

#### CRAFTING THE VISION

### Toward a Better North Buckhead

Wow. North Buckhead is an amazing neighborhood. And NBCA is brainstorming and planning initiatives to make North Buckhead even better. Much can happen if we all contribute our ideas, time, and talents.

There are few other neighborhoods in the country like North Buckhead. Where else combines such sophisticated urban amenities with such natural beauty? We have all that a big city has to offer – abundant shopping, delicious restaurants, dramatic skyscrapers, transit stations, and convenient everyday amenities. We also have a healthy and healthful green environment – Blue Heron Nature Preserve, neighborhood parks, and Path 400 all set amidst towering mature forests, rushing streams, and beautiful landscapes. Add to all that Sarah Smith School, other important institutions, and friendly people. It all makes North Buckhead an amazing neighborhood.

And the potential exists to make North Buckhead even better. This special NBCA Magazine is chock full of ideas for enhancing our public realm, building community, increasing communication, and strengthening NBCA's ability to better serve North Buckhead. It is also an invitation for you to provide your ideas and help craft the vision for improving our neighborhood.

You can be part of making these ideas a reality. If you are already a NBCA member, thank you. If you are not already a member, please join today at www.nbca.org. It's only \$50 per year and your all-volunteer civic association





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leverages that modest fee for great impact. And please volunteer your time and talents. The chart on page 3 shows NBCA's committee and action team structure. Plug in with whatever committee or action team interests you. It makes a big difference in what we can accomplish.

See you around the neighborhood!



### NBCA Committees & Action Areas

Committee	Chairperson	Action Area
Public Realm & Greenspace	Nick Parker  NBCA.publicrealm1@gmail.com	North Buckhead Park Streetscape Parks Liaison Watersheds & Stormwater
Communications	Nancy Apatov NBCA.communications1@gmail.com	Calendar of Events Announcements Neighborhood News Newsletter NBCA Magazine Website Facebook & Other Social Media
Finance	Richard Newton  NBCA.finance1@gmail.com	Budget & Financial Reporting Tax Returns & Filings Insurance
History	Gordon Certain  NBCA.history1@gmail.com	History of North Buckhead
Land Use/Zoning	Jim Sibley NBCA.zoning1@gmail.com	Buckhead DRC City Right of Ways & Utilities Code Enforcement Zoning Review
Membership	Dan Berschinski NBCA.membership1@gmail.com	Membership Marketing HOA/Condo Liaison Membership Services
Executive	Robert Patterson NBCA.president1@gmail.com	BCID & Livable Buckhead Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods NPU-B Rep Technology Services Annual Meeting Volunteer Coordinator Master Plan Sponsorships
Public Safety	Gordon Certain  NBCA.publicsafety1@gmail.com	APD Zone 2 CAC Program Evaluation
Social	Rita Christopher NBCA.social1@gmail.com	New Neighbor Welcome Fall Fling & Gatherings Circles
Traffic	Robert Sarkisian  NBCA.traffic1@gmail.com	Traffic Mitigation & Calming
Transit & Mobility	Robert Patterson NBCA.president1@gmail.com	B-Line Bicycle Network Walkability Transit

#### NBCA MISSION

Per the NBCA Bylaws, NBCA is a nonprofit Association under the Georgia Nonprofit Association Code for civic purposes. It has IRS 501(c)(4) status. It is operated to:

- Promote the
  common good and
  general welfare of
  the residents of
  North Buckhead
- Preserve North
  Buckhead's
  quality of life
- Foster a spirit of community
- Provide a forum for the full and free discussion of all matters of interest to the residents of North Buckhead



# Join Now!

This NBCA Magazine is bursting with ideas for making North Buckhead even better...

- Enhancing Quality of Life
- Building Community
- Strengthening NBCA's Ability to Serve North Buckhead
- Increasing Communications
- Improving Public Safety

...You can be part of making these ideas a reality.

If you are not already a member, please join today. It's only \$50 per year and your all-volunteer civic association leverages that modest amount for great impact.

To join, click here. 🔾





#### INCREASING COMMUNICATION

## Communication, Communication, Communication!



by Nancy Apatov

Communications Committee Chair

Everyone's media consumption habits are different. Reflecting that, we have devised a new and expanded communications plan that establishes many new communication touch

points. Most of our communications will be digital, which will allow us to communicate on a more timely basis with more color and interactive links and at a much lower cost. However, for those who prefer printed materials, we will format communications for easy printing at home.

