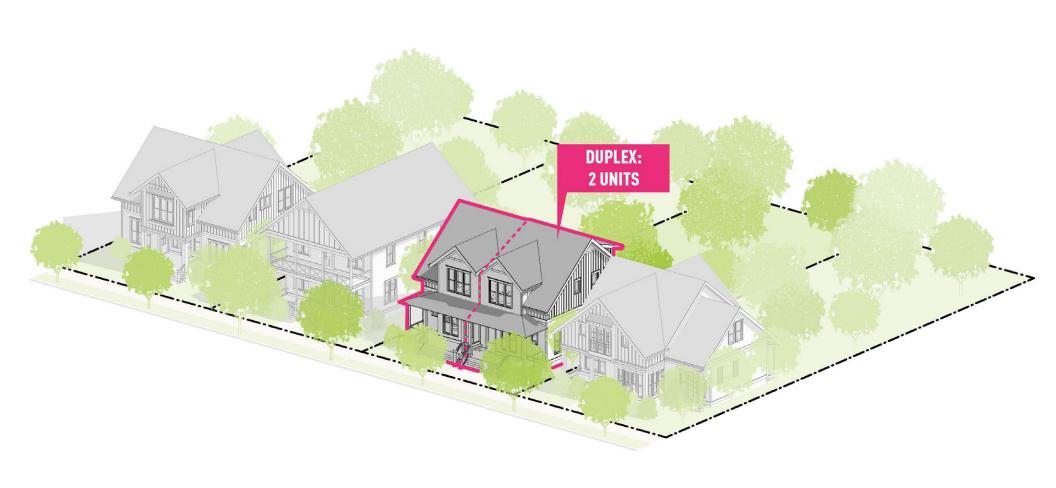




LOT: \$320,000

#### **HOUSING OPTIONS // DUPLEX**





**UNIT PRICE \$779,900 EACH** 

#### HOUSING OPTIONS // QUADPLEX



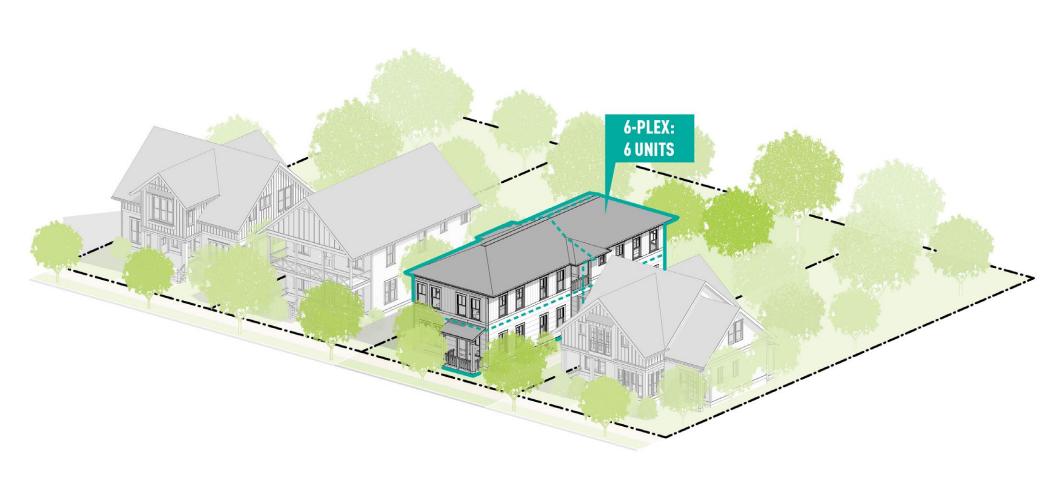


**UNIT PRICE: \$355,000 EACH** 

**RENTAL PRICE: \$2,150 EACH** 

#### **HOUSING OPTIONS // SIXPLEX**





**UNIT PRICE: \$320,000 EACH** 

**RENTAL PRICE: \$1,945 EACH** 

#### **HOUSING OPTIONS // CO-HOUSING**





**RENTAL PRICE: \$1,200 EACH** 



# WHY DOESN'T THIS ALREADY EXIST?



### WE HAVEN'T RE-LEGALIZED IT.

### WE HAVEN'T EMBRACED IT.



# COMMON REDEVELOPMENT BARRIERS

#### THE COMMON ROADBLOCKS



1. OUTDATED CODES AND ORDINANCES

Current zoning and land-use regulations create significant barriers for these incremental developments.

2. LONG-STANDING PERCEIVED SCARCITY

Communities are often fearful of proposing increased density due to perceived scarcity of resources such as parking, road capacity, and good schools.





#### **OUTDATED CODES & ORDINANCES**



# The biggest barriers to healthy neighborhoods that we see are **low-density zoning requirements** and opposition to changing them.

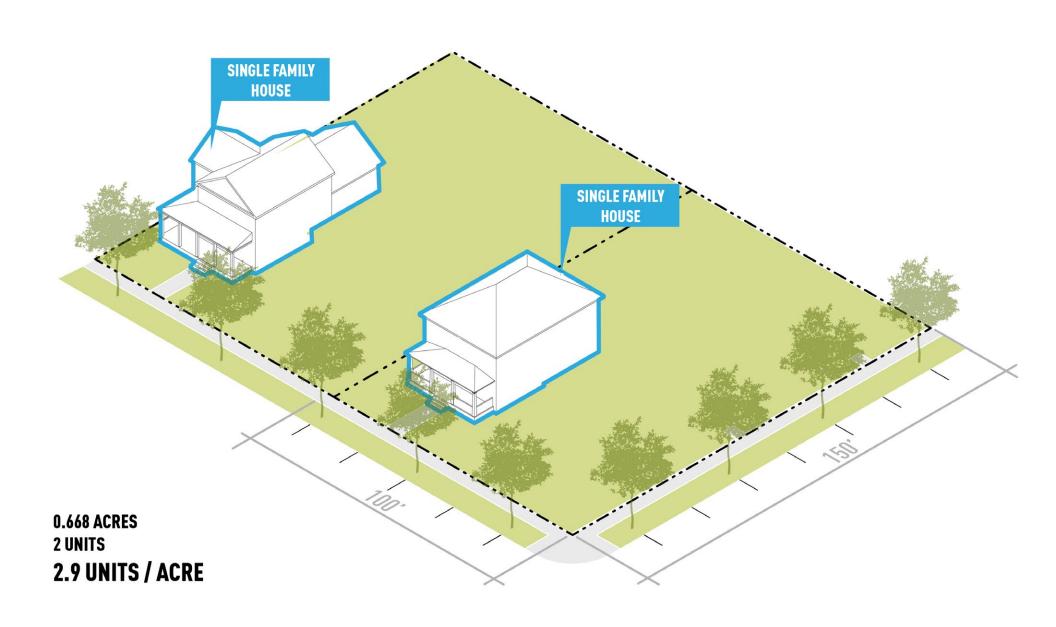


#### **ZONING MATTERS.**

We need to talk honestly about the impact of suburban and singlefamily-only zoning on affordability, accessibility, and long-term viability of our communities.

