

DRAFT
2017 Annual Action Plan
Sandy Springs, GA



Submitted (TBD)

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Atlanta Regional Office
Five Points Plaza Building
40 Marietta Street
Atlanta, GA 30303**



Annual Action Plan
2017

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The Annual Action Plan provides a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is a 5-year plan which describes the City's community development priorities and multiyear goals based on an assessment of housing and community development needs, an analysis of housing and economic market conditions, and available resources.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The Needs Assessment identified Public Improvements and Infrastructure and Public Service as the priority needs for the City. The City has determined that completion of the Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project, begun under the previous Consolidated Plan, will be the initial project for the 2013-2017

Consolidated Plan. The CDBG Program for this project will fulfill the Suitable Living Environment objective and Availability/Accessibility outcome of the CPD Performance Measurement Framework. Any future Public Service projects will also be required to fulfill one of the three objectives [(1) Decent, Affordable Housing, (2) Suitable Living Environment, and (3) Economic Opportunities] and the three outcomes [(1) Availability/Accessibility, (2) Affordability, and (3) Sustainability].

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The City of Sandy Springs began its participation in HUD's CDBG Program in 2008 and the City's 2008-12 plan identified a single priority for the first five years of its program: infrastructure improvements. Consequently, a multiyear sidewalk program was developed for the Roswell Road corridor between Dalrymple Road and the Chattahoochee River. The Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project was completed in May 2015.

In, March 2016 the City completed Phases 1 and 2 of the construction of sidewalks in the southern part of the City along Roswell Road within the eligibility area. For 2017, the City will continue with Phase 3 of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Project, specifically the area south of Interstate 285, which will

include right-of-way appraisals, and acquisition, installation of pedestrian lighting, handicapped ramps and brick pavers from I-285 down to Long Island Drive. Additionally, the City seeks to pursue the Section 108 loan to obtain alternative financing to complete the aforementioned projects more efficiently and as a single effort.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Sandy Springs adopted its Citizen Participation Plan in 2006. The plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program, and the evaluation of the program's annual performance.

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City anticipates holding the required public hearings and meetings to solicit comments on community needs as part of the development of the Annual Action Plan. Those meetings are as follows:

1. Public Hearing and Program Update on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
2. Draft Review and Public Comment Period Announcement on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
3. Public Hearing and Annual Action Plan Adoption on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

In addition to receiving public comments and consulting with these agencies, the City of Sandy Springs has maintained a webpage dedicated to the CDBG Program and the planning and reporting documents in an effort to broaden public participation in the City's process, . The City also has a dedicated email address (cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov) to allow for questions or comments to be sent to the City on any aspect of the CDBG program to give the community easy access to CDBG Program information

5. Summary of public comments

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

7. Summary

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	SANDY SPRINGS	
CDBG Administrator	SANDY SPRINGS	Department of Community Development
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Sandy Springs', Community Development Department, is the lead agency responsible for planning, implementation and performance reporting for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program that is covered by this Annual Action Plan. The City will be the administrator of all projects, programs and other activities funded with annual CDBG entitlement funds.

City of Sandy Springs Department of Community Development

7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350
770-730-5600
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Michelle Alexander, *Director of Community Development*
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Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

E-mail: cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov or call 770-730-5600

Website: www.sandyspringsga.gov/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

The City's Citizen Participation Plan, adopted in 2006, served as the first step in the qualification process for the CDBG program. The plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program and the evaluation of the program's annual performance. As required by the Citizen Participation Plan, the City consulted with a broad spectrum of service providers, nonprofit agencies and residents in the identification of community needs that may be eligible for consideration as five-year goals for the Consolidated Plan and the CDBG program. For the Annual Action Plan, the City contacted local public service agencies & advertised the required public hearing as outlined in the Citizen Participation Plan.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City anticipates holding the required public hearings and meetings to solicit comments on community needs as part of the development of the Annual Action Plan. Those meetings are as follows:

1. Public Hearing and Program Update on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
2. Draft Review and Public Comment Period Announcement on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)
3. Public Hearing and Annual Action Plan Adoption on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

The City of Sandy Springs has maintained a webpage dedicated to the CDBG Program and its planning and reporting documents in an effort to broaden public participation in the City's process. The City also has a dedicated email address (cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov) to allow for questions or comments to be sent to the City on any aspect of the CDBG program to give the community easy access to CDBG Program information.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Continuum of Care was dissolved in 2013, this led to the creation of Fulton County Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) in 2014. Since the creation of the CoC, board have been created and members were appointed in 2015. The City of Sandy Springs will continue to support the efforts of Fulton County CoC.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

N/A

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Fulton County Homeless Continuum of Care	The common goal is to find more specific homeless data for Sandy Springs. There is no new data because Fulton County CoC was just established 2014 and board members were just appointed in 2015.

Table 2 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City of Sandy Springs adopted its Citizen Participation Plan in 2006. The plan serves as the City's official policy for involving the community in the development of all planning documents related to the CDBG program, and the evaluation of the program's annual performance.

In conformance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the City anticipates holding the required public hearings and meetings to solicit comments on community needs as part of the development of the Annual Action Plan. Those meetings were as follows:

3. Public Hearing and Program Update on February 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

4. Draft Review and Public Comment Period Announcement on March 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

5. Annual Action Plan Adoption on May 2, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. (Sandy Springs City Hall)

A summary of the public hearing minutes will be provided in the Appendix once received.

The City of Sandy Springs has maintained a webpage dedicated to the CDBG Program and the planning and reporting documents in an effort to broaden public participation in the City's process. The City also has a dedicated email address (cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov) to allow for questions or comments to be sent to the City on any aspect of the CDBG program and to give the community easy access to CDBG Program information

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Internet Outreach	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>		None		
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community		None		
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish		None		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing		None received from the 02/07/2017 Public Hearing		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing		None Received from the 03/07/2017 Public Hearing		

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing		05/02/2017 Public Hearing		

Table 3 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2)

Introduction

The City anticipates that the funds available in 2017 for the selected Capital Improvement Project (CIP) project will come from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The city also anticipates pursuing the Section 108 loan in order to obtain alternative financing resources to complete the Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project more efficiently and as a single effort. These funds will be used for the continued design and construction of pedestrian lighting and streetscapes as part of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project in the City’s CDBG target areas that are designated Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Census Tracts as shown on the attached map (Exhibit C) [see section AP-35, Projects for detailed description]. The Section 108 funds will be used to complete Phase 3, which includes the Right-of-way appraisals and acquisition, installation of street lighting, handicapped ramps, and brick pavers along Roswell Road from I-285 down to Long Island Drive.

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	TBD	0	592,429	592,429	820,103	Priority to be given to infrastructure projects in LMI target areas.

Table 4 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

N/A

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

During Phase 2 of City's South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Improvements project the City didn't anticipate the need for land acquisition because all improvements were to take place in the public right-of-way. As the City has begun work on Phase 3 of this project, Northridge Pedestrian Lighting and Roswell Road Streetscape, right-of-way acquisition will be required which commenced in the third and fourth quarters of 2016 and IT is anticipated to continue in 2017.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Improvements & Infrastructure	2013	2017	Non-Housing Community Development	40.7% LMI Census Tracts	Public Improvements & Infrastructure		Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4311 Persons Assisted

Table 5 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Public Improvements & Infrastructure
	Goal Description	South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project: Phase 3 - Northridge Pedestrian Lighting and Roswell Road Streetscape

Table 6 – Goal Descriptions

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

None.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Sandy Springs began its participation in HUD’s CDBG Program in 2008 and the City’s 2008-12 plan identified a single priority for the first five years of its program: infrastructure improvements. Consequently, a multiyear sidewalk program was developed for the Roswell Road corridor between Dalrymple Road and the Chattahoochee River. The Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project was completed in May 2015.

In, March 2016 the City completed Phases 1 and 2 of the construction of sidewalks in the southern part of the City along Roswell Road within the eligibility area. For the remainder of 2016, the City commenced with the design of pedestrian lighting and streetscape in the southern part of the City along Roswell Road within the eligibility area, and will continue with its construction in 2017. This is consistent with the Strategic Plan section of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

#	Project Name
1	South Roswell Road Multi-year Sidewalk Project: Phase 3 - Northridge Pedestrian Lighting and Roswell Road Streetscape

Table 7 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

Funding priorities are consistent with those outlined in the Strategic Plan as it pertains to the proposed use of the CDBG funds for pedestrian improvements; the main obstacle is related to funding. Although the area had adequate right-of-way to accommodate the sidewalk plan in Phases 1 and 2, the City with limited financial resources anticipates the need for additional funds to complete Phase 3 of this project which includes pedestrian lighting, street scape, and the need for some right-of-way acquisition. Traditionally, sidewalk projects in the Sandy Springs area have been completed in conjunction with development or redevelopment projects. Because the target area is built-out with less likelihood of redevelopment than other areas of the City, relying upon development to meet the mobility needs of the area is not an option.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

#	Project Name	South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project
	Target Area	South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project
	Goals Supported	Public Improvements & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Improvements & Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$592,429
	Description	Phase 3 of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Project will include the design, construction, and installation of pedestrian lighting between Roswell Road and GA-400 on Northridge Drive. This phase will also include the design, inclusive of environmental work, and right-of-way acquisition for street scape improvements along Roswell Rd South of I-285 to Long Island Drive. See attached map of the selected areas for the pedestrian sidewalk improvements. Construction will include newly acquired right-of-way, some demolition of existing sidewalks, modification to utility vaults, and other minor alterations.
	Target Date	6/30/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposes activities	4,311 LMI
	Location Description	Roswell Road Corridor in Sandy Springs from Roswell Road to GA-400 on Northridge Road & Roswell Road South of I-285 to Long Island Drive
	Planned Activities	The goal of South Roswell Road Sidewalk Project is to complete the sidewalk network in the qualified target areas along the Roswell Road corridor from Interstate 285 to Long Island Drive to improve pedestrian access to commercial and retail services, City parks, public transit, the North Fulton County Service Center and other services. To complete this

		<p>project, damaged walkways will be replaced and areas lacking sidewalks will have new sidewalks installed. All sidewalk improvements will meet the ADA design standards, along with the City's Suburban Overlay District Standards. The overlay district standards require paving accents, street lighting, landscaping and other improvements to complete the sidewalk network.</p>
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Table 8 – Project Summary

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The South Roswell Road Sidewalk Project will complete the sidewalk streetscape improvements in the qualified target areas along the Roswell Road corridor from Interstate 285 to Long Island Drive, specifically within Census Tract 102.12 and the pedestrian lighting improvements along Northridge Drive between Roswell Rd and GA-400, specifically within Census Tracts 101.18 and 101.19.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
40.7% LMI Census Tracts	100

Table 9 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The geographic allocation of the City's CDBG funds is being guided by the determination that these funds can have the greatest impact when targeted to specific areas. The CDBG LMI target area map is attached (Exhibit C). As provided for in 24 CFR Part 570.208(a)(1)(ii), the City may elect to use these target areas to meet National Objective requirements for selected projects that specifically meet the Area Benefit category of activities.

Exception Status:

It is important to also note that HUD has granted the City of Sandy Springs exception status based on the upper quartile calculation that permits the City to apply an LMI (low/moderate income) Area Benefit threshold of 40.7% to the project activities in the designated target areas. The attached map (Exhibit C) illustrates the U.S. Bureau of the Census Tracts where at least 40.7% of the resident population in Sandy Springs is LMI.

Discussion

The project will improve pedestrian access to jobs, commercial and retail services, City parks, public transit, and other services for the Target Area.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

According to the 2010 Decennial Census data, approximately 52.4% of the units in the City are renter-occupied. The market conditions do not indicate a need for new unit production. However, the Needs Assessment section of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan indicates the availability of affordable units and cost burden are issues. Although the City is not planning to use the CDBG program to provide any additional housing units, a study of existing housing data from the Census and other sources indicates the highest priorities for unmet needs are associated with small related and elderly households.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	0

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	0

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City has updated its Comprehensive Plan, which addresses the needs of affordable housing for its low to moderate-income residents and workforce. The City’s priority actions set forth in the new Comprehensive Plan include, but are not limited to, promoting workforce and mixed-income housing; considering adopting local workforce housing policies to improve affordability, rental, or for-sale housing units; adopting inclusionary zoning to require a certain share of units to meet specific affordability and/or workforce requirements; and championing employer-assisted housing programs.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City does not plan to undertake capital improvements that directly affect public housing.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Housing Authority of Fulton County, Georgia (HAFC) was the housing agency for the unincorporated areas of Fulton County prior to the City's incorporation on December 1, 2005. The HAFC operates two public housing properties within the city limits of Sandy Springs: the Allen Road Midrise, a 100-unit senior and disabled housing development at 144 Allen Road, and the Belle Isle apartments, a nine-unit public housing property located at 151 W. Belle Isle Road.

HAFC has been awarded tax credit funding from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as well as Rental Assistance Demonstration ("RAD") from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"). The combined \$10m funding is being used to redevelop the Allen Road Midrise, with construction projected to be completed in 2016. The redeveloped property is being renamed "Sterling Place".

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The City does not plan to take any actions to encourage resident participation in public housing management and/or homeownership programs at the facilities managed by the Housing Authority of Fulton County (HAFC).

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

N/A

Discussion

Though the City will not undertake any direct public housing activities during 2017, the sidewalk projects made feasible using CDBG funding will improve mobility and accessibility for residents of these public housing properties.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan must include the jurisdiction's strategy for reducing and ending homelessness through:

- (1) Helping low-income families avoid becoming homeless;
- (2) Reaching out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs;
- (3) Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons; and
- (4) Helping homeless persons (especially any persons that are chronically homeless) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City will continue to support agencies in the area that provide services to the homeless and other low to moderate-income individuals such as the Fulton County Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Community Assistance Center (CAC). While the City has not adopted any specific strategies to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons, the City has provided an annual \$100,000 grant from its general fund to the CAC since 2010. These grant funds have been used by the CAC to further its programs for homeless and low and moderate-income individuals. The City's support of the CAC is also extended through the encouragement of its Neighborhood Associations in providing assistance in securing Emergency Shelter Grant funds from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as needed. Additionally, the proposed sidewalk project will provide improved access to these types of agencies and supportive services.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

While there are agencies that provide services and housing options to the homeless in Sandy Springs and North Fulton County, the need "gaps" identified in the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Continuum of Care Homeless Census Report cover the metro area – not just Sandy Springs. Therefore, without data

that clearly documents homeless needs specific to Sandy Springs it is difficult to discuss such needs. It is also important to note that according to the "2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census for the Homeless", 84% of the homeless individuals identified were in the City of Atlanta, 11% in DeKalb County and 6% in Fulton County (outside the City of Atlanta). This would lead to an assumption that in comparison to surrounding jurisdictions, Sandy Springs located in Fulton County could be expected to have very few homeless. As such, the City has not proposed a strategy for rapid-rehousing.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The City has not adopted any specific strategies to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons. This is due largely to the lack of existing data on homeless people in the City. Furthermore, the City does not have a strategy at the present time to help families and individuals at risk of becoming homeless.

Additionally, the 2010 Census reported the City had approximately 5,301 residents with a disability. Of the City's disabled population, the largest groups were related to physical disabilities. Although the City is not proposing to add any special needs housing, the plan to improve pedestrian mobility in the target areas will benefit disabled residents as well.

Discussion

For the period of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, the City's strategy for addressing the homeless needs identified is to better document the specific needs of the homeless in Sandy Springs, separate from those reported for the Tri-Jurisdictional area that includes the City of Atlanta, Fulton and DeKalb Counties combined. This is a necessary strategy to develop a measured and thoughtful approach to addressing these needs. The City has been in touch with Fulton County regarding the creation of the new Fulton County Continuum of and will continue to support and work with the County and other cities

to research the current state of homelessness in the community.

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family
Tenant-based rental assistance
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds
Total

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction

The City is currently in the process of completing the new Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH,) which will replace the previous Analysis of Impediments (AI). Through the completion of the AFH the City seeks to identify any barriers to fair housing issues, determine factors that contribute to identified issues, and develop a plan to establish fair housing goals.

The City's previous Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI) outlines "Lack of Available Land for Development" as one of the key issues impacting the development of affordable housing and residential investment.

In addition to a lack of available land, the 2027 Comprehensive Plan Community Assessment notes that the housing stock in Sandy Springs is predominantly multifamily and aging. While the age of the some of the developments in the City makes them inherently affordable, it also makes these units obsolete. The Sandy Springs City Council has adopted policies and regulations such as the Apartment Inspection Ordinance to ensure that property owners are maintaining their properties in a safe and sanitary state consistent with the International Property Maintenance Code and other regulations.

While the City has taken steps towards limiting barriers to affordable housing, such as adopting Zoning Ordinances that allow for mixed-use and mixed-housing developments, the City in its AI highlighted the following recommendation for future policy development:

7. Future Comprehensive Plan updates should analyze opportunities to directly incentivize the inclusion of mixed-income housing in future redevelopment projects consistent with Sandy Springs' policies.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Discussion

The City has updated its Comprehensive Plan, which addresses the needs to affordable housing for its low to moderate-income residents and workforce. The City's priority actions set forth in the new Comprehensive Plan include, but are not limited to, promoting workforce and mixed-income housing; considering adopting local workforce housing policies to improved affordability, rental, or for-sale housing units; adopting inclusionary zoning to require a certain share of units to meet specific affordability and/or workforce requirements; and championing employer-assisted housing programs. The City is also in the process of conducting the new Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), which provides a

method to identify barriers to fair housing issues. Future strategies for addressing such barriers could include analyses of building codes, environmental problems, impact fees, and the creation of incentive programs that encourage the development of affordable workforce housing.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan must describe the jurisdiction's planned actions to carry out the following strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan:

- Foster and maintain affordable housing;
- Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards;
- Reduce the number of poverty-level families;
- Develop institutional structure; and
- Enhance coordination.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

As noted in the HAFC 5-year Plan and Annual Plan adopted April 30, 2011, the Allen Road Mid-Rise apartments are typically fully occupied. As of June 1, 2010, there were 115 extremely low-income families on the public housing waiting list and 119 families on the Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting list. As such, the primary need for tenants and applicants on waiting lists who are predominantly elderly and disabled is the availability of affordable units.

The priority for the Housing Authority of Fulton County (HAFC) outlined in the agency's 5-year Plan is to maximize the number of affordable units available to the agency and increasing the number of affordable units overall.

HAFC plans to meet its 5-year goals by:

- (1) Leveraging affordable housing resources in the community through the creation of mixed - finance housing
- (2) Applying for additional Housing Choice Vouchers should they become available
- (3) Pursuing housing resources other than public housing or HCV tenant-based assistance.

For 2017, the City embarks on conducting the new Assessment of Fair Housing. Aided by public engagement, local data, and local knowledge, the City seeks to identify and address barriers to fair

housing needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

According to the 2010 Decennial Census data, approximately 52.4% of the units in the City are renter-occupied. The market conditions do not indicate a need for acquisition and/or preservation of existing affordable housing units. The City's new Comprehensive Plan has set new priority actions, which include new housing policies and programs to ensure that affordable, workforce housing is encouraged.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The 2010 Census indicates that approximately 30% of the renter-occupied units within the City have the potential to contain lead-based paint. These units would mostly be located in the LMI income areas of the City. However, more detailed information would be required prior to developing a strategy for addressing lead-based paint. At the present time, the City is not planning to undertake any housing activities and will not disturb any housing units that contain lead-based paint. The City will coordinate with the Fulton County Health Department to reduce lead-based paint hazards for children. In addition, the City's Code Enforcement Division will be alerted for lead-based paint hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The core premise of the anti-poverty strategy is that employment is the vehicle through which those who are impoverished can best achieve the goal of self-sufficiency. The most efficient method for reaching this goal is for the City to strive for an economic climate that leads to the availability of a wide range of possible jobs available for these individuals. In 2012, the City adopted an Economic Development Plan with a city-wide focus and a City Center Master Plan to guide the redevelopment of the City's core area. Both of these plans focus on priorities adopted by the City Council to attract, retain, and strengthen business activities throughout the City and across all employment sectors. In addition to these plans, in 2010 the state of Georgia announced that Sandy Springs had been chosen for the Opportunity Zone Job Tax Credit Program which will help encourage new businesses to locate in the City - or existing businesses to expand. The program is administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and offers the highest tax advantages for companies and is the most user-friendly job tax credit in the State. It allows businesses to apply a tax credit of \$3,500 per net new job created against the company's State income tax liability.

An additional strategy would be to coordinate with the Fulton County Office of Workforce Development to determine if programs or partnerships with service agencies could help the City achieve a reasonable antipoverty strategy.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

For the period of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, the City's strategy for addressing the special needs

populations is to ensure continued review and evaluation of permit applications for compliance with ADA requirements.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

While the City has not adopted any specific strategies to address homelessness and the priority needs of homeless persons, the City has provided an annual \$100,000 grant from its general fund to the CAC since 2010. These grant funds have been used by the CAC to further its programs for homeless and low and moderate-income individuals. In addition to continuing its support of the CAC, the City's objectives for enhancing coordination will be as follows:

1. Coordinate with the Fulton County Office of Workforce Development to determine if programs or partnerships with service agencies could help the City achieve a reasonable antipoverty strategy

Discussion

The actions outlined above will facilitate the City's ability to overcome obstacles in meeting the underserved needs of the identified populations.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

Discussion

The City will use 100% of its 2017 CDBG allocation toward South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project and does not plan on having any program income or urgent need activities. The City also anticipates pursuing the Section 108 loan for alternative financing in order to, more efficiently, complete Phase 3 of the South Roswell Road Multiyear Project.

APPENDIX

Exhibit A Public Hearing Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

INVOCATION

Rabbi Scott Colbert, Temple Sinai, offered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rusty Paul called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Michael Casey reminded everyone to silence all electronic devices at this time. Additionally, those wishing to provide public comment during either a Public Hearing or the Public Comment segment of the meeting are required to complete a public comment card. The cards are located at the back counter and need to be turned in to the City Clerk.

City Clerk Casey called the roll.

Mayor: Mayor Rusty Paul present.

Councilmembers: Council Member John Paulson, Council Member Chris Burnett, Council Member Gabriel Sterling, Council Member Tibby DeJulio, and Council Member Andy Bauman were present. Council Member Ken Dishman joined the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rusty Paul led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Knight, 4569 Dudley Lane, stated the City has recently lost a great, great, grand being. He referenced a photograph of a tree. There are many trees like this in the City. This tree was located beside his home for about fifteen years, and it gave shade and comfort to people and animals. The current City ordinance protects trees of eighteen inches and higher in certain areas. This tree happened to be at fifty inches. He referenced a photo that shows the tree limbs that were cut down. The tree began growing right after the Civil War and it had many more years of life left. There is a new development going in where the tree was removed. He understands property rights and development of the City, but we want to bring particular focus to this area. He referenced a photograph where the tree was located. Near the setback of the lot is the City of Atlanta. The root zone of the tree encompassed many properties and two cities. He asked for a video of a news clip from 11 Alive to be played for the audience. For safety, the tree was to be removed for the future owners. He would like to close the loopholes for the removal of this type of tree and this type of setback. He looks forward to working with the City on this.

Mary Bethea, 935 Davis Drive, stated she has lived on Davis Drive since 1979 and she has seen many changes in her neighborhood. She referenced an aerial photograph of the forested lot at 4746 Woodvale Drive, as of August 2012. In that same lot today, there is concrete and no trees. At the top of Davis Drive and Northside Drive, within a quarter mile of her home, is a property that was a completely forested 5 ½ to 6 acre lot that now has only a few trees remaining. Trees are being removed all over our City. The neighborhood created a petition on January 15. To date, there are about 440 signatures of which 60 of the signatures are from people who live outside the City limits. Over 375 people are Sandy Springs residents

and taxpayers. On the Change.org petition there is a comment section in which hundreds of people commented. The essence of their comments is as follows: "We value our tree canopy and the quality of life that it provides us all. We are pleading with you for a stronger tree ordinance and enforcement of that stronger tree ordinance. We are pleading with the Council to protect our tree canopy that provides oxygen, shade, and soil erosion protection in our community." Just as the advisory council assisted the City with the cell tower ordinance, we would like to ask for the creation of an advisory council to help the City create a strong tree ordinance. The citizens are asking for a legacy of leadership and an urgency with greater focus on our heritage trees, landmark trees, protected trees and boundary trees. In the case of this tree, it was in the setback, which should have been protected.

John Gillin, 4645 Harris Trail, played the sound of a chainsaw that the neighbors are hearing a lot of in the community. We lost a historic specimen tree and he is sure other spectacular trees have also been lost recently. As we look around our City, we have seen a lot more development over the last few years. There is a renewed sense of urgency, because during the first ten years the City, along with the rest of the country, was in a deep recession. The year 2016 was one of the busiest years on record with scores of new construction in this community. We do not know what will be the multi-generational ramification of the building boom. According to the City arborist, our current ordinance does not prohibit the removal of trees. We as concerned citizens would like to change the pattern of builders taking away our tree canopy. For a builder, it is much easier and efficient to clear cut the lot and landscape a few areas after the fact. Builders primarily exist for one reason, and that is to make a profit and to maximize that profit however possible. Without tight regulatory controls, we as a community cannot expect the builders to act in a manner that serves our community's inherited natural resources. The only way to ensure all builders preserve our cherished environmental legacy is to set clear regulations that will result in fines that bite if the regulations are not followed. We are in full support of any responsible development in a balanced and mutually beneficial way. We want a full review of the current tree ordinance. We are asking for your help. He drove across the City limits and saw a sign that celebrates our designation as a Tree City USA. This designation means that we are recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation and place great value on our urban tree canopy and are committed to the care of these trees. We are concerned that the City is falling short of these important goals. We would like to set up a citizen-based commission to make recommendations to the ordinance. We would like to see an increase in the penalties for builders that opt to go outside the ordinances, which really is not much when they are receiving millions of dollars for the sale of a new house.

Bill Cleveland, 6441 Wright Road, stated he is the Chair of the Sandy Springs Environmental Project. We have been working with councilmembers and staff for several years on issues such as trees. On March 29, 2016, the City held a special called meeting and the subject was tree canopy. Council Member Bauman, along with most other Councilmembers, is against clear cutting. We are approaching a one-year anniversary of that meeting. He understands the Next Ten process has taken up a lot of staff time, but there should be a renewed sense of urgency this year. The infill committee recommended the City protect the setbacks during infill development and the riparian buffers be protected with a strict no variance concept. He agrees this is a lot of research. You have to do the validation of the recommendations to make sure that the City has done its due diligence. He does not want this process to keep dragging on. The entire tree ordinance needs to be revised. He does not believe that fines accomplish a lot. He believes in protecting the existing canopy in the setbacks. He also believes in getting an idea of whether or not the compensatory trees that are being installed are actually surviving. He suggested the City look at how much permanent canopy loss occurs when you build a new home. The petition shows there is a constituency for environmental concerns.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

1. **17-041** Add or remove items from agenda

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve the Meeting Agenda for February 7, 2017. Council Member Burnett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

CONSENT AGENDA

2. **17-042** Meeting Minutes
 1. January 17, 2017 Regular Meeting
 2. January 17, 2017 Work Session
(*Michael Casey, City Clerk*)

3. **17-043** Encroachment Agreement between City Springs Owner, LLC, and City of Sandy Springs (“Agreement”) in connection with private development at City Springs
(*Wendell Willard, City Attorney*)

4. **17-044** Budget Amendments for FY 2017 Budget
(*Karen Ellis, Finance Director*)
ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02-02

5. **17-045** Acceptance of a Temporary Construction and Driveway Easement (7115 Brandon Mill Road)
(*Garrin Coleman, Director of Public Works*)
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-09

6. **17-046** Acceptance of a Temporary Construction and Driveway Easement on the Brandon Mill Sidewalk Project (7105 Brandon Mill Road)
(*Garrin Coleman, Director of Public Works*)
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-10

7. **17-047** Consideration of the Acceptance of the Dedication of Right of Way as Part of the Development Regulations Ordinance requirements related to Community Development File # LDP15-00033 (6615 Glenridge Drive)
(*Garrin Coleman, Director of Public Works*)
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-11

8. **17-048** Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the City’s Fiscal Year 2018 Priorities
(*John McDonough, City Manager*)
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-12

Motion and Vote: Council Member Sterling moved to approve the Consent Agenda for February 7, 2017. Council Member Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

PRESENTATIONS

9. **17-069** Presentations
 1. Proclamation - February 14, 2017 as Rotary Has Heart Day in the City of Sandy Springs
(*Mayor Rusty Paul*)

Mayor Rusty Paul read the proclamation, which states, “Rotary International, founded February 23, 1905 in Chicago, Illinois USA, is the world’s first and one of the largest non-profit service organizations. There are over 1.2 million Rotary Club members comprised of professional, business, and community leaders in over 34,823 clubs in 206 countries and geographic areas. The Rotary motto “Service above Self” inspires members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promoting good will and peace in the world. Local clubs are encouraged to participate in a Community Service Project centered around Rotary International’s six areas of service: education and literacy, economic and community

development, disease prevention and treatment, peace and conflict prevention/resolution, water and sanitation, maternal and child health. The Sandy Springs Rotary Club is one of the approximately 1,600 clubs throughout eight states and the District of Columbia, and 20 countries of the Caribbean, with more than 67,500 members sponsoring a project in the first quarter of the year 2017, finding Valentine's Day 2017 directly in the middle of this time, to satisfy a need in its community thus "Doing Good in the World." He proclaimed February 14, 2017 as "Rotary Has Heart Day" in the City of Sandy Springs.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated there is a delegation visiting Sandy Springs from Kazakhstan. Councilmember Paulson and he have spent some time with them along with several others in the community. They gave him nice gifts earlier today, including their national hat. It is great that other people visit the City to learn more about our unique form of government. He asked the delegation to the front of the room where he recognized them and gave them each a gift of appreciation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

City Clerk Michael Casey read the rules for the Public Hearings segment of the meeting.

Alcoholic Beverage License

- 10. 17-049** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for GHM Investments, Inc., DBA Carniceria Los Pinos, 6342 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. Applicant is Ghulamhaider Manji for Retail / Package Malt Beverage and Wine.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this item is a new application for retail package for wine and malt beverages for GHM Investments, Inc., DBA Carniceria Los Pinos located at 6342 Roswell Road. The applicant has met all the requirements and staff recommends approval.

Ghulamhaider Manji, 6342 Roswell Road, stated he is the applicant requesting approval for the alcoholic beverage license.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Burnett moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-049, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for GHM Investments, Inc., DBA Carniceria Los Pinos, 6342 Roswell Road, for Retail / Package Malt Beverage and Wine. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 11. 17-050** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Northside C. Store Inc., DBA Quick Shop, 156 Northwood Drive, Sandy Springs, GA 30342. Applicant is Rahim Lalani for Retail / Package Malt Beverage.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this is a change of ownership application for retail/package malt beverage for Northside C. Store Inc., DBA Quick Shop, located at 156 Northwood Drive. The applicant has met all the requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Sterling moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-050, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Northside C. Store Inc., DBA Quick Shop, 156 Northwood Drive, for

Retail / Package Malt Beverage. Council Member Bauman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

- 12. 17-051** Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Three O'Clock Somewhere d/b/a Verde Taqueria – 4600 Roswell Road, Suite D140, Sandy Springs GA 30342, Applicant is Hilsman Rogers on behalf of Three O'clock Somewhere, Inc. for Consumption Wine, Distilled Spirits, and Malt Beverage.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this is a new application for consumption on the premises of wine, distilled spirits, and malt beverages for Three O'Clock Somewhere d/b/a Verde Taqueria – 4600 Roswell Road, Suite D140. The applicant has met all the requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Bauman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-051, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Three O'Clock Somewhere d/b/a Verde Taqueria – 4600 Roswell Road, Suite D140, Sandy Springs GA 30342, Applicant is Hilsman Rogers on behalf of Three O'clock Somewhere, Inc. for Consumption Wine, Distilled Spirits, and Malt Beverage. Council Member DeJulio seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

CDBG Program

- 13. 17-052** Update and Public Hearing for CDBG Program, 2017 Annual Action Plan, and Consolidated Plan Amendment

Director of Community Development Michelle Alexander stated this agenda item is when the City updates the annual report that is part of the CDBG program. Staff presented the "2017 CDBG Program Update and Public Hearing" PowerPoint, which provided information about the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) administered program. The City has had this program in place since 2008. The City has a consolidated plan that is required every five years. The City is required to submit an annual update letting HUD know how the City is spending the funds. This item is to announce the City is updating the annual report. The program has additional information about some of the expenditures. The only thing that is different is that staff is asking for a public hearing to be held. The amendment to the plan includes the City's desire to pursue a 108 loan. It will give the City the opportunity to use that funding, advance the project, and not come up against constraints in regards to budgeting. This will help the City get the projects completed sooner. If Council approves this item, the next steps will be to hear this item in March when the draft plan is created. This is just a requirement letting the community know what is being considered. Council will receive separate information about the status of the 108 loan application that staff is putting together.

Mayor Rusty Paul called for public comments in support of or opposition to the application. There were no public comments. Mayor Paul closed the public hearing.

Mayor Paul stated from the very beginning he has urged a 108 loan, because it will allow the City to get an advance on the annual allocation from the Federal government and allows us to get projects of a certain critical mass. The proceeds of that loan will be repaid by the annual appropriation that the City receives from Congress.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio asked if the loan is from the government or from a private source.

Mayor Paul stated the loan would be from the government. HUD secures the loans that are short-term debt for the Federal government. The City has to repay the loans and then the government takes the proceeds of the loan out of the annual allocation. The City will receive an advance on future appropriations. He asked if the City receives about \$500,000 in CDBG funds annually.

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert stated the City has received about \$590,000 to date.

Mayor Paul stated this would allow the City to accelerate some of the projects and package them into larger projects so more can be done, particularly on the sidewalks.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated the loan could extend up to twenty years. He and Finance Director Ellis are working on the amortization schedule right now. The City's loan will probably be for eight or nine years, based on the amount of City money and the \$2.9 million that can be borrowed. It will probably take the City eight or nine years to use only the CDBG funds.

Council Member Chris Burnett asked how the interest rate is calculated on the funds.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated the last loans that were approved are between four and five percent. He is not sure what interest rate this one will be, because HUD has not told them yet. Staff will complete the amortization schedule based on five percent. The next step after staff brings the consolidated plan and action plan back to Council for adoption is to bring the application for public hearing.

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-052, Update and Public Hearing for CDBG Program, 2017 Annual Action Plan, and Consolidated Plan Amendment. Council Member Burnett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no unfinished business items.

NEW BUSINESS

- 14. 17-053** Consideration of a Resolution to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sandy Springs Police Department, the City of Dunwoody Police Department, the City of Johns Creek Police Department, and the City of Brookhaven Police Department for the purchase and operation of a Mobile Command Vehicle for emergency operations

Deputy Police Chief Keith Zgonc stated about a year and a half ago the Police Chiefs from Sandy Springs, Johns Creek, Dunwoody, and Brookhaven all recognized the need for a mobile command vehicle in order to better support the officers and the public in emergencies, critical incidents, and as a unified command. Over the past year and a half staff has been working on this project in developing relationships and looking for companies that can support the cities. Staff requested several bids. Three bids were received and staff recommends a vehicle sold by Summit Bodyworks at a total cost of \$225,000. The cities' shares are included in the resolution and are based upon the population of the cities. Brookhaven, Johns Creek, and Dunwoody have all agreed. Based upon the bids and references, staff recommends approval of this resolution and memorandum of understanding.