We are planning the following primary communication vehicles:

#### NBCA Announcements

We will continue to send out timely alerts and announcements. These will be short and to the point.

#### NBCA Magazine

Twice a year we will issue a larger communication piece focusing on:

**Fall:** Priorities for the coming year

**Spring:** Annual Report on financial status of the

NBCA as well as accomplishments over the past 12 months

#### Neighborhood News

Twice a month, we will send out an email newsletter with three to five brief articles.

The content will focus on people and places in our community, activities happening within North Buckhead, and activities of interest within greater Atlanta. We will also keep you updated on the status of on-going projects.

#### **NBCA** Website

We will enhance the content on the website to provide more information for easy reference. Some information on the website will be for members only, such as the Member Directory (coming soon!).

#### Social Media

Posts on Facebook and Instagram will be frequent and wide ranging. Social media also provides a way for everyone to share neighborhood news, p

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neighborhood news, post photos, and add comments.

» A Call for Volunteers! Please consider joining the Communications Committee. We need writers, photographers, videographers, and editors. Email NBCA.communications1@gmail.com.

#### ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE

## Making Our Public Realm Even Better

What the heck is the 'public realm?' It's everything in North Buckhead that's not privately owned, including streets, bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks, public landscaping, signage, streams, and parks.

#### **AIMING HIGH**

Numerous NBCA committees are working on ways to enhance North Buckhead's public realm. In this section, you'll read about plans for the B-Line Bicycle Network, new 'gateways' to North Buckhead, ideas to make Wieuca our neighborhood's signature street, ideas to improve all of our streets, and handling stormwater.

#### READY, SET, GO!

Your ideas can make these plans even better! Please jump into the action with your ideas, time, and talent.



## North Buckhead Neighborhood Master Plan

NBCA and Council Member Howard Shook sponsored the development of the North Buckhead Neighborhood Master Plan. TSW, a renowned planning and design firm, prepared the Master Plan, completing the plan in 2015. North Buckhead is the

only neighborhood in the city to have
developed a professional Master Plan. Subsequently,
the Master Plan was adopted by the Atlanta City Council and
incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Development Plan.
That means that zoning applications and other policies and
proposals are in part judged for their conformance to the Master
Plan. However, it does not guarantee funding for projects in the Master
Plan. That requires further advocacy and creativity. Many of the ideas
in this publication had their origin in the Master Plan and, in turn, the
Master Plan will be periodically updated as we continue to expand
our vision and initiatives for North Buckhead.

NORTH BUCKHEAD NEIGHBORHOOD MASTER PLAN

>>> The Master Plan is available at <a href="https://www.nbca.org">www.nbca.org</a> under 'About NBCA,' or <a href="https://www.nbca.org">CLICK HERE</a>.





The B-Line Bicycle Network

#### by Kevin McCauley

B-Line Action Area Leader

The North Buckhead Neighborhood Master Plan envisions an extensive network of bike lanes totaling over ten miles. Dubbed the 'B-Line,' NBCA is now working to make this network a reality.

#### **Great for Getting Around**

The B-Line will have many connectivity benefits for cyclists. It will make it easier to get to:

- Path 400, and all the things that Path 400 connects to, including, eventually, the Beltline
- Sarah Smith School (both campuses)
- Downtown Buckhead and its many shops & restaurants
- Local shops and restaurants on Roswell Road



MARTA rail at the Buckhead station and bus service on Peachtree. Roswell. and Piedmont Roads

ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE

All of our seven neighborhood parks and greenspaces

Piedmont Center

Great for North Buckhead

The B-Line will also have many community benefits. Even those who never ride a bike will benefit from the way that the B-Line will help calm traffic. The B-Line creates narrower automobile lanes that naturally reduce average speeds. The B-Line also increases the number of crosswalks, further slowing traffic. On top of all that, the sight of bike lanes and people using them makes drivers slow down even more. It's all about calming traffic by creating neighborhoodfriendly streets.

#### The B-Line is Already 50% Complete

Of the entire ten-mile B-Line network, the City has already installed bike lanes on Old

Path 400 Completed IIIIII Path 400 Under Construction (M) MARTA Ivy, Peachtree, and Wieuca, representing 50% of the tenmile network. To complete the B-Line, we will work with the city to create detailed engineering drawings, paint the lanes, and install additional signage. We also want to devise a plan for keeping the bike lanes clear of debris on an ongoing basis. We will be working closely with our elected city officials and city staff to make

(400)

Peachtree Dunwoody Rd

Completed progress on all of these fronts.

