



# The Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods

## Board Meeting

January 12, 2012

Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Room 2315

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

### Attendees

	<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Neighborhood/Organization</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
1	Yolanda Adrean	City Council District 8	yadrean@atlantaga.gov
2	Hans Bendeck	Peachtree Hills	phcapresident@gmail.com
3	Gordon Certain	North Buckhead	gcertain@comcast.net
4	Hannah Chung	Zone 2 Community Prosecutor	unknown
5	Leslie Churchill	Margaret Mitchell	lschurchill@bellsouth.net
6	Lindsey Churchill	Fernleaf	lindseychurchill@gmail.com
7	Diane Cox	Brookwood	dianecox@acpatl.com
8	Glenn Delk	Historic Brookhaven	glennndelk@mindspring.com
9	Sandy Dlugozima	Buckhead Forest	sandyd@direcpath.tv
10	Elly Dobbs	House of Representatives, District 53	Jedobbs10@aol.com
11	Jim Elgar	Loring Heights	jimelgar@gmail.com
12	Jeremy Faughtenberry	Loring Heights	jFaughtenberry@gmail.com
13	Tom Gordon	Ardmore Park	tgordon@mindspring.com
14	Ron Grunwald	Loring Heights	Rgrunwald@bellsouth.net
15	Barbara Kennedy	Collier Hills	bar2010@aol.com
16	Jim King	Chastain Park	jimking@mindspring.com
17	Michael Krompegal	Pine Hills	mkrompeg2000@yahoo.com
18	Gloria Love	Northside Neighbor	glove@mdjonline.com
19	Louis Mayeux	North Buckhead/Patch	Louis.Mayeux@patch.com
20	Nancy Meister	Atlanta Board of Education District 4	nmeister@atlanta.k12.ga.us
21	George Mirgorod	Pine Hills	gmirgorod@comcast.net
22	Cathy Muzzy	Peachtree Park	muzzy.cathy3@gmail.com
23	Ann O'Connell	Mt. Paran-Northside	annoconnell1@bellsouth.net
24	Garth Peters	Memorial Park & Buckhead Coalition	gpeters@thebuckheadcoalition.org
25	Elizabeth Pritchard	Peachtree Battle Alliance	eliz@epritcharddesigns.com
26	Buff Quillian	Peachtree Heights West	buffquillianphw@gmail.com
27	Loulie Reese	Memorial Park	Loulie_tarbutton_reese@yahoo.com
28	David Ross	Peachtree Battle Alliance	dross1102@bellsouth.net
29	A. D. Onyx (?)	Peachtree Hills	unknown
30	Victoria Salzman	Peachtree Hills	victoriaeas@gmail.com
31	Mercy Sandberg- Wright	Tuxedo Park	mercywright@msn.com
32	John Schaffner	Buckhead View	jfschaffner@gmail.com
33	Bob Schneider	Garden Hills	bobschneider@me.com
34	Amy Shea	Mt. Paran-Northside	mashea@mindspring.com
35	Alex Smith	Wildwood	asmithconsulting@earthlink.net
36	Tom Tidwell	West Paces Northside	tom@tidwell-law.com
37	Debra Wathen	Paces	6wathens@bellsouth.net
38	Dan Whisenhunt	Buckhead Reporter	danwhisenhunt@reporternewspapers.net