#### **SINGLE FAMILY ZONING IS LOW DENSITY**



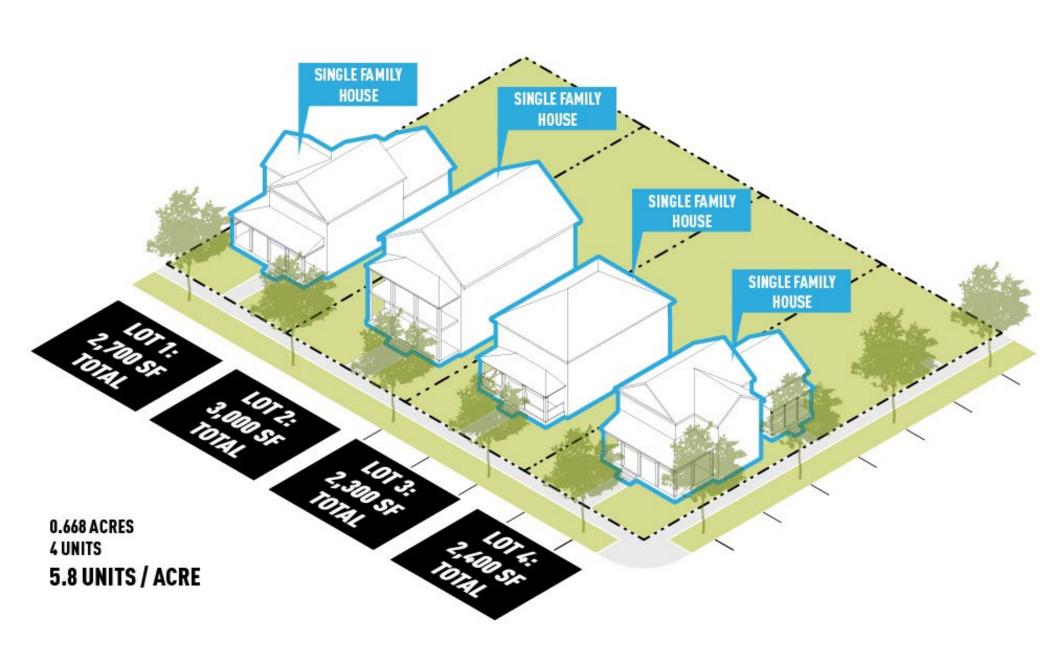




### Single Family Zoning's large minimum lot sizes and single use means less walkability, higher infrastructure costs per unit, and less tax value per acre.

#### **SINGLE FAMILY ZONING IS LOW VARIETY**







### Single Family Zoning prevents diverse housing choices, creating less flexibility for people of different incomes or family structures.

#### SINGLE FAMILY ZONING IS LOW VARIETY







WE'RE ROOMATES LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE PLACE WE CAN SHARE NEAR SCHOOL.



I'M A SINGLE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL LOOKING FOR MY FIRST HOUSE!



I LOVE MY HOUSE, IT GIVES ME THE SPACE AND PRIVACY I NEED. I'M NEVER MOVING.



I'M READY TO DOWNSIZE. I NEED A LOW MAINTENANCE PLACE WHERE I CAN WALK.

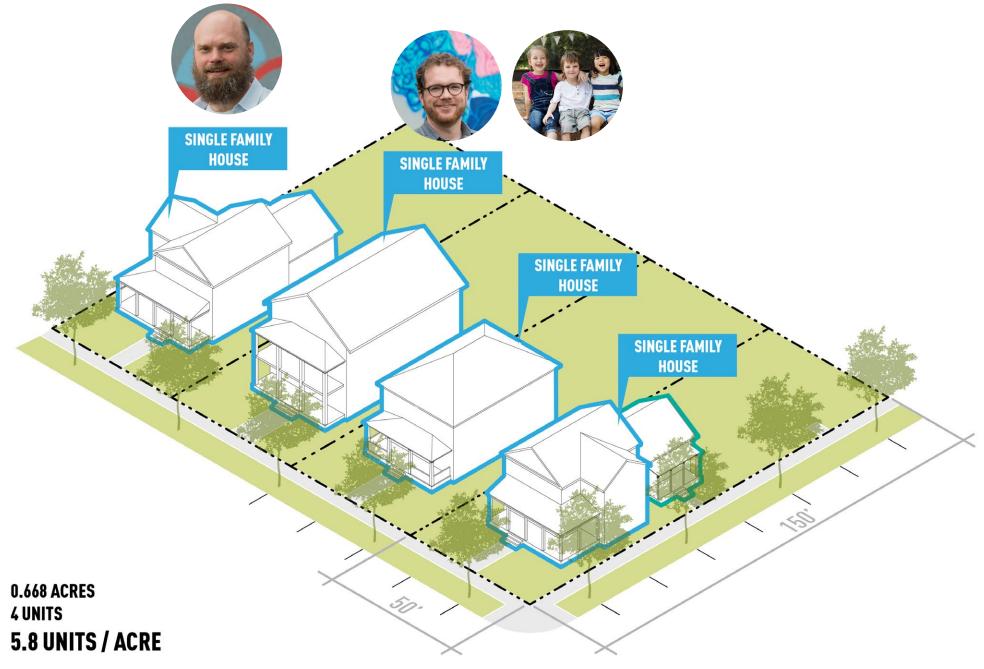




I'VE GOT A GROWING FAMILY; WE NEED A PLACE WE CAN GROW INTO.

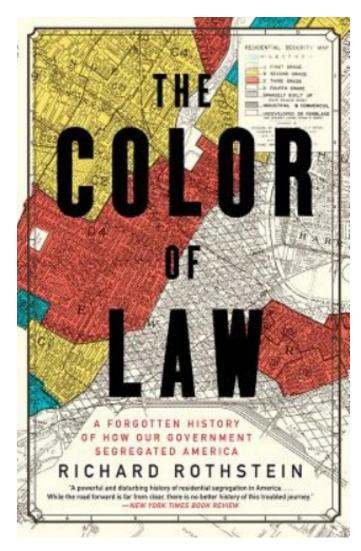
#### **SINGLE FAMILY ZONING IS LOW VARIETY**



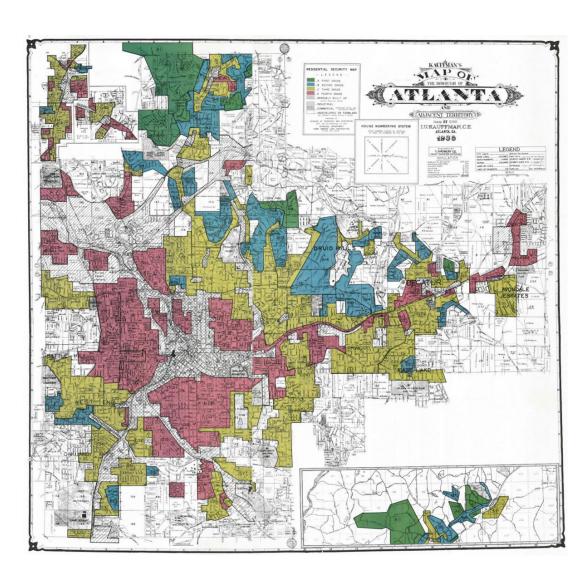


#### SINGLE FAMILY-ONLY ZONING IS EXCLUSIONARY





THE COLOR OF LAW RICHARD ROTHSTEIN



1938 CITY OF ATLANTA RACIAL ZONING MAP
HOME OWNER LOAN CORPORATION



## At it's very core, Single Family Zoning is exclusionary. It was used from the 1950s until now in concert with redlining to separate classes and races of people.

