

## Jump on the B-Line

By Robert Patterson  
NBCA Board Transit Liaison

Recently, I saw a kid bicycling down the bike lane on Wieuca Road, headed, I presume, to the corner stores at Roswell/Wieuca. He had a big smile on his face. I was reminded of the pure joy of a bike ride. I think this image, further populated by people on these new-fangled electric scooters and electric bikes, will become a much more common and even a defining element of our beautiful neighborhood. Let's hope so. Here's how.

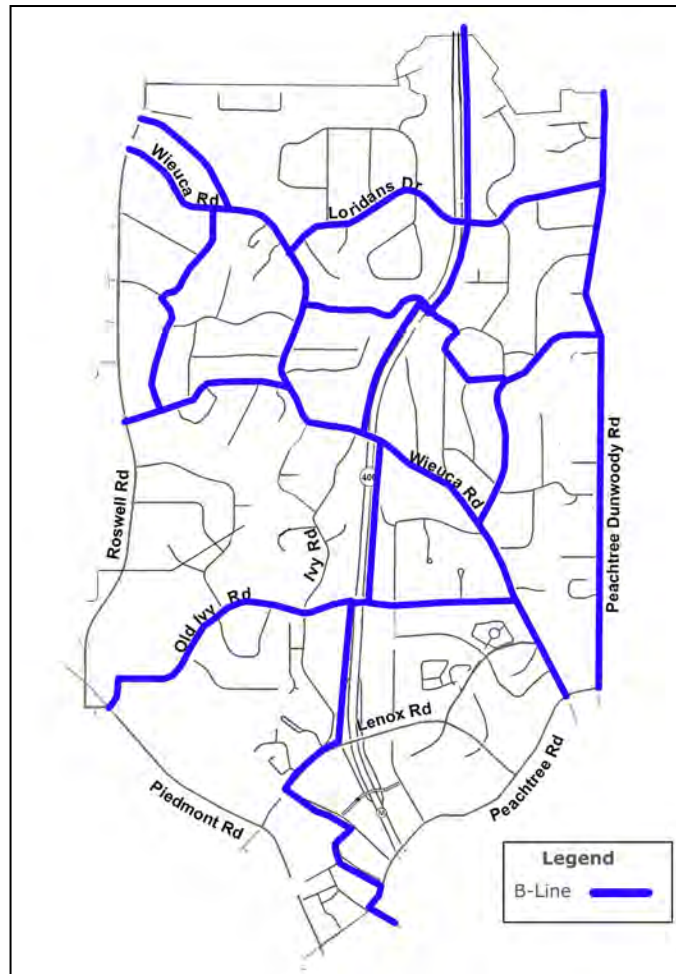
NBCA is working on a plan for the North Buckhead Bike Program, nicknamed the "B-Line." The intent is to bring to life the extensive network of bike lanes in the North Buckhead Master Plan. Doing so is important not only for the fun, recreation, and "getting there" benefits of bike (and scooter) riding but also for the benefit of traffic calming. Moreover, the B-Line will allow us to define the quality and character of our neighborhood rather than letting it be defined for us by people from elsewhere whizzing through our neighborhood in cars. So, the B-Line is not just for people who ride bikes. The B-Line is for all of us to reclaim our wonderful, livable neighborhood.

### **THE B-LINE NETWORK:**

Our bicycle network is extensive and accessible by virtually every household in North Buckhead (please see map). The network includes the following local streets: Wieuca, West Wieuca, Old Ivy, Loridans, Rickenbacker, Lakemoore, Mountain Way, North Stratford, and Peachtree Dunwoody. It also includes PATH400 (thank you, Livable Buckhead!). In the future, it will include the Blue Heron Nature Preserve's planned multi-use path from Chastain Park to PATH400. Ultimately, the entire network will be clearly painted (i.e., striped) and accompanied by extensive signage.

**Benefits of the B-Line** The B-Line will bring many benefits to all of us in North Buckhead.

- **Fun:** What's more fun than an old-fashioned bike ride? Especially if you can feel safe in the process. And electric scooters and electric bikes will entice even more people to enjoy the ride.
- **Recreation:** Bikes are great exercise. And since bike riding is fun, it's a painless way to get out and get active.
- **Getting there:** North Buckhead is close to everything — shopping, restaurants, grocery stores, offices, neighborhood greenspace, Chastain Park, the produce stand, and much more. And when we have a bike network that is safe and clean, bicycling will be a great way to get there.



