



June 29, 2022

Dear Mayor Dickens, City Council President Shipman, and Councilmember Faroki:

The Inman Park Neighborhood Association has voted to support BeltLine Rail Now's mission of expediting the construction of light rail along the Atlanta BeltLine.

The time to build rail on the BeltLine is NOW. Everyone in Atlanta deserves the connectivity that rail transit on the BeltLine will bring. We need an immediate roll-out of the More MARTA plan in order to fight displacement, promote affordable housing, and connect all of our city's residents to resources and to each other.

Constructing rail in South and West Atlanta in particular will provide needed access to jobs and to important resources such as education, health care, and recreation in areas of Atlanta where car ownership is lowest.

Citizens of Atlanta voted in favor of the More MARTA half-penny sales tax in 2016 and have been paying ever since to fund implementation of the plan. MARTA should fulfill their mandate prioritizing construction of rail and should also apply for the funding now available through the Infrastructure and Jobs Act. Other cities are applying for these grants, which Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg declared during his visit to Atlanta are designed to fund projects exactly like BeltLine Rail.

Why is rail construction possible in other cities but not here? We have waited long enough. The issue has been studied again and again. The voters have spoken.

Please do everything in your power to see that MARTA actually breaks ground right away and begins to carry out the More MARTA. If they begin soon, the segment from Downtown to Ponce City Market can be completed in time for the World Cup in 2026.

Please give us the connectivity that we chose, that we deserve, and that we have been paying for!

Sincerely,

Cristy Lenz, President  
Inman Park Neighborhood Association