Motion and Second: Council Member Paulson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-053, a resolution to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sandy Springs Police Department, the City of Dunwoody Police Department, the City of Johns Creek Police Department, and the City of Brookhaven Police Department for the purchase and operation of a Mobile Command Vehicle for emergency operations. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion.

Council Member John Paulson stated the cost on the document Council has is different than the number staff has by about \$1,000.

Deputy Police Chief Zgonc stated there is a \$1,200 difference based on a discounted price for delivery.

Council Member Paulson asked where the vehicle would be housed.

Deputy Police Chief Zgonc stated that originally the vehicle was going to be housed in Dunwoody. Currently, it will be housed by the Sandy Springs Police Department. We are still working on some of the details.

Council Member Gabriel Sterling asked when we expect delivery of the vehicle.

Deputy Police Chief Zgonc responded as soon as this item is approved by Council.

Council Member Sterling asked where the funds came from for this purchase.

Deputy Police Chief Zgonc stated the money is from the asset forfeiture funds and State unrestricted funds.

Council Member Chris Burnett asked, if you look back at historical events, how frequently is the vehicle likely to be used, on an annual basis, between the four cities.

Deputy Police Chief Zgonc stated that is a hard question to answer. Now that we have the vehicle, we will use it more often in any S.W.A.T. operation or crisis negotiation event similar to what Brookhaven had about a week ago.

Council Member Andy Bauman stated he assumes the vehicle can be used in natural disaster situations.

Deputy Police Chief Zgonc responded yes. The vehicle can also be used for festivals and assistance with operating in a command situation such as at the Sandy Springs Festival.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-13

15. 17-054 Changes to After Hours Construction Noise Ordinance (Resolution and Ordinance)

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert stated this item was discussed at the Council Retreat. The current noise ordinance allows for after-hours construction. It is somewhat ambiguous on how many times people can apply for a permit. The ordinance states you can get a permit for a twenty-four hour period and come back for another twenty-four hour period within forty-eight hours. The ordinance does not address coming back to the City multiple times to apply for a permit after the first two. Through the way it has been enforced, there have been many opportunities for people to get multiple noise variances. This has been a matter of convenience for the applicant, though it is inconveniencing some of the residential areas. Staff wants to add structure to the ordinance. We want to recognize there is a need for an administrative fee. The resolution before Council this evening would establish a fee for the issuance of noise variances. The ordinance describes how we issue noise permits. The ordinance will state that the staff can issue two permits administratively. Those two permits will cost \$250 each to an applicant. There are criteria by which the permits will be approved. Staff will make sure they are legitimate requests and make sure the hours that are being asked for are appropriate. If the applicant feels the need for another permit, they will have the opportunity to apply to the Board of Appeals, where public notice is given. The neighbors would have an opportunity to come in and discuss any concerns they may have. The Board of Appeals could approve conditionally any applicant that came to the City for three more times and those permits will cost

\$500 each. Council asked if there could be an escalating fee each time and the Legal Department reminded staff that cannot be done. The City can only charge what we estimate it costs to administer. We can justify an additional cost to the Board of Appeals due to staff time. After the applicant receives five permits, if they are allowed to do so, they have to figure out how to build their project without working on Sundays or during early morning hours.

Motion and Second: Council Member Sterling moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-054, Changes to the After Hours Construction Noise Ordinance (Resolution and Ordinance). Council Member Bauman seconded the motion.

Council Member Gabriel Sterling stated this is coming up because we have had a few builders that have been abusive of the noise permits.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded yes.

Council Member Sterling stated there was one discussion about a builder that was told they would not be allowed any more noise permits, and they did not believe City staff. He is glad we now have a rationale way to deal with these situations. He asked if the ordinance enhances protection for the neighbors.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded yes.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio asked if the charges are per application.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded yes.

Council Member DeJulio stated if the applicant wants to apply for all five permits, it would cost them \$2,000.

Council Member Andy Bauman asked what is a citizen to do when they feel one of their neighboring properties is in violation. He asked whom the residents should call when it is after hours.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated residents should call the Call Center with any complaints.

Council Member Bauman asked if after hours the Call Center has the ability to reach someone to enforce the ordinance.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated the Call Center would call the Police Department. A Police Officer can shut down the construction, if the construction site is in violation. It is incumbent for the contractor to have their permit on hand. Staff has also worked out a protocol to better notify the Police Department when we issue a permit.

Council Member Bauman asked if the fines for a violation remain unchanged.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded yes.

Council Member Chris Burnett asked about the staff time required to issue the variance permits and how it compares to the other permits the City issues. When looking at the \$250, is that equivalent to the labor required for the other permits issued.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated probably so. The other permits that go before the Board of Appeals take more staff time.

Council Member Burnett asked if this is approving a full twenty-four hours, so that someone could work through the night.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded no. The permits are issued on a case-by-case basis. It depends on where the construction is located and if there are residential neighbors nearby. One of the reasons that people want these permits is if they are in a commercial area on a high traffic street. A City contractor for the City Springs project applied for a permit to work on Sunday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and they were told no, but were allowed a permit from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. City staff has the ability to negotiate with the applicant on the time requested.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio stated he has the same question about the hours of operation for the noise permit. If we do not have hours established, when someone applies for a permit they could ask to work for twenty-four hours straight.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated staff would deny a request to work for twenty-four hours straight. Staff has typically allowed contractors to start as early as 5:00 a.m., and there have been a few requests that have been approved to begin construction at 4:00 a.m. It depends on where the construction site is located.

Council Member DeJulio stated the permit number is limited to five. There are no residents near the City Springs site, but there are main streets nearby. It might be advantageous to work until 9:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m., or 11:00 p.m. to keep the streets clear for traffic. He asked if there should there be a provision in the ordinance where staff can use their judgement on some of the permit requests.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated technically staff does not have the authority and he prefers to not allow this. While there are no homes located right across the street from the City Springs site, there have been a number of noise complaints about work going on after hours. There are residences that are not far away that have not been appreciative of the noise.

Council Member Sterling stated the reason for the permits is not only due to convenience, but there is sometimes a large concrete pour that is occurring which has to be done at an earlier time of the day.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated it is convenient to make larger concrete pours at one time. He understands construction schedules, but they need to be balanced against the right of the neighbors.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated this is a good balance in public policy without being overly restrictive. If staff finds this is not working Council can choose to make a change.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-14

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02-03

- 16. 17-056** Approval to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Atlanta to extend sidewalk along Dudley Lane from the City of Sandy Springs limits to Chastain Memorial Park within the City of Atlanta

CIP Unit Manager Marty Martin stated in the fiscal year 2016 capital sidewalk program Council approved moving the Dudley Lane sidewalk project into design. At that time, two phases were approved to take the north end of Dudley Lane all the way to the City limits. That project almost gets everyone on Dudley Lane a safe path down to Chastain Park. An IGA was created between the City of Sandy Springs and the City of Atlanta, with support and encouragement from Council Member Bauman. The agreement fills the sidewalk gap between Chastain Park and the remainder of the Dudley Lane sidewalk project that is now in design. The agreement contains a provision to fund up to \$100,000. The City will be reimbursed

as we move through the project. The first reimbursement will be upon completion of design. Should the construction cost come in greater than the \$100,000, then the amount can be revised with the City of Atlanta.

Motion and Second: Council Member Bauman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-056, to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Atlanta to extend sidewalk along Dudley Lane from the City of Sandy Springs limits to Chastain Memorial Park within the City of Atlanta. Council Member DeJulio seconded the motion.

Council Member Bauman thanked CIP Unit Manager Martin for following through on this. We reached out to Atlanta Council Member Yolanda Adrian. The sidewalk traffic will mostly be Sandy Springs traffic down into the playground. He is glad to see we are working with the City of Atlanta on this.

Council Member Gabriel Sterling stated he knows that lately when the City has been designing the sidewalks, trees have been taken into account. He asked if this design would be similar, going around the natural areas if we can.

CIP Unit Manager Martin stated we would maintain the same design approach. The slight unknown is the standards that Atlanta will expect of the City. Staff will coordinate with Atlanta as the design develops.

Council Member Sterling asked that staff do all that they can to protect the trees along Dudley Lane.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-15

- 17. 17-057** Approval of Design Contract Amendment #1, Michael Baker International, Inc., Design Service for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Sidewalk Infrastructure Improvements Program Project (T-0033-7 Roswell Road Streetscape) and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute Contract Documents

CIP Unit Manager Marty Martin stated in December 2015 the City awarded, entered into, and began design on a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded sidewalk streetscape for Roswell Road south of I-285 to Long Island Drive. With that project, we originally envisioned an application of the typical street and overlay design standards for sidewalks. Above Glenridge Drive, there will be nine-foot sidewalks and two-foot brick paver bands. Below Glenridge, down to Long Island, the application will be a six-foot wide sidewalk and two foot wide landscaping strip. What we had not considered at the time of design was the application and recommendations made within the City's overall bicycle pedestrian plan. That plan envisioned a side path along a portion of Roswell Road as a part of the City's overall bicycle pedestrian plan. The contract change amendment proposed is to incorporate fully the bicycle pedestrian plan into the CDBG streetscape project already underway. From the intersection of Roswell Road at Glenridge down to Mount Paran there would be a ten-foot wide side path incorporated about six feet off the curb line of Roswell Road. Another element of making this section of Roswell Road more bicycle friendly is the incorporation of an area south of the Prado that was originally going to be undisturbed. The change order in front of Council addresses all of those changes and the wider project of the multi-use side path through one section south of Glenridge down to Mount Paran. The area previously undeveloped is also included, which is south of the Prado and north of Glenridge Drive. Because of the CDBG HUD funding, the City is required to go through many of the Federal rules and processes for these two changes. Environmental studies are incorporated into the project. As an update to the streetscape project, there will be an open house for the concept plan later this year. March 1st is the target date.

Motion and Second: Council Member Bauman moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-057, Design Contract Amendment #1, Michael Baker International, Inc., Design Service for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Sidewalk Infrastructure Improvements Program Project (T-0033-7

Roswell Road Streetscape) and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute Contract Documents. Council Member DeJulio seconded the motion.

Council Member John Paulson stated the contract amendment is for \$142,000 and the original contract was \$397,000. He asked if the \$142,000 is in addition to the \$397,000, and where the money will come from.

CIP Unit Manager Martin responded yes. The funds are available in the CDBG budget.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio asked how this fits in with the redesign for the intersection improvements at Glenridge Drive and Roswell Road.

CIP Unit Manager Martin stated this design has always been coordinated with the intersection project. The two designers understand the limits of the two pieces of work and there is coordination between the two.

Council Member DeJulio asked if there is a possibility of doing this with the intersection improvements, if GDOT will fund it.

CIP Unit Manager Martin stated this is the target area where the City plans to invest the CDBG funds. Right now staff is not applying for GDOT funds for the streetscape project on the west side of Roswell Road.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated one thing to remember with the CDBG funds is we are limited to certain geographic areas based on the criteria. There are not a lot of areas in Sandy Springs where the funds can be utilized.

Council Member DeJulio asked if the project would be completed at the same time as the construction for the intersection.

CIP Unit Manager Martin stated that at this point it is too early to tell. Staff has completed initial schedule analysis on the project and we need to continue to work to try to marry the two schedules.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (5-0).
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-16

18. 17-058 Approval of the List of Roadways for the Fiscal Year 2017 CIP Resurfacing

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated this list is approximately five miles of roadways. Staff recommends moving forward with the bid process and starting the work in the early spring and into early summer. Based on staff estimates, there is sufficient funding in the capital budget to cover this cost.

Motion and Second: Council Member Chris Burnett moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-058, the List of Roadways for the Fiscal Year 2017 CIP Resurfacing. Council Member Bauman seconded the motion.

Council Member Andy Bauman asked the rationale for some high PCI score segments being mixed in with the lower score segments.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated when we are doing work in a neighborhood and there is a side street with a short length, it makes sense to include the roadway that is a little higher rated.

Council Member Bauman stated there are significantly higher rated roads, like Mount Vernon from Johnson Ferry Road.

Field Services Unit Manager Donald Kahn stated the recommendation for that section is for repair and maintenance.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated this is based on the 2015 scoring. The PCI index scoring is usually done every three years. The next scoring will occur in fall 2018.

Council Member Bauman stated this would be timely with the Tier II or III TSPLOST resurfacing funds, to the extent they are available.

Director of Public Works Coleman responded that is correct.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-17

19. 17-059 A Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of New Fire Engine/Pumper and Equipment for the City of Sandy Springs Fire Rescue Department

Fire Chief Keith Sanders stated this item is a request and recommendation for Council to adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute all associated documents with Pierce Manufacturing through Ten-8 Fire and Safety Equipment of Georgia for the purchase of one fire engine pumper in the amount \$560,620. The purchase amount of the equipment is \$82,279. This apparatus would be purchased out of the impact fee funds and placed at Station 7 in Roswell, GA, which covers the panhandle area in the northern part of Sandy Springs.

Motion and Second: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-059, A Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of New Fire Engine/Pumper and Equipment for the City of Sandy Springs Fire Rescue Department. Council Member Sterling seconded the motion.

Council Member John Paulson asked if there are sufficient impact fees to cover the purchase cost now.

Fire Chief Sanders stated the funds are available at this time.

Council Member Gabriel Sterling asked if this is what was discussed at the Council Retreat regarding moving into engine-based apparatuses.

Fire Chief Sanders responded yes.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-18

20. 17-060 Ordinance to Amend the Sandy Springs Erosion and Sedimentation Control regulations as required by the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC)

Director of Community Development Michelle Alexander stated this agenda item is requesting Council approval to amend Sections 250 – 252 of Chapter 109. This concerns erosion and sedimentation control. A new regulations manual requires a few modifications to the City's existing code, including changing the name of a certification and the addition of a few definitions.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Sterling moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-060, an Ordinance to Amend the Sandy Springs Erosion and Sedimentation Control regulations as required by the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC). Council Member Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02-04

Council Member Ken Dishman joined the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

21. 17-061 Proposed Maintenance Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the SR 400 and Northridge Interchange Landscaping Project

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert stated this area is better known as the Mayor Eva Cohn Galambos interchange, referencing a photograph. The project is out to bid and the bids will be opened on March 15. The work will be completed this planting season. Before Council is the maintenance agreement with GDOT, which requires that the City be responsible for maintaining the work after it is completed.

Motion and Second: Council Member Paulson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-061, Proposed Maintenance Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the SR 400 and Northridge Interchange Landscaping Project. Council Member DeJulio seconded the motion.

Council Member John Paulson asked who Sunset Georgia Financial LLC is on the agreement.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated that once Council authorizes this item for signatures, staff would ensure the language on the contract is correct.

Council Member Paulson stated the agreement is also for fifty years. He will approve this item contingent upon correcting the language.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated he believes GDOT placed incorrect information to fill in the blanks.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated the agreement could be for up to fifty years. The City's obligation will be for the full maintenance period.

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated he believes the standard term is for fifty years.

Council Member Andy Bauman stated he trusts this will not be impacted by GDOT's GA400 plans.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded no.

Council Member Paulson asked if these are GDOT plans.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated staff prepared and submitted these plans to GDOT for review.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-19

22. 17-062 Consideration of Approval of a Contract to select Lanier Parking to provide parking management services for the public parking system at the City Springs development

Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole stated a RFQ was solicited in August 2016 to select a firm to provide parking management services for the public parking system at the City Springs development. The City received bids from three firms. They were AAA Parking, Ace Parking and Lanier Parking. The evaluation committee consisted of Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole, Facilities Manager Dave Wells, Performing Arts Manager Trent Merritt, Parking Consultant Forest Hilbert, Finance Director Karen Ellis, Assistant City Attorney Cecil McLendon, and Purchasing Manager Nesby Ingram. The evaluation process included an onsite tour. The vendors were asked to give representative examples that will be comparable

to the City Springs site. The committee then narrowed the selection to Lanier Parking and Ace Parking. These remaining candidates were asked to provide their best and final offer. Some of the criteria asked is the experience of assigned personnel, experience with a similar entity, and innovate products and services. Another criterion was to share the proposed methodology and parking solution for the City Springs site. Finally, a high satisfaction customer experience and demonstration of financial strength and business stability. Lanier Parking was ultimately chosen to recommend to Council. The cost outlined in the chart covers the day-to-day operations, payroll, technology, insurance, and miscellaneous operating expenses. There is still an estimated \$800,000 capital expense, which will be determined once the vendor is hired and the equipment is selected. All respondents were determined financially stable with positive credit ratings during the evaluation. Lanier's references were contacted and all were found to be exceptionally positive. It is staff's recommendation that Lanier Parking receive the contract award to provide parking management services for the City Springs project.

Motion and Second: Council Member Burnett moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-062, a Contract to select Lanier Parking to provide parking management services for the public parking system at the City Springs development, with the condition that any final contract be brought back to Council for approval. Council Member Dishman seconded the motion.

Council Member Chris Burnett stated the cost is about \$625,000 per year. He asked what services the City would receive for that amount as far as personnel and such.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated the committee gave all the vendors assumptions based on the number of parking spaces and valet stands needed, and the type of operations. The committee also shared with vendors that there would be an estimated 200 or more events each year. The vendors had to make their best guess based on that information. The contract requires an onsite project manager and the vendors also proposed an assistant project manager. Lanier Parking has a unique program called a Mobile Ambassador, which is the name for a person directing cars on where to park. The other portion of the contract is the payroll, expenses, liability insurance, and day-to-day operational costs, such as Wi-Fi costs.

Council Member Burnett asked for what areas will Lanier Parking provide parking services.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated Lanier Parking would manage the public parking spaces, which includes the parking deck, on street parking and the south parking lot. The private development will have their own parking management. There will be a shared use plan at designated parking areas, which encompasses about 200 parking spaces. Coordinated efforts are necessary when the parking deck needs to be cleared of cars to allow access out after a performing arts event or a festival.

Council Member Burnett asked if twenty-four hour security would be provided in the parking deck.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated that is not how staff currently sees it. Security will be done under the City's normal security operations for the complex. That is something that can be discussed.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated the City Manager has a plan to create a police precinct in City Springs, so the security will be handled by the City's Police Department.

Council Member John Paulson stated we still have not finalized policies regarding pay for parking, free parking, free parking for the first thirty minutes, etcetera. He asked if Lanier Parking would be involved in these conversations with Council.

Assistant City Manager Poole responded yes. That was one of the expectations the City has of the contractor.

Council Member Andy Bauman asked if Council is being asked to approve a fixed price or an estimated price based on the estimated events, or if the designed cost is a la carte.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated the price that Council currently sees is an estimated amount. These amounts were based on assumptions given to the vendor on how staff anticipates a year would go. All vendors had the same assumptions and they were to give the City their best and final offer based on those assumptions.

Council Member Bauman asked if this vote is just the authority to proceed with Lanier Parking and that Council will see the final contract.

Assistant City Manager Poole responded yes.

Council Member Bauman stated this process is like the task orders. This is a large amount of money and he wants to make sure he understands the details sufficiently. What he sees is Council giving a recommendation to proceed with Lanier Parking based on estimates. He would like to see this contract bifurcated into a two-step process. At that point, Council will see the details of the contract with the schedules.

Mayor Paul stated before we can get to the final numbers of the contract, we have policy decisions we want to make. All of the policy decisions will affect the outcome of the contract. We have to determine if we want to charge for parking or absorb the cost of parking. We may want the situation that they have at Atlantic Station where after two hours a customer is charged parking fees. This body will have to answer these types of questions. At the same time, we cannot wait to begin the process. It would be appropriate for Council to ask before approving a final contract, but he does not think the conversation needs to be held up to get us to that point.

Council Member Bauman stated he agrees. If we are being asked to approve Lanier Parking, then we should move forward with that vendor.

City Attorney Willard stated Council is looking to approve a vendor to go forward in working out what will be the terms of that contract.

Mayor Paul stated we would not know what these final numbers are until we start having events. The number of events being held is what will drive the total costs. Council will then have to decide how much of the cost we want to absorb and how much we want to charge the people who are utilizing the parking.

Council Member Bauman stated there are all sorts of scenarios with people involved in particular events. He asked if it is contemplated at this point that the vendor will receive any of the revenue from the parking proceeds. He asked if there is an incentive for Lanier Parking to generate revenue.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated no, not at this time.

Council Member Bauman stated he supports moving forward with Lanier Parking.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio asked if this is similar to the other contracts with vendors, where there is an hourly rate charged for the personnel. If the City needs extra personnel for an event, they can hire extra staff for an event. We are not actually looking at \$3 million, but are looking at a certain amount of money per person times the number of events.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated that is correct. There will be a base fee for the day-to-day operations.

Council Member DeJulio asked if staff anticipates that personnel from Lanier Parking will be onsite every day of the year for parking.

Assistant City Manager Poole responded yes.

Council Member DeJulio asked if we anticipated whether we would be charging the people who are renting the facility for parking.

Mayor Paul stated there are no assumptions on fees at this point, because Council has not addressed those issues, yet. The assumption is there is no revenue coming from the parking at this point. That could be changed in the future by Council.

Council Member Bauman stated the base fee is not \$3.1 million, but that includes the base fee. That amount is the estimate of all of the costs, including the base fee.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated that is correct.

Council Member DeJulio asked what the base fee is.

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated she believes the base fee is about \$200,000. The other vendor, Ace, had their base fee blended into their salaries.

Council Member DeJulio stated he assumes the City will provide onsite facilities for Lanier Parking employees.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated that is the plan. If the City does not provide the ability to have an onsite office, they would have to build that cost into the fee, because they would have to rent a facility.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (6-0).
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-20

23. 17-070 Moratorium on Applications for Rezoning and Special Land Use Permits

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert stated staff received an email last week from the Department of Community Affairs that the Comprehensive Plan was approved. City staff received the official letter from the Atlanta Regional Commission yesterday. Staff can now move ahead further into refining the zoning and development code we have been working on. The dilemma on the whole rewrite of the zoning code is that if you receive applications that are caught in the middle, it is very difficult for the Planning Commission, Council, and the applicant to know which code to work under. Staff is proposing that Council adopt a resolution that will impose a 150-day moratorium on any rezoning, use permits, or zoning modifications. That will give staff the time to work on completing the ordinance. Staff will not be completely finished, but will be close enough that someone can submit an application and hold meetings. Staff is working as hard as we can to complete the updated code in June, but it may take another month or so after that to work through the process. This will give staff time to get most of the work done. The applications that are submitted will not be considered until after the new code is adopted.

Motion and Second: Council Member DeJulio moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17-070, a Moratorium on Applications for Rezoning and Special Land Use Permits. Council Member Paulson seconded the motion.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio asked if this means the City would completely stop accepting any applications that include land disturbance permits, in effect shutting down Community Development for 150 days.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert responded no. It would not affect land disturbance permits (LDP). Those projects have already been approved and permitted. This would affect rezoning applications, use permits, and zoning modifications.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated if an application is currently in the process, it will continue to move forward.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated if an LDP has not been submitted, but the zoning was approved, you could still bring in the LDP to do whatever was approved.

Council Member Andy Bauman stated this is not to be confused with a construction moratorium. This is a zoning moratorium. If an application is in the process, it will not be affected.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated if someone has submitted an application, the application would not be impacted.

Council Member Bauman asked where the 150 days is coming from.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated it would take this much time to have the new code in place.

Council Member Gabriel Sterling stated historically we have approved a shorter moratorium than this. He asked if City Attorney Willard feels comfortable with the 150-day period.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated there is not anything in the body of law that says the maximum amount of time allowed for a moratorium. The court only looks at what is reasonable, what can be explained, and why the time is needed. In order to get the ordinances finalized with the full review and adopted by Council, staff feels this time is necessary. It may turn out that less time is needed and if so, staff can come before Council asking the moratorium to be removed.

Council Member Sterling stated the revised code might not be completed by the time the moratorium ends. If someone submits his or her application, common sense tells us we would refer to the new code. He asked if the applicant would have the legal right to the existing code.

City Attorney Willard responded no.

Council Member Sterling stated what happens if the applicant comes to the City after the moratorium, but before the new code is approved by Council.

City Attorney Willard stated the assumption is that if the new ordinance were not in place after the 150 days ends, the Council would have to extend the moratorium past 150 days.

Council Member Bauman asked if there is a distinction worth noting on special land use permits. Those are sometimes of minor magnitude. He asked if staff expects many changes on the land use permit.

Assistant City Manager Tolbert stated most of the use permits are for height. There could very well be significant differences in what someone would ask for and what the new code might allow.

Council Member Bauman stated there have been Sandy Springs initiated rezoning applications before. He asked if the moratorium would apply to the City as well. He asked if it would be possible for an exception for property owned by the public body.

Mayor Paul stated the City could not exempt itself from its own ordinance.

City Attorney Willard stated the City would not be in danger of the application of the moratorium. Although the City goes through the zoning process, it is not compelled by law to follow the zoning ordinance, nor would it be required for another governmental body, such as the school board.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-21

REPORTS

Mayor and Council Reports

Mayor Rusty Paul welcomed Michael Enoch, the new General Manager for the Performing Arts Center.

Mayor Paul urged Council to look at Senate Bill 2 and Senate Bill 3. Senate Bill 2 requires that the cities in Georgia set a timetable for the issuance of permits, licenses, and all other regulatory licenses the cities issue. The time schedule would have to be published. In the event that the City exceeds that time schedule, the price of the permit, license, or fee would diminish by ten percent for every ten days the City is over the schedule. It would also require that we have an expedited permit that would allow the City to double the fee in return for guaranteeing a permit within a certain time. When he looks at laws, he looks at the law of unintended consequences. He believes this bill will have the opposite impact of the author's intent. The author wants to put pressure on local governments to move faster. Most local governments will look at the average length of time that they take to issue permits and the maximum amount of time that it normally takes. The legislators are trying to reduce "red tape" and reduce frustration in some jurisdictions where it takes forever to get a permit. When dealing with local issues with a general law, you can run into challenges. He urges Council to review both Senate Bills. Senate Bill 3 states that you will not have to pay stormwater fees, as long as you control all of the water on your site and are not affecting the stormwater system. He asked the Council Members to relay whatever conclusions they reach to the legislative delegation.

Council Member John Paulson asked what the status of those two bills is.

Mayor Paul stated Senate Bill 2 has already come out of the committee and will probably be on the floor of the Senate soon. Every project is different and may have different permitting requirements. There is legitimate frustration in certain jurisdictions on the length of time it takes to receive a permit.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated he does not think the law takes into account if a complete application has been submitted. Sometimes there is a lot of back and forth between the City and the applicant regarding an application.

Mayor Paul stated there are assumptions for Senate Bill 2 that the issue is with the jurisdictions. That may be the case in some jurisdictions, but not in Sandy Springs.

24. 17-063 Staff Reports

1. December 2016 Financial Report – Karen Ellis, Finance Director

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated in the agenda package is the December 2016 financial report. The City is at 63.52% of the year on revenues and we are at 50% of the year. The expenditures are at a little over 42%. We have almost fully collected for the property taxes, which is good news. We are scheduled to receive the electric franchise check soon.

2. City Springs Roadway Construction Update – Bryant Poole, Assistant City Manager

Assistant City Manager Bryant Poole stated the City appreciates the support from the citizens and local businesses. He gave the City Springs Roadway Construction Update PowerPoint presentation. This presentation was also shared with local businesses around the construction site.

Mayor Rusty Paul thanked staff for accommodating the City and working to open up the area as much as possible. We know there will be disruptions due to the construction. Staff has done a great job in trying to figure out how to optimize the mobility through that area under very difficult circumstances. It is important to move stormwater properly through the area and to make sure the area does not flood.

Council Member John Paulson asked if the work could be finished in sequence, before the curb and gutter are completed down the entire length of the road.

Assistant City Manager Poole stated currently, that is not an option. At this time, it is staff's proposal to move forward with this option. The intersection will be two lanes when the construction is going on. The outside lane will always remain closed, due to the paving that will occur. There will be a short zone with a two-lane closure of about 300 feet between 6:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Ellis, P.O. Box 450749, stated he is with the Greater Atlanta Homebuilders Association and a homeowner in Sandy Springs. He thanked Director of Community Development Michelle Alexander. A few weeks ago, a very productive meeting was held where the Community Development staff met with homebuilders and remodeling contractors who work in the community and talked through issues. He had hoped to speak at the beginning of the meeting regarding the zoning moratorium. From the perspective of his organization, any abridgement of anyone's property rights is a very serious decision by government. When a moratorium is placed and one cannot use their land the way it was intended, we need to be very thoughtful about it. He understands the rationale behind what staff is saying. He asked if that is more important than the right given to the individual in the constitution about using their land as they are entitled to. This is something Council can take into consideration. He encouraged Council to work with staff to move as quickly as they can in developing the City.

Council Member John Paulson stated that for a point of clarification, the moratorium is for rezoning. If you have a property that is zoned, you can still use it.

Mr. Ellis stated he understands that.

James Touchton, 5901-C Peachtree Dunwoody Road, stated he is with the Council of Quality Growth and a Sandy Springs resident. He thanked staff for meeting with his organization in working on the zoning code diagnostics. The only concern he has is when looking at a property that is zoned for a shopping center, what if someone wants to come in within the next five or six months and construct a multi-family residential development in the area. The moratorium will stop that development at that point. That is a concern to him.

Tochie Blad, Hunters Branch Drive, stated she is speaking regarding the noise ordinance and the after-hours construction. The current ordinance was not correctly administered by staff. It only allows for one

variance and if there are no complaints, an additional variance. This evening Council amended that ordinance and added additional permits as well as the Board of Appeals to the process. This creates more exceptions to the rule and it makes it harder for the rule to be enforced. Construction noise is something a police officer is already not thrilled about dealing with. When the ordinance is enforced, the person making the noise is cited and not the developer or the owner of the land. There is still ambiguity in the old and new ordinance as to who is actually going to apply for the variances. That is what led to staff not applying the ordinance correctly in the past. That is how the Mill Creek development got away with seven after-hours concrete pours. The developers were able to come to the City multiple times and she does not think staff kept track of that. With more mixed-use developments, there will be different contractors on a parcel more frequently. The exception as the rule will become the issue. If this becomes an issue, she is sure that Council will hear about it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

25. 17-064 No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

26. 17-065 Adjournment

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Bauman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (6-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Date Approved: February 21, 2017



Russell K. Paul, Mayor



Michael D. Casey, City Clerk

APPENDIX

Exhibit B

Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Continuum of Care Homeless Census Report

THE 2009 METRO ATLANTA TRI-JURISDICTIONAL COLLABORATIVE HOMELESS CENSUS



**I think it is important to understand
how many homeless people there are.**
Count Volunteer

COVERING ATLANTA, DEKALB COUNTY AND FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

**I feel like I contributed in some small way to
serve the homeless population in Atlanta.**
Count Volunteer



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative on Homelessness and Pathways Community Network acknowledge the time and effort of the numerous individuals and organizations that assisted in the successful 2009 Metro Atlanta Tri-J Homeless Census. In addition, we express appreciation to members of the advisory council for their guidance regarding methodology and implementation. We extend our gratitude to the deployment captains who made the count successful through their hard work and dedication. We also are grateful to the deployment host sites for providing a safe place to deploy enumeration teams. Finally, we thank the people and agencies that provided additional support towards the achievement of the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census. Together we are collecting the data necessary to track our progress in the fight against homelessness.

The 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census was successful because over 400 volunteers joined forces to count the homeless persons in our community. Although it is not possible to list each of them by name, the Tri-Jurisdictional and Pathways wish to express our gratitude to each of you who contributed your time and effort.

We acknowledge the Atlanta Regional Commission Geographic Information Systems Department (GIS) and David Giguere for the customized, user-friendly maps and the deployment captains map training. We give special thanks to Aero Surveys of Georgia, Inc. for allowing us to use their detailed street information for the census maps.

We are grateful to Druid Hills United Methodist Church for allowing the deployment captains to meet at the church on a regular basis. We are also thankful to Cliff Richards of Decatur Cooperative Ministries for arranging the meeting site at the church.

We recognize the effort of the special enumeration teams whose knowledge of the homeless population and geographic areas were instrumental in the data collection process. We also appreciate Officer Joyner of the Alpharetta Police Department for assisting with the Alpharetta special team, and the DeKalb County and Sandy Springs Police Departments for providing additional support to the enumeration teams on census night.



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I. INTRODUCTION

The Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative on Homelessness (Tri-J) is a working partnership of government representatives, community members and service providers within the City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County. The Tri-J works collaboratively to address issues of homelessness through planning, policy development, service delivery and resource allocation.

In 2002, the Tri-J decided that getting objective and accurate data on the number of homeless persons residing in the community was a top priority. The homeless census was to identify the number of homeless persons in each local community on the basis of sleeping location and basic demographic characteristics: gender, adult vs. youth, and family vs. individual. Pathways Community Network was asked to undertake the point-in-time homeless count on behalf of the Tri-J. While the 2003 Tri-J Homeless Census was in its early planning stages, the U. S. Congress passed legislation requiring state and local governments that receive funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004.

In March 2003, the Tri-J and Pathways conducted the first successful homeless census. The count relied on the efforts of many non-profit homeless service providers and over 400 volunteers to count the homeless persons in the more than 800 square miles that comprise the Tri-J area. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the 2003 Tri-Jurisdiction Homeless Census as a national “best practice.”

The 2005 and 2007 Tri-Jurisdictional and 2006 City of Atlanta Homeless Census followed the successful methodology used in the 2003 census. Improvements were made to the model for each successive count based upon feedback from the Tri-J homeless census advisory council and deployment captains committee, community volunteers and community needs. The reports on these earlier counts can be viewed at the Pathways website, www.pcni.info.

The 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census was the fourth point-in-time count for Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County. The 2009 census adhered to the successful methodology used by the Tri-J in previous counts with slight modifications based on feedback from the 2007 deployment captains debriefing session, 2009 advisory council and community needs (see methods). The planning of the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census began in August 2008 with the actual enumeration occurring in the early morning hours of January 23, 2009. This report describes the purpose, methodology and results of that effort.



II. PURPOSE and COORDINATION

A. Project Purpose

Both HUD and the Tri-J identified several important goals for the homeless census:

- Provide the number and characteristics of people sleeping in transitional programs, shelters and places not meant for human habitation;
- Provide the local community with data to use in planning, funding, and implementing services that meets the needs of homeless persons;
- Provide a measurement of the changes in the homeless population over time;
- Provide a report that increases awareness of the local homeless issue; and
- Provide data to use in updating the Tri-J's Housing Inventory for the annual HUD Super Notification of Funding Availability (SuperNOFA) Exhibit 1 report.