#### **WEALTH GAP**



#### **MEDIAN NET WORTH OF:**

\$171,000

WHITE FAMILIES

\$20,900

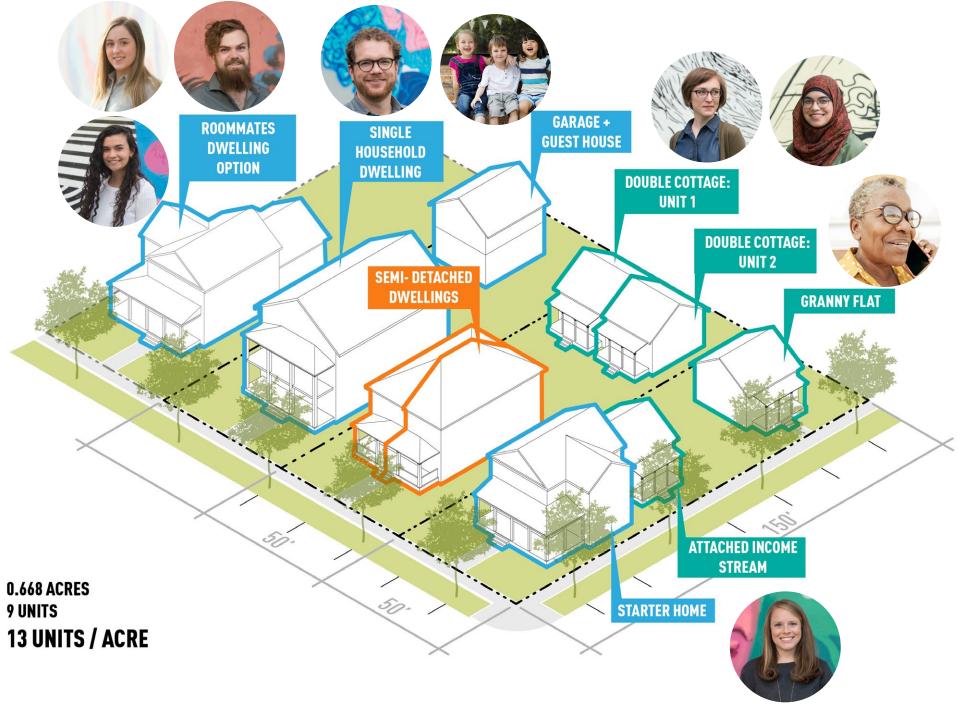
HISPANIC FAMILIES

\$17,400

**BLACK FAMILIES** 

#### SINGLE FAMILY ONLY ZONING NEEDS TO CHANGE







#### **ATLANTA: ZONING TODAY**

#### **PEOPLE WANT WALKABILITY**



# The data is in, from a variety of sources. A majority of adults (over 60%) want to live in walkable neighborhoods.

#### **BUT WALKABILITY IS SCARCE**



# Less than 5% of our available housing stock is located in walkable neighborhoods.

#### LACK OF WALKABILITY = LACK OF AFFORDABILITY



# The high demand and low supply means walkable neighborhoods are economically exclusive.

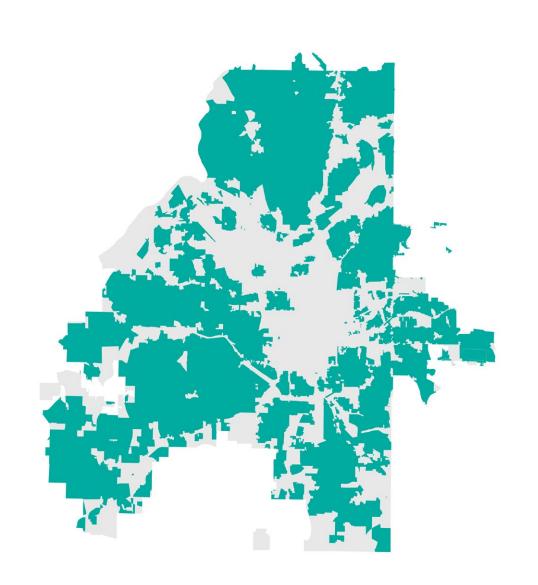
#### **FOCUS HOUSING WHERE IT MATTERS**



# It's not a walkable neighborhood shortage, it's a housing shortage within walkable (or potentially walkable) neighborhoods.

#### **ATLANTA: SINGLE FAMILY ZONING**





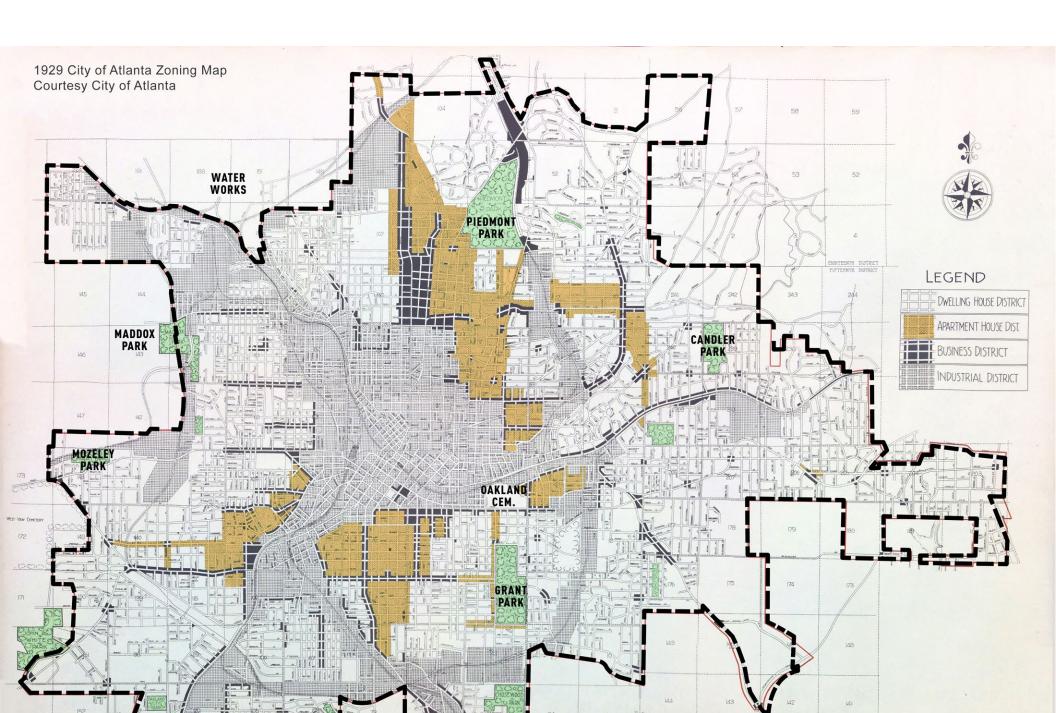
60%
OF ATLANTA'S LAND
IS ZONED SINGLE
FAMILY (R1-R5)



