

Dear Atlanta,

The global pandemic challenged cities like never before. Amid those uncertain times, Atlanta elected Andre Dickens as our 61st Mayor on November 30, 2021.

Mayor Dickens ran on a platform to improve public safety, enhance city services, increase affordable housing, expand workforce training and provide pathways for our city’s youth. Long-term, these initiatives are key to advancing the city for all residents.

However, without safe streets, moving these goals forward is challenging. Thus, the mayor has appropriately made public safety his top priority while remaining committed to his entire platform.

In his first year, Mayor Dickens has taken strong action to address crime and its underlying causes. His early accomplishments include:

- Investing in youth job placement, summer internship programs and after-school activities
- Increasing pay for the A.P.D. to help recruit the best and most responsible officers
- Naming highly respected Darin Schierbaum as Chief of the A.P.D.
- Partnering with the business and civic community to open new police precincts in Buckhead (2022) and on the Westside (upcoming in 2023)

While there is more work to do, these decisive steps are already providing tangible results. Violent crime is trending down in 2023. We applaud Mayor Dickens for his efforts and progress to-date.

Looking forward, Atlanta cannot solve all public safety issues on its own. The city is a part of a larger group project along with the metro counties and the state.

Importantly, Mayor Dickens has reenergized the collaboration with state leaders, including Governor Brian Kemp, Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones, and Speaker of the House Jon Burns.

We are encouraged that those in the State Capitol and City Hall are working together to address the most serious problems we face. Our public leaders are focused on what unites, not what divides. They will need the city’s support, patience, resolve and willingness to hold them accountable.

Atlanta is a world class city. We have a proud history as the “cradle of the Civil Rights Movement.” Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport is the busiest in the world. We have outstanding cultural and entertainment attractions. We have top medical and educational institutions. We are home to leading corporations and civic organizations. And our talented and diverse residents are attracting businesses from all over the world. Atlanta remains on the rise.

Please join us in championing Atlanta, the Capital City of the proud State of Georgia. **One city with one bright future.**

Sincerely,

**Atlanta Committee**  
*for* **Progress**