B. Project Coordination

Pathways Community Network

Pathways Community Network is a non-profit organization that supports human service providers with a variety of tools that encourage collaboration, reduce costs and increase impact, so more people find the path to success. Since 2003, we have been asked by the Tri-J to manage the homeless point-in-time counts. Pathways has coordinated, staffed, written the reports and presented the findings for the Tri-J homeless census. Beginning in 2007, we have also provided research expertise in the areas of methodology, data collection, and data analysis. The Pathways research and data analysis team consisted of the research manager and a research assistant. The executive director and senior researcher for Pathways served as members of the advisory council.

Advisory Council (AC)

As in the previous three Tri-J census, the Tri-J homeless census advisory council was formed and composed of community volunteers, academic researchers and leaders in non-profit, human services and government agencies. The functions of the AC included assisting the Pathways research team with refining the count methodology and instruments, logistical planning and providing input regarding compliance with HUD regulations. With few exceptions, the advisory council met on a regular monthly basis.

A Tri-J representative from the AC assisted Pathways with collecting contact information for all known emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in the Tri-J, refining the sheltered housing count tally form and collecting data for the sheltered count. Pathways and the Tri-J representative communicated on a regular basis via phone and email during the sheltered count data collection process.



Deployment Captains (DC)

A deployment captains committee was again formed, as with the previous census, to assist Pathways with logistics planning of the deployment sites, recruitment of volunteers, and on census night with managing deployment sites for the unsheltered count. The DC was staffed by homeless service provider agencies, non-profit agencies and government agencies. Committee co-chairs shared a seat on the advisory council to assure good communication and successful joint problem solving between the two groups.

Beginning in October 2008, the deployment captains met on a regular basis. Based on feedback from the 2007 DC debriefing session, changes were made to the DC meeting schedule for the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census. The new DC were required to attend an orientation meeting and attend every meeting. Instead of all DC being required to attend the meetings, at least one representative from each deployment site was required.

In mid-January prior to the census night, the new DC were trained extensively on the census night process. At the same meeting, a Geographic Information System staff member taught them how to read the enumeration maps. One week prior to the count, a DC briefing meeting was held to pass out the census night boxes which included information and count forms, maps and equipment such as clipboards, pens, and flashlights. The Pathways research manager reviewed with the DC all the materials that were included in the boxes and the census night process such as setting up the deployment sites, training the volunteers and calling in the homeless count numbers.

After the count, the DC were responsible for returning the boxes and count forms back to Pathways the following week. In February, a DC appreciation and debriefing luncheon was held to give them a chance to provide feedback on the unsheltered count process and thank them for all their time and effort.



III. METHODS

A. Definition of Homelessness

When conducting homeless counts, HUD has mandated that communities receiving federal funds, such as the Tri-J, follow their definition of homelessness, which is based on the Stewart B. McKinney Act of 1987 (later amended as the McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act defines a person as homeless if he or she lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence; has a primary nighttime residence that is either a public or private shelter, an institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private location that is not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Other federal agencies, such as the Department of Education (DOE) and Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA), use different McKinney-Vento Act definitions than HUD and thus use alternate definitions for homeless persons. For example, the DOE definition of homelessness includes families who live in the homes of friends/families and in hotels/motels, while the current HUD definition does not.

B. Date and Time of Census

Based on a national directive from HUD, the advisory council was required to select a date for the census during the last ten days in January, 2009. The AC selected Friday, January 23rd as the census date morning, with a bad weather back-up date of Wednesday, January 28th. Both dates were mid-week to represent a typical weekday morning and to avoid the higher number of non-homeless persons on the streets during weekends. Several large shelters in the City of Atlanta discharge residents in the early morning hours (5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.). To avoid double counting of people as sheltered and unsheltered, the advisory council decided to begin enumeration around 1 a.m. prior to the shelter early morning release times.

C. Types of Count

The census consisted of two types of enumerations which result in a comprehensive picture of homelessness for Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County:

- ***Unsheltered:*** A count of unsheltered homeless people who reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, in vehicles, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings and makeshift shelters such as tents.
- ***Sheltered:*** A count of sheltered homeless people who occupy emergency shelter, transitional housing, recovery programs that serve homeless and non-homeless clients, motels (only if motel vouchers are provided by service agency) and short stay institutions such as hospitals and jails.



1. Unsheltered Count Method

Planning for the 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census unsheltered count began in August 2008. This first month involved setting up the advisory council, and most importantly, setting the date for the count. The fall months included such activities as setting up the deployment captains committee, recruiting volunteers, notifying the community of the upcoming homeless count, recruiting deployment sites, working to set up and print the enumeration maps, recruiting enumerator guides, setting up special coverage teams and contacting police departments throughout the Tri-J.

The month of the actual count is the busiest for completing final tasks. January entails creating and printing all the necessary forms for the upcoming census night, putting together the equipment for the count, and training the deployment captains on the census night process. Plus there was the challenge of handling all the last minute items that needed to be addressed such as making sure there are enough volunteers at each deployment site.

On census night, January 22nd, 2009, the Pathways research team arrived at the Pathways office or “command central” at 6 p.m. to set up for the upcoming count and to resolve any last issues. New volunteers were assigned up to 11 p.m. that night to count. Deployment captains arrived first at the deployment sites around 10 p.m. to set up for the morning count. Homeless enumerator guides arrived next for specific guide training on their role within enumerations teams. Following the enumerator guides training, community volunteers arrived around 11:30 p.m.

At midnight, all enumerators, paid and volunteer, received general training on the HUD definition of homelessness, areas to pay specific attention to within enumeration areas, and how to document the number of homeless persons found using the street tally form. All enumerators were instructed to travel or canvass all streets in their enumeration area at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour, not to count in abandoned buildings due to safety concerns, and not to make contact with or disturb any homeless persons found on the street. For this count, the enumerators were also requested to stop at 24 hours convenience stores and grocery stores to ask store clerks if they are aware of where homeless people might be in that area. Another new request was that enumerators stop at hospitals in their area and count homeless people in the emergency room.

The enumerators deployed around 1:00 a.m. on census morning with instructions to return to their deployment sites by 5 a.m. The weather conditions on the morning of January 23rd were clear with a morning low temperature around the mid-thirties. Approximately 300 volunteer enumerators, 40 agency guides and 100 homeless enumerator guides participated on census night.

In an effort to ensure accuracy in the count, prevent the loss of data and to get “real time” reporting of the count, a call-in reporting method was used. Enumeration teams reported the tallies for each block group in their assigned enumeration area to their deployment captains as they completed the count for the block group. After an enumeration area was complete, deployment captains called Pathways staff to input the data into an online computer application. After enumerators returned from their enumeration areas, they received breakfast and were debriefed by deployment captains. Feedback from volunteers will be used to update future census procedures.



Enumeration Areas

The City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County cover over 800 square miles and comprise 771 U.S. Census block groups. In 2003, 134 enumeration areas were created by grouping the U.S. Census blocks into manageable areas for data collection and organization. The enumeration areas varied in size and number of block groups, depending on the anticipated concentration of unsheltered homeless persons. For example, in areas with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless, where enumerators would have to walk much of the area to conduct their count, fewer block groups were allocated to an enumeration area. The 2009 census used the same enumeration areas as 2003, 2005 and 2007.

Deployment Sites

The enumeration areas were divided among 11 deployment sites (see special thanks). These sites were spaced throughout the Tri-J and appropriately geo-located to provide convenient access for enumerators to their assigned enumeration areas. They served as staging areas for the unsheltered count, providing adequate well-lit parking, phone lines and a large meeting area. For each deployment site, at least one seasoned deployment captain and two other DCs were recruited from various community and government agencies to coordinate the site on census night. The downtown site, Crossroads Community Ministries, also hosted the enumeration team from Department of Veteran's Affairs, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program (VA) when they returned from counting homeless persons in the downtown and neighboring areas.

Maps

The Atlanta Regional Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department created the 2009 planning and enumeration maps for the unsheltered count. The large planning maps aided Pathways in the assignment of enumeration areas to each deployment site and the deployment captains in orienting enumerators during training on census night. The enumeration maps included one main enumeration area clearly outlined in bold black in the center of the map with the block groups for each EA outlined in purple within the EA.

The enumeration maps had been improved from the 2005 homeless census by adding Aero Atlas street overlays to provide detailed street information, defined block group boundaries and more distinguishable landmarks. The colors of the maps were changed slightly this year per the request of the 2007 deployment captains. In 2007, each enumeration area had its own pastel color, but were difficult to see in dim lighting, so the maps were updated for 2009 to one light pastel color for cities and no color for the county areas.

Enumeration Teams

In order to cover the large Tri-J area, over 400 enumerators were needed. Enumerators walked or drove the streets of the Tri-J to count the number of people who were homeless. The advisory council decided that, for accuracy and safety, enumeration teams would be comprised of at least 3 to 4 members, ideally at least 2 community volunteers and 1 enumerator guide. The number of teams required at each deployment site depended on the number of enumeration areas assigned to the site with one enumeration team generally covering one enumeration area. The enumeration teams for downtown Atlanta was comprised of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) enumerators only.

Community Volunteers: Volunteers were recruited using a number of methods including direct recruitment, public announcements, recruitment fliers, and postings on websites. Students, members of faith-based groups, homeless service provider staff and other community stakeholders volunteered to



serve as enumerators on census night. Volunteers were assigned to a deployment site based on their preferences and on the minimum requirement of volunteers needed at each site.

For this census, the recruitment of community volunteers was more difficult than usual. The homeless count was scheduled for Thursday, January 22nd, with Martin Luther King Jr. Day on the previous Monday. The count also coincided with the inauguration of President Obama. Many people who would normally have volunteered did not because they were out of town for the holiday and/or inauguration.

Paid Homeless Enumerator Guides (PEGs): As in the 2003, 2005 and 2007 Tri-J Homeless Census, paid homeless enumerators were recruited from various transitional housing programs in the Tri-J area. The paid homeless enumerator guides were residents of the transitional facilities whose job was to assist other volunteers in identifying homeless persons, in pointing out locations likely to have a homeless person present, and in recognizing potentially dangerous situations to avoid. For the 2009 census, several changes were made for the paid guides. This year the paid guides were required to have lived in the Tri-J area for at least six months and to have been a participant in the transitional program for at least three months. Also, the paid guides were only used at 8 of the 11 deployment sites due to low numbers of homeless people found in the other three sites during the past census. This year the agencies were asked to drop off and pick up the PEGs because in the past, the PEGs often did not have rides after the count was complete. For their work, the guides were paid a flat rate of \$50.

Service Provider Enumerator Guides: During the 2003 and 2005 homeless counts, all enumeration areas were canvassed by enumeration teams of 2-3 volunteer enumerators and a paid homeless enumerator guide. For the 2007 Homeless Count, the advisory council decided to replace the paid homeless enumerator guides with a homeless service provider staff member in 30 specifically determined “zero count” enumeration areas where no homeless person had been found in 2003, 2005 and 2006 (applicable to areas within the City of Atlanta only). In 2009, service provider enumerator guides were used at three deployment sites where low numbers of homeless persons had been found over the past census. They were also used at other sites where there were not enough paid homeless enumerator guides for each team.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Enumerators: The VA enumerators were veterans participating in the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs, Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans Program. Along with nearly forty current program participants, program alumni and program staff worked in the VA enumeration teams on census night. Due to their experience living on the streets or working with clients on the streets, they were assigned enumeration areas in downtown Atlanta as well as special areas outside the downtown area where expertise is helpful. The VA enumerators were paid a flat rate of \$60, since the majority of their time was spent actually walking the streets of downtown Atlanta.

Street Tally Forms

Street tally count forms were used to count the number of unsheltered homeless persons found. These forms reported the number of homeless individuals by gender and adult vs. youth (under age 18) or undetermined gender/age and the number of homeless family units by adult male, adult female and children under age 18. Each street tally form was pre-printed with an assigned enumeration area number and a block group number. The forms contained directions on how to record the data and how to call in the counts. Enumerators were instructed to call in count results on each block group as it was completed.



Special Coverage Areas

Special Coverage Teams: Prior to census night, law enforcement agencies throughout the Tri-J were surveyed on the probable location of unsheltered homeless persons. In addition to information about homeless persons' locations, law enforcement officers were also asked to identify areas that were unsafe for volunteers and areas that needed law enforcement escorts. With the feedback from law enforcement, Pathways compiled a detailed list of special coverage areas.

Prior to census night, deployment captains were given a list of special coverage locations in their enumeration areas and told to instruct volunteers not to canvas those areas. On census morning, the Alpharetta, Buford Highway and VA (see VA enumerators) special coverage teams then counted in the special coverage areas, often with a police escort. This process ensured that counts from special coverage areas were not duplicated. The Alpharetta special coverage team consisted of an Alpharetta police officer and a Fulton County representative. The Buford Highway team consisted of several volunteers from the Latin American Association who were knowledgeable about the immigrant and homeless communities along Buford Highway.

Encampments: To ensure the anonymity of encampment locations, Mad Housers, a non-profit that provides assistance in encampments, counted the encampment locations.

Challenges for 2009 Unsheltered Count

For the 2009 unsheltered count, there was difficulty in obtaining the over 400 community volunteers needed to cover all the areas of the Tri-J. As mentioned previously, getting the required number of volunteers needed was not possible due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and presidential inauguration. Therefore the AC devised an alternate plan to accommodate the low number of volunteers.

The alternate plan provided that enumeration areas in which zero homeless people were counted for the past three counts would not be counted by enumeration teams. For enumeration areas that had only found one homeless person over the past three counts would be made a low probability, meaning that the EA would only be counted once all other enumeration areas for that deployment site were counted.

The difficulty of finding enough community volunteers resulted in other problems. Due to the lack of volunteers, one of the deployment sites that was located in the far southern area of DeKalb had to be closed and the enumeration areas transferred to other deployment sites. Another challenge with deployment sites was that two recreation centers in Atlanta were unable to serve as deployment sites because of Atlanta budget issues. A week before the count, their enumeration areas had to be distributed to other deployment sites.

In areas where there were still not enough community volunteers needed, enumeration teams were asked to count more than the one enumeration area usually requested. This doubling up of enumeration areas was needed at the southwest Fulton site where all the volunteers who were signed up did not show up. Besides asking teams to count more than one enumeration area, enumerators from another deployment site were asked to change to the other site to assist and any volunteer calling in after 10 p.m. on census night was sent to this site.



All changes made were reviewed by researchers and the advisory council. The research team and AC determined that the changes did not impact the validity of the unsheltered count methodology and thus the homeless numbers.

Community Volunteer Feedback

For the 2009 homeless census, a standardized debriefing questionnaire was provided to the community volunteers as they finished the count. From the feedback, what volunteers liked best about participating in the count was that they could help homeless people and serve the community for a worthwhile cause. They also liked working as a team with their fellow volunteers and meeting new people. The volunteers found the instructions clear and the process well-organized. Also, driving made it easier. Finally, participating in the count shed light on the homeless situation in our community for several volunteers.

The main problem for volunteers was not finding any or many homeless people in their enumeration area. Another major problem was that the maps were difficult to read. A few suggestions for the next census included smaller one page maps of each block group, having more detailed information on the EA map, color code the boundaries better so that each block group is clearly identified. A further problem frequently stated was the late night/early morning hours. It was suggested that the count start earlier.

All in all, most volunteers were glad to participate and stated that they would be willing to volunteer again.

Modifications for Next Unsheltered Count

In February, the DC participated in a debriefing session where they shared their thoughts on the unsheltered count process. One problem was that there were so many forms that they were difficult to keep track of on census night. It was suggested that the forms be consolidated as much as possible and be put into a packet for each enumerator. Another request was that a planning map be developed for each deployment site and their enumeration areas. Also, it was mentioned that the “paid enumerator guides” be renamed to simply “guides” so that volunteers not get upset that some are being paid while others are not. On the certificate of participation form, the date should include both the census night and the next day since the count ends in the early morning hours. Finally, the DC suggested that homeless persons participate in the planning process or else have shelters ask residents to share anonymous information on where homeless people sleep outdoors at night.



2. Sheltered Count Methods

Beginning in October 2008, emergency shelter and transitional housing program providers (definitions follow) were notified of the impending Tri-J homeless count at public meetings, such as the Tri-Jurisdictional Metro Atlanta Collaborative, Fulton County to Prevent Homelessness, and HMIS users group meetings. In early December, the deployment captains were provided a list of known emergency shelters and transitional housing programs located in the Tri-J area. The DC were asked to read over the agency list and provide the names of any additional agencies that they were aware of that were not on the list. This list was created by identifying all the agencies on the 2008 Tri-J Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). The Tri-J HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds in the Tri-J area for fall 2008. The Tri-J HIC and sheltered count representative was able to provide a contact list for those agencies.

Two months prior to census night, Pathways research staff contacted several jails throughout the Tri-J and a Tri-J representative from Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County contacted the Drug Court in each jurisdiction to determine if we could get the number of people who would be identified as homeless at the jails on census night. In the month of January, Pathways staff contacted hospital staff throughout the Tri-J to notify them of the upcoming homeless count.

The week of the count, Pathways staff emailed, or called/faxed if no email address was provided, each agency on the contact list to notify them of the need for their bed occupancy information for census night and to provide the agency staff with the tally form and instructions (see data collection form). If the past contact information was incorrect, current information was obtained and the list updated. If a phone number was no longer in service, staff investigated the situation to determine if the facility was no longer open or if the number had changed. Staff also investigated any new agency names that were provided by the deployment captains and Tri-J sheltered count representative.

The email or fax included a notification letter, sheltered count tally form and instructions for filling out the count form. The sheltered count tally form reported the program/site information, program type, bed capacity, occupancy numbers for individuals/families and subpopulation information, which was new for this count. The contact person was instructed to fill out the form for all clients on site from 6 p.m. January 22nd to 6 a.m. January 23rd, 2009. The contact person was requested to return the sheltered count tally form to Pathways by the following week.

The 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census was the first time that permanent supportive housing programs (definition follows) were also notified of the count. A new requirement by HUD for 2009 mandated that permanent supportive housing occupancy and capacity numbers be collected for the same night as emergency shelters and transitional housing programs.

A number of the sheltered count tally forms that had been e-mailed or faxed to housing providers were returned within the following days of the Tri-J homeless census. Shortly after the census, Pathways staff began making reminder phone calls to the non-reporting sites. Some responded via fax or email, while others gave their results to the staff over the phone. In those cases, the data was recorded on blank Tally sheets. The majority of the Tally forms were returned during the month of February. During March, a concerted effort was made by Pathways staff, advisory council members and Tri-J representatives to contact the last few non-reporting sites. As the sheltered tally forms were turned in, the information was verified by Pathways staff against the existing 2008 Tri-J HIC. Anomalies identified at this stage were resolved, usually by emails or phone conversations with the program staff.



A determination was made by the advisory council that by March 25th the occupancy numbers for any remaining sites that had not reported would be estimated, using the statistical model developed during the previous homeless counts. To encourage participation in the homeless count, the advisory council enacted a policy for previous counts of not disclosing occupancy rates for specific agencies or program sites. In the end, 97% of emergency shelter and transitional housing programs provided their homeless numbers for the census.

On the other hand, we were not as successful with the jails and hospitals. Even though the jails were contacted prior to the count, jail and drug court staff were unable to provide the number of people homeless on census night. From staff, we discovered that when people are arrested, they are encouraged to provide an address. Often people give the address of family and friends and are thus not defined as homeless. As with the jails, people staying at hospitals also tended to provide the address of family and friends and thus not be classified as homeless. However, if the persons were staying at a transitional housing provider, but was in the hospital for that night, they would be counted under the agency numbers. Also, Pathways asked that enumerators for the unsheltered count walk through emergency rooms to see if any homeless persons were finding shelter there for the night.

Emergency Shelter Definition

According to HUD, an emergency shelter is defined as any facility with sleeping accommodations that provide temporary shelter for homeless persons with the length of stay ranging from one night up to as much as three months.

Transitional Housing Definition

Transitional housing is defined by HUD as a facility that provides housing and supportive services such as case management and life skills for homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Permanent Supportive Housing Definition

The definition of permanent supportive housing for HUD is a long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. A person with a disability is determined to 1) have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or 2) have a developmental disability, as defined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.

This type of supportive housing enables special needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. There is no definite length of stay, instead tenants of permanent housing sign legal lease documents. In the supportive housing model, services are available to the tenant but accepting services cannot be required of tenants or in any way impact their tenancy. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by the applicant and provided by other public or private services agencies. Permanent supportive housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

Challenges for 2009 Sheltered Count

One of the biggest challenges for the sheltered count was the lengthy return time of many homeless housing providers of their census night numbers to Pathways. For several agencies, the response time



often took up to two months. Often this was the result of staff change from the time of the Tri-J HIC to the homeless census. Another major issue was that the census numbers provided by housing agencies did not match the previous Tri-J HIC. Per HUD, these numbers either need to match or an explanation needs to be provided as to the reason for the change in numbers. The process of verifying accurate numbers was also an extended process.

Modifications for the next Sheltered Count

The Tri-J representatives suggested that for the next sheltered count that volunteers be used to contact the housing provider agencies on census night/morning in order to get the numbers in “real time” as is done for the unsheltered count. The volunteers could either be located at a few of the deployment sites or at the Pathways command central. If there are enough volunteers for the sheltered count, then some people could be designated to drive to the actual housing agencies for the numbers.

V. 2009 HOMELESS CENSUS RESULTS

A. 2009 Tri-J Homeless Census Numbers

On the morning of January 23, 2009, a total of **7,019 unsheltered and sheltered (emergency shelters and transitional housing) homeless people** were found in the Tri-J area.

Table 1: 2009 Homeless Census Count by Residence and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Homeless Census	Individuals	Family Members	Totals	Percentage
Unsheltered	2,068	96	2,164	30.8%
Emergency Shelters	1,998	359	2,357	33.6%
Transitional Housing	1,715	783	2,498	35.6%
Totals (%)	5,781 (82%)	1,238 (18%)	7,019	

Table 2: 2009 Homeless Census Count by Gender and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Homeless Count	Individuals						Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Couples – no kids (# of Adults)	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	Total Family Members
Unsheltered	1,747	291	0	25	5	2,068	3	30	0	0	63	96
Emergency Shelters	1,548	408	42	0	0	1,998	1	119	12	1	226	359
Transitional Housing	1,379	334	0	1	1	1,715	8	199	52	5	519	783
TRI-J TOTALS	4,674	1,033	42	26	6	5,781	12	348	64	6	808	1,238
% of Total Tri-J	66.7%	14.7%	.6%	.4%	0%		.2%	5%	.9%	0%	11.5%	

Individuals: Of the 5,781 individuals counted in the Tri-J on Census morning, adult males comprised 81%, adult females were 18%, and unaccompanied youth were approximately 1% of Tri-J individuals found on the morning of the count.

Families: Of the total number of homeless people in families (1,238), adult female head of families were 28%, two parent (a male and female) families were 5%, adult male head of families were 1% and children were 65.5%. Other adults, such as grandparents, aunts and uncles to the children, comprised the remaining .5% of family members.

The 1,238 family members comprised 392 families with children. There were 348 families headed by single adult females, 12 families headed by single adult males, and 32 families headed by two adult parents (an adult male and an adult female). The majority of families (63%) were staying in transitional housing. The average size of families with children was 3.56 persons.

B. Unsheltered Count Numbers

On the morning of January 23, 2009, **2,164 homeless persons were found in unsheltered locations** in the Tri-J area. Individuals comprised 96% of the total unsheltered number, while family members were 4% of the total unsheltered number.

Table 3: 2009 Unsheltered Homeless Persons by Gender and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Homeless Census	Individuals					Family Members				
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	1,747	291	25	5	2068	3	30	63	96	33
% of Total Unsheltered	80.8%	13.5%	1.1%	.2%		.1%	1.4%	2.9%		

Estimated Groups: In order to arrive at the total number of unsheltered homeless persons, estimations were made to two groups for the unsheltered enumeration. The first estimate was the number of homeless persons at the Atlanta City Detention Center (Atlanta City Jail). As stated previously, staff at the City of Atlanta Jail was unable to provide a count of homeless persons in the jail on census night (see sheltered count methodology). An estimation of homeless persons in jail was based on the ratio homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta from 2007 to 2009 to the estimated number of homeless individuals in the jail in 2007. The estimated 2009 homeless inmate total was allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters from the 2007 homeless census and the 2007 homeless survey. The results of the estimation determined that 40 adult male and 6 adult female homeless inmates, who were usually unsheltered, were at the jail on census night.

The second estimated group was unsheltered families. Only two families were found in unsheltered locations on census night. Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. Pathways and the AC believed the number should have been higher based upon data from the 2007 Homeless Survey indicating that 7% of the total number of families usually slept in unsheltered locations. Therefore, it was determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families. The results of the estimation determined that 96 people in families were sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of January 22nd.

C. Sheltered Count, Capacity and Occupancy Numbers

1. Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing Programs

A total of **4,855 homeless persons were residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities** on census night. Individuals were 76% and members of families were 24% of the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy total. (For definitions of emergency shelter and transitional housing facilities, please see sheltered methodology).

Table 4: 2009 Sheltered Homeless Persons by Gender and Household Type

2009 Tri-J Count	Individuals						Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Couples – no kids (# of Adults)	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Family (# of Adults)	Children in Family	Non-Head Adult in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Emergency Shelters	1,548	408	42	0	0	1,998	1	119	12	226	1	359	126
Transitional Housing	1,379	334	0	1	1	1,715	8	199	52	519	5	783	233
Sheltered TOTALS	2,927	742	42	1	1	3,713	9	318	64	745	6	1,142	359
% of Total Sheltered	60.1%	15.2%	.9%	0%	0%		.2%	6.7%	1.3%	15.5%	.1%		

Individuals Capacity and Occupancy: On census morning 2009, agencies reported an *emergency shelter* capacity of 2,015 beds for individuals and a *transitional housing* capacity of 2,067 beds for individuals. Overall, 95% of individual emergency shelter beds and 83% of individual transitional housing beds were occupied. Almost 91% of all individual beds in the Tri-J area were occupied on census night.

Family Capacity and Occupancy: On census morning 2009, agencies reported an *emergency shelter* capacity of 445 beds for families and a *transitional housing* capacity of 1,066 beds for families. Overall, 81% of emergency shelter beds and 73% of transitional beds for families were occupied. Occupancy numbers for families are not as useful when analyzing need and demand. Programs that serve families are often organized in units rather than beds and a unit may have several beds that go unoccupied depending on the size of the family. For example, a bedroom unit with 4 beds, with a single mother and two children in residence, will appear to have a 75% occupancy rate, but in fact the empty bed is not actually available to anyone else.

Emergency Shelter Beds: Of the 2,460 total emergency beds available on Census night, 96% of the individual and family beds were occupied.

Transitional Housing Beds: Of the 3,133 total transitional housing beds available on Census night, 80% of the individual and family beds were occupied.

Estimated Groups: In order to arrive at the total number of persons, estimations were made to two groups for the sheltered enumeration. The first estimate was the number of homeless persons at the Atlanta City Detention Center (Atlanta City Jail). As stated previously, staff at the City of Atlanta Jail was unable to provide a count of homeless persons in the jail on census night (see sheltered count methodology). An estimation of homeless persons in jail was based on the ratio homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta

from 2007 to 2009 to the estimated number of homeless individuals in the jail in 2007. The estimated 2009 homeless inmate total was allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters from the 2007 homeless census and the 2007 homeless survey. The results of the estimation determined that 57 adult male and 24 adult female homeless inmates, who were usually at emergency shelters, were at the jail on census night.

Second, occupancy figures for the few non-reporting sites for homeless single person were estimated. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity, and demographic information.

2. Permanent Supportive Housing

A total of *1,453 homeless persons were residing in permanent supportive housing* on census night. Individuals were 60% and members of families were 40% of the permanent supportive housing total. (For definition of permanent supportive housing, see sheltered methodology.)

Table 5: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy Numbers

2009 Permanent Supportive Housing	Individuals			Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Total Ind.	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Adults)	Non- Head Adult	Kids in Family	Total Family Members
Atlanta	450	288	738	6	114	16	1	253	390
DeKalb	72	34	106	1	11	2	1	28	43
Fulton	5	27	32	1	46	4	0	93	144
TRI-J TOTALS	527	349	876	8	171	22	2	374	577
% of Total Tri-J	33.9%	23.3%		.5%	12.6%	1.4%	.1%	28.2%	

Individuals: Of the 876 individuals staying in permanent supportive housing on census morning, 60% were adult males and 40% were adult females.

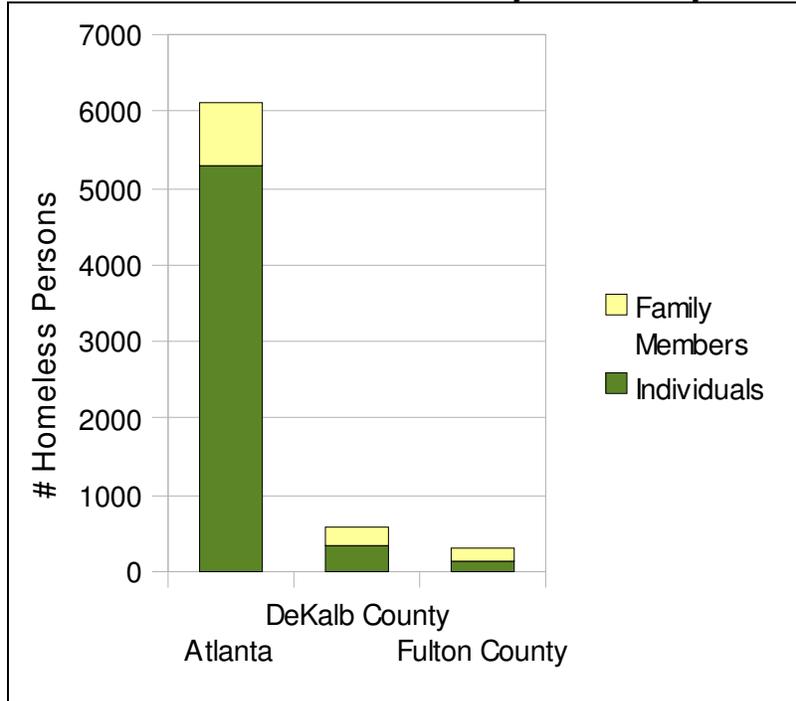
Families: Of the 577 family members staying in permanent supportive housing on census morning, 65% were children, 30% were female heads of families (single women with children), 1% were male heads of families (single men with children), and 4% were two parents in families (a male and female). There were 190 family units with 3.04 people per family unit.

Special Note: This is the first Tri-J homeless census since 2003 that has reported the permanent supportive housing numbers. The total permanent supportive housing occupancy numbers increased by 1,042 people from 2003 to 2009, while the bed capacity numbers during that same time period increased by 1,319. Last year HUD began requiring that communities collect permanent supportive housing numbers for the same date as the emergency shelter and transitional housing numbers.

D. Breakout by Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County

Of the 7,019 homeless people counted in the Tri-J, 6,131 people were located in the City of Atlanta (87%), 585 persons were homeless in DeKalb County (8%), while Fulton County found 321 homeless people (5%). (See Figure 1 below)

Figure 1: Homeless Individuals and Family Members by Jurisdiction



To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts were simply a reflection of the number and type of beds available in each jurisdiction. For example, 88% of Tri-J emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 7.5% of emergency and transitional beds were in DeKalb County, and 4.5% of emergency and transitional beds were in Fulton County on census morning.

Table 6: 2009 Housing Inventory Bed Supply

Jurisdiction	Ind. Emergency Beds	Family Emergency Beds	Ind. Transitional Beds	Family Transitional Beds	Ind. Permanent Supportive Beds	Family Permanent Supportive Beds	Total
City of Atlanta	2,015	292	1,829	650	899	503	6,188
DeKalb County	0	97	187	220	116	45	665
Fulton County	0	56	51	196	32	196	531
Total	2,015	445	2,067	1,066	1,047	744	7,384

1. Atlanta

A total of **6,131 people were homeless in the City of Atlanta** on the morning of January 23, 2009. Individuals comprised 87% of Atlanta homeless numbers, while family members were 13% of the Atlanta count.

Table 7: 2009 Census Numbers of Homeless Persons in the City of Atlanta

2009 City of Atlanta	Individuals						Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Couples – no kids (# of Ind.)	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	1,509	255	0	24	5	1,793	2	18	0	0	38	58	20
Emergency Shelters	1,548	408	42	0	0	1,998	1	94	8	0	168	271	99
Transitional Housing	1,246	270	0	1	1	1,518	5	127	28	4	329	493	146
Atlanta TOTALS	4,303	933	42	25	6	5,309	8	239	36	4	535	822	265
% of Atlanta	70.3%	15.2%	.7%	.4%	.1%		.1%	3.9%	.6%	0%	8.7%		

Individuals: Of the 5,309 individuals who were homeless in the City of Atlanta on Census morning, 81.5% were adult males, 18% were adult females, and .5% were unaccompanied youths.

Families: Of the 822 homeless family members in Atlanta, 65% were children, 29% were female heads of families (single women with children), 1% were male heads of families (single men with children), and 5% were two parents in families (a male and female).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: On census morning, 1,851 people were unsheltered (30%), 2,269 persons were sleeping at emergency shelters (37%), and 2,011 people were staying at transitional housing programs (33%) in the City of Atlanta.

Downtown Atlanta: From 2003 to 2009, the unsheltered count for downtown Atlanta decreased by 43 (10%) to 378 homeless persons. For 2009, downtown Atlanta comprised only 21% of the Atlanta homeless unsheltered count.

2003 to 2009 Numbers: The total Atlanta homeless census number increased by 1,214 people (20%) from 2003 to 2009. The unsheltered number decreased by 92 homeless people (5%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number increased by 1,306 homeless persons (31%) during that time period.

2007 to 2009 Numbers: The total Atlanta homeless census numbers increased by 388 people (6%) from 2007 to 2009. The unsheltered number decreased by 10 homeless people (less than 1%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number increased by 872 homeless persons (8%) during that time period.

2. DeKalb County

A total of **585 people were homeless in the DeKalb County** (not including City of Atlanta) on the morning of January 23, 2009. Individuals comprised 58% of DeKalb County homeless numbers, while family members were 42% of the DeKalb County numbers.

Table 8: 2009 Census Numbers of Homeless Persons in DeKalb County

2009 DeKalb County	Individuals					Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	163	19	1	0	183	1	7	0	0	14	22	8
Emergency Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	4	1	41	61	17
Transitional Housing	113	44	0	0	157	1	37	14	1	109	162	45
DeKalb TOTALS	276	63	1	0	340	2	59	18	2	164	245	70
% of DeKalb	47.2%	10.8%	.2%			.3%	10%	3%	.3%	28%		

Individuals: Of the 340 individuals who were homeless in DeKalb County on census morning, 81% were adult males and 19% were adult females.

Families: Of the 245 homeless family members in DeKalb County, 67% were children, 24% were female heads of families (single women with children), 7% were two parents in families (a male and female), with male heads of families (single men with children) and non-head adults comprising the other 2%.

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: On census morning, 205 people were unsheltered (35%), 61 persons were sleeping at emergency shelters (10%), and 319 people were staying at transitional housing programs (55%) in the balance of DeKalb County.