Lenox Rd.

marta 💙

Piedmont Rd.

» Please consider joining the B-Line Action Team. Email kpmccauley1@netscape.net.

## Gateways to North Buckhead

#### by Nick Parker

Public Realm & Greenspace Committee Chair

We are proud of our neighborhood and want the most traveled entrances into our community to represent the beauty that lies within. We are currently working on landscape plans for one major entrance and starting to brainstorm what could be done at other neighborhood entrances.

## North Buckhead Park & Roundabout

The City of Atlanta and the Buckhead Community Improvement District (BCID) are planning a roundabout at the intersection of Wieuca Road and Phipps Boulevard, as described in previous NBCA newsletters. As part of the roundabout's installation, North Buckhead Park, adjacent to the intersection, will undergo a complete renovation.

The City and BCID have asked NBCA to help devise and approve the landscape design for the roundabout and the new North Buckhead Park.

The park will function as a pass-through space, not a space where people will spend hours of time. North Buckhead's other parks already serve that role in a wonderful variety of ways. Our hope is that pedestrians will find delightful moments to pause as they WALK through, perhaps to admire the beauty of the plantings, capture a view (or a selfie!) with a striking sculpture in the roundabout, or chat with a friend.

Horticulturally, the landscape plan will be an 'Ode to the Piedmont' featuring a showcase of native plants. As a gateway, the greenspace will create a transition between the urban excitement of Downtown

Buckhead and the forested natural beauty of our single-family residential area. As public art, the roundabout will feature a dramatic sculptural element specifically commissioned for the park.

We expect design approval by the end of the year and project completion sometime in 2022.

#### Other Entrances

We are just starting the process of developing ideas for other entrances to North Buckhead, including at Wieuca and Roswell and on Old Ivy at Habersham. The design of these other entrances and of other improvements within North Buckhead will most likely follow the design approach at North Buckhead Park.

» Please consider joining

adjacent to the intersection, will undergo a complete renovation.

WIEUEA RD NE

WIEUE

### Let's Make Wieuca Our Signature Street

#### by Nick Parker

Public Realm & Greenspace Committee Chair

#### **Robert Sarkisian**

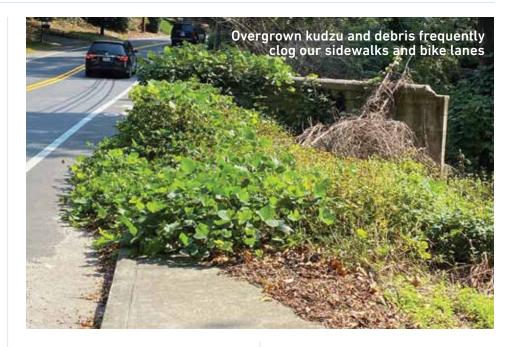
Traffic Committee Chair

One big idea for North Buckhead is to make Wieuca our signature street.

Why is Wieuca so important?
Well, for starters, Wieuca is our single longest street. It connects us to Downtown Buckhead at one end and to Roswell Road at the other end. Whether one is going to a fancy restaurant in Downtown Buckhead or going to a quick-serve restaurant on Roswell Road, it's the way to get there. Along the way, Wieuca connects with 17 of North Buckhead's neighborhood streets, Path 400, and Sarah Smith's new campus.

It's also an historic street. It's on all the old maps. Was it really named by an early local leader for his three daughters Wilma, Eunice, and Catherine? Some say yes, some say no. But it's the story that we're going with. The remains of an old grist mill, the mill pond, and a spillway are still visible just above where Little Nancy Creek flows into Nancy Creek.

Wieuca is our neighborhood's favorite walking, running, and



bicycling route. It's hard to go for a walk or jog on Wieuca and not see several neighbors that you know. For bicycling, it sports two recently widened bike lanes. It's our Main Street. And it's a huge priority to make it as accommodating as possible.

Unfortunately, its convenience as a thoroughfare is not lost on literally thousands of cut-through commuters every day. Slowing them down so that they can enjoy the ride and we can enjoy our neighborhood is another huge priority.

So how do we make Wieuca our signature street and encourage commuters to slow down and respect our neighborhood?