## ATLANTA: LEARNING FROM THE PAST

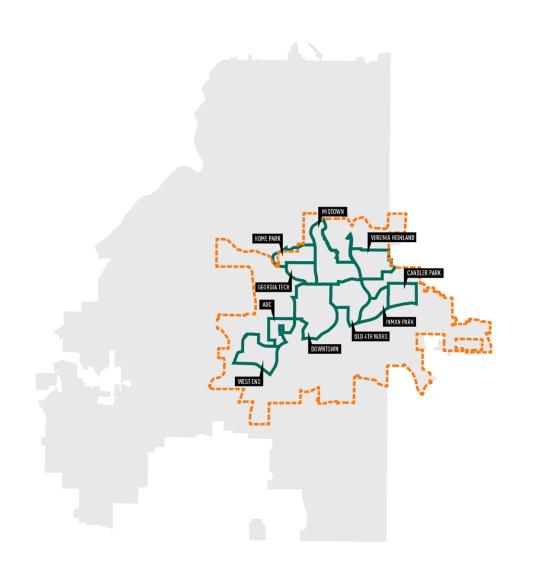
#### **ATLANTA: 1929 ZONING MAP**





#### **ATLANTA IN 1929: NEIGHBORHOODS**





ATLANTA'S

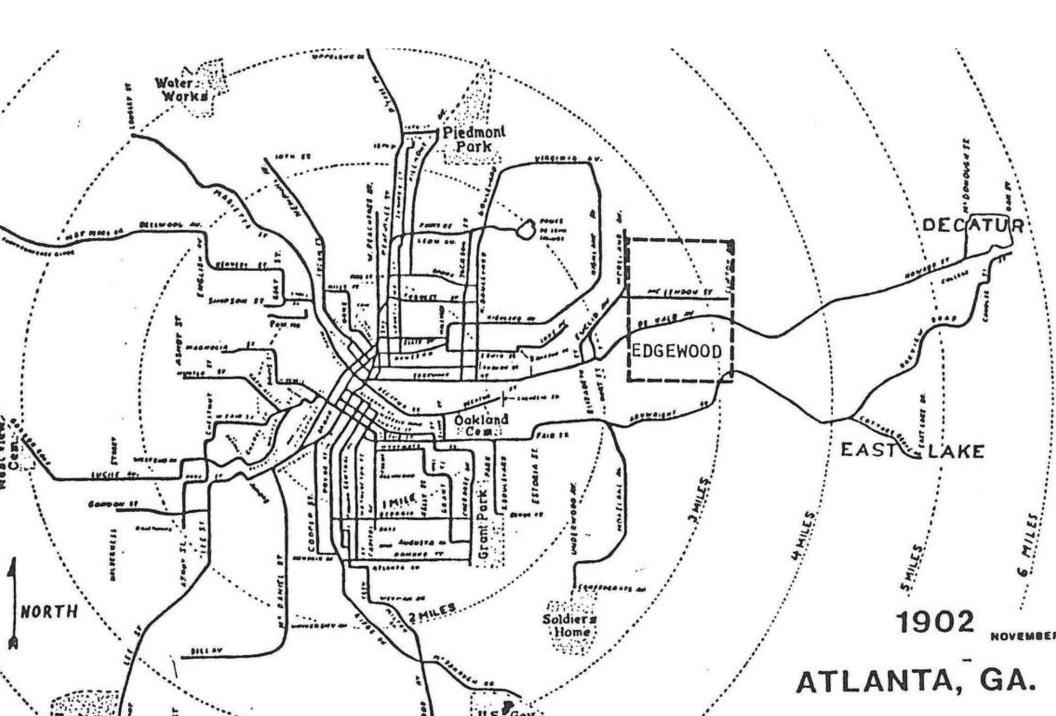
**TOP 10** 

MOST WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS

DATA SOURCE: WALKSCORE

#### **ATLANTA: HISTORIC STREETCARS**





#### **ATLANTA: HISTORIC STREETCARS**





#### **ATLANTA: HISTORIC STREETCARS**

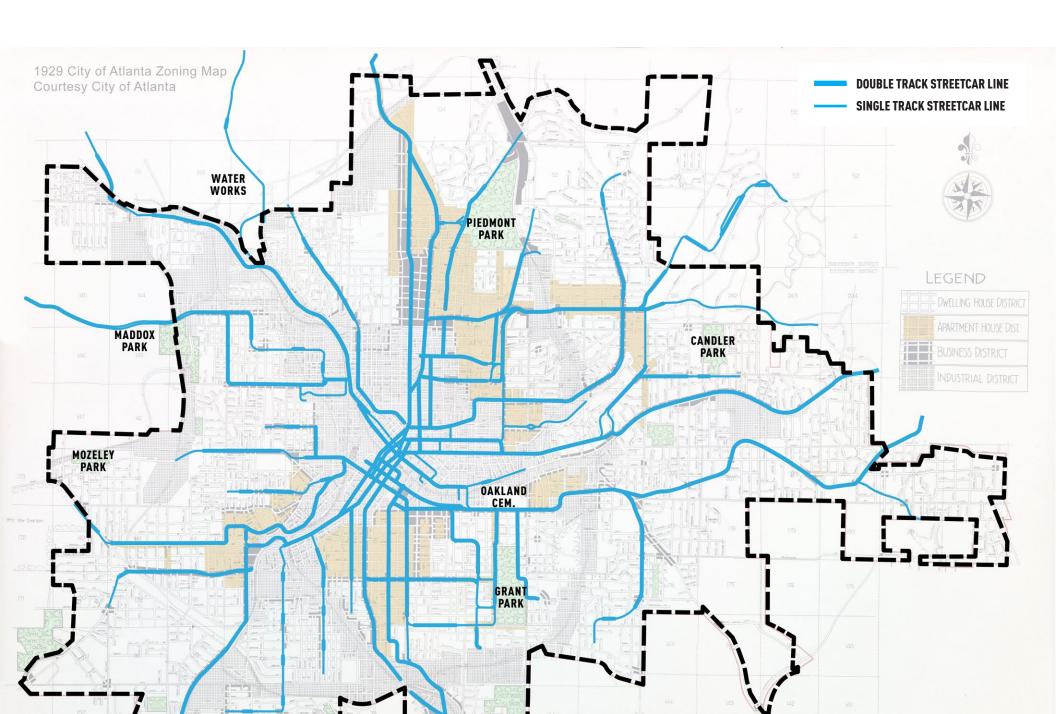






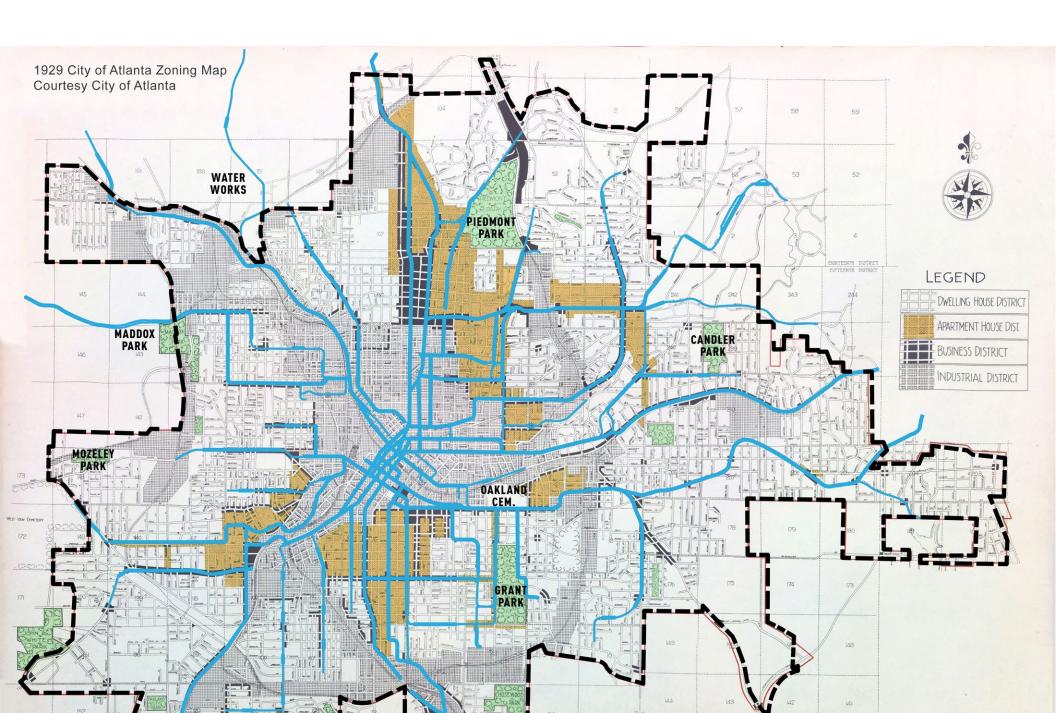
#### **ATLANTA IN 1929: STREETCARS**





#### **ATLANTA IN 1929: THE ORIGINAL TOD**





#### **ATLANTA IN 1929: ALLOWABLE HOUSING TYPES**



#### 1929 ATLANTA ZONING ORDINANCE

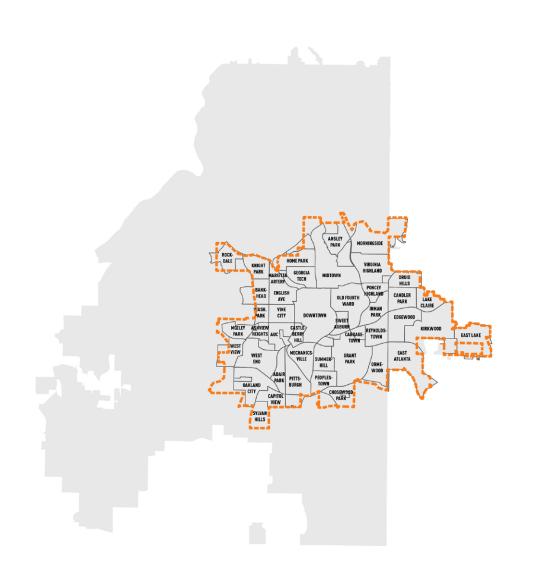