2003 to 2009 Numbers: The total of DeKalb County homeless census numbers increased by 57 people (10%) from 2003 to 2009. The unsheltered numbers increased by 79 homeless people (39%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number decreased by 22 homeless persons (5%) during that time period.

2007 to 2009 Numbers: The total of DeKalb County census numbers decreased by 41 people (9%) from 2007 to 2009. The unsheltered number increased by 50 homeless people (8%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy number decreased by 91 homeless persons (19%) during that time period.

3. Fulton County

A total of **303 people were homeless in Fulton County** (not including the City of Atlanta) on the morning of January 23, 2009. Individuals comprised 44% of the Fulton County homeless numbers, while family members were 56% of the Fulton County numbers.

Table 9: 2009 Census Numbers of Homeless Persons in Fulton County

2009 Fulton County	Individuals					Family Members						
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	75	17	0	0	92	0	5	0	0	11	16	5
Emergency Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	17	27	10
Transitional Housing	20	20	0	0	40	2	35	10	0	81	128	42
Fulton TOTALS	95	37	0	0	132	2	50	10	0	109	171	57
% of Fulton	31.3%	12.2%	0%	0%		.7%	16.5%	3.3%	0%	36%		

Individuals: Of the 132 individuals who were homeless in Fulton County on Census morning, 72% were adult males and 28% were adult females.

Families: Of the 171 homeless family members in Fulton County, 64% were children, 29% were female heads of families (single women with children), 1% were male heads of families (single men with children), and 6% were two parents in families (a male and female).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: On census morning, 108 people were unsheltered (36%), 27 persons were sleeping at emergency shelters (9%), and 168 people were staying at transitional housing programs (55%) in Fulton County.

2003 to 2009 Numbers: The total Fulton County homeless census numbers decreased by 5 people from 2003 to 2009. The unsheltered number increased by 24 homeless people (8%), while the emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy numbers decreased by 29 homeless persons (5%) during that time period.

2007 to 2009 Numbers: The total Fulton County homeless census numbers decreased by 68 people (18.3%) from 2007 to 2009. The unsheltered number increased by 9 homeless people (9%), while the sheltered number decreased by 77 homeless persons (28%) during that time period.

N. Fulton and S. Fulton: Of the 303 people counted in Fulton County, 192 people (25 were unsheltered and 167 were in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs) were counted as homeless in North Fulton above the City of Atlanta and 111 homeless people (67 were unsheltered and 44 were in emergency sheltered and transitional housing programs) were counted in South Fulton below the Atlanta city limits.

VI. COMPARISON of 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Tri-J HOMELESS CENSUS

From 2003 to 2009, the total Tri-J Homeless Census night numbers increased by 462 people (6.6%).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered (emergency shelter and transitional housing): From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady decrease of 140 (6.1%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. On the other hand, there was an increase of 602 (12.4%) in the number of people staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing on census night for both individuals and families.

From 2007 to 2009, the total Tri-J Homeless Census night numbers increased by 179 people (2.6%).

Unsheltered vs. Sheltered: From 2007 to 2009, there was an increase of 49 (2.3%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations and an increase of 130 (2.7%) in the number of people staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing on census night.

Table 10: Comparison of 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Homeless Census

	Individuals				Family Members				Totals			
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2003	2005	2007	2009	2003	2005	2007	2009
Unsheltered	2,116	2,085	2,071	2,068	188	177	44	96	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164
Sheltered	3,173	3,588	3,551	3,713	1,080	982	1,174	1,142	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855
Totals	<i>5,289</i>	<i>5,673</i>	<i>5,622</i>	<i>5,781</i>	<i>1,268</i>	<i>1,159</i>	<i>1,224</i>	<i>1,238</i>	<i>6,557</i>	<i>6,832</i>	<i>6,840</i>	<i>7,019</i>

Individuals vs. Family Members: From 2003 to 2009, there was an increase of 492 individuals (6%), while there was a decrease of 30 family members (2.4%) from the same time period. From 2007 to 2009, there was an increase of 159 individual (2.7%) and an increase of 14 family members (1.1%) from the same time period.

Housing Type/Household Type: From 2003 to 2009, there was a decrease of 48 unsheltered individuals (2.3%), while there was an increase of 540 sheltered individuals (15%). During the same time period, there was a decrease of 92 unsheltered family members (49%) and an increase of 62 family members (5.4%) staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing.

Bed Supply and Occupancy Rate for 2005 to 2009

2005 to 2009: Between the 2005 and 2009 Tri-J homeless census, 422 new emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were added to the Tri-J supply. During that time period, the number of beds for individuals increased by 360, while the number of beds for family members increased by 62. The housing occupancy rates for emergency shelter and transitional housing for homeless individuals increased from 87% in 2005 to 91% in 2009, while emergency shelter and transitional housing occupancy rates for homeless families increased from 67% in 2005 to 77% in 2009.

2007 to 2009: Between the 2007 and 2009 Tri-J homeless census, 295 new emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were added to the Tri-J supply. During that time period, the number of beds for individuals in emergency shelters decreased by 34, while the number of transitional housing beds for individuals increased by 375. The number of family emergency shelter beds increased by 13, while the family transitional housing beds decreased by 59.

VII. 2009 ANNUALIZED PROJECTION of HOMELESS NUMBERS

While the point-in-time enumeration data is the most reliable to obtain, most service providers and their funders must plan and budget their activities on an annual basis. Turnover rates (often called multipliers) are based on the understanding that more people experience homelessness annually than can be counted at any given point in time. In any year, people will cycle in and out of homelessness. A turnover rate has been calculated for the Tri-Jurisdictional City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County homeless population to estimate the number of people who experience homelessness annually, based on the point-in-time data collected this count.

Three factors were used to determine categorically specific turnover rates:

- Length of homelessness as reported by the 2007 Tri-J homeless survey respondents;
- Percent of respondents indicating each length, and
- Minimum turnover rate for each length category.

A weighted average was then calculated based on the relative proportion of respondents who fell within each length category. The net result of this approach suggested a point-in-time to annual multiplier of 3.05 (7,019 x 3.05), and further indicates that *approximately 21,441 persons will experience homelessness in the Tri-J area sometime during 2009.*

Table 11: Annualized Projections for 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009

2003	2005	2007	2009
16,625	20,086	20,110	21,441

From 2003 to 2009, the number of people estimated to be homeless for a year time period increased by 4,816 (22.5%).



IX. CONCLUSION

Overall, the Tri-J homeless count numbers from 2003 to 2009 were steady. There was no dramatic change, only a slight increase of 462 homeless people (6.5%) for the point-in-time counts over six years. It is important to note that the homeless population of the Tri-J is not increasing at the same rate as the general population growth of Fulton County (24%) and DeKalb County (11%) over the approximate same time period. Additionally, the 2009 count was conducted during a severe economic downturn.

Another important trend to note with the Tri-J homeless population is that there has been an overall reduction in the number of homeless people sleeping in unsheltered locations (6%) and an increase in the number of people sleeping in sheltered facilities (12%). On Census night, 96% of the emergency shelter beds were occupied and 81% of transitional housing beds were occupied.

A major focus for the Tri-J has been to increase the bed supply for both families and individuals. Over six years there has been an increase of nearly 500 beds in the Tri-J supply for emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. Plus there has been an increase (74%) of over 1,300 permanent supportive housing beds for families and individuals. By the end of the year, another 160 family beds should also become available.

The next HUD mandated Tri-J Homeless Census is scheduled for January 2011.

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Fulton County, Georgia

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Metro Atlanta Homeless Census - Deployment Host Sites

ACHOR Center
Atlanta Urban Ministries
Center for Pan Asian Community Services
Chapel of Christian Love Church
Crossroads Community Ministries
DeKalb County Community Development Department

Mary Hall Freedom House
Nicholas House
Sandy Springs United Methodist Church
The Temple
Youth Action Center

Metro Atlanta Homeless Census - Deployment Captains

<p>Megan Anderson, Co-Chair <i>Furniture Bank of Metro-Atlanta, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Elna Sheetz, Co-Chair <i>CAC</i></p> <p>Lorraine Andersen <i>Mary Hall Freedom House</i></p> <p>Selina Beene <i>H.O.P.E. through Divine Intervention, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Robin Bledsoe <i>Community Advanced Practice Nurses</i></p> <p>Dennis Bowman <i>Nicholas House, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Pam Boazman <i>Jefferson Place</i></p> <p>Lorie Burnett <i>DeKalb County, Community Development Dept.</i></p> <p>Rev. Melanie Conner <i>Zion Hill Community Development Corporation, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Kia Croom <i>H.O.P.E. through Divine Intervention</i></p> <p>Cal Crutchfield <i>Transition House, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Dennis Dunn <i>Atlanta Enterprise Center</i></p> <p>Etrinda Evans <i>H.O.P.E. through Divine Intervention</i></p> <p>Jimiyu Evans <i>Project Community Concerns</i></p> <p>Frantz Fortune <i>Positive Outlook Foundation</i></p> <p>Gernita Jackson <i>Genesis Shelter</i></p> <p>Provia Jackson <i>ACHOR Center, Exec. Dir.</i></p>	<p>LaTrice Johnson <i>City of Atlanta, Tri-J Representative</i></p> <p>Patrick Jones <i>Project Connect</i></p> <p>Donica Martin <i>City of Atlanta, Mayor's Office</i></p> <p>Ashley McBride <i>Genesis Shelter</i></p> <p>Michelle Ramirez <i>Buckhead Christian Ministry</i></p> <p>Cliff Richards <i>Decatur Cooperative Ministry</i></p> <p>Melvia Richards <i>DeKalb County, Tri-J Representative</i></p> <p>Gerry Richardson <i>Jefferson Place</i></p> <p>Jerry Smith <i>DeKalb CSB</i></p> <p>Tony Stone <i>Gateway Homeless Services Center</i></p> <p>Janet Tharp <i>The Salvation Army</i></p> <p>Nikki Viverette <i>Project Community Concerns, Inc.</i></p> <p>Monifa Watson <i>Homestretch</i></p> <p>Mary Wilson <i>East Point Community Action Team, Exec. Dir.</i></p> <p>Wayne Woods <i>Fulton County, Tri-J Representative</i></p> <p>Selam Yohannes <i>Georgia Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty</i></p> <p>Amy Zarembo <i>Georgia Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, Exec. Dir.</i></p>
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Deployment Captains – Special Teams

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**THE 2011 METRO ATLANTA
TRI-JURISDICTIONAL
COLLABORATIVE
CONTINUUM OF CARE
HOMELESS CENSUS**



**CITY OF ATLANTA,
FULTON COUNTY AND
DEKALB COUNTY**

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The 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census was successful because over 400 volunteers joined forces to count the homeless persons in our community. Although it is not possible to list each of them by name, the Tri-J CoC and Pathways wish to express our gratitude to each of you who contributed your time and effort. We recognize the efforts of the special enumeration teams, including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program, the St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP) and the DeKalb County, Community Development Department – homeless outreach team whose knowledge of the homeless population and geographic areas were instrumental in the data collection process. We also appreciate the Police Departments - Atlanta Community Liaison Unit, Atlanta Homeless Outreach Prevention Emergency Services (HOPE) team, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Police Section's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), DeKalb County Precincts, DeKalb County Interactive Community Police Unit (ICP), City of Decatur, City of East Point, and Fulton County - for providing additional support to the enumeration teams on count night.

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2011 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Continuum of Care Homeless Census: Executive Summary

On the night of January 25, 2011, the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness (City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County) and Pathways Community Network, along with over 400 community volunteers, conducted the fifth point-in-time count of homeless persons in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. The Tri-J CoC homeless census consisted of two components of enumerations, an unsheltered count and sheltered count, which together result in a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the community. Overall, a total of **6,838 homeless people were counted in the Tri-J area on count night.**

2011 Tri-J Homeless Count by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals	Family Members (# of families)	Total # of Homeless People (%)
Emergency Shelters	2,056	404 members (132 families)	2,460 (36%)
Unsheltered	2,336	42 members (14 families)	2,378 (35%)
Transitional Housing	1,373	627 members (203 families)	2,000 (30%)
<i>Totals (%)</i>	5,765	1,073 members (349 families)	6,838
Percentage	84%	16%	

Five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. The largest number of

individuals were found sleeping unsheltered (41%). The majority of family members (58%), on the other hand, were staying in transitional housing programs.

Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (68%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15%). Children (10%) and single mothers (5%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, two parent heads of households, single fathers, youth females and a non-head of household adult such as a grandmother.

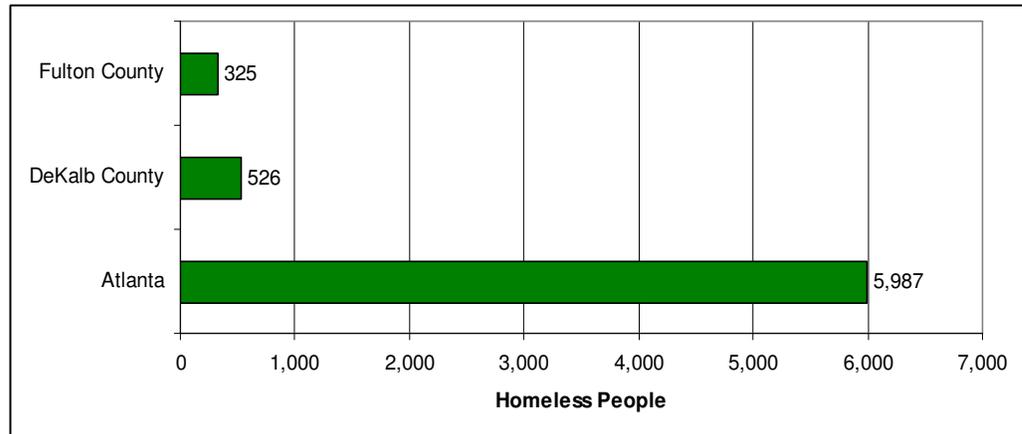
Sheltered Occupancy and Capacity

Sheltered Count	Individuals			Family Members		
	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Family Members
Occupancy #	2,056	1,373	3,429	404	627	1,031
Capacity #	2,235	1,605	3,840	494	948	1,442
Occupancy (%)	92%	86%	89%	82%	66%	72%

The bed capacity on count night was slightly higher for emergency shelters than transitional housing programs (2,729 to 2,553 beds). Overall, the occupancy rate for individual emergency shelter beds was the highest. The lowest occupancy rate was for families in transitional housing programs.

Homelessness by Jurisdiction

Of the 6,838 homeless people counted in the Tri-J CoC, the majority were located in the City of Atlanta (87%) with DeKalb County being a distant second (8%) and Fulton County third (5%). This composition by jurisdiction is the same as that of the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

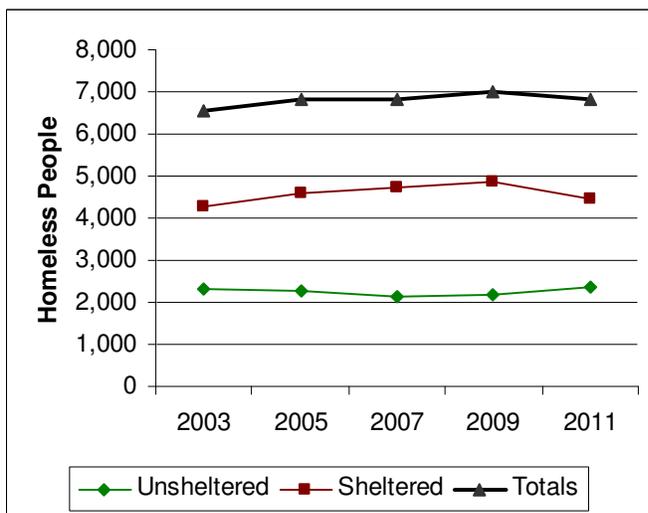


Tri-J CoC Homeless Counts over Time

Over the years, the point-in-time Tri-J CoC homeless counts have held fairly steady from year to year within an approximate range of 6,500 to 7,000 people homeless. The table shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J CoC homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless on count night (7%). However, over the past two years, there has been a decrease of people homeless for the point-in-time census (2.5%). Please note the similarity in homeless count numbers for 2005, 2007 and 2011.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838
Percentage		+4%	0%	+3%	-3%

Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Sleeping Location over Time



From 2003 to 2009, the Tri-J CoC experienced a steady decrease (6%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. However, over the past two years, there has been an increase (10%) to an all time high of homeless people sleeping outdoors.

For people sleeping in sheltered locations, there was a steady increase on census night for both individuals and families from 2003 to 2009 (14%). However, over the past two years, the sheltered numbers

showed a decrease in people staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (8%).



Section 1: Introduction

This is the fifth count for the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness. The Tri-J CoC is a working partnership of government representatives, community members and service providers within the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. The partnership works collaboratively to address issues of homelessness through planning, policy development, service delivery and resource allocation.

In 2002, the Tri-J CoC decided that getting objective and accurate data on the number of homeless persons residing in the community was a top priority. The homeless census was to identify the number of homeless persons in each local community on the basis of sleeping location and basic demographic characteristics: gender, adult vs. youth, and family vs. individual. Pathways Community Network was asked to undertake the point-in-time homeless count on behalf of the Tri-J CoC. While the 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless census was in its early planning stages, the U. S. Congress passed legislation requiring state and local governments that receive funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004.

In March 2003, the Tri-J CoC and Pathways conducted the first successful homeless census. The census was designed as a full coverage count to assess the number of homeless people sleeping in unsheltered locations, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs throughout the Tri-J CoC. Because the homeless count covered the City of Atlanta and its two counties, the Tri-J CoC relied on the efforts of hundreds of people from homeless service providers, government agencies, faith-based providers, local universities and community volunteers to conduct the count. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless census as a national “best practice.”

The 2005, 2007 and 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless census followed the successful methodology used in the 2003 count. Improvements were made to the model for each successive count based upon feedback from Pathways research and data analysis team, Tri-J CoC public sector working group (Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County), Tri-J CoC homeless census advisory council and deployment captains committee, community volunteers and community needs. Each count was followed by an in-depth survey which gathered data on demographics, homeless history, disabling conditions and two additional topics related to community concerns regarding the local homeless population.

The planning of the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census began in August 2010 with the actual enumeration occurring in on the night of Tuesday, January 25, 2011. This report describes the purpose, methodology and results of the count effort.



Section 2: Project Purpose, Coordination and Oversight

2.1 Project Purpose

With the initiation of the first Tri-J CoC homeless count, the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative (Tri-J) Continuum of Care (CoC) on Homelessness identified several important goals for the homeless census:

- Provide the number and characteristics of people sleeping in transitional programs, shelters and places not meant for human habitation;
- Provide the local community with data to use in planning, funding, and implementing services that meets the needs of homeless persons;
- Provide a measurement of the changes in the homeless population over time;
- Provide a report that increases awareness of the local homeless issue; and
- Provide data to use in updating the Tri-J CoC's Housing Inventory for the annual HUD Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) Exhibit 1 report.

2.2 Project Coordination

To meet these objectives and have a successful homeless count, the Tri-J CoC asked Pathways Community Network to undertake the homeless census. Pathways is a nonprofit organization that supports communities with tools – information systems, research and data analysis, and technical assistance and training - to help human service providers work together, reduce costs and increase impact. Since 2003, Pathways has been asked by the Tri-J CoC to manage the homeless point-in-time counts. Pathways has coordinated, staffed, written the reports and presented the findings for the Tri-J CoC homeless census. Beginning in 2007, the Pathways research and data analysis team has also provided expertise in the areas of methodology, data collection, and data analysis. The research team consisted of the research manager and three research assistants.

2.3 Project Oversight

As with the previous Tri-J CoC homeless census, oversight was provided by an advisory council (AC) composed of leaders in non-profit, human services and government agencies. The functions of the AC included assisting the Pathways research team with refining the count methodology and instruments, logistical planning and providing input regarding compliance with HUD regulations. With few exceptions, the advisory council met on a monthly basis.



Section 3: Methodology

3.1 Background

Research Atlanta (1984) provided the earliest estimates of the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta based on comparative studies from other U.S. cities and interviews with local homeless service providers. They estimated that around 3,000 people would be homeless on any given night in 1984. A decade later, a point-in-time estimate was again calculated for the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta. Researchers estimated that around 11,000 people were homeless on an average night in 1997 within the ten county Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) area (Jaret and Adelman 1997). The 1997 estimate was calculated from the results of a national study with adjustments made for the City of Atlanta population and its neighboring suburban counties.

In 2002, the Tri-J CoC decided that an actual systematic and comprehensive count of homeless people needed to occur for the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. This decision to conduct a count of people homeless in the community coincided with the U.S. Congress passing legislation requiring state and local governments that receive federal funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004. The first actual homeless count conducted by the Tri-J CoC was in 2003. The 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless count established the baseline data with subsequent counts providing useful tracking for the changes in the homeless population over time.

3.2 Date and Time

Along with the federal regulation as to the frequency of the homeless census, HUD also mandated the time of year for the homeless count to occur. HUD chose for CoC homeless census to be conducted during the last ten days in January. One reason for that timeframe is that homeless people are more likely to sleep indoors at shelters and in transitional housing during cold weather months thus making it easier to locate people who might otherwise be outdoors at other times of the year. In addition, cold weather and overflow shelters open for only a few months each year during the winter. Also, by using the mandated time frame set by HUD, the Tri-J CoC homeless numbers are comparable to other CoC homeless populations across the U.S.

For the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, the advisory council (AC) selected Tuesday, January 25th as the census date, with a bad weather back-up date of Thursday, January 27th. The AC choice both homeless count dates to be mid-week to represent a typical weekday morning and to avoid the higher number of non-homeless persons on the streets during weekends. In addition, several large shelters in the City of Atlanta discharge residents in the early morning hours (5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.). To avoid double counting people as sheltered and unsheltered, the AC decided to begin enumeration around 1 a.m. prior to the shelter early morning release times.

3.3 Operational Definition and Components

In order to calculate the size of the homeless population in our community, a definition of homelessness is necessary. The U.S. Census that occurs every decade counts people on the basis of their customary place of residence. However, since homeless people do not have permanent residences, they are instead enumerated based on their temporary sleeping locations such as on the street, in shelters or in transitional housing programs.

The Tri-J CoC homeless count methodology has two components based on sleeping location: unsheltered count and sheltered count. These two counts follow the HUD guide for counting homeless people in a CoC. Together, the two enumerations create a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. For the purpose of this study, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 HUD definition of homelessness was used:

- ***Unsheltered homeless people*** reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, in vehicles, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings and makeshift shelters such as tents.
- ***Sheltered homeless people*** occupy emergency shelters, transitional housing, treatment programs, motels (only if motel vouchers are provided by service agency) and short stay institutions such as hospitals and jails.

Emergency Shelter: According to HUD, an emergency shelter is defined as any facility with sleeping accommodations that provide temporary shelter for homeless persons with the length of stay ranging from one night up to as much as three months.

Transitional housing is defined by HUD as a facility that provides housing and supportive services such as case management and life skills for homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Permanent Supportive Housing

In addition, HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each community starting in 2009. The Tri-J CoC community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009 and for the latest count in 2011. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J CoC homeless count.

The definition of permanent supportive housing for HUD is a long-term, community-based housing that has supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. A person with a disability is determined to 1) have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or 2) have a developmental disability, as defined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.



This type of supportive housing enables special needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. There is no definite length of stay, instead tenants of permanent housing sign legal lease documents. In the supportive housing model, services are available to the tenant but accepting services cannot be required of tenants or in any way impact their tenancy. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by the applicant and provided by other public or private services agencies. Permanent supportive housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

Not Counted

In 2009, the U.S. Congress amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 as the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH) and expanded the definition to include people who are at imminent risk of homelessness and families or unaccompanied youth who are living unstably. Imminent risk of homelessness is defined as people who must leave their current housing situation within the next 14 days with no other place to stay and no resources or support network to obtain housing. Unstably housed is defined as families or unaccompanied youth who 1) meet the definition of homelessness under other federal programs such as the Department of Education, 2) have not lived for a long period independently in permanent housing, 3) have moved frequently, and 4) will continue to experience housing instability due to chronic disabilities, history of domestic violence or multiple barriers to employment. The at risk of homelessness and unstably housed populations are often labeled as precariously housed.

For the 2011 homeless census, HUD again only wanted CoCs to count people who were literally homeless in their point-in-time counts and not those who were precariously housed. With the past homeless census, the Tri-J CoC have not counted people who were at risk of homelessness or unstably housed. However, at a meeting in late summer 2010, the Tri-J CoC public sector working group and Pathways decided to work on a baseline measurement of precariously housed people in anticipation of the application of the HEARTH Act.

Precariously housed people cannot be determined with a direct observation similarly to the homeless census. Instead people meeting the expanded HEARTH Act definition of homelessness need to be measured indirectly using a survey due to the dimensions of the variables such as frequency of moves and experiencing multiple barriers to unemployment. Therefore, for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless survey which follows the count, questions were included to measure the precariously housed variables in order to determine people who were at risk of homelessness and unstably housed. This was a first attempt at creating a baseline calculation of the number of people who meet the expanded definition of the HEARTH Act.

3.4 Unsheltered Count Method

The methodology for the Tri-J CoC unsheltered homeless count was recognized by HUD as a “best practice” in 2003. The Tri-J CoC unsheltered count uses a combination of different methods to determine the number of people homeless on one night. The direct methods include canvassing and hot spot counts, along with an indirect method of estimations. These methods



were applied in 1985 to conduct the first systematic count of homeless people in Chicago (Rossi 1989).

The canvassing method entails enumerators covering areas in a community where they observe people, typically at night or in the early morning hours, and either identify them as homeless or housed. This method is best used in urban areas where enumerators can walk the streets of concentrated areas or drive the streets in suburban or sparser areas. The hotspot count is conducted in areas where homeless people are thought to be heavily concentrated and hidden from street view. Typically, enumerators who are experienced working with street homeless populations are sent to cover these areas. Hotspot counts offer data collection opportunities to a subpopulation that might not otherwise be included in a count.

A benefit to conducting a canvassing method is that once the unsheltered numbers are collected, they can be adjusted for the hidden homeless (Rossi 1989). Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. The 2003 AC determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families.

Planning

Planning for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census unsheltered count began in August 2010. The first month involved setting up the advisory council and, most importantly, setting the date for the count. In addition, as with previous homeless counts, a *deployment captains* committee was formed to assist Pathways with logistics planning for the unsheltered count night process and on census night with managing deployment sites for the unsheltered count. The DC was staffed by homeless service providers, non-profit agencies, community volunteers and government agencies. Committee co-chairs shared a seat on the advisory council to assure good communication and successful joint problem solving between the two groups. Beginning in September 2010, the deployment captains met on a regular basis to prepare for the upcoming homeless count.

To develop a logistics plan for the Tri-J CoC homeless census, the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County had to be divided into manageable areas for counting. The Tri-J CoC covers over 800 square miles and comprises 771 U.S. Census block groups. In 2003, **134 enumeration areas** were created by grouping the U.S. Census blocks into manageable areas for data collection and organization. The enumeration areas varied in size and number of block groups, depending on the anticipated concentration of unsheltered homeless persons. For example, in areas with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless, where enumerators would have to walk much of the area to conduct their count, fewer block groups were allocated to an enumeration area.

The 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless census used the same enumeration areas as previous counts. The enumeration areas were divided among **12 deployment sites** (see special thanks). These sites were spaced throughout the Tri-J CoC and appropriately geo-located to provide convenient access for enumerators to their assigned enumeration areas. They served as staging areas for the unsheltered count by providing adequate well-lit parking and a large meeting area.



Once the deployment sites were confirmed, *planning and enumeration area maps* were developed. The Atlanta Regional Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department created the 2011 planning and enumeration maps for the unsheltered count. The large planning maps aided Pathways in the assignment of enumeration areas to each deployment site and the deployment captains in orienting enumerators during training on census night. The enumeration maps included one main enumeration area clearly outlined in bold black in the center of the map with the block groups for each EA outlined in purple within the EA.

The enumeration maps had been improved from the 2005 homeless census by adding Aero Atlas street overlays to provide detailed street information, defined block group boundaries and more distinguishable landmarks. The colors of the maps had been changed slightly from the 2007 Tri-J CoC homeless count. In 2007, the maps were updated to one light pastel color for cities and no color for the county areas.

Certain enumeration areas were stratified into three specific categories – *high, low and zero count areas* – based on the numbers from previous Tri-J CoC homeless census. The AC decided in 2002 that high count areas such as downtown Atlanta or the Atlanta Airport would receive enumerators with expertise in working or experience with the street homeless population. In 2007, the AC determined that enumeration areas where no homeless people had been found in the previous census would not be counted. This would allow efforts to be focused on areas where homeless people were thought to be located. For 2009, the AC concluded that low count enumeration areas, where ten or fewer homeless people had been found on previous counts, would not have homeless enumerator guides (see below) provide assistance due to the lack of need for their expertise. Finally, the other areas had enumeration teams comprised of community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides.

Conducting a count of this magnitude required community collaboration. Because the Tri-J CoC homeless census covers the City of Atlanta and its two counties, over 400 *community volunteers* were needed to carry out the count. The Tri-J CoC relied on the efforts of homeless service provider staff, personnel from government agencies, members of faith-based organizations, college students and hundreds of community volunteers to conduct the unsheltered count. Volunteers were recruited using a number of methods including direct recruitment, public announcements, recruitment fliers and postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless. Volunteers were assigned to deployment sites based on their preferences and on the minimum requirement of volunteers needed at each site.

As with previous Tri-J CoC homeless census, *homeless enumerator guides* assisted the community volunteers with identifying homeless persons, in pointing out locations likely to have homeless persons present and in recognizing potentially dangerous situations to avoid. The guides were recruited from various transitional housing programs in the Tri-J CoC area. They were required to have lived in the Tri-J CoC area for at least six months and to have been a participant in the transitional program for at least three months. The guides were only used at 8 of



the 12 deployment sites due to low numbers of homeless people found in the other four sites during the past census.

One area of the Tri-J CoC where community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides did not count was downtown Atlanta. The downtown area was covered by veterans participating in the *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)*, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program. Along with the 24 current program participants, VA staff also worked in the downtown enumeration teams on census night. The VA enumerators were assigned enumeration areas in downtown Atlanta due to their experience living on the streets or working with clients on the streets. These areas are walked and can involve counting in gulleys and other hidden locations. Typically, downtown Atlanta has the highest number of unsheltered homeless people on count night.

Identifying other areas where concentrated numbers of homeless people were sleeping was critical. Several months prior to census night, *law enforcement* agencies throughout the Tri-J CoC were sent packets that included a survey on the probable location of unsheltered homeless persons. In addition to information about homeless persons' locations, law enforcement officers were also asked to identify areas that were unsafe for volunteers and areas that needed police escorts. With the feedback from law enforcement, Pathways was able to compile a detailed list of special coverage areas or hotspot locations.

Enumerators who work with clients on the streets or have specialized knowledge of the street homeless population counted in the hot spot locations. These areas were primarily walked because they involved counting in wooded areas and other hidden locations. *Special coverage enumeration teams* were comprised of outreach workers and other knowledgeable personnel from St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP), DeKalb County, Community Development Department – homeless outreach team and homeless service provider agencies. The teams were grouped into several geographic coverage areas: City of Atlanta, south Fulton County, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Decatur, Tucker, north DeKalb County, east DeKalb County and south DeKalb County. These teams were stationed at three deployment sites: Crossroads Community Ministries, Center for Pan Asian Community Services and the Maloof Center.

In the weeks prior to count night, Pathways research staff put together *count night boxes* for the deployment captains to use at the deployment sites on count night. For the boxes, planning and enumeration maps were printed, supplies such as clipboards, flashlights and pens were purchased and count night forms from previous census were updated and printed. The forms included: *sign-in sheet, hold harmless agreement, enumerator roles description, map reading guide instruction, street tally form instructions, verification letter, deployment log, block group log and certificate of participation*. Pathways research staff passed out the boxes to the DC the week prior to the count. At the meeting, the Pathways research manager reviewed with the DC all the materials that were included in the boxes and the census night process such as setting up the deployment sites, training the volunteers and calling in the homeless count numbers. This meeting also provided the DC an opportunity to meet with their fellow deployment site co-captains.

Two other *training sessions* also occurred in January. At the first January DC meeting, the captains were trained on how to read the planning and enumeration maps by a Geographic



Information System staff member. In addition to the DC, both the veteran and special coverage enumeration teams received special training on how to read the maps, to identify people who are homeless and to fill out the count form. The teams were also taught safety procedures to follow.

Data Collection

On count night, January 25th, 2011, the Pathways research team staffed the Pathways office or “command central” all day to answer any last questions regarding the upcoming count. Deployment captains arrived at the deployment sites around 10:30 p.m. to set up for the count. For each deployment site, at least one seasoned deployment captain and two other DCs coordinated the site on census night.

The deployment captains had been provided with an instructions and checklist form to assist with the count night process. The DC count night checklist provided instructions on what to do prior to count night such as organizing supplies and documents and purchasing food. The instructions for count night focused on a process for setting up and organizing the deployment site, training the enumerators, and forming and equipping enumeration teams. Also, on the checklist were procedures for what to do after deploying the teams and when the teams return.

Around 11:30 p.m., 311 community volunteers, 76 homeless enumerator guides, 32 VA enumerators and 21 special coverage team enumerators arrived at the deployment sites to participate in the homeless count. The AC decided that, for accuracy and safety, enumeration teams not covering downtown Atlanta or hotspot locations would be comprised of at least three to four members, ideally at least two community volunteers and one enumerator guide. The number of teams required at each deployment site depended on the number of enumeration areas assigned to the site with one enumeration team generally covering one enumeration area.

Training for the community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides occurred at midnight. They received training on enumerator roles, how to read the maps and enumeration process and safety tips. The tips were provided to the enumerators on what to do while at the deployment site such as reviewing their enumeration area map and while in the field counting such as spending most of their time in high-probability areas including commercial zones, industrial corridors, shut-down businesses and 24-hour businesses. The tips also focused on safety issues such as only driving around parking lots and side streets that are well lit.

Enumerators were instructed to travel all streets in their enumeration area, to drive at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour in areas where homeless people are likely to be, not to count in abandoned buildings due to safety concerns and not to make contact with or disturb any homeless persons found on the street. The enumerators were also requested to stop at 24 hour businesses to ask store clerks if they are aware of where homeless people might be in that area. Another request was that enumerators stop at hospitals in their area and count homeless people in the emergency room.

An important training process was how to properly fill out the tally sheets to get an accurate count of the number of unsheltered homeless people observed. These forms reported the number of homeless individuals by gender and adult vs. youth (under age 18) or undetermined gender/age



and the number of homeless family units by adult male, adult female and children under age 18. The street tally forms were pre-printed with an assigned enumeration area number and a block group number. The forms contained directions on how to record the data and how to call in the counts. Enumerators were instructed to call in count results on each block group as it was completed.

On census night, police officers throughout the Tri-J CoC stopped by the deployment sites to provide safety at the sites, to provide information as to where to find homeless people in the area and to let the volunteers know which areas were unsafe. In addition, the officers were available to provide police escorts as needed.