There are lots of ideas:

- Neighborhood Gateways
- Additional sidewalks
- A landscaping program
- Keeping the bike lanes& sidewalks free of debris

- Banners
- Attractive neighborhood& functional signage
- Lower speed limit
- Camera-based ticketing at Sarah Smith
- Raised crosswalks
- Flashing lights at crosswalks
- Additional radar speed signs
- Signature streetscape elements (drive through Ansley Park for examples)

Add your here!

Making Wieuca our signature street is a big idea for North Buckhead. Let's make it happen.

» Please consider volunteering for the Traffic Committee or the Public Realm & Greenspace Committee. Email NBCA.traffic1@gmail.com or NBCA.publicrealm1@gmail.com.

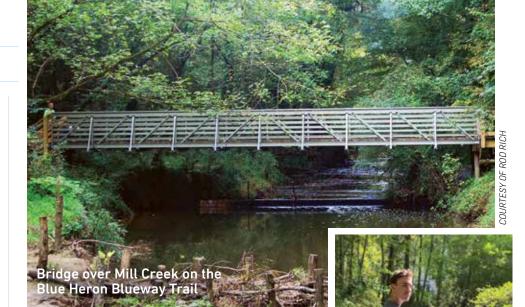
## Let's Upgrade All Our Streets

NBCA is working tirelessly to advocate for improvements to all our streets. Priorities include:

- Pothole repair & repaving
- Expanding the number of sidewalks and improving their maintenance
- Increased street cleaning
- Pruning undergrowth crowding sidewalks
   bike lanes
- Striping narrower automobile lanes to slow traffic
- Adding speed control infrastructure
- Developing a landscape program
- Installing streetscape elements

Add your here!

» Please consider volunteering for the Traffic Committee or the Public Realm & Greenspace Committee. Email NBCA.traffic1@gmail.com or NBCA.publicrealm1@gmail.com.



### Watersheds & Stormwater

#### by Nick Parker

North Buckhead is fortunate to enjoy three beautiful streams, providing a wonderful

amenity to our neighborhood. But when a storm hits, these streams can receive more than their share of runoff from roofs and paved surfaces, flooding yards and houses in the process. Further, these streams are damaged by chemicals, sediment, plastics, and other unwanted debris. NBCA's Public Realm and Greenspace Committee has organized an Action Team of interested residents to investigate these topics and pursue next steps.

Quinn fishing on

Our major streams are Little Nancy Creek, Mill Creek, and Nancy Creek. Little Nancy Creek originates in the area near Oglethorpe University and flows along Mountain Drive, Mountain Way, and Wieuca. Mill Creek originates in the highly developed area around Tower Place and flows beside the new Blue Heron Blueway Trail. Nancy Creek originates many miles to the north, collecting stormwater from a wide area.

NBCA's Watershed Action Team is not starting from scratch. Several residents have already been looking into this topic. Sally Silver in Council Member Howard Shook's office has been working with Watershed Management and other agencies about ways to reduce stormwater's impact on the neighborhood. Together, the team hopes to continue the progress on this topic.

» Please consider joining the Watershed Action Team. Email NBCA.publicrealm1@qmail.com.

## Forums & Gatherings

Part of NBCA's mission is to provide a forum for community discussion. Another part of the mission is to build community. What better way to serve both elements of the mission than to host forums and gatherings as interesting topics and fun opportunities arise?

The NBCA Social Committee is brainstorming different topics to gather around. Some might be topics of purely local concern. Others might showcase North Buckhead residents who have deep knowledge of an important and timely issue. Others might provide a discussion with elected leaders and heads of agencies. Other gatherings could be purely social.

Until it's safe, we will conduct these gatherings online. Once it's safe, we will hold these in person or using a hybrid model.

#### NBCA Annual Meeting 2021

NBCA holds its Annual Meeting each spring to elect new Board members and vote on other items that require a membership vote. The upcoming Annual Meeting will be March 23, 2021 at 6:30PM. We expect that we will hold this meeting online. Please mark your calendar!

Fall Fling Bike Ride

**BUILDING COMMUNITY** 

#### by Rita Christopher

Chair, Social Committee

Every fall, North
Buckhead has
gathered together for
the Fall Fling, a big block
party with music, food,
community, and fun. With the
pandemic, this is not the time to
gather together. Instead, we came
up with a completely different
and 'COVID-aware' plan—the Fall
Fling Bike Ride.