# BCN Board Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2012

## Representation by Neighborhood

Neighborhood/Organization	Attendees
1 Ardmore Park	Tom Gordon
2 Brookwood	Diane Cox
3 Buckhead Forest	Sandy Dlugozima
4 Chastain Park	Jim King
5 Collier Hills	Barbara Kennedy
6 Fernleaf	Lindsey Churchill
7 Garden Hills	Bob Schneider
8 Historic Brookhaven	Glenn Delk
9 Loring Heights	Ron Grunwald, Jeremy Faughtenberry, Jim Elgar
10 Margaret Mitchell	Leslie Churchill
11 Memorial Park	Loulie Reese, Garth Peters
12 Mt. Paran-Northside	Ann O'Connell, Amy Shea
13 North Buckhead	Gordon Certain
14 Paces	Debra Wathen
15 Peachtree Battle Alliance	Elizabeth Pritchard, David Ross
16 Peachtree Heights West	Buff Quillian
17 Peachtree Hills	Hans Bendeck, Victoria Salzman, A. D. Onyx (?)
18 Peachtree Park	Cathy Muzzy
19 Pine Hills	George Mirgorod, Michael Krompegal
20 Tuxedo Park	Mercy Sandberg-Wright
21 West Paces Northside	Tom Tidwell
22 Wildwood	Alex Smith

## BCN 2011/12 Officers (Executive Committee)

Office	Officer	Neighborhood	E-mail
Chairman	Jim King	Chastain Park	jimking@mindspring.com
Vice-chairman	Elizabeth Pritchard	Peachtree Battle Alliance	eliz@epritcharddesigns.com
Secretary	Gordon Certain	North Buckhead	gcertain@comcast.net
Treasurer	Barbara Kennedy	Collier Hills	bar2010@aol.com
Communications	Bob Schneider	Garden Hills	bschneider@gardenhills.net
Member at Large	George Mirgorod	Pine Hills	gmirgorod@comcast.net
Member at Large	Ann O'Connell	Mt. Paran Northside	annoconnell1@bellsouth.net

## BCN Standing Committees

Committee	Chair	E-mail
Executive Committee	Jim King	jimking@mindspring.com
Communications Committee	Bob Schneider	bschneider@gardenhills.net

## BCN 2011/12 Liaisons

Topic	Liaison	E-mail
Education	Leslie Churchill	lschurchill@bellsouth.net
Membership	Elizabeth Pritchard	eliz@epritcharddesigns.com
Neighborhood Governance/Topics	Kathy Collura	KathyCollura@bellsouth.net
Parks	Gordon Certain	gcertain@comcast.net
Property Taxes	George Mirgorod	gmirgorod@comcast.net
Public Safety	Barbara Kennedy	bar2010@aol.com
	Tad Linder	tlinder@lindersecurity.com
	Kim Kahwach	KAJensen@bellsouth.net
Redistricting	Jim King	jimking@mindspring.com
Transportation, Development and Infrastructure	Diane Cox	brookwoodcivic@gmail.com
	Ron Grunwald	rgrunwald@bellsouth.net
	Deborah Wathen	6wathens@bellsouth.net
	Kristy Gillmann	phca_kristy@hotmail.com

# BCN Board Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2012

## I. Welcome

Jim King called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

## II. Introductions

The attendees introduced themselves. A quorum was present.

## III. Approval of December Minutes

Minutes for the December meeting were approved.

## IV. Admit New Member Neighborhoods

Twenty-eight neighborhoods paid 2011 dues. As of this January meeting, five had paid 2012 dues. One new neighborhood, Fernleaf – a neighborhood of about 70 homes, was approved as a new member. Other new neighborhoods are anticipated. Pleasant Hill hasn't decided whether to join separately or be represented by Paces.

## V. Guest Speaker – Nancy Meister

**Nancy Meister** is an elected member of the Atlanta Board of Education representing District 4. She spoke to provide an update about the redistricting proposals for Atlanta Public Schools.

Nancy explained that the purpose of redistricting process, which started in May of last year, is to:

- accommodate forecasted enrollment,
- balance capacities and school utilization around the City of Atlanta and not just in Buckhead,
- keep the middle and high school feeder pattern intact, and
- draw attendance zones that will be functional for the next ten years.

Phase 1 of the process was a capacity study. An outside demographic team, the Bleakely Group, was hired to do the work. They posted a survey on the APS web site, to which there were many responses. They initiated four focus groups (one for each SRT) around the city to gather information. This information was summarized and translated into four options (detailed maps) which were made public in late November/early December. The BOE saw the four options the morning they were made public.