The enumerators deployed around 1:00 a.m. on census morning with instructions to return to their deployment sites by 5 a.m. The weather conditions on the morning of January 26th were rainy with a morning low temperature in the mid-thirties (see challenges). In an effort to ensure accuracy of the count, prevent the loss of data and to get “real time” reporting of the count, a call-in reporting method was used. Enumeration teams reported the tallies for each block group in their assigned enumeration area to their deployment captains as they completed the count for the block group. After an enumeration area was complete, deployment captains called or emailed Pathways staff who then input the data into an online computer application.

Challenges and Suggested Modifications

After enumerators returned from their enumeration areas, they received a continental breakfast and a standardized debriefing questionnaire to fill out. Based on the feedback, volunteers indicated that they liked several things about participating in the count. First, volunteers liked that they could help homeless people and serve the community for a worthwhile cause. In addition, they enjoyed working as a team with their fellow volunteers and meeting new people. Also, volunteers found it interesting to see new and different parts of the community.

The main concern for several volunteers was not finding any or many homeless people in their enumeration areas. It is important to understand that lower count numbers will occur in the outer areas of the Tri-J CoC such as north Fulton County and that zero is a valid count number. Another major problem was that the inclement weather on count night made it harder for some enumeration teams to observe people homeless in their areas. The inclement weather may have caused problems for counting in some of the enumeration areas; however, it did not impact the overall or aggregate numbers. The probable effect of the weather was that more homeless street people sought shelter as can be seen by the extremely large number of homeless people found at the Atlanta Airport. All in all, most volunteers were glad to participate and stated that they would be willing to volunteer again. Feedback from volunteers regarding their experience with the homeless count will be used to update future census procedures.

A couple of weeks after the count, an appreciation and debriefing luncheon was held to give the deployment captains and advisory council a chance to provide feedback on the unsheltered count process and to thank them for all their time and effort. Based on the feedback from the meeting, one problem at several of the sites was that there were not enough drivers. Pathways staff dispersed drivers who signed up throughout the Tri-J deployments sites. However, people who



drove separately and signed up as willing to drive on count night often wanted to ride with their friends once they arrived at the deployment sites. In addition, a large number of residents from nearby shelters volunteered to count. Unfortunately, they did not have cars. In that situation, several deployment captains ended up driving. As a solution for the next count, the DC will be provided with the names of people who signed up as willing to drive.

Another issue was the number and types of DC meetings. It was suggested that a select few DC be involved with the planning process and that the regular DC meetings be concentrated on training such as providing more extensive map training. Other suggestions regarding the maps included using more internet technology and providing DC with their own copy of the maps for count night.

A third problem for the DC was that several DS had too many volunteers while other sites did not have enough. A minimum number of volunteers were assigned by Pathways research staff to each of the sites prior to count night. Unfortunately, volunteers showed up at sites on count night when they did not sign up at all, while other volunteers who did sign up did not show up to count. This problem can be addressed by sending people who did not sign up prior to count night to sites where there are not enough volunteers – whether they call in or show up at locations that are over flowing with volunteers. In addition, a focused recruitment of volunteers in the outlying areas of the Tri-J CoC such as north Fulton County and southeast DeKalb County needs to occur so that sites where the number of volunteers are traditionally low can be increased.

3.5 Sheltered Count Method

Emergency Shelters (ES) and Transitional Housing (TH)

In September 2010, a master list of sheltered agencies (emergency shelters and transitional housing, along with permanent supportive housing) located in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County was created based on the 2009 and 2010 Tri-J CoC Housing Inventory Charts (HIC). According to HUD, the HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds available in the CoC on a particular night (HUD 2007). Pathways research staff contacted emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing supportive agencies via email or phone and notified them of the upcoming Tri-J CoC homeless count. In addition, announcements were made at local public meetings, via fliers and via postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless.

As agency staff were contacted, current information was verified or corrected as needed to update the master list. If a phone number was no longer in service, Pathways research staff investigated the situation to determine if the facility was no longer open or if the number had changed. Staff also investigated any new agencies that were provided by the advisory council, deployment captains and Tri-J CoC representatives. Throughout the process, contact persons were identified who would provide the number of homeless people staying at the sheltered agencies on count night.



Several days prior to the count, Pathways staff emailed, called or faxed each agency on the master list to remind them of the upcoming homeless count, the need for their bed occupancy and capacity information for census night and to provide the agency staff with the sheltered count tally form and instructions. The email or fax included a notification letter, sheltered count tally form and instructions for filling out the count form. The sheltered count tally form reported the program/site information, program type, bed capacity and occupancy numbers for individuals/families and subpopulation information.

The contact person was instructed to fill out the form for all clients on site from 6 p.m. January 25th to 6 a.m. January 26th, 2011. The contact person was requested to return the sheltered count tally form to Pathways by 8 p.m. on the night of January 25th. Pathways research staff were at the office to receive the emails and faxes on count night. After 8 p.m., phone calls were made by Pathways research staff to the agencies that did not provide a count of homeless people. A number of the sheltered count tally forms that had been e-mailed or faxed to housing providers were returned within the following days of the Tri-J CoC homeless census. Shortly after the homeless census, Pathways staff began making reminder phone calls and sending emails to the non-reporting sites. Some responded via email while others gave their results to the staff over the phone. In those cases, the data was recorded on blank tally sheets. The majority of the tally forms were returned during the month of February. During early March, a concerted effort was made by Pathways staff to contact the last few non-reporting sites. As the sheltered tally forms were returned, the information was verified by Pathways staff against the existing 2010 Tri-J CoC HIC. Anomalies identified at this stage were resolved, usually by emails or phone conversations with the program staff.

In the end, Pathways was able to obtain a 90% return rate on the sheltered count tally forms. Estimations were made for the agencies that did not provide their homeless count numbers. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 Tri-J CoC homeless census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity and demographic information.

Institutions

In 2007 and 2009, Pathways was unable to obtain the number of homeless persons staying at institutions on count night. Therefore, estimations were conducted on the ratio of homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta from 2005 to 2007 to the actual number of homeless individuals in the institutions in 2005. The estimated numbers were allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters from the 2005 Tri-J CoC homeless census and survey.

To address the problem from previous homeless census, packets similar to the police requests for information were created for the first time to send out to the jails and hospitals. Several months prior to 2011 homeless census night, Pathways research staff identified jails and hospitals throughout the Tri-J CoC. They received packets that included a letter notifying jail and hospital staff of the upcoming homeless count, a survey on homeless people who use the facility and a request that the institutions provide a contact person who can give the number of people homeless at the facility on count night. The packets were successful with 65% of jails and hospitals providing the number of homeless people staying at their facilities on count night.



Challenges and Suggested Modifications

One challenge for the previous sheltered counts has been the relatively lengthy return time of some of the Tri-J CoC agencies regarding the number of homeless people at their facilities on count night. To address this problem for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, Pathways research team had a member focus specifically on the sheltered count data and to call agencies on count night to obtain their numbers. This process reduced the return time of the sheltered count tally forms from over two months to around one and half months. For the next sheltered count, a return time of around one month would be ideal. This could possibly be achieved by having the staff member conduct site visits to non-responding agencies soon after the count has occurred to obtain the sheltered count homeless numbers in person as opposed to via email, fax or phone.

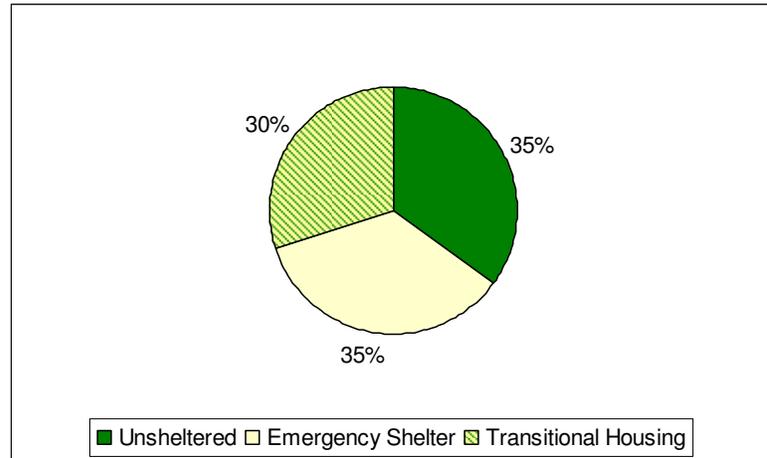
Another major issue was that the homeless census numbers provided by sheltered agencies did not often match the previous Tri-J CoC HIC. Per HUD, these numbers either needed to match or an explanation needed to be provided as to the reason for the change in numbers. The process of verifying accurate numbers was an extended process. In the past, generic mass emails were sent out to sheltered agencies with blank tally sheets. For the next sheltered count, personalized individual emails could be sent that include specific information for each agency regarding their programs, sites and the previous HIC data.

Section 4: Results

4.1 2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count

On the night of January 25, 2011, a total of **6,838 homeless people were counted in Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb County**. The largest number of people were counted sleeping in emergency shelters (2,460 people) with people found in unsheltered locations a close second (2,378 people) and people staying in transitional housing third (2,000 people).

Figure 1: Homelessness by Sleeping Location (%)



Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (68%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15%). Children (10%) and single mothers (5%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, two parent heads of households, single fathers, youth females and a non-head of household adult such as a grandmother. These findings reflect a homeless population that predominately lives in metropolitan areas and are literally homeless.

Table 1: 2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals	Family Members (# of families)	Total # of Homeless People (%)
Emergency Shelters	2,056	404 members (132 families)	2,460 (36%)
Unsheltered	2,336	42 members (14 families)	2,378 (35%)
Transitional Housing	1,373	627 members (203 families)	2,000 (29%)
Totals (%)	5,765 (84%)	1,073 (16%)	6,838

Five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. The largest number of individuals were found sleeping unsheltered (41%). That number is concerning as the count was conducted on a rainy and cold (mid thirties) winter night. The night was so cold that earlier in the day, snow had been predicted but did not materialize. The majority of family members were staying in transitional housing programs (58%). Only four percent of families were thought to be sleeping unsheltered on that night. The identified families were comprised of at least one adult parent and at least one child under the age of eighteen. The total number of family members comprised 349 families with children. Families without children such as

couples or parents with an adult child (18 years of age or older) may have been homeless for the count but were identified as individuals for a number of reasons. First, only Zaban Couples Center takes couples without children as a household unit. At other shelters, couples are required to separate and stay as individuals. Second, two people sleeping next to each other on the streets are hard to identify as a couple in a relationship.

Individuals: The 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count composition of individuals is similar to the 2009 homeless count. Unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group of individuals. The majority of these individual men (42%) were sleeping in unsheltered locations such as on the street or in the airport with less than a third sleeping at emergency shelters and only a quarter staying at transitional housing programs. The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults. This was the only group with the majority sleeping in emergency shelters (40%). Over a third of the women were found in unsheltered locations with less than a quarter in transitional housing programs.

Table 2: Individuals by Sleeping Type and Gender

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Total Individuals
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	
Unsheltered	1,936	367	30	3	2,336
Emergency Shelters	1,621	433	2	0	2,056
Transitional Housing	1,125	247	1	0	1,373
TRI-J TOTALS	4,682	1,047	33	3	5,765
Percentage	81%	18%	1%	0%	

The smallest group of individuals identified was unaccompanied females under the age of eighteen. Only three youth females were identified as sleeping unsheltered with none staying at emergency shelters or in transitional housing programs. Historically, the count numbers for unaccompanied youth have been low. Homeless youth are hard to locate because they tend to sleep in either abandoned buildings or on people’s sofas (called “couch surfing”). In addition, unaccompanied youth (under age 18) who show up at shelters are either reunited with their parents or, if there are no parents, then the police are called and the youth are taken into the Department of Family and Children’s custody to become wards of the state.

Table 3: Families by Sleeping Type and Gender

Sleeping Locations	Family Members					Total Family Members (# Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	
Unsheltered	0	13	2	0	27	42 (14)
Emergency Shelters	0	130	4	0	270	404 (132)
Transitional Housing	4	186	26	1	410	627 (203)
TRI-J TOTALS	4	329	32	1	707	1,073 (349)
Percentage	0%	31%	3%	0%	66%	

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). Of family members, children were the largest group (66%) with single mothers about half that (31%). The two previous findings regarding single mothers and children are consistent with past counts. For example in 2009, single mothers headed 89% of families and children were 65% of family members. The 1,073 families averaged 1.52 people per household. Over half of the families were staying in transitional housing programs (58%) with emergency shelters second (38%) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4%).

4.2 Unsheltered Count

On count night, **2,378 homeless persons were counted in unsheltered locations** in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. Individuals comprised almost all of the people sleeping unsheltered (98%). Only one family was found sleeping outdoors. The other 13 families were estimated.

Table 4: Unsheltered Count Families

Estimated Group:

Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the

Unsheltered	Family Members					Total Family Members (# Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	
Totals	0	13	2	0	27	42 (14)
Percentage	0%	31%	5%	0%	64%	

elements and hidden from view. Pathways and the advisory council believed the number should have been higher based upon data from the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless survey indicating that 6% of the total number of families usually slept in unsheltered locations. Therefore, it was determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families. The results of the estimation determined that 42 people in families were sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of January 25th.

Table 5: Unsheltered Count Individuals

Unsheltered	Individuals				Total Individuals
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	
Totals	1,936	367	30	3	2,336
Percentage	83%	16%	1%	0%	

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted as unsheltered, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (81.5%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15.5%). The

remaining groups of unsheltered homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, children, single mothers, youth females, and two parent heads of households.

Geographic Areas: As with previous Tri-J CoC homeless census, the highest concentration of unsheltered homeless people (26%) were counted in downtown Atlanta. A likely cause of the large number is the high concentration of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in the area. The downtown area measures approximately four square miles and is roughly bound



by North Avenue to the north, Northside Drive to the west, Boulevard to the east and Interstate 20 to the south.

The second highest unsheltered homeless numbers (24%) counted was in southwest Atlanta. This area covers a much larger territory than Downtown Atlanta. It lies roughly south of Interstate 20, east and west of Interstate 285, west of Interstate 75/85, and north of the City of East Point. It is comprised mainly of lower income (\$29,720 median annual income per household) neighborhoods including West End, Adamsville, and Cascade Heights (U.S. Census Bureau 2000). According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2011), a family of four with a yearly income of \$22,350 would be living in poverty. Thus a number of households located in southwest Atlanta are living at a level close to poverty.

A high concentration of unsheltered homeless people (6%) was also found at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Typically, people who are homeless arrive at the Airport on the last MARTA train of the night and leave out the next morning on the first train. The airport usually has a large number of homeless people staying over night, but this year, the count was exceedingly high (143 people). A possible reason for the high number of people at the Airport on count night could have been people seeking shelter from the extremely bad weather. To put the Airport number in perspective, both South Fulton below City of Atlanta (141 people) and DeKalb County (132 people) had numbers slightly less than the Atlanta Airport.

The lowest percentage of unsheltered homeless people (less than 1%) were counted in north Fulton County above City of Atlanta. A possible reason for the low homeless numbers in north Fulton County is that households in that area earn annual incomes far above the poverty level. For example, Sandy Springs households earn a median annual income of \$76,477 with Roswell households at \$79,733 yearly, and Alpharetta households having a median yearly income of \$95,888 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates).

Hidden Homeless: On count night, there were two groups of unsheltered homeless people that were not counted. First, enumerators did not enter abandoned buildings to count the number of people sleeping due to safety reasons. These buildings were dark, often in disrepair and could have had drug activity occurring. Second, enumerators were asked not to get out of their cars to walk around unless escorted by police officers or as part of special teams due to safety concerns. This rule makes it difficult to count people sleeping in cars if unable to approach parked cars and look inside. Another issue with counting people sleeping in cars is that car owners, business owners and police officers do not appreciate people looking in cars and may suspect the enumerators of attempting to steal them. Unfortunately, there is no current estimation formula for calculating the numbers for this hidden homeless population.

4.3 Sheltered Count (Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)

A total of ***4,460 homeless persons were residing in emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) facilities*** on census night. More individuals (77%) were staying at sheltered locations on count night than family members (23%). For the sheltered count, over half of the

people (55%) were sleeping at emergency shelters (2,460 people) with the remaining at transitional housing programs (2,000 people).

Estimated Group: Occupancy figures for the seven non-reporting emergency shelter and transitional housing agencies were estimated. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity, and demographic information.

Overall, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (62%) of the total number of people staying in sheltered locations (ES and TH). Over half of these individual men (59%) were sleeping in emergency shelters with the rest staying at transitional housing programs. The next largest groups were unaccompanied female adults (680 adults) and children in families (680 children). The majority of individual women (64%) were sleeping in emergency shelters. On the other hand, most of the children (60%) were staying with their families in transitional housing facilities. The remaining groups of sheltered homeless people by household type, age and gender included single mothers, two parent heads of households, single fathers, youth males, and a non-head of household adult such as a grandmother.

Table 6: Sheltered Count Individuals

Individuals: Of the individuals in the sheltered count, adult males comprised the largest group with adult females a distant second. This composition of individuals is similar to the 2011 unsheltered count and the 2009 sheltered count (79% adult males and 21% adult females).

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Total Individuals
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	
Emergency Shelters	1,621	433	2	0	2,056
Transitional Housing	1,125	247	1	0	1,373
Sheltered TOTALS	2,746	680	3	0	3,429
Percentage	80%	20%	0%	0%	

Table 7: Sheltered Count Families

Sleeping Locations	Family Members					Total Family Members (# Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	
Emergency Shelters	0	130	4	0	270	404 (132)
Transitional Housing	4	186	26	1	410	627 (203)
TRI-J TOTALS	4	316	30	1	680	1,031 (335)
Percentage	0%	31%	3%	0%	66%	

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). Of family members, children were the largest group with single mothers about half that. The remaining family members were comprised of two parent heads of households, single fathers and a non-head of household adult.

The majority of families (61%) were staying in transitional housing for the sheltered count with the remaining in emergency shelters. The 335 families averaged 3.08 people per household.

Table 8: Sheltered Count Occupancy and Capacity

Sheltered Count	Individuals			Family Members		
	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Family Members
Occupancy #	2,056	1,373	3,429	404	627	1,031
Capacity	2,235	1,605	3,840	494	948	1,442
Occupancy (%)	92%	86%	89%	82%	66%	72%

Occupancy and Capacity: On count night, the bed capacity was slightly higher for emergency shelters than transitional housing programs (2,729 to 2,553 beds). Overall, the occupancy rate for individual emergency beds was the highest (89%). There were 179 individual emergency beds and 232 individual transitional housing beds not occupied for the count. Even if all these beds had been filled, there still would have been 1,925 individuals that were sleeping outside on count night. Beds may go vacant for a number of reasons including eligibility standards that exclude some unsheltered people such as being drug free or because homeless people are unwillingly to adhere to the shelters’ policies such as completing chores.

The lowest occupancy rate was for families in transitional housing programs (66%). One reason for the lower occupancy rate for family beds is that families with children are less likely to be asked to leave where they are staying on an extremely cold night especially if living doubled up with other family members. Another factor is that programs that serve families are often organized in units rather than beds. A unit may have several beds that go unoccupied depending on the size of the family. For example, a bedroom unit with four beds, housing a single mother and two children, will appear to have a 75% occupancy rate, but in fact the empty bed is not actually available to anyone else. Even though the occupancy rate for transitional housing beds for families was extremely low, the occupancy rate for families in permanent supportive housing (PSH) beds was extremely high. Over the past several years, there has been a focus in the Tri-J CoC to move people into PSH beds.

4.4 Permanent Supportive Housing

HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each CoC starting in 2009. The Tri-J CoC community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009 and for the latest count in 2011. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J CoC homeless count.

A total of **2,255 homeless persons were residing in permanent supportive housing (PSH)** on census night. Over half (59%) of the permanent supportive housing beds were occupied by individuals rather than family members.

Table 9: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy by Jurisdiction

Individuals					Family Members					
Jurisdictions	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Total Ind.	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (# of Adults)	Non-Head Adult in Family	Kids in Family	Total Family Members (# of Families)
Atlanta	566	357	1	924	3	164	68	2	416	653 (201)
Fulton	69	74	0	143	0	44	0	0	77	121 (44)
DeKalb	145	123	0	268	3	47	6	5	85	146 (53)
TRI-J TOTALS	780	554	1	1,335	6	255	74	7	578	920 (298)
Percentage	35%	25%	0%		0%	11%	3%	0%	26%	

Individuals: Unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (35%) of the total number of people staying in permanent supportive housing on count night. In comparison, individual men were about a quarter of the people staying in transitional housing programs. Among total number of individuals, adult men were over half (58%) as compared to adult women (42%) and youth.

Families: As with the unsheltered and sheltered counts, the majority of families were headed by single mothers (86%). Of family members, children were the largest group (63%) and about a quarter of the overall PSH numbers. The 298 families averaged 3.09 people per household.

Capacity: The PSH capacity on count night was 2,465 beds. Unlike both emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, families (94%) in permanent supportive housing had a slightly higher occupancy rate than individuals (90%) on count night.

Figure 2: PSH Occupancy and Capacity

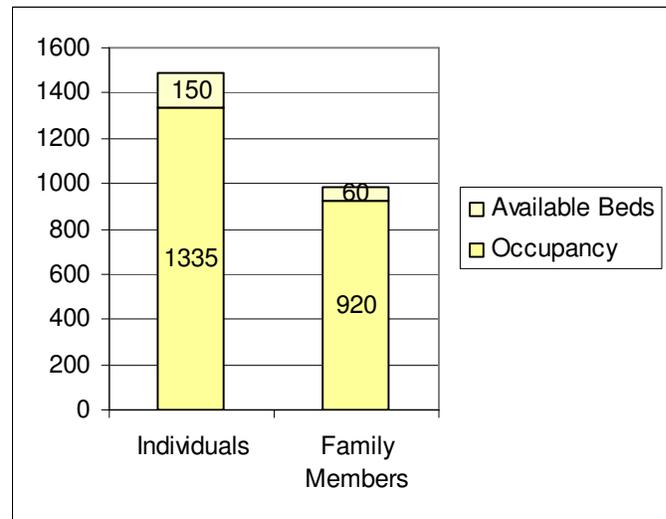


Table 10: PSH Occupancy for 2003, 2009 and 2011

PSH	2003	2009	2011
Individuals	386	876	1,335
Family Members	25	577	920
Total for Each Year	411	1,453	2,255
Percent Change		+252%	+55%

Trend Analysis: The total permanent supportive housing occupancy numbers increased dramatically from 2003 to 2009 by 1,042 people and from 2009 to 2011 by 802 people. The main reason for the rise in occupancy can be seen by the increase in PSH bed capacity over the years. Overall, from 2003 to 2011 the PSH capacity has increased dramatically by 1,994 beds (471 beds to 2,465 beds).

4.5 Comparing Bed Capacity and Occupancy

In total, there was a capacity of 7,747 emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds for homeless people on count night.

Overall: Emergency shelters had the highest capacity of beds (2,729 beds) with transitional housing programs second (2,553 beds) and permanent supportive housing programs (2,465 beds) third. As for the number of available beds, transitional housing programs had the most unoccupied beds, then emergency shelter beds, with permanent supportive housing programs having the least number of available beds. In other words, permanent supportive housing programs had the highest occupancy rate (91%) with emergency shelters a close second (90%) and transitional housing programs a distant third (78%).

Figure 3: Tri-J CoC Bed Occupancy and Capacity

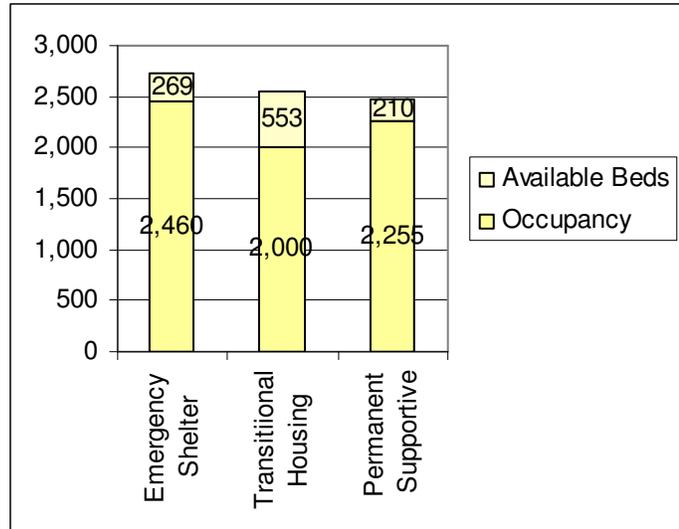
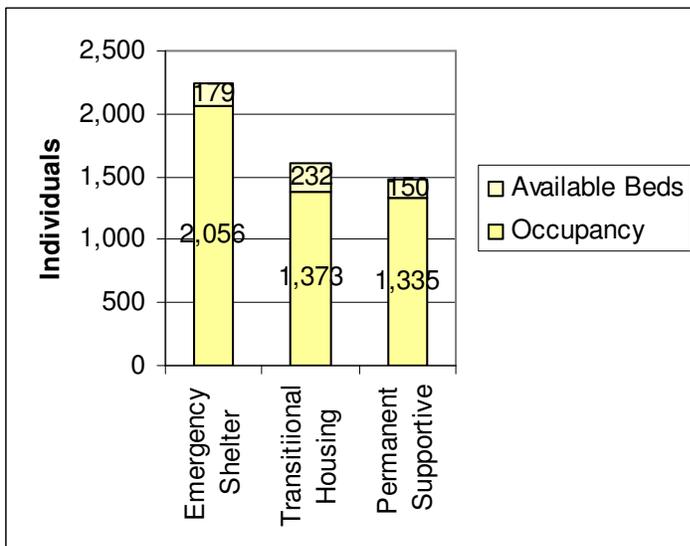


Figure 4: Bed Occupancy and Capacity for Individuals



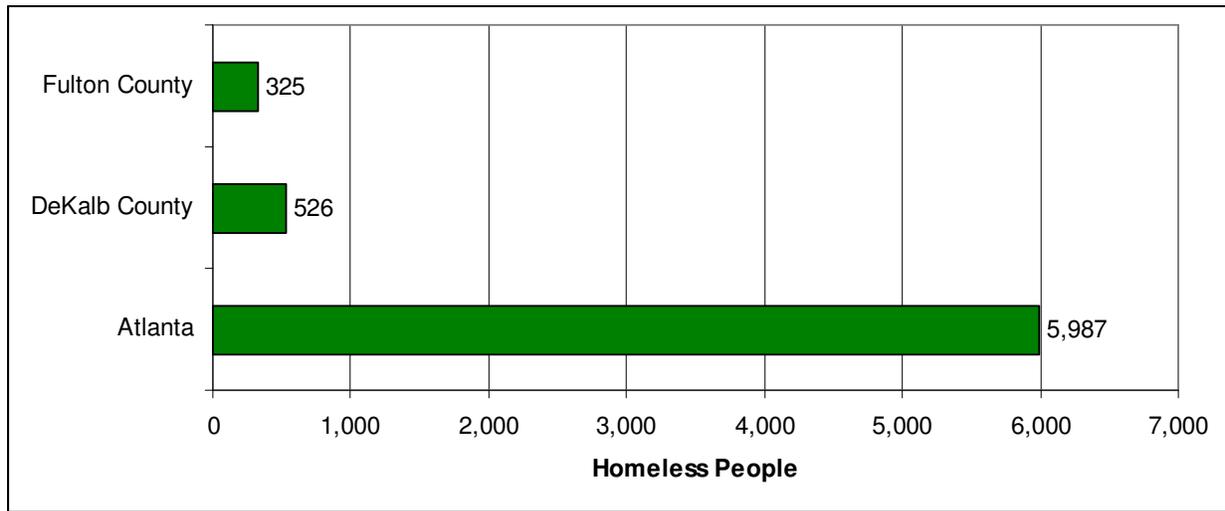
As discussed previously in the sheltered count, occupancy rates are usually lower for families than individuals because agencies often organize families into units rather than by beds. Therefore, to get a true measurement of available beds, occupancy was calculated for individuals. Emergency shelter beds for individuals had the highest occupancy rate (92%) with permanent supportive housing programs a close second (90%) and transitional housing (86%) third. By calculating available beds for individuals only, the occupancy rate for emergency shelters

became higher than that for permanent supportive housing programs while the rate of occupancy for transitional housing programs increased significantly.

Section 5: Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County

Of the 6,838 homeless people counted in the Tri-J CoC, the majority were located in the City of Atlanta (87%) with DeKalb County being a distant second (8%) and Fulton County third (5%). This composition by jurisdiction is the same as that of the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

Figure 5: Homelessness by Jurisdiction



To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts were simply a reflection of the number of beds available in each jurisdiction. For example, 85% of Tri-J CoC emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 10% of the beds were in DeKalb County, and 5% were in Fulton County.

Table 11: 2011 Tri-J CoC Housing Inventory Bed Supply by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Ind. Emergency Beds	Family Emergency Beds	Ind. Transitional Beds	Family Transitional Beds	Ind. Permanent Supportive Beds	Family Permanent Supportive Beds	Total
Atlanta	2,225	356	1,363	564	1,056	626	6,190
DeKalb	10	82	203	246	281	221	1,043
Fulton	0	56	39	138	148	133	514
Total	2,235	494	1,605	948	1,485	980	7,747
Percentage	29%	6%	21%	12%	19%	13%	

5.1 City of Atlanta Homeless Numbers

A total of **5,987 people were homeless in the City of Atlanta** on the night of January 25, 2011. More individuals (88%) were counted in Atlanta than family members (12%). The 2011 Atlanta composition is similar to the 2009 homeless numbers (87% individuals to 13% family members).

Table 12: City of Atlanta by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals					Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	1,715	331	26	3	2,075	0	8	2	20	30	9
Emergency Shelters	1,614	425	2	0	2,041	0	94	4	201	299	96
Transitional Housing	969	195	1	0	1,165	2	104	18	253	377	115
Atlanta TOTALS	4,298	951	29	3	5,281	2	206	24	474	706	220
% of Atlanta	72%	16%	0	0		0	4%	0	8%		

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (72%) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (16%). Children in families (8%) and single mothers (4%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males, two parent heads of households, youth females and single fathers. These findings reflect the overall Tri-J CoC homeless count numbers.

Individuals: Of the number of individuals counted for the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (81%). The majority (40%) of these individual men were sleeping in unsheltered locations such as on the street or in the airport with more than a third sleeping at emergency shelters (37%) and less than a quarter staying at transitional housing programs (23%). The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (18%). This was the only group with the majority sleeping in emergency shelters (45%). These Atlanta individual numbers reflected the larger Tri-J CoC homeless count and the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). The 220 families averaged 3.21 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (67%). These findings are similar to the larger 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count and the past 2009 Atlanta homeless numbers. For example in 2009, single mothers headed 90% of families and children were 65% of family members. Over half of the families were staying in transitional housing programs (52%) with emergency shelters a close second (44%) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4%).

Sleeping Location: On census night in Atlanta, a slightly larger number of people were sleeping at emergency shelters (2,340 people, 39%) as in unsheltered locations (2,105 people, 35%). In comparison, transitional housing programs (1,542 people, 26%) and permanent supportive programs (1,577 people) had similar numbers that were lower than the previous two sleeping locations. However, if the beds for the two housing program types were added together (3,119 people), than a much larger number of people were sleeping in programs with available supportive services in Atlanta on count night than in emergency shelters or on the street.

Trend Analysis: The total Atlanta homeless census number increased by 22% (1,070 people) from the first count to the latest. Over the years, there was a fairly steady increase from 2003 to 2009 (25%) with a decrease over the past two years (2%).

Table 13: Atlanta Homeless Census for 2003 to 2011

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	1,943	1,888	1,861	1,851	2,105
Emergency Shelter	1,915	2,177	2,172	2,269	2,340
Transitional Housing	1,059	1,687	1,712	2,011	1,542
Total for Each Year	4,917	5,752	5,745	6,131	5,987
Percent Change		+17%	0%	+6.5%	-2%

The Atlanta unsheltered numbers experienced a steady decrease from 2003 to 2009 (by 92 people, 5%). However, over the past two years there has been an increase of people sleeping on the streets in Atlanta (by 254 people, 14%). A possible reason for the increase of people sleeping unsheltered in Atlanta is that this year there was an increased focus on special coverage areas. Along with the Veterans special team that

covered downtown Atlanta, a special team from St. Joseph’s Mercy Care Outreach focused on known locations of the hidden homeless population in Atlanta outside the downtown area. In addition, this year the Atlanta Police HOPE team which specialize in working with homeless people living on the streets provided assistance at the deployment sites throughout Atlanta.

From 2003 to 2011, the emergency shelter numbers have been increasing (by 425 people, 22%) at a fairly steady rate. The most dramatic change in numbers over the years has been with the transitional housing programs. Atlanta experienced a tremendous increase in people sleeping at transitional housing programs from 2003 to 2009 (by 952 people, 89%). However, over the last two years, Atlanta experienced a decrease in the transitional housing numbers (469 people, 23%). These changes in numbers are more than likely a reflection of the change in bed capacity in Atlanta over the years.

Figure 6: Atlanta by Sleeping Location Over Time

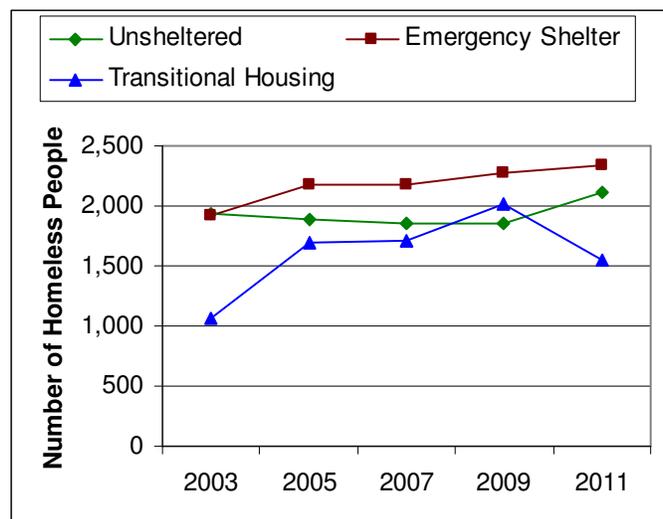


Table 14: Downtown Atlanta Unsheltered Homeless Numbers**Downtown Atlanta:**

For 2011, downtown had the highest concentration of unsheltered people in

Atlanta. The area comprised almost a quarter (24%) of the Atlanta homeless unsheltered count numbers. Overall, the downtown Atlanta homeless numbers have increased from the first count to the latest (28%). From 2003 to 2007, downtown Atlanta experienced a steady decrease in homeless people per count night (32%) with a dramatic increase since 2007 (89%). The 2011 downtown Atlanta numbers were the largest with 2007 having the smallest.

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Totals	460	373	312	440	590
Percentage		-18%	-16%	+57%	+34%

5.2 DeKalb County Homeless Numbers

A total of **526 people were homeless in DeKalb County** (not including City of Atlanta) on the night of January 25, 2011. This is the second largest number of homeless people counted among the three jurisdictions on count night. The majority of the homeless people found in DeKalb County were individuals (60%). This composition of more individuals than families is similar to the 2009 DeKalb County homeless numbers (58% individuals to 42% family members). In comparison, DeKalb count had a higher percentage of family members than the City of Atlanta (12% family members) for the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count.