On Sunday, November 8 from 2-4PM, hop on your bike and come out to ride and wave. The bike route includes Mountain Way, Mountain Drive, and a portion of North Ivy (see map). The bike ride is open to all and is free of charge.

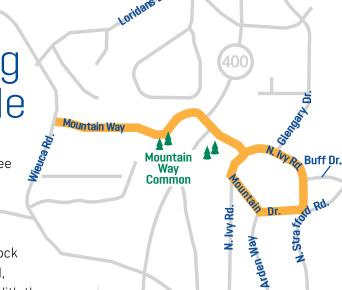
We are designing the Fall Fling Bike Ride in dialogue with Council Member Howard Shook's office to be in conformance with Atlanta's phased reopening plan and State of Georgia guidelines. This is a bike ride, not an event. No stopping or congregating. No program, food, beverage, information tables, or activities. Masks required! That's a whole

» Please consider joining the Social Committee. Email NBCA.social1@gmail.com. bunch of restrictions, but won't it be great to get out in the fresh air and ride a bike! And be sure and check out the great new changes at Mountain Way Common while you are there.

Fall Fling Bike Route

Given the constantly changing situation, please monitor www.nbca.org for updates.





A Partnership Where Everyone Wins

NBCA has created a sponsorship program that benefits Sponsors, NBCA members, and NBCA:

- Sponsors receive valuable exposure to North Buckhead residents
- NBCA Members receive special offers from Sponsors
- NBCA receives financial support from sponsors to help fund basic operations

#### **Sponsor Benefits**

- NBCA Magazine: One quarter-page ad in each issue. Published twice annually in the Fall and Spring (two ads total). Ads include link to Sponsor website.
- Neighborhood News: Listing in each issue, NBCA's twice-a-month e-newsletter (24 mentions per year). Listing includes link to Sponsor website.
- NBCA Facebook Page: Shout-out twice a year, based on input from Sponsor on the best timing and message for their business. Shout-out includes link to Sponsor website.
- NBCA Website: Rotating ad in 'Sponsor Box' on main NBCA webpage plus listing



on Sponsor page for one year. Listing contains link to Sponsor website.

- Mailer: Listing in email sent to all new and renewing members. Email contains link to Sponsor website.
- Welcome Package:

   Inclusion in Welcome
   Package hand-delivered
   to each new resident
   in North Buckhead
- One-year membership:
  One-year membership in
  NBCA commencing upon
  payment. Sponsor may
  sign-up as many as
  five employees to
  receive neighborhood
  communications and
  attend neighborhood events.
  Sponsorship Members
  are non-voting.

NBCA Welcome Package!»

#### Sponsorship Cost

- \$500 per year
- Sponsor provides a special offer to NBCA Members upon presentation of their NBCA Member Card

#### Learn More

To find out about becoming a NBCA Sponsor, email NBCA.communications1@ gmail.com.



#### IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY

## Establishing the Public Safety Committee

#### by Gordon Certain

Public Safety Committee Chair

NBCA plans to create a robust Public Safety Committee. Serving on the Public Safety Committee will be a learning experience due to North Buckhead's unusual public safety complexities and challenges. North Buckhead is Buckhead's largest and most populous neighborhood. It contains busy commercial areas, congested multi-lane roads, 31 miles of neighborhood streets, over 100 streets, and numerous public areas. North Buckhead is part of the Atlanta Police Department's Zone 2 and includes Beat 208 (mostly commercial) and Beat 209 (mostly single-family residential).

The Public Safety Committee will pursue three important activities:

Research and communicate public safety information and resources, including:

- Crime Information
   Downloads from APD
- Recent Crime Incidents
   & Trends
- Survey Data from Neighborhood Surveys
- Guidance on Deterring Crime (For example: don't leave cash or guns in your car.
   Ten percent of Atlanta car break-ins yield the thief



a gun, creating incentive for future break-ins)

 Legislative Requirements for Citizens (For example, the requirement to register a home security alarm system).