- (1) A "dwelling" is a building arranged, intended or designed to be occupied by not more than two families living independently of each other and doing their own cooking upon the premises.
- (m) An "apartment house" is a building arranged, intended or designed to be occupied by three or more families living independently of each other and doing their own cooking upon the premises or by three or more individuals or groups of individuals living independently but having a common heating system and a general dining room.





#### **ATLANTA IN 1929: NEIGHBORHOODS**





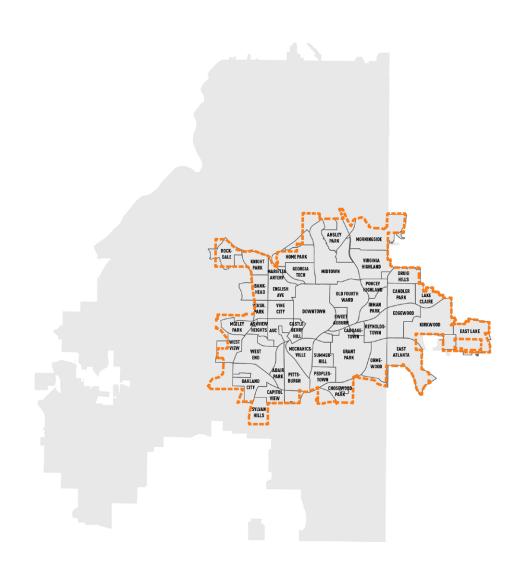
IN 1929 ATLANTA,

100%

OF LAND ALLOWED HOUSES, DUPLEXES AND ADUS

#### ATLANTA'S MOST WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS





**ALL OF ATLANTA'S** 

### MOST WALKABLE

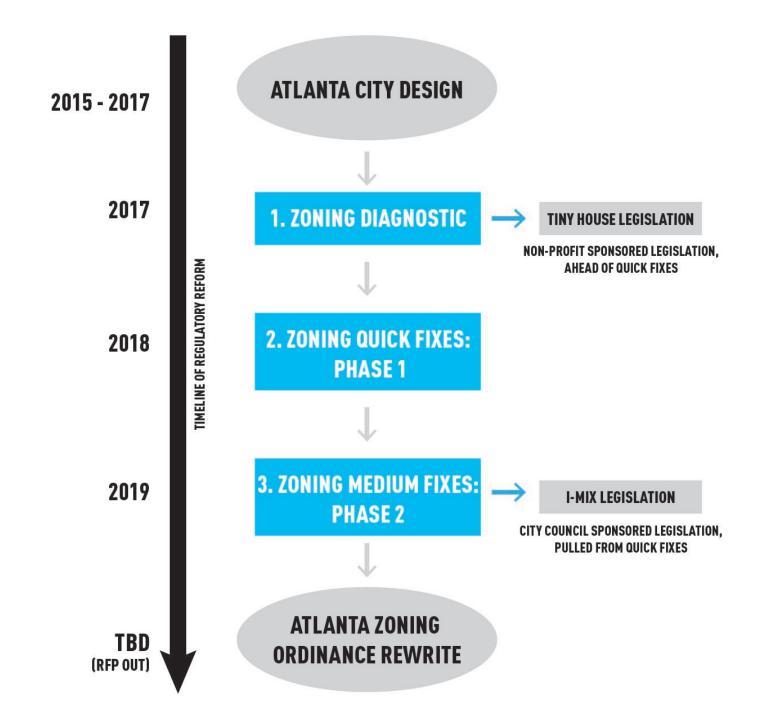
NEIGHBORHOODS ARE LOCATED INSIDE THE 1929 BOUNDARY