Table 15: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Children in Family	Total Family Members	# of Families
Unsheltered	97	23	2	122	0	4	0	6	10	4
Emergency Shelters	7	8	0	15	0	21	0	43	64	21
Transitional Housing	144	33	0	177	1	40	6	91	138	44
DeKalb TOTALS	248	64	2	314	1	65	6	140	212	69
Percentage	48%	12%	0		0	12%	1%	27%		

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in DeKalb County, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (48%). This was similar to the overall Tri-J CoC (68%) and City of Atlanta (72%) homeless count numbers; however, the DeKalb County percentage was much lower. With the Tri-J CoC and Atlanta homeless numbers, the second largest group was unaccompanied adult females; however, for DeKalb County, the next largest group was children in families (27%). Single mothers (12%) and unaccompanied adult females (12%) were the third and fourth largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households, youth males and a single father.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for DeKalb County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (79%). Unlike the City of Atlanta, the majority (58%) of these individual men were staying in transitional housing with more than a third sleeping in unsheltered locations (39%) and very few located at emergency shelters (3%). The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (20%). Similarly to the individual men, the majority (52%) of these unaccompanied women were staying in transitional housing with more than a third sleeping in unsheltered locations (36%) and the rest located at emergency shelters (13%).

Families: The majority of families were headed by single mothers (94%). The 69 families averaged 3.07 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (67%). For example in 2009, single mothers headed 90% of families and children were 65% of family members. Over half of the families were staying in transitional housing programs (52%) with emergency shelters a close second (44%) and unsheltered locations a distant third (5%). These findings are similar to the larger 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count and Atlanta homeless numbers.

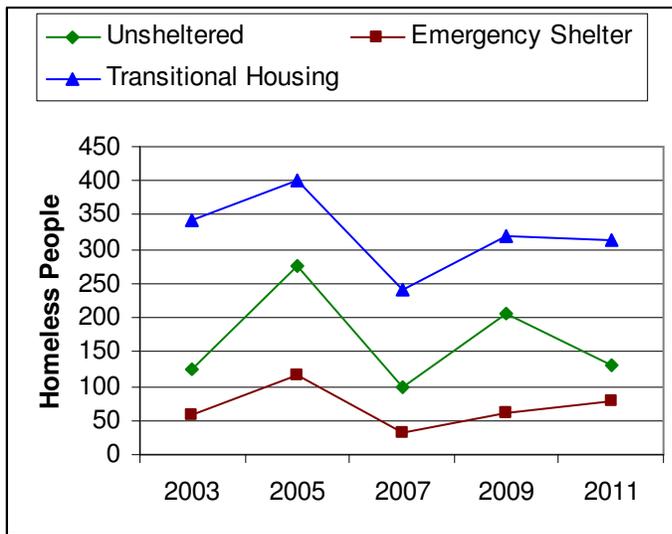
Sleeping Location: On count night, the largest number of literally homeless people were sleeping in transitional housing programs (315 people, 60%) with unsheltered locations a distant second (132 people, 25%) and emergency shelters third (79 people, 15%). This was almost opposite Atlanta where the majority of homeless people were sleeping in emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a close second and transitional housing a distant third. An interesting finding was that more people were staying in permanent supportive housing (502 people) in DeKalb County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters or unsheltered locations. These findings indicate a DeKalb County homeless population that is mainly housed in programs that provide supporting services.

Table 16: DeKalb County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2011

Trend Analysis: The DeKalb County homeless census numbers have experienced ups and downs since 2003. From 2003 to 2005, there was an increase of 265 people. Then in 2007, there was a dramatic decrease of 422 people, followed by another increase of 214 people in 2009. Finally in 2011, DeKalb County experienced a slight decrease in the homeless numbers by 59 people. The first count in 2003 and the latest count in 2011 found approximately the same number of homeless people in DeKalb County. The largest number of homeless people were counted in DeKalb County in 2005 with the least number of people found in 2007.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	126	276	99	205	132
Emergency Shelter	58	116	31	61	79
Transitional Housing	344	401	241	319	315
Total for Each Year	528	793	371	585	526
Percent Change		+50%	-53%	+58%	-10%

Figure 7: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location Over Time



Over the years, the largest number of people in DeKalb County were found staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters having the least number of people. Overall, the numbers for each of the counts have remained fairly steady. From the first count to the latest, people sleeping in unsheltered locations have only increased slightly (6 people, 5%) with emergency shelters also experiencing an increase (21 people, 36%). On the other hand, transitional housing experienced a decrease over the same time period (29 people, 8%). Specifically, the separate counts for

people sleeping in unsheltered locations and transitional housing programs reflected the larger DeKalb County count.

5.3 Fulton County Homeless Numbers

A total of **325 people were homeless in Fulton County** (not including the City of Atlanta) on count night. Of the three jurisdictions, Fulton County found the smallest number of people homeless. Slightly more than half of the homeless people counted in Fulton County were individuals (52%) rather than family members. This composition is in contrast to the 2009 Fulton County homeless numbers where more family members (171 people, 56%) were counted than individuals (132 people, 44%).

Table 17: Fulton County by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Locations	Individuals				Family Members					
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Total Ind.	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (# of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Kids in Family	Total Family Members (# of Families)
Unsheltered	124	13	2	139	0	1	0	0	1	2 (1)
Emergency Shelters	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	26	41 (15)
Transitional Housing	12	19	0	31	1	42	2	1	66	112 (44)
Fulton TOTALS	136	32	2	170	1	58	2	1	93	155 (60)
% of Fulton	42%	10%	.5%		0%	18%	.5%	0%	29%	

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in Fulton County, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (42%). This was similar to the DeKalb County (48%) homeless count numbers. With the Tri-J CoC and Atlanta homeless numbers, the second largest group was unaccompanied adult females; however, for DeKalb County and Fulton County, the next largest group of homeless people were children in families (29%). Single mothers (12%)

were the third largest group of homeless people with unaccompanied adult females (10%) as the fourth group. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households, youth males, a single father and a non-head adult member of household.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for Fulton County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (80%). Unlike Atlanta or DeKalb County, almost all of these individual men (92%) were sleeping in unsheltered locations with the rest sleeping in transitional housing programs. Unaccompanied women comprised the second largest group of homeless individuals (19%) with over half staying in transitional housing (59%) and the rest sleeping outdoors. For Fulton County, there were no emergency shelter beds available for individuals on count night.

Families: Of the sixty families, almost all were head by a single mother (97%) with one family headed by a single father and one family headed by two parents. The 60 families averaged 2.58 people per household. Children comprised the largest number of family members (60%). The majority of families were staying in transitional housing (73%). These figures are similar to both City of Atlanta and DeKalb County.

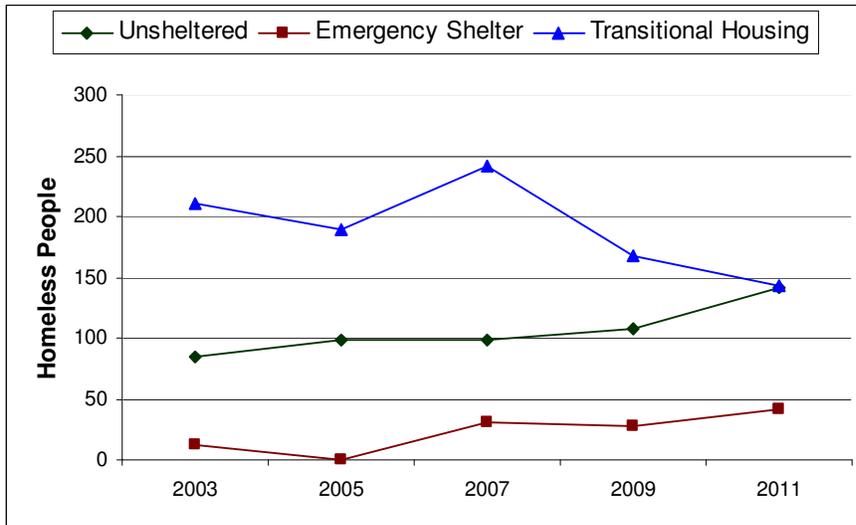
Sleeping Locations: On census night in Fulton County, about the same number of people were sleeping in unsheltered locations (141 people) as in transitional housing (143 people). The smallest number of people were staying in emergency shelters (41 people). In fact, there were no emergency shelter beds available for individuals in Fulton County on census night. An interesting finding was that more people were staying in permanent supportive housing (264 people) in Fulton County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters or unsheltered locations.

Table 18: Fulton County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2011

Trend Analysis: Overall, the Fulton County numbers have experienced an increase from the first count to the latest (by 17 people, 6%). Specifically, figures are unique in that they have fallen and risen from count to count. From 2003 to 2005, there was a slight decrease by 21 people, followed by the greatest increase of 84 people from 2005 to 2007. Then there was another decrease by 68 people, ending this year with a slight increase by 22 people. The largest number of homeless people were counted in Fulton County in 2007 with the least number of people found in 2005.

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	84	98	99	108	141
Emergency Shelter	13	0	31	27	41
Transitional Housing	211	189	241	168	143
Total for Each Year	308	287	371	303	325
Total Percent Change		-7%	+29%	-18%	+7%

Figure 8: Fulton County by Sleeping Location over Time



The Fulton County unsheltered numbers saw a steady increase from the first count to the latest (by 57 people, 68%). From 2003 to 2005, the emergency shelter numbers decreased to no available beds in Fulton County. Over the past five years however, the numbers have held fairly steady ranging from 27 to 41 people in emergency shelters on a given night.

The transitional housing figures have fallen (10%), risen (28%) and then fallen again (41%) over time.

N. Fulton and S. Fulton: Of the people counted as homeless in Fulton County (not including Atlanta), over half (54%) were found in South Fulton below the Atlanta city limits (178 people) with the remaining located in North Fulton above the City of Atlanta (147 people). In South Fulton, the majority of homeless people were seen sleeping unsheltered (84%) with the rest of the people staying at transitional housing programs. There were actually no emergency shelters in South Fulton. On the other hand, in North Fulton, the majority of homeless people were staying in transitional housing programs (67%) with emergency shelters a distant second (23%). Only 18 people were found sleeping outdoors in N. Fulton on count night.

Section 6: Trend Analysis

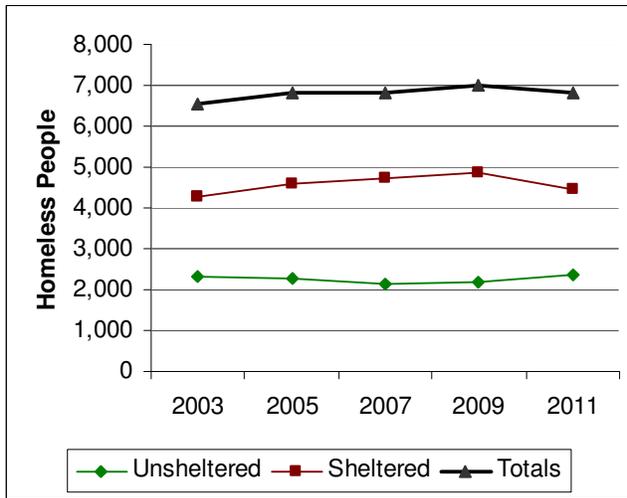
Table 19: 2003 to 2011 Homeless Counts by Sleeping Location

Overall: The point-in-time Tri-J CoC homeless counts have held fairly steady from year to year within an approximate range of 6,500 to 7,000 people homeless nightly. Only an additional 196 people were found homeless on a particular night from the first count in 2003 to the latest (4%). The trend shows that from

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838
Percentage		+4%	0%	+3%	-3%

2003 to 2009 the Tri-J CoC homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless on a particular night (462 people, 7%). However, over the past two years, there has been a decrease of people homeless for the point-in-time census (181 people, 2.5%). Please note the similarity in homeless count numbers for 2005, 2007 and 2011.

Figure 9: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Sleeping Location Over Time



Sleeping Location: Over the years, both the unsheltered and sheltered counts have held fairly steady within a particular range. The unsheltered number has stayed within a range of 2,115 to 2,378 while the sheltered count has stayed steady from about 4,250 to 4,855.

From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady decrease (140 people, 6%) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. However, over the past

two years, there has been an increase (214 people, 10%) to an all time high of homeless people sleeping outdoors.

For people sleeping in sheltered locations, there was a steady increase on census night for both individuals and families from 2003 to 2009 (602 people, 14%). However, over the past two years, the sheltered numbers saw a decrease in people staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (395 people, 8%).

It is important to note that as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds rose in the Tri-J CoC, the number of people sleeping outdoors fell. On the other hand, as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds decreased, the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations increased.

Table 20: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type Over Time

	Individuals					Family Members				
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Unsheltered	2,116	2,085	2,071	2,068	2,336	188	177	44	96	42
Sheltered	3,173	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429	1,080	982	1,174	1,142	1,031
Totals	5,289	5,673	5,622	5,781	5,765	1,268	1,159	1,224	1,238	1,073
Percentage		+7%	-1%	+3%	-.3%		-9%	+6%	+1%	-13%

Individuals: The Tri-J CoC individual numbers have held steady over the years within the range of 5,289 to 5,781 persons on a particular night. From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady increase in the number of individuals on count night (492 individuals, 6%). However, over the past two years, there was a slight decrease for individuals in the Tri-J CoC (16 individuals, .3%). The lowest number of individuals was counted in 2003 with the highest numbers found in 2009.

Figure 10: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Household Type Over Time

Families: The number of family members homeless in the Tri-J CoC has held steady within the range of 1,073 to 1,268 people on a particular night. For family members, there was a decrease from 2003 to 2005 with a steady increase from 2005 to 2009 and ending in a decrease for the last count. The 2011 Tri-J CoC family member numbers have been the lowest of all the counts with the highest numbers in 2003.

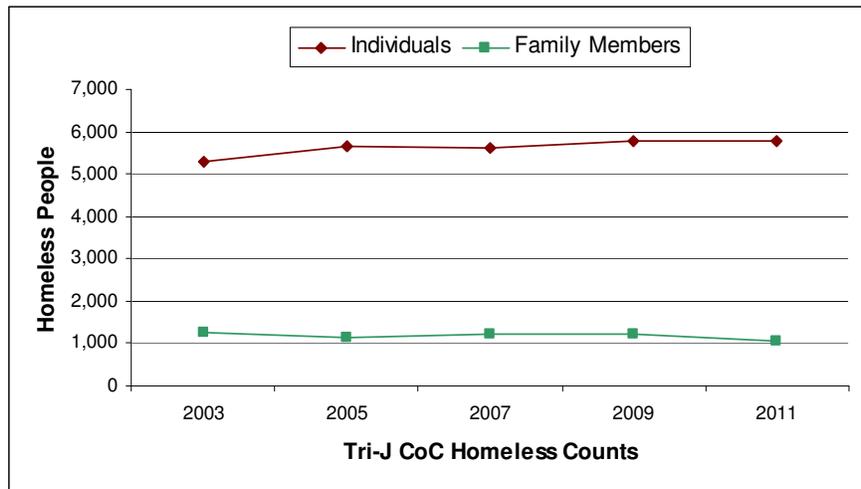
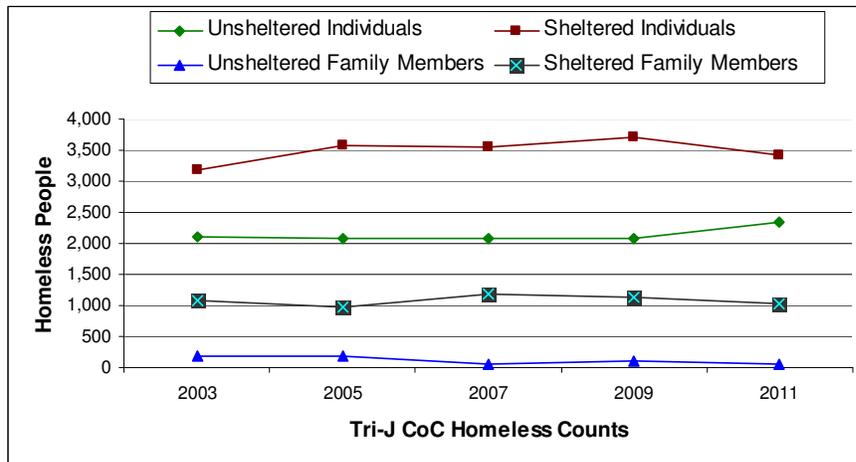


Figure 11: Tri-J CoC Homeless Census by Household Type and Sleeping Location Over Time

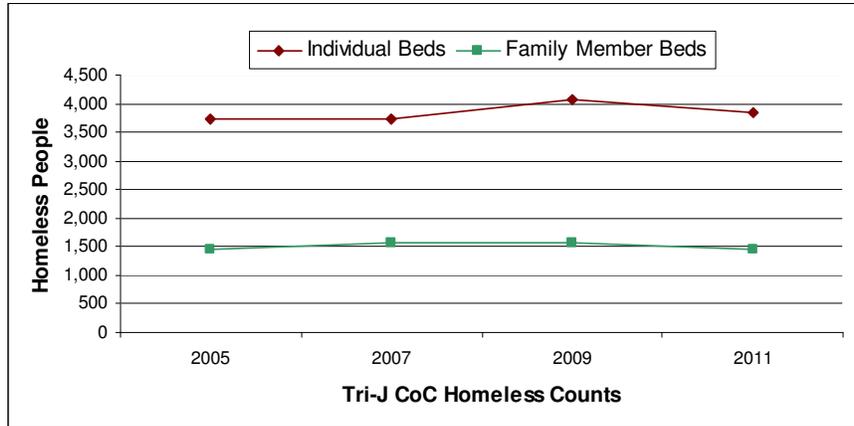


Household Type by Sleeping Location: From 2003 to 2009, there was a decrease of unsheltered individuals (2.3%) with a dramatic increase over the last two years (11%). On the other hand, sheltered individuals have experienced a steady increase from 2003 to 2009 (15%) with a slight decrease over the past two years (8%).

For the family members, there has been a fluctuation in the numbers over the years. From 2003 to 2007, unsheltered family members experienced a sharp decrease in numbers (77%). Then there was a rise from 2007 to 2009 (118%) with a final dip over the past two years (56%). The sheltered family members experienced a similar pattern over the years. From 2003 to 2005, there was a slight decrease in the number of families sleeping in sheltered locations (9%). This was followed with a rise in the numbers from 2005 to 2007 (20%). Finally, over the past four years, there has been a steady decrease of sheltered family members on count night (12%).

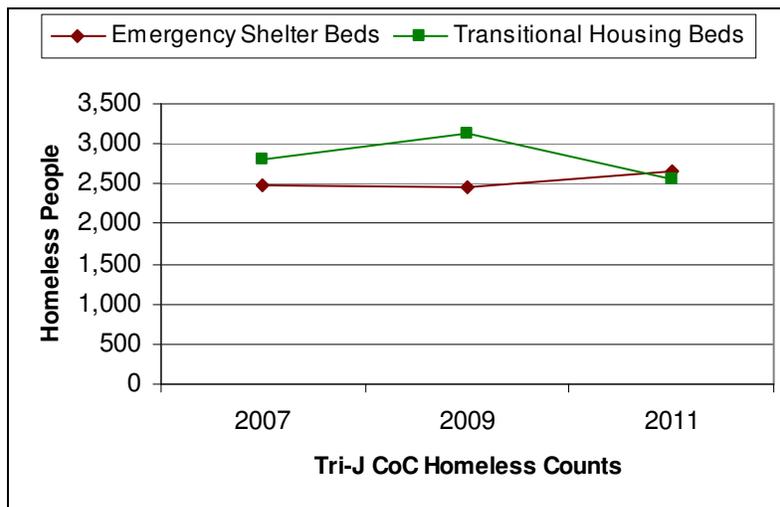
Bed Capacity: The number of people homeless on each census night is a reflection of the number of beds available. For each count, about two thirds of homeless people are sleeping in sheltered locations. From 2005 to 2009, there was a steady increase in beds for both individuals (3,722 to 4,082 beds) and family members (1,449 to 1,511 beds).

Figure 12: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Household Type



However, over the past two years, the Tri-J CoC has experienced a decrease in beds for individuals (4,082 to 3,840 beds) and family members (1,511 to 1,442 beds). Whereas there has been an increase in emergency shelter beds since the last count (269 beds), there has been a considerable decrease in the number of transitional housing beds over the past two years (580 beds). This has resulted in there being more emergency shelter beds (2,729 beds) than transitional housing beds (2,553 beds).

Figure 13: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Sleeping Location



A possible reason for the recent reduction in transitional housing beds can be the focus of the Tri-J CoC on creating permanent housing beds. Since the 2009 count, 802 permanent supportive housing beds have been added to the Tri-J CoC bed supply.

Table 21: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity and Occupancy

Occupancy Rate: The point-in-time Tri-J CoC homeless census occupancy rate held fairly steady from 2005 to 2007. However, the last five years has seen a

steady decrease in occupancy rates for the total Tri-J CoC homeless census. If the occupancy rate for the Tri-J CoC homeless counts is calculated based on individuals only as this is a more accurate measurement, then the community finds that the rate of individuals using the beds in the Tri-J CoC has been steadily decreasing since 2003.

Total Tri-J CoC Homeless Counts				
	2005	2007	2009	2011
Occupancy	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460
Capacity	5,171	5,298	5,653	5,282
Occupancy (%)	88%	89%	86%	84%

Table 21: 2003 to 2011 Bed Capacity and Occupancy

Individuals				
	2005	2007	2009	2011
Occupancy	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429
Capacity	3,722	3,741	4,082	3,840
Occupancy for Individuals (%)	96%	95%	91%	89%

Section 7: Annualized Projection

For the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, the community collected information on persons who were homeless on a single night. This provides only a snap shot of people who are homeless on a given night in winter. Over the course of a year, individuals and families will cycle in and out of homelessness. People who are homeless for a short period will be in the situation briefly as they find a permanent place to stay usually within a few weeks or months. On the other hand, people who are homeless for the long-term will remain without housing for a year or longer. The long term homeless tend to be chronic indicating that they experience a disabling condition such as a mental illness or addiction.

To estimate how many people will be homeless over the course of an entire year, Pathways projected an annualized count of homeless people based on turnover rates (also called multipliers). Multipliers have been calculated for the 2011 Tri-Jurisdictional homeless population to estimate the number of individuals and family members who will experience homelessness this year.

Three factors were used to determine categorically specific turnover rates:

- Length of homelessness as reported by the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless survey respondents;
- Percent of respondents indicating each length, and
- Minimum turnover rate for each length category.

A weighted average was then calculated based on the relative proportion of respondents who fell within each length category. The net result of this approach suggested a point-in-time annual multiplier of 2.2 for family members ($2.2 \times 1,073 = 2,361$) and a multiplier of 3.02 for individuals ($3.02 \times 5,765 = 17,410$). On a regular basis, families are homeless a shorter time period than individuals. According to the 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless survey, more family members were homeless for 1-3 months (16%) while more individuals were homeless for 4-6 months (17.5%).

The total for both individuals and families indicated that ***approximately 19,771 people will experience homelessness in the Tri-J CoC area sometime during 2011.*** From the 2003 to 2009 Tri-J CoC homeless counts, there was a steady increase of people homeless over the years (4,816 people, 22.5%). However, over the past two years, there has been a decrease of people homeless annually (1,670 people, 8%).

Table 22: Annualized Projections for 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011
Totals	16,625	20,086	20,110	21,441	19,771
Percent Change		+21%	0%	+7%	-8%

Section 8: Conclusion

Historically, the homeless population has fluctuated as the U.S. economy prospers and declines. With a growing economy such as during the 1950s, the homeless population numbers were reduced. Unfortunately, over the past few years, the U.S. economy has been struggling with unemployment on the rise and house prices falling. Yet during this tough economic time, the overall 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless numbers were reduced for the first time since collecting count data.

Overall, the Tri-J CoC homeless numbers rose from 2003 to 2009 with a reduction in the homeless population for the latest count. An interesting finding was that the same trend occurred with the overall Tri-J CoC sheltered count numbers. On the other hand, the unsheltered numbers experienced a decrease from 2003 to 2009 with an increase for 2011. In other words, as the number of people in sheltered beds rose in the Tri-J CoC, the number of people sleeping outdoors fell and as the number of people in sheltered beds decreased, the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations increased. These findings indicate that the occupancy of sheltered beds had a much larger impact on the overall Tri-J CoC homeless numbers than the unsheltered figures.

It is important to realize that the reduction in the sheltered count numbers in 2011 was probably most affected by the large decrease in available transitional housing beds for the Tri-J CoC over the past couple of years (580 beds). A possible reason for the reduction in the transitional housing beds can be the focus of the Tri-J CoC over the past few years on increasing the number of permanent supportive housing beds (PSH). In fact, there has been over 800 PSH beds added for families, unaccompanied adult men and unaccompanied adult women to the Tri-J CoC since 2009. These beds tend to have a higher occupancy rate than both transitional housing and emergency shelter beds. By moving people into permanent supportive housing programs, it reduces the number of people who are literally homeless.

On the other hand, there is concern that the unsheltered numbers were at an all time high for this homeless count, especially for unaccompanied adult men. A possible reason for the high number of unsheltered individuals is the ever decreasing occupancy rate. In addition, there were not enough beds available on count night for the street population. Even if all the Tri-J CoC empty beds were filled, there would still have been over 2,000 people sleeping outside. The need for beds can be clearly seen by the extremely large number of people found at the Atlanta Airport on count night. Currently, a majority of homeless services are focused on downtown Atlanta. Even though this area has consistently experienced the highest concentration of unsheltered people, extensive homeless services also need to be targeted in the other two areas where high numbers of homeless street people were found - Southwest Atlanta and Atlanta Airport.

The overall Tri-J CoC numbers have held fairly steady from year to year and across both unsheltered and sheltered counts. The greatest fluctuation in numbers has been experienced within each jurisdiction. For the jurisdictions, often the overall numbers rise, fall, rise and then fall again. An interesting finding is that the overall Tri-J CoC homeless count figures for individuals show a similar pattern of increasing, decreasing, increasing and finally decreasing for



2011. Another discovery is that even though the jurisdictions found a majority of individuals on count night, the percentage of individuals for each jurisdiction varied. Atlanta had the highest percentage of individuals (88%), DeKalb County was a distant second (60%) with Fulton County third (52%). Thus, to have the largest impact, City of Atlanta needs to focus homeless services on individuals, specifically unaccompanied adult males sleeping outside and in emergency shelters, while DeKalb County and Fulton County need to concentrate on services for both individuals and families.

Whereas the majority of unaccompanied adult men were sleeping in unsheltered locations on count night, the majority of unaccompanied adult women were found in emergency shelters while most families were staying in transitional housing. On the other hand, unaccompanied adult men, unaccompanied adult women and families were fairly evenly distributed among permanent supportive housing beds on count night. As seen by these figures, a strong effort by the Tri-J CoC to encourage unaccompanied adults, especially those sleeping in unsheltered and emergency shelter locations, towards staying in transitional housing and permanent supportive housing needs to continue to reduce the number of people who are literally homeless in our community.

Following the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless count, the 2011 Tri-J CoC homeless survey is conducted. The survey provides a more in depth look at the issues that homeless people face in our community. The next HUD mandated Tri-J CoC homeless census is scheduled for January 2013.



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Josie Parker <i>Manager, Research and Data Analysis</i> Autumn Austin <i>Research Assistant</i>	Natasha Davenport <i>Research Assistant</i> Nykia Greene-Young <i>Research Assistant</i>
2011 Tri-J CoC Homeless Count Report	
Report prepared by Josie Parker, Manager, Research and Data Analysis, Pathways	
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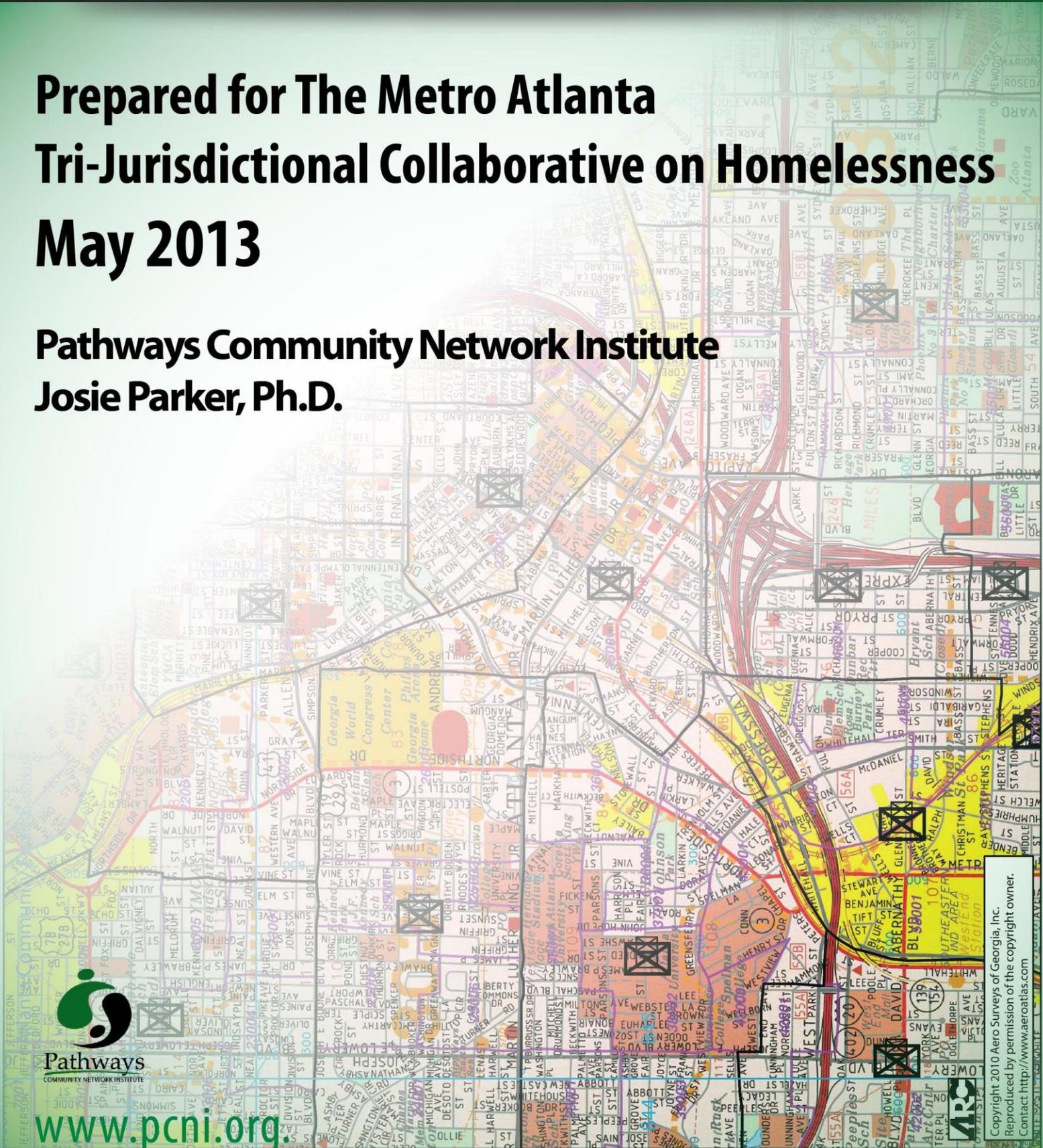
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans Program

The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

City Of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County

Prepared for The Metro Atlanta
Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative on Homelessness
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Josie Parker, Ph.D.



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The 2013 Tri-J homeless census was successful because over 400 volunteers joined forces to count the homeless persons in our community. Although it is not possible to list each by name, the Tri-J and Pathways wish to express our gratitude to each of you who contributed your time and effort. We recognize the efforts of the special coverage enumeration teams, including the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program, the St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP), the DeKalb County Community Development Department – homeless outreach team, and the Latin American Association, whose knowledge of the homeless population and geographic areas were instrumental in the data collection process. We also appreciate the local police departments - Atlanta Community Liaison Unit, Atlanta Homeless Outreach Prevention Emergency Services (HOPE) team, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Police Section's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), DeKalb County Precincts, City of Dunwoody, and City of Alpharetta - for providing additional support to the enumeration teams on count night.

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Executive Summary

On the night of January 28, 2013, the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative (City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County) on Homelessness and Pathways Community Network Institute, along with over 400 community volunteers, conducted the sixth point-in-time count of homeless persons in our community. The homeless census consisted of two types of enumerations, an unsheltered count and a sheltered count, which together result in a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the Tri-J. ***Overall, a total of 6,664 homeless people were counted in the Tri-J area on count night.***

Five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adults staying in emergency shelters comprised the largest group (33 percent) with unaccompanied adults sleeping in unsheltered locations second (30 percent). The largest number (39 percent) of individuals was staying in emergency shelters with the majority (50 percent) of family members also found in emergency shelters.

2013 Tri-J Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Location	Individuals	Family Members (Number of Families)	Total Number of Homeless People (Percent)
Emergency Shelters	2,188	548 (176 Families)	2,736 (41%)
Unsheltered	2,028	49 (15 Families)	2,077 (31%)
Transitional Housing	1,348	503 (166 Families)	1,851 (28%)
Totals	5,564	1,100 (357 Families)	6,664
Percent	83%	17%	

The bed capacity on count night was three times greater for emergency shelters than transitional housing programs. Overall, the occupancy rate for emergency shelter beds was higher (92 percent) than the occupancy rate for transitional housing beds (83 percent). This means that on the night of the count 253 emergency beds were available (114 individual and 139 family beds). Additionally, there were 383 transitional housing beds available (245 individual and 132 family beds). If all available beds were occupied for the census, there would still be 1,669 people sleeping outside on the night of the count.

Sheltered Occupancy and Capacity

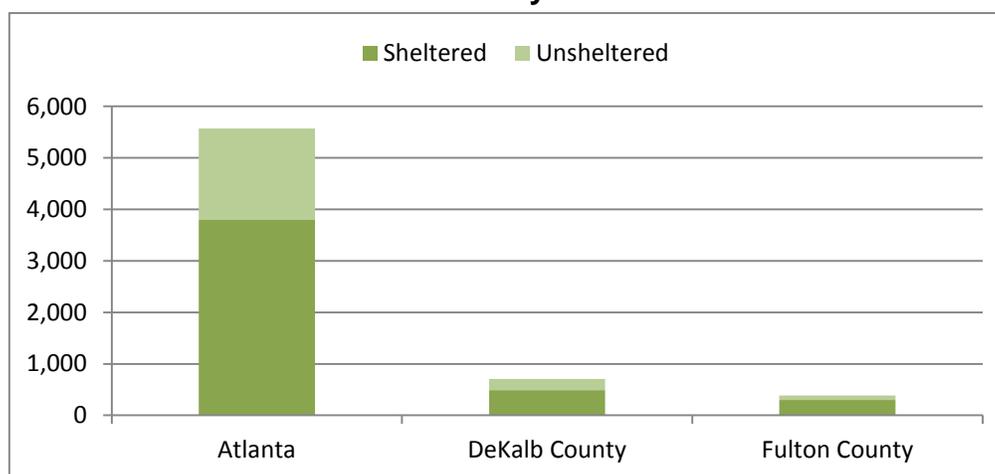
Sheltered Count	Individuals			Family Members		
	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total
Occupancy	2,188	1,348	3,536	548	503	1,051
Capacity	2,302	1,593	3,895	687	635	1,322
Occupancy Percent	95%	85%	91%	80%	79%	80%

2013 Tri-J Homeless Census Executive Summary

Of the 6,664 homeless people counted on census night, the majority were located in Atlanta (5,571 people, 84 percent) with DeKalb County a distant second (705 people, 11 percent) and Fulton County third (388 people, 6 percent). This composition is similar to the previous 2011 findings with Atlanta at 87 percent, DeKalb County at 8 percent and Fulton County at 5 percent.

