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Milepost

A periodic update from the Peachtree Corridor Partnership

DEMAND FOR MORE TRANSIT OPTIONS GAINING STEAM IN GEORGIA

In a huge step for transit in Georgia, Governor Sonny Perdue recently announced plans to develop a statewide transportation plan that will integrate various modes of transit. As part of the announcement ([read the press release >](#)), the Governor voiced his strong support for a commuter rail pilot project from Atlanta to Griffin, previously known as the Lovejoy Line. The concept of commuter rail servicing Atlanta builds momentum for the need to complete the "last mile" for commuters, providing more fuel for the Peachtree Streetcar as part of an integrated transit network.

The Governor's endorsement of transit coincides with its growing support among the general public. A recent survey of registered voters in the 11-county metro Atlanta region revealed the following:

- 74 percent of the survey participants agreed: "My community needs more transportation options like commuter rail service, light rail, buses and trolleys."
- 54 percent of the respondents said they are "very likely" or "somewhat likely" to use public transit if it was within 15 minutes of their homes and it would take them within a 10-minute walk of their final destinations.

The survey was conducted by the Transit Planning Board (TPB), established in 2006 to develop a comprehensive, regional transit vision for metro Atlanta. [Read more about TPB and its survey >](#) The Peachtree Streetcar is part of TPB's vision, as well as other vital projects like the Atlanta BeltLine, the "Brain Train" commuter rail service from Athens to Atlanta, and the Lovejoy Line.

Soaring gas prices and a growing interest in sustainable development are convincing more communities nationwide to explore more transportation solutions, most notably public transit. In Atlanta, public input has played a critical part in the development of TPB's regional vision. TPB will continue engaging the public through the fall when its Board of Directors will approve the plan, leaving a foundation for continued dialogue among local, regional and state leaders on its implementation.

Additionally, the City of Atlanta has been soliciting public input for "Connect Atlanta," the city's first-ever comprehensive transportation plan which also will be considered by local officials this fall. Connect Atlanta includes the Peachtree Streetcar as part of an integrated transit strategy that incorporates expanded MARTA, light rail, BRT, and expanded HOV and express bus systems. [Read more about Connect Atlanta >](#)

The more Atlantans demand more transit options in our city, the closer we may come to transforming our most famed street, Peachtree, to a world-class boulevard that moves people better, makes businesses stronger and improves the quality of life of Atlanta's residents and visitors.