- **MARTA access:** MARTA provides good transit access to North Buckhead via the Buckhead rapid-rail station and bus route #5 on Roswell Road (recently upgraded to 15-minute frequency). Since there is little to no car parking available for either, bikes can be a great way to connect to MARTA. There is already bike parking at the Buckhead station reached via PATH400. In addition, NBCA is lobbying for bike parking and bus shelters at three points where the B-Line connects with Route #5.
- **Links to the whole wide world:** Thanks to PATH400, the B-Line will eventually connect to a much wider world. PATH400 is continuing to extend south toward the Beltline, which will make Piedmont Park and all the other destinations along the Beltline a short bike ride away. PATH400 will also continue north, first to Loridans and later beyond to Sandy Springs. Both the Beltline and bike trails in Sandy Springs will connect to other trail networks, further increasing the number of destinations reachable by bike.
- **Traffic calming:** Even for people who never get on a bike, the B-Line will have

## B-Line — Continued

great benefits through traffic calming and enhancing our neighborhood’s livability and property values. How? Implementing bike lanes reduces the lane width for cars to 11 feet. This is proven to calm traffic, especially when combined with prominent bike lanes and signage. In addition, when our roads are re-striped for bike lanes, the city will add numerous crosswalks. For example, the new striping plan for Old Ivy will incorporate seven crosswalks. The restriping plan for Wieuca that will be implemented after Wieuca is repaved will include thirteen crosswalks (yes, 13 crosswalks!!!). Narrower lanes, prominent bike lanes, increased bike traffic, bike-lane signage, and numerous crosswalks are a game-changer! These improvements will calm traffic and signal that North Buckhead is a neighborhood, not a cut-through.

**Challenges:** While the B-Line promises many tremendous benefits, there are challenges. Bike lanes require striping and signage. After that, bike lanes and signage need to be maintained and kept clean. We also envision programming and communications to encourage usage. The Bike Plan will need to address how to get all of this done.

**Meeting the Challenge:** Luckily, re-striping and signage for Old Ivy and Wieuca are already in the works due to the repaving projects on those streets secured by Atlanta Councilman Howard Shook (thanks, Howard!). We will need to work with the city to secure striping and signage for the other streets designated as bike lanes in the Master Plan. In addition to work provided by the city, the plan will also require money. We hope that at least some of the funding will come from the City — remember all those taxes we pay? Additional funds will need to come from fundraising.

**Want to help?** We need people to help create the detailed plan for the B-Line. If you are interested, please send an email to [rpatterson@citylifedevelopmentpartners.com](mailto:rpatterson@citylifedevelopmentpartners.com).

**Want to learn more** about this project and the many other things NBCA works on to make our neighborhood a better place to live? Come to our Volunteer Night — see article on Page 1.

## City Problems? Call 311!

\* City of Atlanta 311 Service Center

- Call 311 or 404-546-0311.
- Or visit the 311 web site at [ATL311.com](http://ATL311.com).

## Wieuca Water Main Project

In June, the City started a project to replace a leak-prone water main along Wieuca Road. We shared their press release with those on our email list:

“One northbound lane on Wieuca Road NE will be closed in sections between GA Highway 400 and Phipps Boulevard.

“Crews will upgrade the existing 6-inch to a 12-inch water main on Wieuca Road NE, requiring a lane closure. Work is scheduled to start Monday, June 3, 2019, from 9 am - 4 pm and will continue Monday through Friday lasting approximately 28 weeks [until about mid-December]. The lane will be closed until the work is completed. Pedestrian traffic will not be affected, as sidewalks will be open.

“A police officer, flaggers and signage will be in place to guide motorists and pedestrians around the work zone. Residents and businesses will continue to have access to mail and package delivery, emergency services and trash pick-up. Motorists are urged to use caution and to avoid the area if possible.”

Once the new water main is installed, each home in the affected area along Wieuca Road will have its water service disconnected from the old water main and attached to the new main.

Before this water main project was announced, we expected Wieuca would be repaved by the end of the year. The repaving will apparently now wait for this project to be completed.





**404-844-4977 (office)**  
**404-966-9220 (cell)**  
JackieGoodRealtor@gmail.com  
[www.JackieGoodman.com](http://www.JackieGoodman.com)



**Realtor/Associate Broker**

*Resident of Loridans Drive since 1980*  
*Office address: 1801 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta 30309*  
*Native Atlantian, 4th Generation*

**“Let my energy, enthusiasm, and love of North Buckhead work for YOU!”**

-- Representing Buyers and Sellers since 1994 --