To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts are simply a reflection of the number of beds available in each community. For example, 82 percent of Tri-J emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 11 percent of the beds were in DeKalb County, and 7 percent were in Fulton County on the night of the homeless census.

Homelessness by Jurisdiction



Over the years, the point-in-time Tri-J homeless counts have held fairly steady from year-to-year (overall average of 6,792 homeless people nightly). The table shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless on count night (7 percent). However, over the past four years, there has been a steady decrease of people homeless for the point-in-time census (5.5 percent).

The total homeless census numbers for 2013 are the second lowest of all the counts, with the lowest numbers counted in 2003. It is of note that the 2013 homeless census had the smallest number of unsheltered people found compared to previous counts. The 2013 sheltered count numbers are most similar to those of the 2005 homeless census.

Tri-J Homeless Census over Time

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378	2,077
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460	4,587
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838	6,664
<i>Percent Change</i>		<i>+4%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>+3%</i>	<i>-3%</i>	<i>-2.5%</i>

Section 1: Introduction

This is the sixth census for the Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional (Tri-J) Collaborative on Homelessness. The Tri-J is a working partnership of government representatives, community members and service providers within the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. The partnership works collaboratively to address issues of homelessness through planning, policy development, service delivery and resource allocation.

In 2002, the Tri-J decided that collecting objective and accurate data on the number of homeless persons residing in the community was a top priority. The homeless census was to identify the number of homeless persons in each local community on the basis of sleeping location and basic demographic characteristics: male vs. female, adult vs. youth, and family vs. individual. Pathways Community Network Institute was asked to undertake the point-in-time homeless count on behalf of the Tri-J. While the 2003 Tri-J homeless census was in its early planning stages, the U. S. Congress passed legislation requiring state and local governments that receive funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (now the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing [HEARTH] Act of 2009) to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004.

In March 2003, the Tri-J and Pathways conducted the first successful homeless census. The census was designed as a full coverage count to assess the number of homeless people sleeping in unsheltered locations, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs throughout the Tri-J. Because the homeless census covered the City of Atlanta and its two counties, the Tri-J relied on the efforts of hundreds of people from service providers, government agencies, faith-based providers, local universities and community volunteers to conduct the count. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized the 2003 Tri-J homeless census as a national “best practice.”

The 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013 Tri-J homeless census followed the successful methodology used in the 2003 count. Improvements were made to the model for each successive count based upon feedback from Pathways research team, Tri-J working group (Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County), deployment captains, community volunteers and community needs. Each count was followed by an in-depth survey which gathered data on demographics, homeless history, disabling conditions and two additional topics related to community concerns regarding the local homeless population.

The planning of the 2013 Tri-J homeless census began in October 2012 with the actual enumeration occurring on the night of Tuesday, January 28, 2013. This report describes the purpose, methodology and results of the count effort.

Section 2: Project Purpose, Coordination and Oversight

2.1 Project Purpose

With the initiation of the first homeless census, several important goals were identified:

- Provide the number and characteristics of people sleeping in transitional programs, shelters and places not meant for human habitation;
- Provide the local community with data to use in planning, funding, and implementing services that meets the needs of homeless persons;
- Provide a measurement of the changes in the homeless population over time;
- Provide a report that increases awareness of the local homeless issue; and
- Provide data to use in updating the Tri-J's Housing Inventory for the annual HUD Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) Exhibit 1 report.

2.2 Project Coordination

To meet these objectives and have a successful homeless count, the Tri-J asked Pathways Community Network Institute to undertake the homeless census. Pathways is a nonprofit organization that supports communities with tools – information systems, research and data analysis, and technical assistance and training - to help human service providers work together, reduce costs and increase impact. Since 2003, Pathways has been asked by the Tri-J to manage the homeless point-in-time counts. Pathways has coordinated, staffed, written the reports and presented the findings for the Tri-J homeless census. Beginning in 2007, the Pathways research and data analysis team has also provided expertise in the areas of methodology, data collection, and data analysis. The research team consisted of the research manager and one research assistant.

2.3 Project Oversight

As with the previous Tri-J homeless census, oversight was provided by a working group (WG) of leaders in the Tri-J government agencies and university professors. The functions of the WG included assisting the Pathways research team with refining the count methodology and instruments, logistical planning and providing input regarding compliance with HUD regulations. With few exceptions, the working group met on a monthly basis.

Section 3: Methodology

3.1 Background

Research Atlanta (1984) provided the earliest estimates of the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta based on comparative studies from other U.S. cities and interviews with local homeless service providers. They estimated that around 3,000 people would be homeless on any given night in 1984. A decade later, a point-in-time estimate was again calculated for the number of people homeless in metropolitan Atlanta. Georgia State University researchers estimated that around 11,000 people were homeless on an average night in 1997 within the ten county Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) area (Jaret and Adelman 1997). The 1997 estimate was calculated from the results of a national study with adjustments made for the City of Atlanta population and its neighboring suburban counties.

In 2002, the Tri-J decided that an actual systematic and comprehensive count of homeless people needed to occur for the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. This decision coincided with the requirement of state and local governments that receive federal funding under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (now the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing [HEARTH] Act of 2009) to conduct point-in-time homeless counts at least once every two years beginning no later than 2004. The first actual homeless count conducted by the Tri-J was in 2003. The 2003 Tri-J homeless census established the baseline data with subsequent counts providing useful tracking for the changes in the homeless population over time.

3.2 Date and Time

HUD also mandated the time of year for the homeless census. HUD chose for Continuum of Care (CoC) communities such as the Tri-J to conduct their homeless census during the last ten days in January. One reason for that timeframe is that homeless people are more likely to sleep indoors at shelters and in transitional housing during cold weather months thus making it easier to locate people who might otherwise be outdoors at other times of the year. In addition, cold weather and overflow shelters open for only a few months each year during the winter. Also, by using the mandated time frame set by HUD, the Tri-J homeless numbers are comparable to other CoC homeless populations across the U.S.

For the 2013 Tri-J homeless census, the working group selected Tuesday, January 28th as the count date, with a bad weather back-up date of Thursday, January 31st. The working group chose both homeless count dates to be mid-week to represent a typical weekday morning and to avoid the higher number of non-homeless persons on the streets during weekends. In addition, several large shelters in the City of Atlanta discharge residents in the early morning hours (5:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.). To avoid double counting people as sheltered and unsheltered, the working group decided to begin enumeration around 1 a.m. prior to the shelter early morning release times.

3.3 Operational Definition and Components

In order to calculate the size of the homeless population in our community, a definition of homelessness is necessary. The U.S. Census that occurs every decade counts people on the basis of their customary place of residence. However, since homeless people do not have permanent residence, they are instead enumerated based on their temporary sleeping locations such as on the street, in shelters or in transitional housing programs.

The Tri-J homeless count methodology has two components based on sleeping location: unsheltered count and sheltered count. These two counts follow the HUD guides for counting homeless people in a CoC (HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs: A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People 2008 and A Guide to Counting Sheltered Homeless People 2012). Together, the two enumerations create a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. For the purpose of this study, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009, Section 103, definition of homelessness was used:

- ***Unsheltered homeless people*** reside in places not meant for human habitation, such as on the streets, in vehicles, parks, abandoned buildings, makeshift shelters, and airports.
- ***Sheltered homeless people*** occupy emergency shelters, transitional housing, treatment programs, and motels if motel vouchers are provided by service agencies or federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals.

Emergency Shelter: According to HUD, an emergency shelter is defined as any facility with sleeping accommodations that provide temporary shelter for homeless persons with the length of stay ranging from one night to three months.

Transitional housing is defined by HUD as a facility that provides housing and supportive services such as case management and life skills for homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months.

Permanent Supportive Housing

In addition, HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each community starting in 2009. The Tri-J community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009 and 2011 and for the latest count in 2013. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J homeless census.

The definition of permanent supportive housing for HUD is a long-term, community-based program with supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. A person with a disability is determined to 1) have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently, and is of such a nature that the ability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or 2) have a developmental disability, as defined in the Developmental

Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, Title IV, Subtitle C).

This type of supportive housing enables special needs populations to live as independently as possible in a permanent setting. There is no definite length of stay. Tenants of permanent housing sign legal lease documents. Services are available but the tenant is not obligated to participate. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by the applicant and provided by other public or private services agencies. Permanent supportive housing can be provided in one or several structures at one locations or scattered sites.

Not Counted

In 2009, the U.S. Congress amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 as the HEARTH Act. This expanded the Act to include people who are at imminent risk of homelessness and families or unaccompanied youth who are living unstably. Imminent risk of homelessness is defined as people who must leave their current housing situation within the next 14 days with no other place to stay and no resources or support network to obtain housing. “Unstably housed” families or unaccompanied youth are those who 1) meet the definition of homelessness under other federal programs such as the Department of Education, 2) have not lived for a long period independently in permanent housing, 3) have moved frequently, and 4) will continue to experience housing instability due to chronic disabilities, history of domestic violence or multiple barriers to employment. The “at risk of homelessness” and “unstably housed” populations are often labeled as precariously housed. For the 2013 homeless census, HUD again only wanted CoCs to count people who were literally homeless in their point-in-time counts and not those who were precariously housed.

3.4 Unsheltered Count Method

The methodology for the Tri-J unsheltered homeless census was recognized by HUD as a “best practice” in 2003. The Tri-J unsheltered count uses a combination of different methods to determine the number of people homeless on one night. The direct methods include canvassing and hotspot counts, along with an indirect method of estimations. These methods were applied to the first systematic count of homeless people in Chicago in 1985 (Rossi 1989).

The canvassing method entails enumerators covering areas in a community where they observe people, typically at night or in the early morning hours, and either identify them as homeless or housed. This method is best used in urban areas where enumerators can walk the streets of concentrated areas or drive the streets in suburban or sparser areas. The hotspot count is conducted in areas where homeless people are thought to be heavily concentrated and hidden from street view. Typically, enumerators who are experienced working with street homeless populations are sent to cover these areas. Hotspot counts offer data collection opportunities of a subpopulation that might not otherwise be included in a count.

A benefit to conducting a canvassing method is that once the unsheltered numbers are collected, they can be adjusted for the hidden homeless (Rossi 1989). Homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. The 2003 advisory group determined

that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families.

Planning

Planning for the 2013 Tri-J homeless census unsheltered count began in October 2012. The first month involved setting up the working group and, most importantly, setting the date for the count. In addition, as with previous homeless counts, a *deployment captain's* (DC) committee was formed to assist Pathways in planning and managing deployment sites for the unsheltered count. The DC was staffed by homeless service providers, non-profit agencies, community volunteers and government agencies. Beginning in December 2012, the deployment captains met on a regular basis to prepare for the upcoming homeless count.

To develop a logistics plan for the Tri-J homeless census, the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County had to be divided into manageable areas for counting. The Tri-J covers over 800 square miles and comprises 771 U.S. Census block groups. In 2003, **134 enumeration areas** were created by grouping the U.S. Census blocks into manageable areas for data collection and organization. The enumeration areas varied in size and number of block groups depending on the anticipated concentration of unsheltered homeless persons. For example, in areas with high concentrations of unsheltered homeless people, fewer block groups were allocated to an enumeration area.

The 2013 Tri-J homeless census used the same enumeration areas as previous counts. The enumeration areas were divided among **11 deployment sites** (see SPECIAL THANKS). These sites were spaced throughout the Tri-J and appropriately geo-located to provide convenient access for enumerators to their assigned enumeration areas. They served as staging areas for the unsheltered count by providing adequate well-lit parking and a large meeting area.

Once the deployment sites were confirmed, a *planning map* was developed. The Atlanta Regional Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department created the 2013 planning map for the unsheltered count. The large planning map aided Pathways in the assignment of enumeration areas to each deployment site and the deployment captains in orienting enumerators during training on census night.

The *enumeration area maps* created by GIS in 2010 for the 2011 homeless census were again used for the 2013 homeless count. The enumeration maps included one main enumeration area clearly outlined in bold black in the center of the map with the block groups for each EA outlined in purple within the EA. The enumeration maps had been improved from the 2005 homeless census with Aero Atlas street overlays, which detailed street information, defined block group boundaries and distinguished landmarks. The colors of the maps had been changed slightly from the 2007 Tri-J homeless count. In 2007, the maps were updated to one light pastel color for cities and no color for the county areas.

The enumeration areas were stratified into four categories – **high, medium, low and zero count areas** – based on the numbers from previous Tri-J homeless census. The WG decided in 2002 that high count areas such as downtown Atlanta would receive enumerators with expertise or

experience with the street homeless population. These high count areas can typically have a concentration of sixty or more people. In 2007, the WG determined that enumeration areas where no homeless people had been found in the previous counts would not be counted. This would allow efforts to be focused on areas where homeless people were thought to be located. For 2009, the WG concluded that low count enumeration areas, where twelve or fewer homeless people had been found on previous counts, would not be assisted by enumerator guides due to the lack of need for their expertise. Finally, the other areas had enumeration teams comprised of community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides.

Conducting a count of this magnitude required community collaboration. Over 400 *community volunteers* were needed to carry out the count in the City of Atlanta and its two counties. The Tri-J relied on the efforts of homeless service provider staff, personnel from government agencies, members of faith-based organizations, college students and hundreds of community volunteers to conduct the unsheltered count. Volunteers were recruited using a number of methods including direct recruitment, public announcements, recruitment fliers and postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless. Volunteers were assigned to deployment sites based on their preferences and on the minimum requirement of volunteers needed at each site.

As with previous Tri-J homeless counts, *enumerator guides* assisted the community volunteers with identifying homeless persons, in pointing out locations likely to have homeless persons present and in recognizing potentially dangerous situations to avoid. The guides were recruited from various transitional housing programs in the Tri-J area. They were required to have lived in the Tri-J area for at least six months and to have been a participant in the transitional program for at least three months. The guides were only used at six of the ten deployment sites due to low numbers of homeless people found in the other four sites during the past census.

One area of the Tri-J where community volunteers and enumerator guides did not count was downtown Atlanta. The downtown area was covered by veterans participating in the *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)*, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program. Along with the 22 current program participants, VA staff also worked in the downtown enumeration teams on census night. The VA enumerators were assigned enumeration areas in downtown Atlanta due to their experience living on the streets or working with clients on the streets. These areas were walked and involved counting in gulleys and other hidden locations. Typically, downtown Atlanta has the highest number of unsheltered homeless people on count night.

Identifying other areas where concentrated numbers of homeless people were sleeping was critical. Several months prior to census night, *law enforcement* agencies throughout the Tri-J were sent packets that included a survey on the probable location of unsheltered homeless persons. In addition to information about homeless persons' locations, law enforcement officers were also asked to identify areas that were unsafe for volunteers and areas that needed police escorts. With the feedback from law enforcement, Pathways was able to compile a detailed list of special coverage areas or hotspot locations.

Enumerators who work with clients on the streets or have specialized knowledge of the street homeless population counted in the *hot spot locations*. These areas were primarily walked because they involved counting in wooded areas and other hidden locations. *Special coverage enumeration teams* were comprised of outreach workers and other knowledgeable personnel from St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services – Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP), DeKalb County Community Development Department, and the Latin American Association – homeless outreach team and homeless service provider agencies. The teams were grouped into several geographic coverage areas: City of Atlanta, south Fulton County, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Decatur, Tucker, north DeKalb County, east DeKalb County and south DeKalb County. These teams were stationed at three deployment sites: Crossroads Community Ministries, Center for Pan Asian Community Services and the Maloof Center.

In the weeks prior to the census, Pathways research staff put together *count night boxes* for the captains to use at the deployment sites. Planning and enumeration maps were printed, supplies such as clipboards, flashlights and pens were purchased and count night forms from previous census were updated and printed. The forms included: *sign-in sheet, hold harmless agreement, enumerator roles description, map reading guide instruction, street tally form instructions, verification letter, deployment log, block group log and certificate of participation*. Pathways research staff passed out the boxes to the DC the week prior to the count. At the meeting, the Pathways research manager reviewed with the DC all the materials that were included in the boxes and the census night process such as setting up the deployment sites, training the volunteers and calling in the homeless count numbers. This meeting also provided the DCs an opportunity to meet with their fellow deployment site co-captains.

Two other *training sessions* also occurred in January. At the first January DC meeting, the captains were trained on how to read the planning and enumeration maps. In addition to the DC, both the veteran and special coverage enumeration teams received special training on how to read the maps, to identify people who are homeless and to fill out the count form. The teams were also taught safety procedures to follow.

Data Collection

On count night, January 28, 2013, the Pathways research team was available during the day to answer any last questions regarding the upcoming count and to assign new volunteers as needed. Deployment captains arrived at the deployment sites around 10:30 p.m. to set up for the count. For each deployment site, three DCs coordinated the site on census night. During the count night, Pathways research staff was located at the Jefferson Place deployment site.

The deployment captains had been provided with an instructions and checklist form to assist with the count night process. The DC count night checklist provided instructions on what to do prior to count night such as organizing supplies and documents and purchasing food. The instructions for count night focused on a process for setting up and organizing the deployment site, training the enumerators, and forming and equipping enumeration teams. Also, on the checklist were procedures for what to do after deploying the teams and when the teams return.

Around 11:30 p.m., 318 community volunteers, 46 enumerator guides, 31 VA enumerators and 21 special coverage team enumerators arrived at the deployment sites to participate in the

homeless count. The WG decided that, for accuracy and safety, enumeration teams not covering downtown Atlanta or hotspot locations would be comprised of at least three to four members, ideally at least two community volunteers and one enumerator guide. The number of teams required at each deployment site depended on the number of enumeration areas assigned to the site with one enumeration team generally covering one enumeration area.

Training for the community volunteers and homeless enumerator guides occurred at midnight. They received training on enumerator roles, how to read the maps and enumeration process and safety tips. The tips were provided to the enumerators on what to do while at the deployment site, such as reviewing their enumeration area map and, while in the field counting, to spend most of their time in high-probability areas including commercial zones, industrial corridors, shut-down businesses and 24-hour businesses. The tips also focused on safety practices, such as driving only in well-lit parking lots and side streets.

Enumerators were instructed to travel all streets in their enumeration area, to drive at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour in areas where homeless people are likely to be, not to count in abandoned buildings due to safety concerns and not to make contact with or disturb any homeless persons found on the street. The enumerators were also requested to stop at 24 hour businesses to ask store clerks if they are aware of where homeless people might be in that area. Another request was that enumerators stop at hospitals in their area and count homeless people in the emergency room.

Proper completion of tally sheets was an important training topic. The tally sheets helped to collect an accurate count of the number of unsheltered homeless people observed. These forms reported the number of homeless individuals by gender and adult vs. youth (under age 18) or undetermined gender/age and the number of homeless family units by adult male, adult female and children under age 18. The street tally forms were pre-printed with an assigned enumeration area number and a block group number. The forms contained directions on how to record the data and how to call in the counts. Enumerators were instructed to call in count results on each block group as it was completed.

On census night, police officers throughout the Tri-J stopped by the deployment sites to provide safety and to identify the location of homeless people and unsafe areas. In addition, the officers were available to provide police escorts as needed.

The enumerators deployed around 1:00 a.m. on census morning with instructions to return to their deployment sites by 5 a.m. The weather conditions on the morning of January 29th were clear with a morning low temperature in the forties. In an effort to ensure accuracy of the count, prevent the loss of data and to get “real time” reporting of the count, a call-in reporting method was used. Enumeration teams reported the tallies for each block group in their assigned enumeration area to their deployment captains as they completed the count for the block group. After an enumeration area was complete, deployment captains provided data to Pathways staff for entry into an online computer application.

Challenges and Suggested Modifications

After enumerators returned from their enumeration areas, they received a continental breakfast and a standardized debriefing questionnaire to fill out. Based on the feedback, volunteers indicated that they liked several things about participating in the count. First, volunteers liked that they could help homeless people and serve the community for a worthwhile cause. The volunteers felt that they were making a difference. Also, they enjoyed working as a team with their fellow volunteers and meeting new people.

The main problem with the homeless census that the volunteers expressed was the time that the count occurred. Volunteers did not like staying up late to conduct the census. Another major concern for several volunteers was not finding any or many homeless people in their enumeration area. It is important to understand that lower count numbers will occur in the outer areas of the Tri-J where there are more residential neighborhoods such as in north Fulton County.

All in all, most volunteers were glad to participate and found the process to be easy (85 percent). The volunteers stated that they appreciated the experience and would be willing to volunteer again (96 percent). For many, it raised their awareness of situations faced by people who sleep on the street.

3.5 Sheltered Count Method

Emergency Shelters (ES) and Transitional Housing Programs (TH)

In December 2012, a master list of sheltered agencies (emergency shelters and transitional housing programs, along with permanent supportive housing programs) located in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County was created based on the previous Tri-J Housing Inventory Charts (HIC) and other agency lists such as providers participating in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Tri-J grantee organizations. According to HUD, the HIC is a complete inventory of emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing beds available in the CoC on a particular night (HUD 2007). HUD requires that the HIC and point-in-time count data be collected for the same night.

Tri-J HMIS staff contacted emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing agencies via email or phone and notified them of the upcoming Tri-J homeless census. In addition, announcements were made at local public meetings, via flyers and via postings on websites. Soliciting the help of local stakeholders was accomplished by letting them know that the numbers can be used for planning, funding and implementing services for people who are homeless.

As agency staff was contacted, current information was verified or corrected as needed to update the master list. If a phone number was no longer in service, Tri-J HMIS staff researched the situation to determine if the facility was no longer open or if the number had changed. Staff also investigated any new agencies that were provided by the advisory council, deployment captains, Tri-J representatives or the community. Throughout the process, contact persons were identified who would provide the number of homeless people staying at the sheltered agencies on count night.

Several days prior to the homeless census, Tri-J HMIS staff again emailed, called or faxed each agency on the master list to remind them of the upcoming homeless count, the need for their bed occupancy and capacity information for census night, and to provide the agency staff with the sheltered count tally form and instructions. The email or fax included a notification letter, sheltered count tally form and instructions for filling out the count form.

The sheltered count tally form requested the following information:

- Agency/Contact information
- Program information, including jurisdiction, program type, target population, number of beds, number of units, HMIS beds
- Point-in-time count, focusing on the number of households with and without children by gender and age (adult age 18-24, adult over age 24 or child under age 18)
- Special needs information

The contact person for each provider agency was instructed to fill out the form for all clients on site from 6 p.m. January 28th to 6 a.m. January 29th, 2013. The contact person was requested to return the sheltered count tally form to the Tri-J HMIS staff by 6 p.m. January 30th. Unfortunately, many agencies did not return their forms back by the set deadline. Therefore, the submission deadline was extended to February 5, 2013.

On February 20, the Pathways research project manager met with the Tri-J representatives to discuss the process for collecting data on non-reporting agencies and for verifying the numbers that agencies had provided. A decision was made that each jurisdiction would be responsible for contacting the non-reporting agencies within their communities. The City of Atlanta representative who had compiled the HIC data in previous years took responsibility for maintaining the sheltered count master spreadsheet which includes all the numbers for the sheltered count. With City of Atlanta having the largest number of provider agencies in their jurisdiction, two additional city personnel were provided to assist with the collection and verification of sheltered count numbers in Atlanta.

Additional meetings were held in March and April to discuss the progress for contacting non-reporting agencies and for verifying numbers reported. Any issues such as determining what is considered a unit and recording street addresses were resolved at the meetings with people coming to a consensus. For the April meeting, the master spreadsheet was reviewed line by line. At that meeting it was determined that for difficult to reach agencies, an individual would visit the program site to confirm its existence and report the number of participants on census night.

In the end, the Tri-J was able to obtain 93 percent return rate on the sheltered count tally forms. Estimations were made for the agencies that did not provide their homeless count numbers. These estimates, conducted by the Pathways research project manager, were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 Tri-J homeless census. This model predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and used housing type, bed capacity and demographic information.

Institutions

Pathways has previously had difficulty obtaining the number of homeless persons staying at institutions on count night. Therefore, estimations were conducted on the ratio of homeless individuals in the City of Atlanta from 2009 to 2011 to the actual number of homeless individuals in the institutions in 2011. The estimated numbers were allocated by gender and sheltered vs. unsheltered status based on parameters developed from the 2005 Tri-J homeless census and survey.

In 2011, packets similar to the police requests for information were created to send out to the jails and hospitals. For the 2013 Tri-J homeless census, Pathways used the same methodology for contacting hospitals and jails in the communities. Several months prior to the 2013 homeless census, jails and hospitals received packets that included a letter notifying jail and hospital staff of the upcoming homeless count, a survey on homeless people who use the facility and a request that the institutions provide a contact person who can give the number of people homeless at the facility on count night. The response rate for this census was low with only a few institutions providing their homeless numbers. For institutions that did not report numbers, the previous estimation formulas were used.

Challenges and Suggested Modifications

A continuous challenge for the sheltered homeless counts has been the relatively lengthy return time for some of the Tri-J agencies regarding the number of homeless people at their facilities on census night. This census was no exception with Tri-J representatives verifying sheltered count numbers until the middle of April. The best possible solution to this problem appears to be that used in 2011 where one staff member was dedicated primarily to the accurate collection of the sheltered count data.

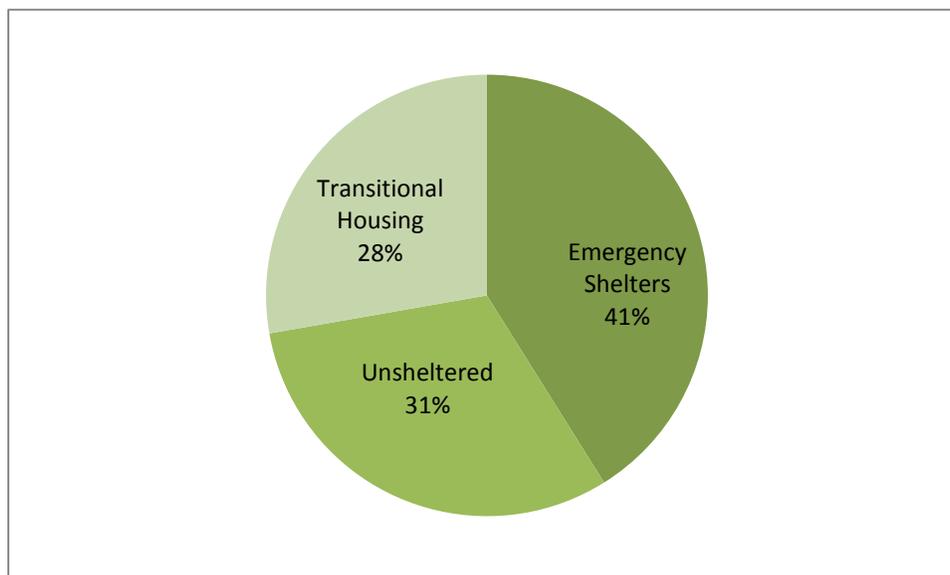
Another major issue was verifying the homeless census numbers provided by sheltered agencies. First, the numbers provided were compared to other Tri-J reports, i.e. past HICs, previous sheltered counts and recent grant applications. A second step of count night number verification was to speak with agency staff directly about specific data anomalies. Confirmation of numbers was a three-month process.

Section 4: Results

4.1 2013 Tri-J Homeless Census Numbers

On the night of January 28, 2013, a total of 6,664 homeless people were counted in Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb County. The largest number (2,736 people) was counted sleeping in emergency shelters, with persons found in unsheltered locations a distant second (2,077 people), and those in transitional housing third (1,851 people).

Figure 1: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location



According to Table 1, five times as many individuals as family members were counted on census night. Overall, individuals staying in emergency shelters comprised the largest group (33 percent) with unaccompanied adults sleeping in unsheltered locations a distant second (30 percent). The largest number of individuals (39 percent) slept in emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a close second (36 percent). The majority of family members (50 percent) were also found in emergency shelters with transitional housing a close second (46 percent).

Table 1: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type

Sleeping Location	Individuals	Family Members (Number of Families)	Total Number Homeless People (%)
Emergency Shelters	2,188	548 (176 Families)	2,736 (41%)
Unsheltered	2,028	49 (15 Families)	2,077 (31%)
Transitional Housing	1,348	503 (166 Families)	1,851 (28%)
Totals	5,564	1,100 (357 Families)	6,664
<i>Percent</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>17%</i>	

Individuals: The 2013 Tri-J homeless census composition of individuals is similar to the 2009 and 2011 homeless counts. Unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group of individuals. Almost the same number (38 percent) of adult males were sleeping in unsheltered locations as in emergency shelters. Only a quarter of adult males were staying in transitional housing programs. The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults. This was the only group with the majority (49 percent) sleeping in emergency shelters. Over a quarter (28 percent) of the women were found in unsheltered locations with less than a quarter (23 percent) in transitional housing programs.

The smallest group of individuals identified was unaccompanied females under the age of eighteen. Only seven youth females were identified as sleeping unsheltered with none staying at emergency shelters or in transitional housing programs. Historically, the count numbers for unaccompanied youth have been low. Homeless youth are hard to locate because they tend to sleep in either abandoned buildings or on people’s sofas (called “couch surfing”). In addition, unaccompanied youth (under age 18) who show up at shelters are either reunited with their parents or, if there are no parents, then the police are called and the youth are taken into the Department of Family and Children’s custody to become wards of the state.

Table 2: Homeless Individuals by Sleeping Type and Gender

Individuals					
Sleeping Location	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Emergency Shelters	1,707	481	0	0	2,188
Unsheltered	1,710	277	34	7	2,028
Transitional Housing	1,127	221	0	0	1,348
Totals	4,544	979	34	7	5,564
Percent	82%	18%	0%	0%	

Families: The majority of families (93 percent) were headed by single mothers. Of family members, children were the largest group (64 percent) with single mothers about half that (30 percent). The two previous findings regarding single mothers and children are consistent with past counts. The 1,100 families averaged 3.08 people per household. Almost half of the families (49 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters a close second (46 percent) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4 percent).

The identified families were comprised of at least one parent and at least one child under the age of eighteen. Families without children such as couples or parents with an adult child (18 years of age or older) may have been homeless for the count but were identified as individuals for a number of reasons. First, only Zaban Couples Center takes couples without children as a household unit. At other shelters, couples are required to separate and stay as individuals. Second, two people sleeping next to each other on the streets are hard to identify as a couple in a relationship.

Table 3: Homeless Families by Sleeping Type and Gender

Family Members						
Sleeping Location	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Children Under Age 18 in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Emergency Shelters	2	168	6 (12 Adults)	15	351	548 (176 Families)
Transitional Housing	1	148	17 (34 Adults)	8	312	503 (166 Families)
Unsheltered	0	15	0	0	34	49 (15 Families)
Totals	3	331	23 (46 Adults)	23	697	1,100 (357 Families)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>64%</i>	

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (68 percent) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15 percent). Children and single mothers were the third (10 percent) and fourth (5 percent) largest groups. The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households, youth males, non-head of household adults such as adult children or grandmothers, youth females and single fathers.

4.2 Unsheltered Count

On census night, *2,077 homeless persons were counted in unsheltered locations* in the City of Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County. Individuals comprised almost all of the people (98 percent) sleeping unsheltered.

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted as unsheltered, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (82 percent) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (13 percent). The remaining groups of unsheltered homeless people by household type, age and gender included youth males (2 percent), children (2 percent), single mothers (1 percent) and youth females.

Table 4: Unsheltered Count Individuals

Individuals					
Unsheltered	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Totals	1,710	277	34	7	2,028
<i>Percent</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>0%</i>	

Families: No families were found sleeping unsheltered on the night of the count. Unsheltered homeless families tend to be difficult to find because they seek out secluded locations such as abandoned buildings or vehicles where they are shielded from the elements and hidden from view. Pathways and the working group believed that homeless families should have been found based upon data from the 2011 Tri-J homeless survey indicating that 4.5 percent of the total number of families usually slept in unsheltered locations. Therefore, it was determined that unsheltered families should be estimated using an algebraic equation based on the number of sheltered and unsheltered families found on census night and the geographic distribution of those families. The results of the estimation determined that 49 people in 15 families were sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of January 28th.

Table 5: Unsheltered Count Families

Unsheltered	Family Members					Total Family Members (Number of Families)
	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Children Under Age 18 in Family	
Totals	0	15	0	0	34	49 (15)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>64%</i>	

Geographic Areas: As with previous Tri-J homeless counts, the highest concentration (458 people, 23 percent) of unsheltered homeless people were counted in downtown Atlanta. A likely cause of the large number is the high concentration of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs in the area. The downtown area measures approximately four square miles and is roughly bound by North Avenue to the north, Northside Drive to the west, Boulevard to the east and Interstate 20 to the south.

A high concentration of unsheltered homeless people (55 people, 3 percent) was also found at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Typically, people who are homeless arrive at the Airport on the last MARTA train of the night and leave out the next morning on the first train. Homeless people are usually left alone by the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Police to sleep overnight.

The lowest number of unsheltered homeless people (16 people, less than 1 percent) was counted in north Fulton County above the City of Atlanta. A possible reason for the low homeless numbers in north Fulton County is that households in that area earn annual incomes far above the U.S. poverty level (\$23,550 annual income for a family of four; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2013). For example, Sandy Springs households earn a median annual income of \$76,477 with Roswell households at \$79,733 yearly, and Alpharetta households having a median yearly income of \$95,888 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates).

Hidden Homeless: On count night, there were two groups of unsheltered homeless people that were not counted. First, enumerators did not enter abandoned buildings to count the number of people sleeping due to safety reasons. These buildings were dark, often in disrepair and could have had drug activity occurring. Second, enumerators were asked not to get out of their cars to walk around unless escorted by police officers or as part of special teams due to safety concerns. This rule made it difficult to count people sleeping in cars because community volunteers were unable to approach parked cars and look inside. Another issue with counting people sleeping in cars is that car owners, business owners and police officers do not appreciate people looking in cars and may suspect the enumerators of theft. Unfortunately, there is no current estimation formula for calculating the numbers for this hidden homeless population.

4.3 Sheltered Count (Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing)

A total of **4,587 homeless persons resided in emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) facilities** on census night. For the sheltered count, over half of the people (60 percent) were sleeping at emergency shelters (2,736 people) with the remaining at transitional housing programs (1,851 people). Additionally, more individuals (77 percent) were staying at sheltered locations on count night than family members (23 percent).

Estimated Group: Occupancy figures for the six non-reporting emergency shelter and transitional housing agencies were estimated. These estimates were derived using a covariate model that had been developed originally for the 2003 census, which predicted occupancies based on the reporting sites and using housing type, bed capacity, and demographic information.