### ATLANTA: ZONING REFORM

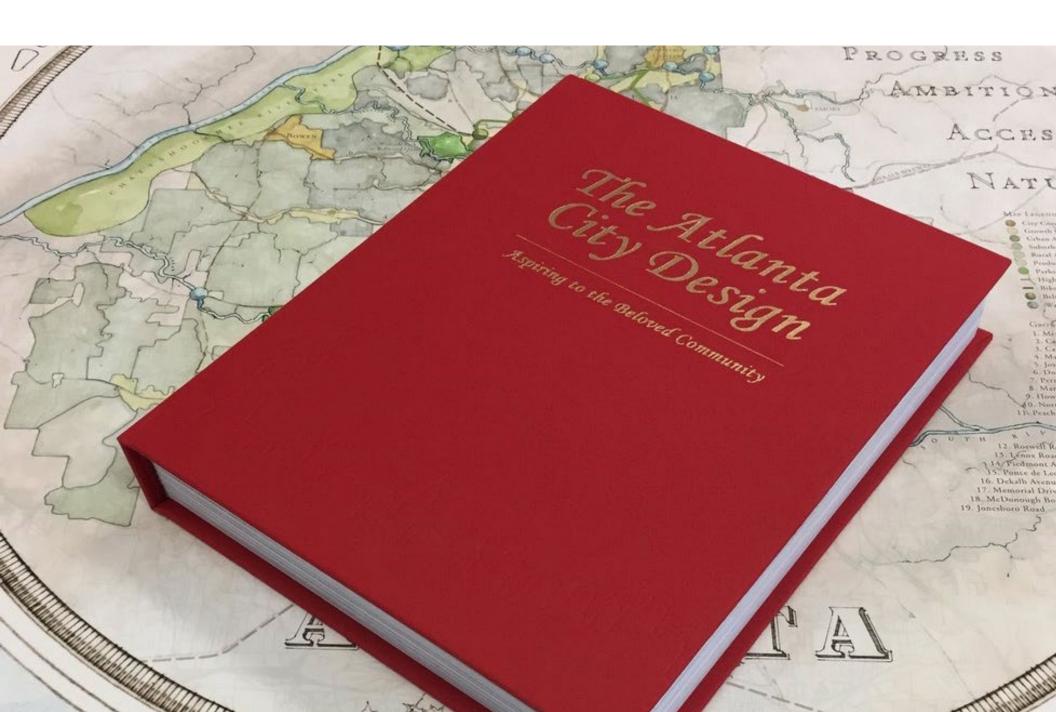
#### **ATLANTA: REGULATORY REFORM**





#### **ATLANTA CITY DESIGN**





#### ATLANTA CITY DESIGN // THE BELOVED CITY



# "TRANSFORM ATLANTA INTO THE BEST POSSIBLE VERSION OF ITSELF"

#### ATLANTA CITY DESIGN // BALANCING INTERESTS



**GROWTH** 

**AFFORDABILITY** 

**PEOPLE** 

**NATURE** 

**CHANGE** 

**CHARACTER** 



### **ATLANTA // ZONING DIAGNOSTIC**



## 1. PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE CHANGES & AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE

# 2. RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD CLARIFY, IMPROVE, AND PROVIDE CONSISTENCY WITH ATLANTA CITY DESIGN

### **ATLANTA // ZONING DIAGNOSTIC**



- BEST PRACTICES
- CASE STUDIES
- STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES OF CURRENT CODE
- CDP & THE CURRENT CODE
- LEGAL ASSESSMENT
- RECOMMENDATIONS:
  - 1. QUICK FIXES (PHASE 1)
  - 2. MEDIUM QUICK FIXES (PHASE 2)

### ATLANTA // TINY HOUSE LEGISLATION

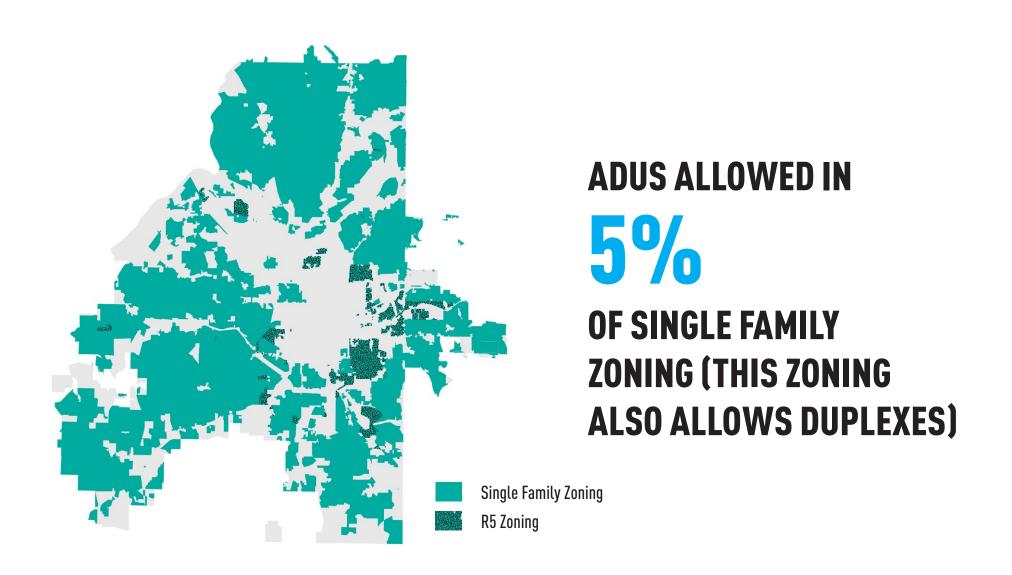


• TINY HOUSE FEASIBILY STUDY: LED BY NONPROFITS SOUTHFACE & TINY HOUSE ATLANTA

• TARGET SMALLEST SINGLE-FAMILY ZONING CATEGORY FOR INTRODUCING LEGISLATION (LOWEST HANGING FRUIT)

### ATLANTA // TINY HOUSE LEGISLATION





### ATLANTA // QUICK FIXES, PHASE ONE



- BIKE PARKING STANDARDS
- TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD STREET STANDARDS
- INDEPENDENT DRIVEWAY REQUIREMENTS
- DELETION OF UNUSED DISTRICTS

### ATLANTA // MEDIUM FIXES, PHASE TWO



- ADUS IN R-4 DISTRICTS
- REDUCED LOADING REQUIREMENTS
- REDUCED PARKING REQUIREMENTS
- MISSING MIDDLE ZONING CATEGORY
- NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN STANDARDS
- TRANSITIONAL HEIGHT PLANE UPDATES

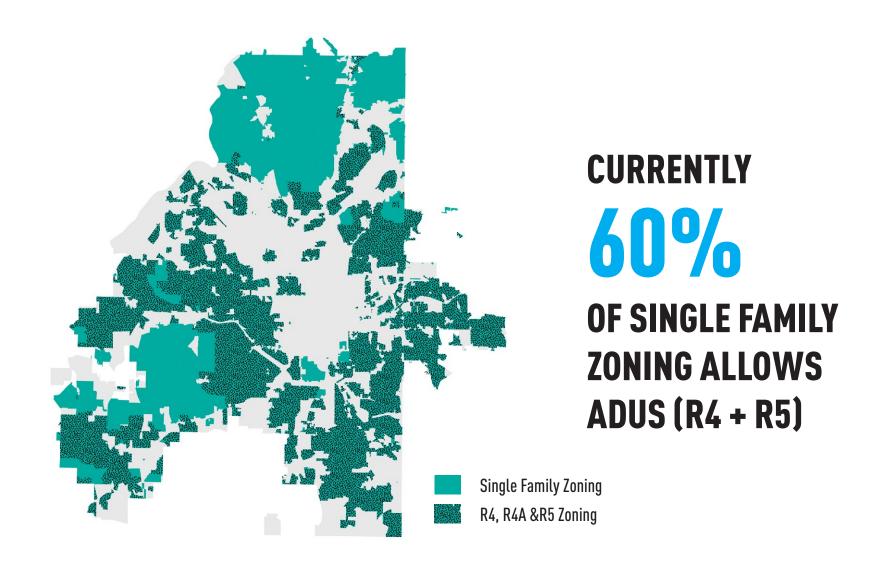
### ATLANTA // I-MIX ZONING DISTRICT



- POTENTIALLY CONTROVERSIAL
- PULLED FROM QUICK FIXES
- PASSED AS ITS OWN LEGISLATION

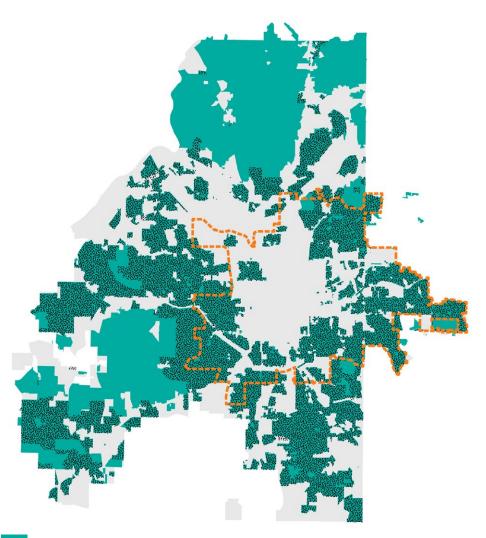
### ATLANTA // MEDIUM FIXES, PHASE TWO





### ATLANTA // MEDIUM FIXES, PHASE TWO





**MEANING** 

100%

OF SINGLE FAMILY
ZONING IN OUR MOST
WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS
ALLOWS ADUS (R4 & R5)