Speaking personally, Nancy said it was heartbreaking that that the process hadn't been done differently – it focused on demographers, numbers, capacity and maps rather than on neighborhoods and curriculum. She apologized, saying the BOE had nothing to do with it; it was the demographers' choice.

The demographers set up an online survey, from which public feedback was solicited. The public response included 8,000 sheets of paper, which, together with inputs from the APS administration, Superintendent, BOE, and from experts in curriculum, instruction, and transportation which will be used to develop two new options on January 23. She said the demographers still "own" the process. They will also provide a summary of the feedback they have received, the guidelines they have received from the administration and board, and other data. Superintendent Erroll Davis worked with the BOE to develop 20 objectives for the demographers to consider. Nancy said the complete list is still being worked on and is not available. They include things like "Allow K-8 students to walk where possible." Davis will establish priorities (high/medium/low) for the twenty items. [The new proposals and other material are now on the APS web site at <http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Page/413>. The "twenty" principles (actually there are 21) are at [www.atlantapublicschools.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=25735](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=25735).]

During the week of January 30, (February 1 at North Atlanta for our district) the new options will be presented to the public. There will be another online feedback survey which the demographers will use to develop new proposals for submission to Erroll Davis in early March. He may modify the proposals and then will present them to the BOE and public. More feedback and then the final proposal will be provided to the BOE in April.

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So, she said, there is a lot more time for feedback. She added that the time and efforts by the neighborhoods have been amazing and, while there are no guarantees since it is a city-wide process, neighborhood desires will be taken into consideration.

A long Q&A session followed. Frustration about the process was expressed by many attendees. Several notable items came out of the Q&A.

- Responding to sidewalk funding (or the lack thereof), **Yolanda Adrean** said that the city's infrastructure backlog for bridges, streets, sidewalks, traffic lights, police precincts and fire stations is literally one billion dollars. The question is, how do we finance that?
- Regarding the SACS accreditation issue and the recent divided vote for a new BOE chairman, how is the school board getting along? [A new BOE chair and vice chair had been elected shortly before BCN's meeting.] Nancy said they vote differently on issues, some getting 5:4 votes, others 9:0 or 7:2. Nancy said she advocated for continuation of the existing leadership of the board, but five of her colleagues didn't agree. Overall, Nancy is not concerned: "We'll be fine."
- **Jim King** commented that he was concerned that the demographers seemed to be balancing the numbers of students in each school and in each cluster; but different growth rates are happening in different areas and some areas might naturally need larger or smaller schools to suit their characteristics. He said that a customer-centric approach is needed to figure out the school needs of the neighborhood areas and how to take care of students *in* their area and not ship them off to school in another area. Nancy agreed, citing the growth of the new North Atlanta from 1,800 students to 2,400. She said a detailed dialogue will be needed at the next step of the redistricting process.
- An explanation was requested about an ethics complaint that press reports said was filed recently regarding the new BOE chair and the superintendent. North Atlanta PTSA Co-President **Amy Shea** spoke in detail about the situation and provided [a copy of the affidavit](#) to BCN, saying it was a public record. The affidavit was filed by **Cynthia Briscoe Brown**, Chair of NAPPS and also a lawyer. As summarized on the [WABE web site](#), the affidavit "cites McDaniel for statements allegedly made by Superintendent Erroll Davis. Those include a refusal to continue as superintendent if Brenda Muhammad remained chair and claims she meddled in vendor contracts. Davis, according to the affidavit, strongly denied making those comments." For more details, refer to the text of the affidavit. Nancy said that the BOE board voted unanimously to refer the matter to their ethics commission.