Research and develop proposals for specific safety initiatives, including understanding costs, potential benefits, liability issues, and best practices. This is not to say that programs will be implemented for all potential safety initiatives, but that we will evaluate a number of potential initiatives, including:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Camera Systems
- Security patrol
- Security programs for neighborhood parks
- Home-based camera systems

3 Identify and lobby for action to improve specific concerns, such as:

- Party Houses
- Street Racing
- Illegal Sales & 'Fundraising' at intersections

By virtue of serving on the public safety committee, members will learn about many public safety topics, such as:

- APD Crime Database & Crime Classification System
- APD's Organization& Facilities
- North BuckheadCrime Trends
- The 911 & 311 Systems
- APD's VIC Camera Network

IMPORTANT NOTICE: NBCA is not responsible in any way for the security of North Buckhead and any initiatives that NBCA undertakes to deter crime are not a guarantee that crimes will not occur.

» Please consider joining the Public Safety Committee. Email NBCA.publicsafety1@gmail.com.



#### STRENGTHENING NBCA

## More Involvement & Better Operations

NBCA is a 501(c)(4) non-profit association that promotes the common good and general welfare of North Buckhead. We are neighborhood volunteers pitching in to get things done. The NBCA Board has set ambitious goals for membership, volunteers, systems, and the bylaws to help ramp up NBCA's effectiveness.

MEMBERSHIP At the beginning of October 2020, NBCA had approximately 600 members. The Board has launched a major membership effort to increase membership to 1,000 members by the Annual Meeting in March 2021. Why? Because the additional membership will provide needed funds and because a larger membership gives us more clout as we represent the neighborhood with the City and other entities.

**VOLUNTEERS** The more North Buckhead residents who volunteer, the more impact that NBCA can have. Please contribute your energy and talent to NBCA! The chart on **page 3** and the many 'Call to Volunteer' boxes throughout this publication provide many options for plugging in. We are all busy, so we have created many "bite-size" volunteer opportunities tailored to your interests and availability.

SYSTEMS We recently adopted a state-of-the-art online app to host membership management and the website. The app is called MemberClicks and serves organizations across the country but is located right here in North Buckhead. The app manages member data, automates payments, facilitates communications, and hosts the website. MemberClicks offers additional functionality which we will unveil in the months to come.

BYLAWS Sounds boring, right? But bylaws are actually vital to NBCA conducting business in a businesslike way. As a 'public trust,' it is important for NBCA to follow defined election, voting, and transparency rules. Under the guidance of Lisa Aman, NBCA's Secretary, several bylaw changes were adopted by the membership this past April, strengthening NBCA's committee approach and providing for virtual meetings among several items. Lisa anticipates additional bylaw changes at the Annual Meeting in March 2021.

>>> The NBCA Bylaws are available at <a href="https://www.nbca.org">www.nbca.org</a> under 'About NBCA,' or <a href="https://www.nbca.org">CLICK HERE</a>.

## NBCA MEETING SCHEDULE

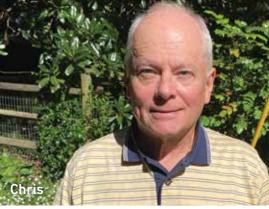
The NBCA Board meeting schedule for the latter part of 2020 and 2021 is provided below. For the foreseeable future, all meetings will be via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. In order to speak at the Board meeting, you must pre-register. Please email your interest to attend by the preceding Friday at 5PM in order to receive Zoom information and, if speaking, to be placed on the agenda.

>>> Send your email to NBCAsecretary@gmail.com.

2020				
OCT 26	Board	6:30PM		
DEC 7	Board	6:30PM		
2021				
JAN 25	Board	6:30PM		
FEB 22	Board	6:30PM		
MAR 23	Annual Meeting (No Board Meeting)	6:30PM		
APR 26	Board	6:30PM		
MAY 24	Board	6:30PM		
JUN 28	Board	6:30PM		
JUL 26	Board	6:30PM		
AUG 23	Board	6:30PM		
SEP 27	Board	6:30PM		
OCT 25	Board	6:30PM		
DEC 6	Board	6:30PM		

#### REPRESENTING NORTH BUCKHEAD





## We Speak for You

NBCA Volunteers represent
North Buckhead in numerous
important forums. Collectively,
they communicate North
Buckhead's perspective and
defend North Buckhead's interests
in everything from APD to Zoning.

Entities in which NBCA volunteers participate or regularly communicate with include:

- Atlanta Police Department Citizens Advisory Council
- Buckhead Community Improvement District
- Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods
- Buckhead Development Review Committee
- City of Atlanta –Numerous Departments
- Fulton County –
   Numerous Departments
- Livable Buckhead
- MARTA
- NPU-B
- Watershed Management
- Zoning Review Board