Single Family Zoning

R4 & R5

1929 City of Atlanta boundary



### LAGRANGE: ZONING REFORM



### CHANGING POLICIES FOR AN ENTIRE CITY IS A DIFFICULT.



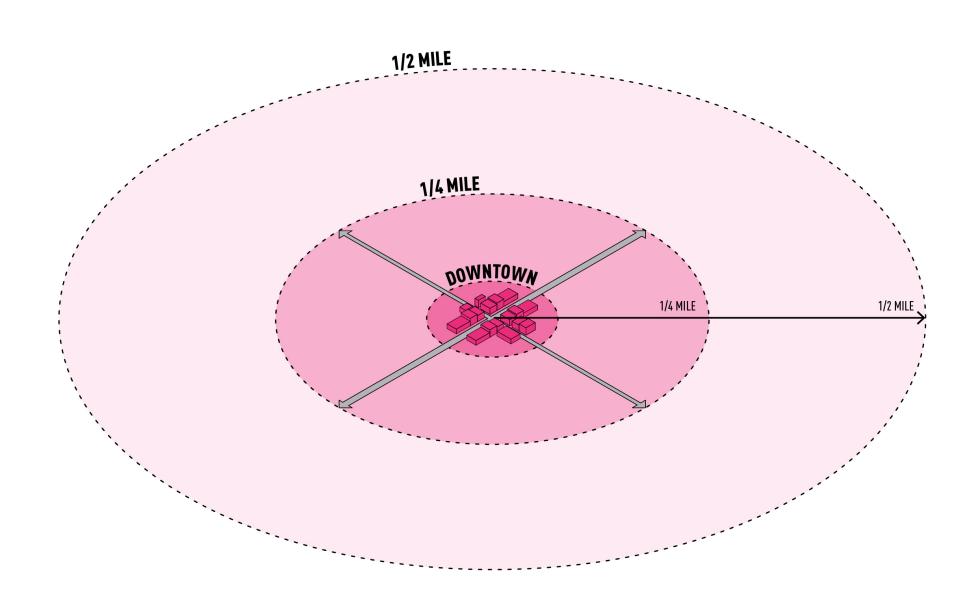
# FOCUS ON CHANGING POLICIES TO ALLOW FOR INCREMENTAL DEVELOPMENT IN HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS...



# ...WHERE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WALKABILITY IS ALREADY LIKELY TO EXIST.

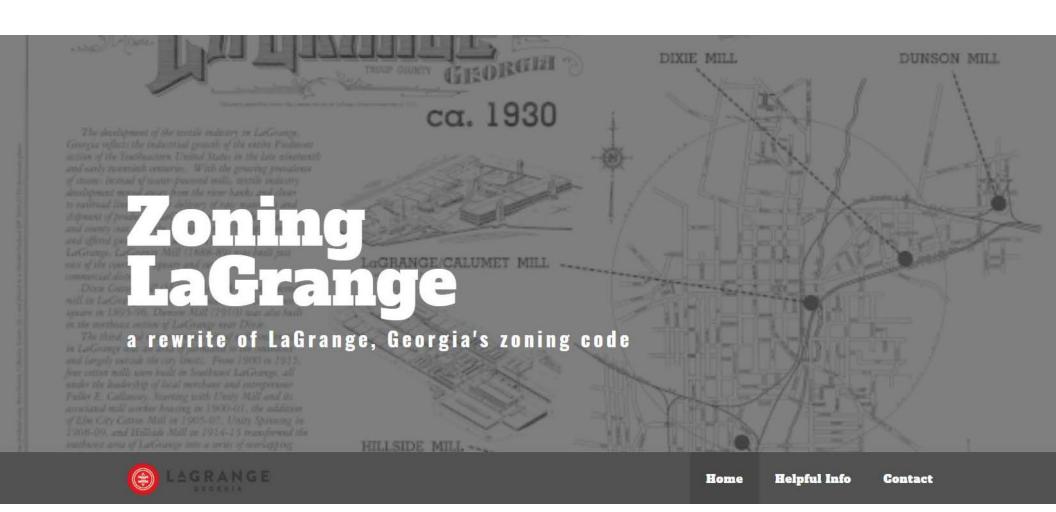
### TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLAY





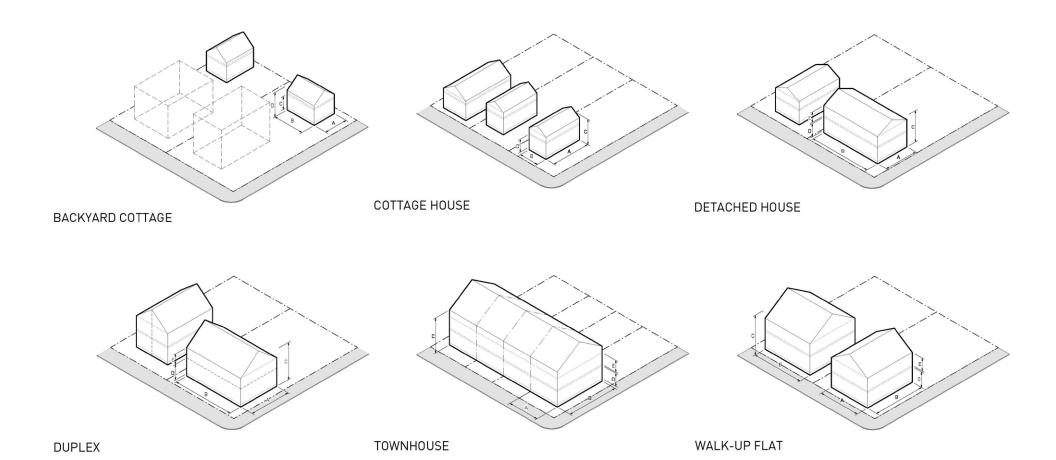
### TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLAY





### TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLAY







### DESIGN STRATEGIES FOR HOUSING CHOICE

#### **KRONBERG WALL: INFILL HOUSING EXAMPLES**



- 1. ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADUs)
- 2. MISSING MIDDLE HOUSING
- 3. POCKET NEIGHBORHOODS
- 4. SUBSIDIZED AFFORDABLE HOUSING

#### **KRONBERG WALL: INFILL HOUSING EXAMPLES**









### **ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS**

#### WHAT

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are called many things: guest houses, granny flats, tiny houses. ADUs can be <u>detached</u> or <u>attached</u>, but must be 'accessory' to a primary unit on a lot.