### VI. Committee and Liaison Updates

- **Communications Committee** – Bob Schneider reported that there has been some progress on the new web site. The test web site, at [www.buckheadcouncil.yolasite.com](http://www.buckheadcouncil.yolasite.com) for now, is available for review of the general layout. Comments should go to [bschneider@gardenhills.net](mailto:bschneider@gardenhills.net).
- **Education** – No report.
- **Executive Committee** – No report.
- **Membership** – No Report.
- **Neighborhood Governance/Topics - Best Practices**: No report.
- **Parks** – **Gordon Certain** reported that **Livable Buckhead, Inc.** had been granted the authority by the state Department of Natural Resources to be a "land trust". This means that LBI can own conservation easements and private parks in perpetuity. Their first holding is a private park at Tower Place.

**Yolanda Adrean** is working on several parks issues. The first is getting the Watershed Management equipment facility removed from the middle of Chastain Park – she has elevated the issue to the mayor's office. She would appreciate e-mails of support for her cause to Mayor Reed, Watershed Commissioner Macrina, Parks Commissioner Dusenbury and Paul Taylor, Director of Park Design.

Yolanda is also working on making "The Lodge", "a fabulous stone building" in the southern part



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of her district, accessible to families for weddings and get-togethers. The problem is that the building is near the water works and after 911 it was shut down because of security concerns. She estimates the building would probably seat 75 people and says it has a kitchen and a couple of bathrooms. The Lodge is also near the Beltline's path and they are also interested in reactivating it.

**Garth Peters** commented that the Buckhead CID was planning to expand its territory along the GA 400 right-of-way from I-85 to Loidans Drive to support the creation of the GA 400 Trail.

- **Property Taxes** – No report.
- **Public Safety – Hannah Chung** reported on two cases she handled in November.
  - Daniel Travis was charged with leaving a house on Buckhead Trace and leading police on a high-speed chase from Peachtree Dunwoody Road to Peachtree Road to GA 400 to I-285 involving several accidents. Travis didn't have a bad record but had a pending armed robbery charge in another zone. He pled guilty and he got 20 years, to serve 15 without the possibility of parole.
  - Marion Hayes was charged with a burglary on Lenox Oaks Circle in February 2010. The resident chased Hayes, who was captured trying to get on MARTA on Lenox Road. Hayes had a long record and he got 20 to serve 7 without the possibility of parole.
- **Redistricting – Jim King** reported that the County Commission had created one redistricting map he had seen. He also thought the Legislature might get involved – **Elly Dobbs** hadn't heard anything. **Yolanda Adrean** said that the City Council hadn't voted yet, but that District 8 was the same for all the maps that have been proposed.
- **Transportation, Development and Infrastructure – Ron Grunwald** had an Amtrak update: GDOT has changed the possible Deering Road closure date from March to May. Alternatives are possible which might avoid the closure of Deering.

Regarding the new proposed Amtrak site at 17<sup>th</sup> and Northside/Bishop: Ron said there is a rumor that a mixed use proposal is being considered by SRTA, who owns one parcel, and the owner of the other parcel. This mixed-use facility would incorporate the Amtrak station as part of the plan. Ron has not been able to confirm this or determine the status.

**Debroah Wathen** reported on a follow-up meeting with GDOT about the I-75 / Mt. Paran Road intersection. It became clear that GDOT would not close the southbound off ramp because of concerns of traffic impact at West Paces Ferry. **Jim King** reported that GDOT told him after the last meeting that they are working on a phased plan to synchronize traffic signals on Northside Drive from Cumberland down to Moore's Mill. Other improvements discussed were electronic signs on I-75 suggesting that US 41 might be quicker. *[The recording quality of this I-75 / Mt. Paran Road part of the meeting was not good and some of this topic is missing from these minutes. See the [meeting summary](#) for full details—GC]*

### VII. Community Concerns / New Business

**Gordon Certain** had suggested that "directors and officers" insurance for BCN be added to this meeting's agenda. After a brief discussion of the pros and cons (including some horror stories), Jim King requested that D & O insurance be the topic for Neighborhood Governance/Topics - Best Practices discussion for February. The discussion should consider both neighborhood needs and BCN. It was also suggested that if BCN neighborhoods joined together, they might be able to get better rates.