#### WHY

ADUs are a great, low-barrier way to provide affordable housing variety in Single Family neighborhoods. They can be used by the owner as a guest house, nanny suite, or place for their older kids, rented out as separate units, or they can be AirBnB'd—all great options for supplemental income.

### **DETACHED ADUS**







FRONT YARD VIEW

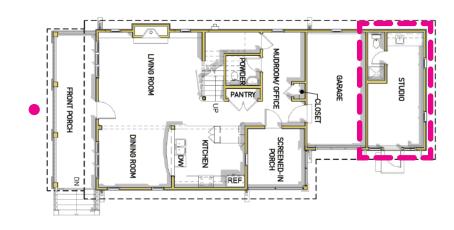
**BACK YARD VIEW** 

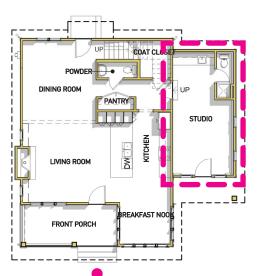
### **ATTACHED ADUS / GUEST SUITES**





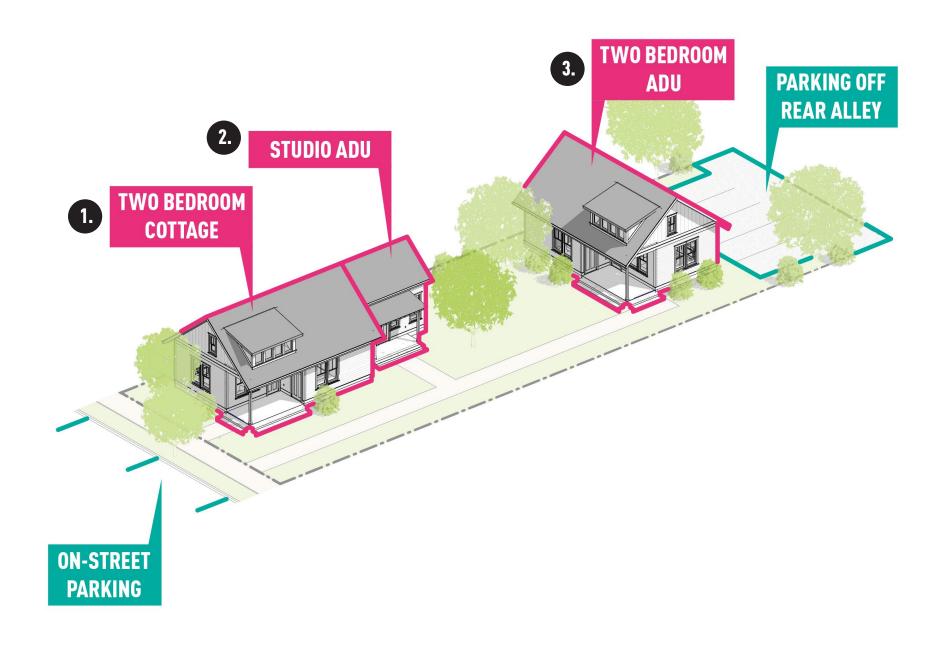






### ATTACHED + DETACHED ADUS = THREE UNITS

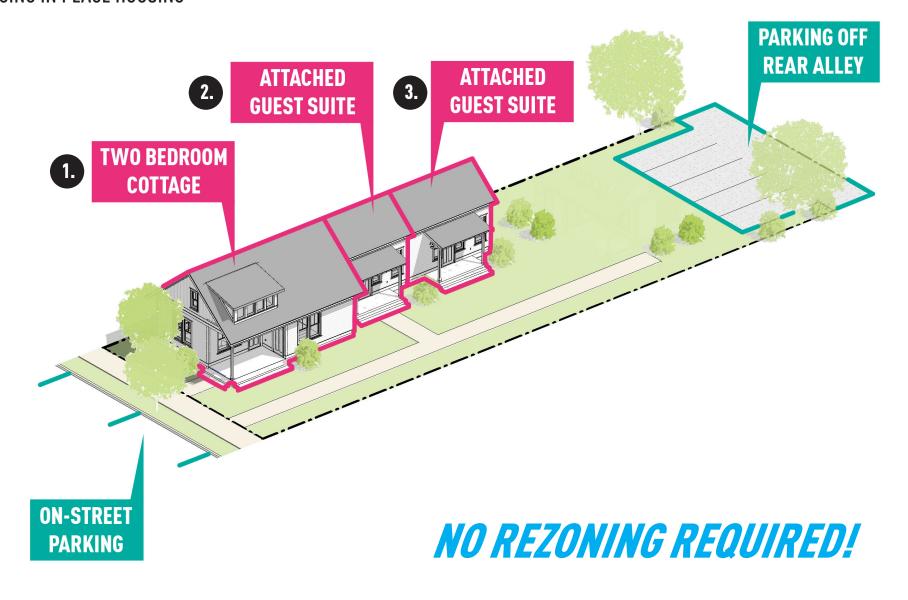




### SINGLE FAMILY HOME = THREE FUNCTIONAL 'UNITS'



- PRIVATE SECTOR WORKFORCE HOUSING
- AGING IN PLACE HOUSING



### **KEY TAKEAWAYS // ADUS**



1. REQUIRES ZONING UPDATES

Accessory Dwelling Units should be allowed in all residental zoning districts—particularly in older, more walkable neighborhoods.

2. ADDS HOUSEHOLDS, MAINTAINS CHARACTER

PRIMARY STRUCTURE + AADU + DADU = UP TO 3 UNITS/LOT Accessory Dwelling Units allow density to be doubled or tripled while maintaining the street-front character of existing single-family homes.



### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROMOTE HOUSING CHOICE?

### **SUPPORT ZONING CHANGES**



1. ALLOW ADUS IN SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICTS

Allow both attached and detached ADUs on Single Family lots. Do not require parking for ADUs.

2. ALLOW MISSING MIDDLE IN SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICTS

Allow duplexes and small apartment buildings in Single Family districts. Provide flexibility with parking requirements.

### **SUPPORT LAND USE & SUBDIVISION CHANGES**



- 1. ALLOW SMALL COMMERCIAL IN SINGLE FAMILY
  - Amend land use regulations to allow small scale commercial (offices, corner stores) with no parking requirements in single family districts.
- ALLOW COTTAGE LOT SIZES

  Amend minimum lot sizes to allow small scale cottage lots (40'x40')

### SUPPORT A BALANCED TREE ORDINANCE



1. REWARD AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The tree ordinance rewrite should encourage the creation of small-scale, parking lite, affordable units near transit.

CREATE A CONTEXT SENSITIVE TREE ORDINANCE

A balanced tree ordinance should vary based on urban context - this is a best practice seen in numerous cities.

### **SAY YES IN MY BACKYARD**



1. DON'T LET NIMBYS BLOCK HOUSING

In walkable areas near transit, neighborhood opposition should not halt housing choice.

2. LIMIT HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Provide limitiations for historic districts aiming to limit housing choice in walkable areas near transit.



887 Wylie St, Atlanta, GA 30316 • 404-653 -0553 www.kronbergwall.com