### VIII. Announcements

Jim King reported that Kathryn Lawler of ARC will hopefully be able to come to BCN to discuss details of the T-SPLOST projects.

Jim also announced that the Bobby Jones Golf Conservancy plans to come to BCN to address their "new venture".

Jim said that All Traffic Solutions was offering an upgraded radar unit at low/no cost. See [ATS' e-mail](#).

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**IX. Next Meeting** – February 9, 2012.

**X. Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at about 8:35 PM.

***Note:** The opinions expressed by the speakers and individual neighborhood representatives in these minutes do not necessarily represent those of BCN or its member neighborhoods.*

Prepared by Gordon Certain

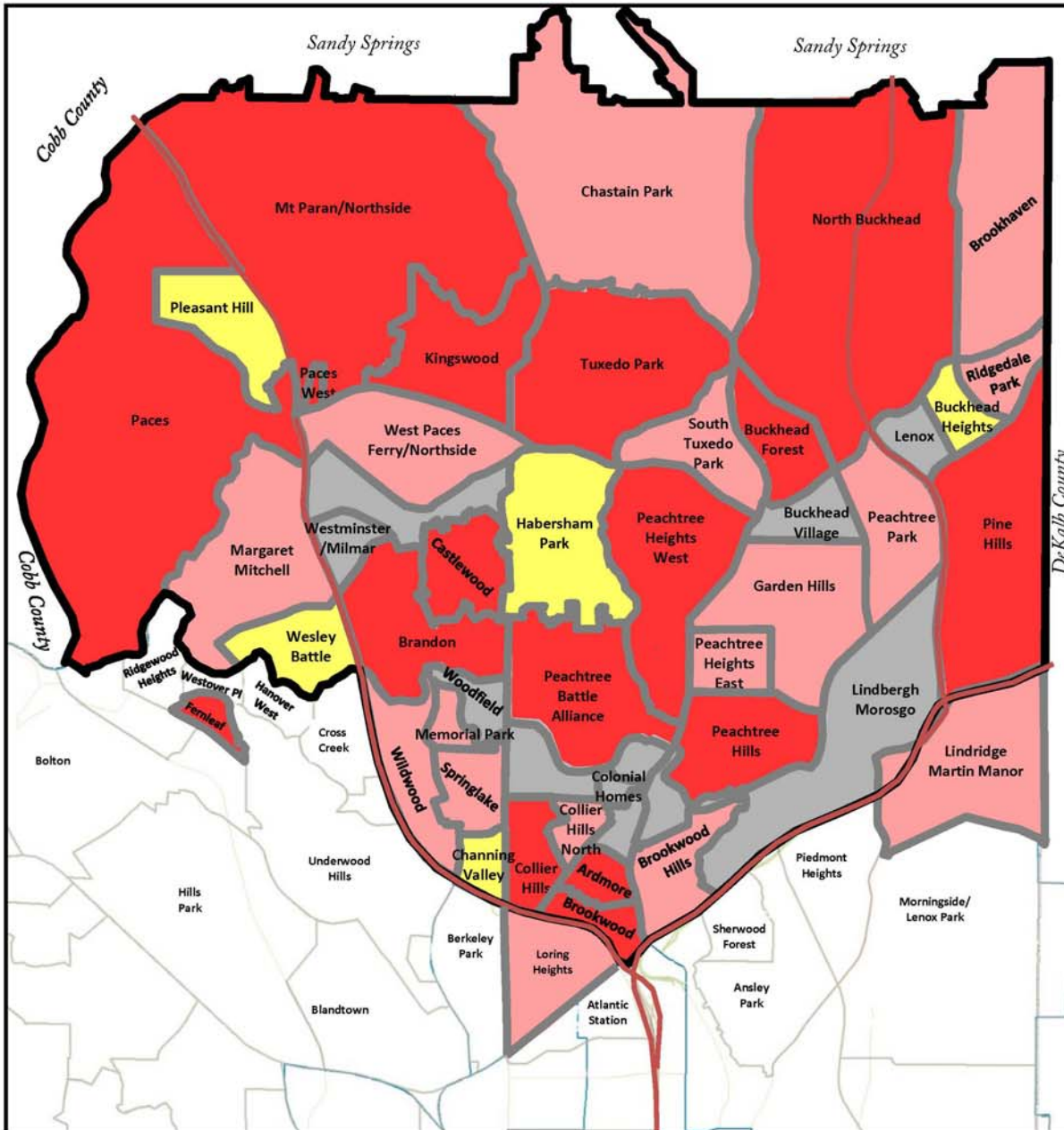
BCN Secretary

February 5, 2012, revised February 9 (pages 7 & 8 changed to show new dues payment)

DRAFT

# Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods

Paid Membership as of 02/09/12



**LEGEND**

Paid Membership as of 02/09/12

2011 YES		NO		N/A	
2012 YES					

2/9/2012

# BCN Organizational Status as of 2/6/12

		BCN Dues				Representation at BCN Board Meetings															
	Neighborhood	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011												'12
						3 meetings	12 meetings	11 meetings	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	
1	Ardmore Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	67%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2	Brandon				✓																
3	Brookwood		✓	✓	✓		17%	45%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
4	Brookwood Hills			✓			8%		✓						✓	✓	✓	✓			
5	Buckhead Forest	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	75%	100%		✓							✓			✓	
6	Buckhead Heights						8%														
7	Castlewood	✓	✓		✓		17%										✓	✓	✓		
8	Channing Valley																	✓	✓		
9	Chastain Park	✓	✓	✓		100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Collier Hills	✓	✓	✓	✓		67%	82%	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
11	Collier Hills North			✓			8%	9%		✓	✓						✓	✓			
12	Fernleaf				✓															✓	
13	Garden Hills	✓	✓	✓			75%	91%		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
14	Grant Estates	✓	✓	✓		100%	83%	82%													
15	Habersham Park							9%													
16	Historic Brookhaven	✓	✓	✓		33%	58%	91%			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
17	Kingswood	✓			✓	33%	8%	9%													
18	Lindbergh												✓								
19	Lindridge Martin Manor	✓	✓	✓		33%	25%	55%	✓												
20	Loring Heights			✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
21	Margaret Mitchell	✓	✓	✓			33%	64%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Memorial Park	✓	✓	✓		67%	58%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
23	Mt. Paran-Northside	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	75%	55%	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
24	North Buckhead	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
25	Paces	✓	✓	✓	✓	67%	58%	55%	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
26	Paces West	✓	✓		✓		17%											✓			
27	Peachtree Battle Alliance	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	83%	64%	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
28	Peachtree Heights East	✓	✓	✓		67%	50%		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
29	Peachtree Heights West	✓	✓	✓	✓	33%	25%	73%	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
30	Peachtree Hills	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	75%	45%	✓	✓						✓			✓	✓	
31	Peachtree Park	✓	✓	✓		67%	83%	55%		✓			✓			✓	✓			✓	
32	Pine Hills		✓	✓	✓	33%	8%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
33	Pleasant Hill																				
34	Ridgedale Park	✓	✓	✓		100%	58%	73%		✓				✓							
35	Springlake		✓	✓				55%	✓					✓							
36	Tuxedo Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	67%	75%	73%	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
37	Wesley Bohler	✓	✓				17%	9%						✓							
38	West Paces Northside	✓	✓	✓		67%	67%	64%	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
39	Wildwood			✓		33%		27%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Neighborhood Totals		26	28	28	17	Avg: 16	Avg: 16	Avg: 18	20	19	16	13	20	18	16	20	19	21	17	22	