Individuals: Of the individuals in the sheltered count, adult males comprised the largest group with adult females a distant second. Adult males in emergency shelters were almost half (48 percent) of the individuals with nearly a third of individuals (32 percent) adult males staying in transitional housing. Adult females sleeping in emergency shelters were 14 percent and those in transitional housing programs were 5 percent of individuals in sheltered locations. This composition of individuals is similar the 2011 sheltered homeless count.

On census night, over half (60 percent) of individual adult males were sleeping in emergency shelters with the rest staying at transitional housing programs. The majority of individual women (69 percent) were also sleeping in emergency shelters.

Table 6: Sheltered Count Individuals

Individuals					
Sleeping Locations	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Emergency Shelters	1,707	481	0	0	2,188
Transitional Housing	1,127	221	0	0	1,348
Totals	2,834	702	0	0	3,536
Percent	80%	20%	0%	0%	

Families: The majority of families (92 percent) were headed by single mothers. Of family members, children were the largest group with single mothers half that. The remaining family members were comprised of two parent heads of households, non-head of household adults and single fathers. The 342 families averaged 3.07 people per household. Unlike the 2011 sheltered homeless census, the majority of the families (51 percent) were staying in emergency shelters.

Table 7: Sheltered Count Families

Family Members						
Sleeping Location	Male Adult Head of Family	Female Adult Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult	Children Under Age 18 in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Emergency Shelters	2	168	6 (12 Adults)	15	351	548 (176 Families)
Transitional Housing	1	148	17 (34 Adults)	8	312	503 (166 Families)
Totals	3	316	23 (46 Adults)	23	663	1,051 (342 Families)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>64%</i>	

Overall, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (62 percent) of the total number of people staying in sheltered locations (ES and TH). The next largest groups were unaccompanied female adults (15 percent) and children in families (14 percent). The other groups included single mothers (7 percent), two parent heads of households (1 percent), non-head adults such as adult children (1 percent) and single fathers.

Occupancy and Capacity: Bed capacity on census night was 5,217. The bed capacity was higher for emergency shelters (2,989 beds) than transitional housing programs (2,228 beds). Overall, the occupancy rate for individual emergency beds was the highest (95 percent). There were 359 emergency shelter and transitional housing individual beds not occupied for the count. Even if all these beds had been filled, there still would have been 1,669 individuals that were sleeping outside on count night. Beds may go vacant for a number of reasons including eligibility standards that exclude some unsheltered people such as being drug free or because homeless people are unwillingly to adhere to the shelters' policies such as completing chores.

Table 8: Sheltered Count Occupancy and Capacity Individuals

Individuals			
Sheltered Count	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual
Occupancy #	2,188	1,348	3,536
Capacity	2,302	1,593	3,895
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>91%</i>

The lowest occupancy rate was for families in transitional housing programs (79%). One reason for the lower occupancy rate for family beds is that families with children are less likely to be asked to leave where they are staying on an extremely cold night, especially if living doubled up with other family members.

Another factor is that programs that serve families are often organized into units rather than beds. A unit may have several beds that go unoccupied depending on the size of the family. For example, a bedroom unit with four beds housing a single mother and two children will appear to have a 75% occupancy rate, but in fact the empty bed is not actually available to anyone else. Therefore, it is better to compare family unit capacity and the number of families homeless on census night. If all emergency shelter and transitional housing family units were filled, there would still be 12 families sleeping in unsheltered locations.

Table 9: Sheltered Count Occupancy and Capacity Families

Family Members			
Sheltered Count	Emergency Shelters	Transitional Housing	Total Individual
Occupancy #	548	503	1,051
Capacity	687	635	1,322
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>80%</i>

4.4 Permanent Supportive Housing

HUD began requiring an enumeration of permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs for each CoC starting in 2009. The Tri-J community first collected PSH numbers in 2003 and then again in 2009, 2011 and for the latest count in 2013. The PSH figures are not included in the homeless count totals but are described in this report as they needed to be collected on the same night as the Tri-J homeless count.

A total of **3,319 persons were residing in permanent supportive housing (PSH)** on census night. The majority of the PSH beds were occupied by individuals (61 percent) rather than family members (39 percent). Most people in PSH were sleeping in Atlanta (1,590 people, 48 percent) with DeKalb County a close second (1,387 people, 42 percent) and Fulton County third (342 people, 10 percent).

Of the total number of people counted, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (39 percent) with children in families a distant second (22 percent) and individual women third (21 percent). These were followed by single mothers (9 percent) and heads of two parent families (7 percent).

Individuals: By jurisdiction on census night, the majority of individuals (52 percent) were staying in permanent supportive housing in Atlanta, with those in DeKalb County a close second (41 percent) and persons in Fulton County third (7 percent). The largest group of individuals was unaccompanied men staying in Atlanta (34 percent) with the individual men in DeKalb County a

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close second (27 percent). Adult women in Atlanta comprised the third largest group (19 percent) with those in DeKalb County fourth (14 percent).

Among unaccompanied men, those in Atlanta were the largest (43 percent) with individuals in DeKalb County a close second (42 percent) and persons in Fulton County third (6 percent). Unaccompanied women demonstrated a similar pattern to the men. The majority of adult females slept in Atlanta (55 percent) with those in DeKalb County a close second (39 percent) and individuals in Fulton County third (9 percent).

Table 8: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy by Jurisdiction for Individuals

Individuals			
Jurisdiction	Adult Male	Adult Female	Total Individuals
Atlanta	678	373	1,051
DeKalb	542	280	822
Fulton	82	58	140
Totals	1,302	711	2,013
<i>Percent</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>35%</i>	

Families: As with the sheltered count, the majority of families (72 percent) were headed by single mothers. Of family members, children were the largest group (55 percent). The 420 families with children averaged 3.1 people per household. Unlike individuals living in PSH, most of family members were staying in DeKalb County on census night (43 percent) with people in Atlanta a close second (41 percent) and those in Fulton County third (16 percent).

Table 9: Permanent Supportive Housing Occupancy by Jurisdiction for Family Members

Family Members						
Jurisdiction	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	Two Parent Family (Number of Adults)	Non-Head Adult in Family	Children in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
DeKalb	6	144	42 (84)	33	298	565 (192)
Atlanta	1	97	58 (116)	11	314	539 (156)
Fulton	2	61	9 (18)	10	111	202 (72)
Totals	9	302	109 (218)	54	723	1,306 (420)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>1%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>55%</i>	

Table 10: PSH Occupancy and Capacity by Jurisdiction

PSH	Atlanta	DeKalb County	Fulton County	Total
Occupancy	1,590	1,387	342	3,319
Capacity	1,695	1,435	376	3,506
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	<i>94%</i>	<i>97%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>95%</i>

Figure 2: PSH Occupancy and Capacity by Household Type



Trend Analysis: The total permanent supportive housing occupancy numbers have increased dramatically from 2003 to present (by 2,908 people). The main reason for the rise in occupancy can be seen by the increase in PSH bed capacity over the years.

Table 11: PSH Occupancy over Time

PSH	2003	2009	2011	2013
Individuals	386	876	1,335	2,013
Family Members	25	577	920	1,306
Totals	411	1,453	2,255	3,319
Percent Change		+252%	+55%	+47%

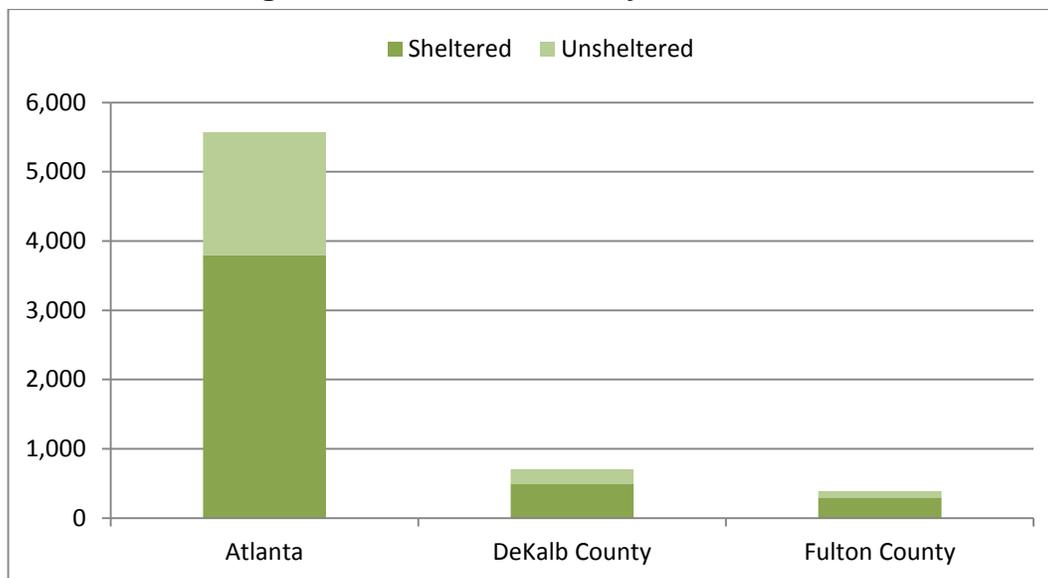
Comparing Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing Beds:

On census night, there was a capacity of 8,723 emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing beds for homeless people. A total of 7,906 beds in occupancy (91 percent). Permanent supportive housing programs had the highest capacity of beds (3,506 beds) with emergency shelters second (2,989 beds) and transitional housing programs third (2,228 beds). This is a change from the previous census when the order was emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing. As for the number of available beds, permanent supportive housing programs had the highest occupancy rate (95 percent) with emergency shelters a close second (92 percent) and transitional housing programs a distant third (83 percent).

Section 5: Atlanta, DeKalb County and Fulton County

Of the 6,664 homeless people counted in the Tri-J on census night, the majority were located in the City of Atlanta (5,571 people, 84 percent) with DeKalb County being a distant second (705 people, 11 percent) and Fulton County third (388 people, 6 percent). This composition is similar to the previous 2011 Tri-J homeless census with Atlanta at 87 percent, DeKalb County at 8 percent and Fulton County at 5 percent.

Figure 3: Homelessness by Jurisdiction



To some extent, these jurisdictional homeless counts are simply a reflection of the number of beds available in each jurisdiction. For example, 82 percent of Tri-J emergency shelter and transitional housing beds were located in Atlanta, 11 percent of the beds were in DeKalb County, and 7 percent were in Fulton County on the night of the homeless census.

Table 12: Housing Bed Inventory by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Individual Emergency Beds	Family Emergency Beds	Individual Transitional Beds	Family Transitional Beds	Total
Atlanta	2,282	512	1,284	185	4,263
DeKalb	8	131	231	225	595
Fulton	12	44	78	225	359
Totals	2,302	687	1,593	635	5,217
<i>Percent</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>12%</i>	

5.1 City of Atlanta Homeless Numbers

A total of **5,571 people were homeless in the City of Atlanta** on the night of January 28, 2013. More individuals (90 percent) were counted in Atlanta than family members (10 percent). The 2013 Atlanta composition is similar to the 2011 homeless numbers (88 percent individuals, 12 percent family members).

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (74 percent) with unaccompanied adult females a distant second (15 percent). Children in families and single mothers were the third (7 percent) and fourth (3 percent) largest groups. These findings reflect the overall Tri-J homeless census numbers.

Individuals: Of the number of individuals counted for the City of Atlanta, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (82 percent). Most (41 percent) of these individual men were staying at emergency shelters with over a third (36 percent) sleeping in unsheltered locations and less than a quarter (23 percent) staying at transitional housing programs. This composition differs from 2011 when most (40 percent) of the unaccompanied males were sleeping outside.

The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (17 percent). The majority of this group also slept at emergency shelters (52 percent). Overall, the Atlanta individual numbers reflect the larger Tri-J homeless census.

Table 13: City of Atlanta by Sleeping Location and Individuals

Individuals					
Sleeping Location	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Emergency Shelters	1,697	471	0	0	2,168
Unsheltered	1,457	237	33	7	1,734
Transitional Housing	945	149	0	0	1,094
Totals	4,099	857	33	7	4,996
Percent	82%	17%	1%	0	

Families: The majority of families (94 percent) were headed by single mothers. The 306 families averaged 3.1 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (64 percent). These findings are similar to the larger 2011 Tri-J homeless count and the past 2011 Atlanta homeless numbers. For example in 2011, single mothers also headed 94 percent of families and children were 67 percent of family members. Over half of the families (57 percent) were staying in emergency shelters with transitional housing programs a close second (39 percent) and unsheltered locations a distant third (4 percent). These numbers are quite different from 2011 when most families were staying in transitional housing programs (52 percent).

Table 14: City of Atlanta by Sleeping Location and Family Members

Sleeping Location	Family Members					Total Family Members (Number of Families)
	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (Number of Parents)	Non-Head Adults	Children in Family	
Emergency Shelters	2	119	6 (12)	11	247	391 (127)
Transitional Housing	1	43	4 (8)	1	92	145 (48)
Unsheltered	0	12	0	0	27	39 (12)
Totals	3	174	10 (20)	12	366	575 (187)
Percent	1%	30%	3%	2%	64%	

Sleeping Location: On census night in Atlanta, most people (2,559 people, 46 percent) were sleeping at emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a distant second (1,773 people, 32 percent) and transitional housing programs third (1,239 people, 22 percent).

For 2013, downtown Atlanta had the highest concentration of unsheltered people in the city. The area comprised over a quarter (26 percent) of the Atlanta homeless unsheltered count numbers. This is similar to the 2011 Tri-J homeless census downtown Atlanta findings (24 percent).

Interestingly, the downtown Atlanta homeless numbers are similar from the first census in 2003 to the latest count. This trend shows a comparable pattern to the overall Atlanta homeless numbers. Specifically from 2003 to 2007, downtown Atlanta experienced a steady decrease (by 32 percent) in homeless people on count night. However from 2007 to 2011, there was a dramatic increase (by 89 percent). The good news is that the downtown Atlanta area saw a decrease (by 132 people, 22 percent) for this census.

Table 15: Downtown Atlanta Unsheltered Homeless Numbers

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Totals	460	373	312	440	590	458
Percent Change		-18%	-16%	+57%	+34%	-22%

Trend Analysis: The 2013 total Atlanta homeless census numbers are the second lowest with 2003 being the lowest. From 2003 to 2009, the City of Atlanta experienced a steady increase (by 25 percent). However, over the past four years there has been a steady decrease (by 9 percent).

The Atlanta unsheltered numbers experienced a steady decrease from 2003 to 2009 (by 92 people, 5 percent) with an increase in 2011 (by 254 people, 14 percent) followed by a decrease for this census (by 332 people, 16 percent). These are the lowest number of unsheltered homeless people that Atlanta has experienced since the count began. From 2003 to present, the emergency shelter numbers have been steadily increasing (by 644 people, 13 percent).

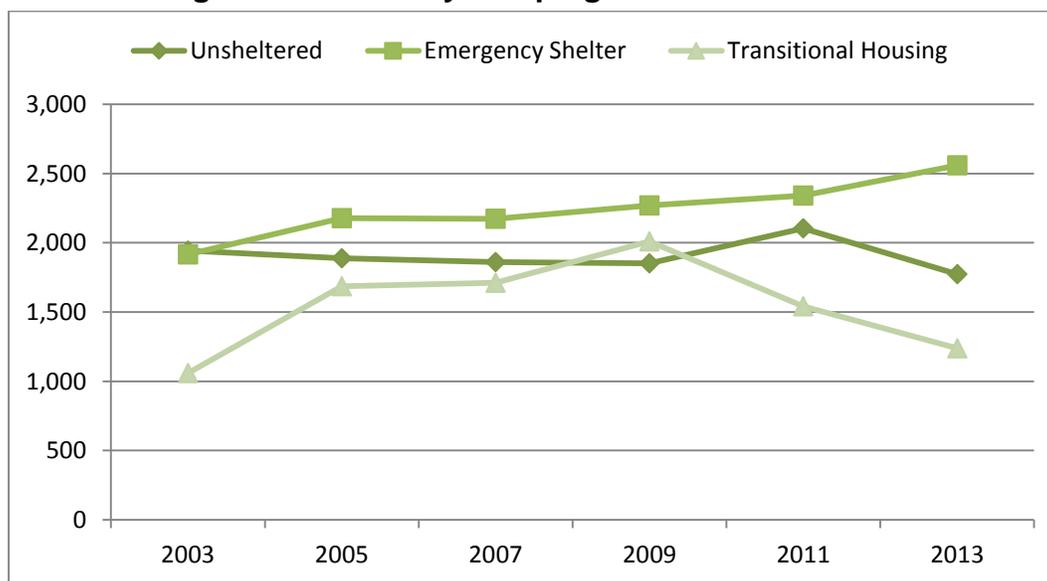
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Atlanta experienced a tremendous increase in people (by 952 people, 89 percent) sleeping at transitional housing programs from 2003 to 2009. However, over the last four years, Atlanta has been experiencing a decrease (560 people, 9 percent) in the transitional housing numbers. These changes in numbers are more than likely a reflection of the change in bed capacity in Atlanta over the years.

Table 16: Atlanta Homeless Census for 2003 to 2013

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Emergency Shelter	1,915	2,177	2,172	2,269	2,340	2,559
Unsheltered	1,943	1,888	1,861	1,851	2,105	1,773
Transitional Housing	1,059	1,687	1,712	2,011	1,542	1,239
Totals	4,917	5,752	5,745	6,131	5,987	5,571
<i>Percent Change</i>		<i>+17%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>+6.5%</i>	<i>-2%</i>	<i>-7%</i>

Figure 4: Atlanta by Sleeping Location Over Time



5.2 DeKalb County Homeless Numbers

A total of **705 people were homeless in DeKalb County** (not including City of Atlanta) on the night of January 28, 2013. This is the second largest number of homeless people counted among the three jurisdictions on that night. The majority of the homeless people (57 percent) found in DeKalb County were individuals. This composition of more individuals than families is similar to the 2011 DeKalb County homeless numbers (60 percent individuals, 40 percent family

members). In comparison, DeKalb count had a higher percentage of family members than the City of Atlanta (10 percent) for the 2013 Tri-J homeless census.

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in DeKalb County, unaccompanied adult males comprised the largest group (46 percent). This was similar to the overall Tri-J (68 percent) and City of Atlanta (74 percent) homeless count numbers; however, the DeKalb County percentage was much lower. With the Tri-J and Atlanta homeless numbers, the second largest group was unaccompanied adult females; however for DeKalb County, the next largest group was children in families (27 percent). Single mothers and unaccompanied adult females were the third and fourth largest groups (both 12 percent). The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two-parent households, adult family members, and youth males.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for DeKalb County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (80 percent). Unlike the City of Atlanta, the majority (55 percent) of these individual men were sleeping outside with the rest staying in transitional housing programs (45 percent). A possible reason for the high percentage of individual males sleeping outdoors is that no emergency shelter beds were available for individual men in DeKalb County.

The next largest group of individuals was unaccompanied female adults (20 percent). Unlike the individual men, the majority of unaccompanied women (59 percent) were staying in transitional housing with nearly a third sleeping in unsheltered locations (31 percent) and the rest located at emergency shelters (10 percent).

More than half of the individuals (51 percent) were sleeping outside with those in transitional housing a close second (47 percent) and emergency shelters a distant third (2 percent).

Table 17: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location and Individuals

Individuals					
Sleeping Location	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Male	Youth Female	Total Individuals
Unsheltered	178	25	1	0	204
Transitional Housing	143	47	0	0	190
Emergency Shelter	0	8	0	0	8
Totals	321	80	1	0	402
Percent	80%	20%	0%	0%	

Families: The majority of families (90 percent) were headed by single mothers. The 93 families averaged 3.3 people per household. Among family members, children were the largest group (64 percent). These findings are similar to previous censuses. For example in 2011, single mothers headed 94 percent of families and children were 67 percent of family members.

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Over half of the families (59 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters a close second (38 percent) and unsheltered locations a distant third (3 percent).

Table 18: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location and Family Member

Sleeping Location	Family Members					Total Family Members (Number of Families)
	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (Number of Parents)	Non-Head Adults	Children in Family	
Transitional Housing	0	46	9 (18)	4	111	179 (55)
Emergency Shelter	0	35	0	4	75	114 (35)
Unsheltered	0	3	0	0	7	10 (3)
Totals	0	84	9 (18)	8	193	303 (93)
Percent	0%	28%	6%	2%	64%	

Sleeping Location: On count night, the largest number of DeKalb County homeless people (369 people, 52 percent) were sleeping in transitional housing programs with unsheltered locations a distant second (214 people, 30 percent) and emergency shelters third (122 people, 17 percent). These findings are in reverse of Atlanta where the majority of homeless people were sleeping in emergency shelters with unsheltered locations a distant second and transitional housing third. An interesting finding was that more people were staying in permanent supportive housing (1,435 people) in DeKalb County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters and unsheltered locations combined. These findings indicate a DeKalb County homeless population that is mainly housed in programs that provide supporting services.

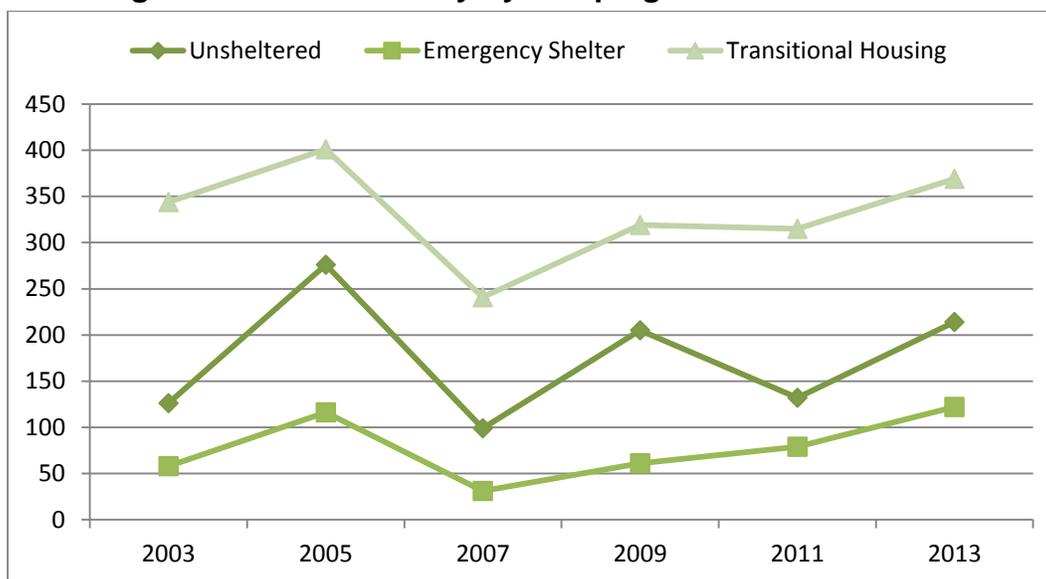
Trend Analysis: The DeKalb County homeless census numbers have experienced increases and decreases since 2003. From 2003 to 2005, there was an increase of 265 people. Then in 2007, there was a dramatic decrease of 422 people, followed by another increase (by 214 people) in 2009. Again in 2011, DeKalb County experienced a decrease in the homeless numbers (by 59 people). This census saw the third increase in numbers for DeKalb County (by 179 people). The largest number of homeless people was counted in DeKalb County in 2005 with the least number of people found in 2007.

Over the years, the largest number of people in DeKalb County was found staying in transitional housing programs with emergency shelters showing the least number of people. Specifically, the numbers for each of the sleeping location counts has varied over the years. From the first count to the latest, people sleeping in *unsheltered locations* have increased dramatically (by 70 percent) with emergency shelters experiencing the largest increase (by 101 percent). People staying in transitional housing programs also experienced an increase but only slightly compared to the other two types of sleeping locations (by 7 percent).

Table 19: DeKalb County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2013

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Transitional Housing	344	401	241	319	315	369
Unsheltered	126	276	99	205	132	214
Emergency Shelter	58	116	31	61	79	122
Totals	528	793	371	585	526	705
<i>Percent Change</i>		+50%	-53%	+58%	-10%	+34%

Figure 5: DeKalb County by Sleeping Location Over Time



5.3 Fulton County Homeless Numbers

A total of **388 people were homeless in Fulton County** (not including the City of Atlanta) on census night. Of the three jurisdictions, Fulton County found the smallest number of people homeless. Slightly more than half of the homeless people counted in Fulton County were family members (57 percent) rather than individuals. This composition is in contrast to the 2011 Fulton County homeless numbers where more individuals (170 people, 52 percent) were counted than family members (155 people, 48 percent).

Overall: Of the total number of homeless people counted in Fulton County, children in families comprised the largest group (36 percent) with unaccompanied adult males a close second (32 percent). Typically, individual adult males are the largest group. This is the first time, however, that children in families have been the largest number.

Single mothers were the third largest group of homeless people (19 people) with unaccompanied adult females as the fourth group (11 percent). The remaining groups of homeless people by household type, age and gender included two parent heads of households and a non-head adult member of household.

Individuals: Of the homeless individuals counted for Fulton County, unaccompanied male adults comprised the largest group (75 percent). Similarly to DeKalb County, the majority of these individual men (60 percent) were sleeping in unsheltered locations with transitional housing programs second (31 percent) and emergency shelters third (8 percent). As for unaccompanied women, over half (60 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs with those sleeping outside a distant second (36 percent). Only two women were sleeping at an emergency shelter on count night.

Table 20: Fulton County by Sleeping Location and Individual

Sleeping Location	Individuals			
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth	Total Individual
Unsheltered	75	15	0	90
Transitional Housing	39	25	0	64
Emergency Shelters	10	2	0	12
Totals	124	42	0	166
<i>Percent</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>0%</i>	

Families: Of the 77 families, almost all (95 percent) were headed by a single mother with four families headed by two parents. The families averaged 2.9 people per household. Children comprised the largest number of family members (62 percent). The majority of families (82 percent) were staying in transitional housing. These figures are similar to DeKalb County.

Table 21: Fulton County by Sleeping Location and Family Members

Sleeping Location	Family Members					
	Male Head of Family	Female Head of Family	2 Parent Families (Number of Parents)	Non-Head Adult	Children in Family	Total Family Members (Number of Families)
Transitional Housing	0	59	4 (8)	3	109	179 (63)
Emergency Shelters	0	14	0	0	29	43 (14)
Unsheltered	0	0	0	0	0	0 (0)
Totals	0	73	4 (8)	3	138	222 (77)
<i>Percent</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>1%</i>	<i>62%</i>	

Sleeping Locations: On census night in Fulton County, the majority of homeless people (243 people, 63 percent) were living in transitional housing with individuals sleeping outside a distant second (143 people, 23 percent). The smallest number of people (55 people, 14%) were staying in emergency shelters. Similarly to DeKalb County, more people (342 people) were staying in permanent supportive housing in Fulton County than in transitional housing, emergency shelters or unsheltered locations.

North and South Fulton County: Of the people counted as homeless in Fulton County (not including Atlanta), the majority of people were found in North Fulton County above the Atlanta city limits (251 people, 65 percent) with the remaining located in South Fulton County below Atlanta (137 people, 35 percent). This finding is different than the last census when most homeless people were counted in South Fulton County. In North Fulton, the majority of people (76 percent) were staying in transitional housing programs. On the other hand, the majority of homeless people (54 percent) were sleeping in unsheltered locations in South Fulton County.

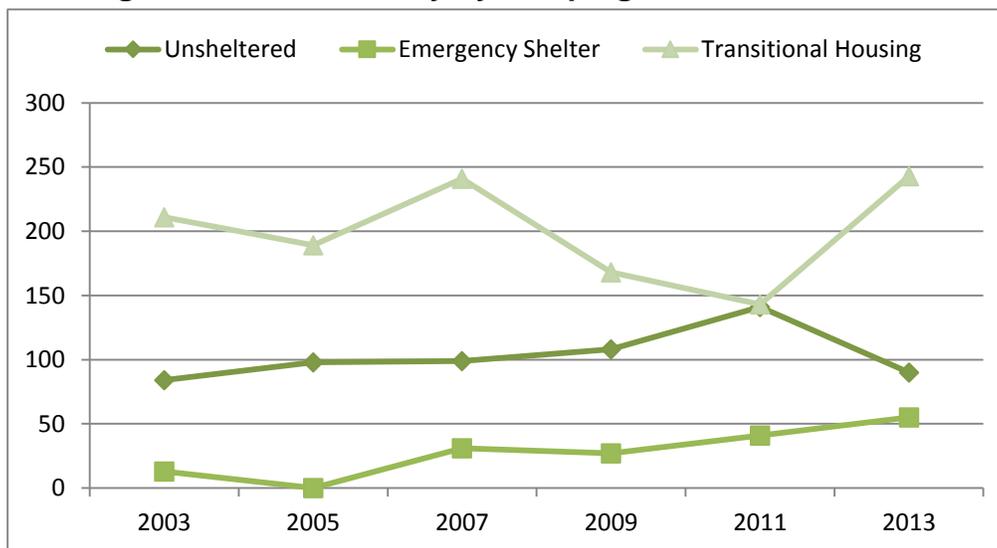
Trend Analysis: Overall, the Fulton County numbers have experienced an increase from the first count to the latest (by 80 people, 26 percent). Specifically, figures are unique in that they have fallen and risen from count to count. From 2003 to 2005, there was a slight decrease (21 people), followed by the greatest increase (by 84 people) from 2005 to 2007. Then there was another decrease (by 68 people) from 2007 to 2009, ending this year with another increase (by 85 people, 28%). The largest number of homeless people was counted in Fulton County in 2013 with the least number of people found in 2005.

The Fulton County unsheltered numbers saw a steady increase from the first count to the 2011 (57 people, 68 percent). However, this homeless census experienced a decrease (by 36 percent). From 2003 to 2005, the emergency shelter numbers decreased to zero. Over the past eight years, however, the numbers have doubled. The transitional housing figures have fallen (by 10 percent), risen (by 28 percent), fallen (by 41 percent) and then risen again over time (by 45 percent).

Table 22: Fulton County Homeless Census for 2003 to 2013

Sleeping Location	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Unsheltered	84	98	99	108	141	90
Emergency Shelter	13	0	31	27	41	55
Transitional Housing	211	189	241	168	143	243
Totals	308	287	371	303	325	388
<i>Percent Change</i>		-7%	+29%	-18%	+7%	+19%

Figure 6: Fulton County by Sleeping Location over Time



Section 6: Trend Analysis

Overall: The point-in-time Tri-J homeless census have held fairly steady from year to year (average of 6,800 people homeless nightly). Only an additional 107 people were found homeless on a particular night from the first count in 2003 to the latest (2 percent). The trend shows that from 2003 to 2009 the Tri-J homeless census experienced a steady increase of people homeless (by 462 people, 7 percent) on a particular night. However, over the past four years, there has been a decrease of people homeless (355 people, 5 percent) for the point-in-time census. The 2003 Tri-J homeless census experienced the lowest numbers of all the counts, with this latest census having the second lowest.

Sleeping Location: Over the years, both the unsheltered and sheltered counts have held fairly steady within a particular range. The unsheltered number has averaged 2,217 people. The sheltered count is typically double the unsheltered numbers with an average over the years of 4,575 persons.

For people sleeping in sheltered locations, there was a steady increase (by 602 people, 14 percent) on census night for both individuals and families from 2003 to 2009. However, over the past two years, the sheltered numbers saw a decrease in people (395 people, 8 people) staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. With the 2013 homeless census, there was another increase in numbers (by 127 people, 3 people).

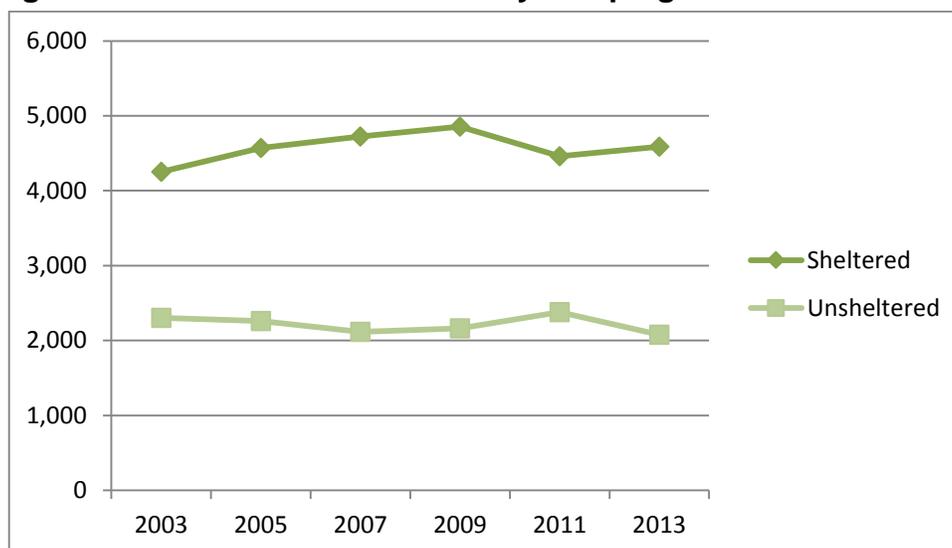
From 2003 to 2007, there was a steady decrease (by 189 people, 8 percent) in the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations on the night of the census for both individuals and family members. However, there was an increase (by 263 people, 12 percent) from 2007 to 2011 to an all time high of homeless people sleeping outdoors. The good news is that there was a decrease for the most recent homeless census (by 301, 13 percent) with the numbers being the lowest for all the counts.

It is important to note that as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds rose in the Tri-J, the number of people sleeping outdoors fell. On the other hand, as the number of people in emergency shelter and transitional housing beds decreased, the number of people sleeping in unsheltered locations increased. This finding indicates a relationship between the number of people in unsheltered locations and those in sheltered facilities.

Table 23: 2003 to 2013 Homeless Counts by Sleeping Location

Sleeping Locations	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Sheltered	4,253	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460	4,587
Unsheltered	2,304	2,262	2,115	2,164	2,378	2,077
Totals	6,557	6,832	6,840	7,019	6,838	6,664
Percent		+4%	0%	+3%	-3%	-3%

Figure 7: Tri-J Homeless Census by Sleeping Location Over Time



Individuals: The Tri-J individual numbers have held steady over the years (around 5,600 persons per night). From 2003 to 2009, there was a steady increase in the number of individuals (by 492 individuals, 6 percent). However, over the past four years, there has been a decrease (by 217 individuals, 4 percent). The lowest number of individuals was counted in 2003 with the highest numbers found in 2009.

Sheltered individuals experienced a steady increase from 2003 to 2005 (by 415 family members, 13 percent) with a slight decrease from 2005 to 2007 (by 37 persons, 1 percent). This is followed by another increase (by 162 people, 5 percent) and decrease (by 284 people, 8 percent). With this homeless census, there has been a third increase in the number of people sleeping in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (by 107 people, 3 percent). On the other hand, from 2003 to 2009 there was a slight decrease of unsheltered individuals (by 48 people, 2 percent) with a dramatic increase from 2009 to 2011 (by 268 persons, 13 percent). This has been followed by a significant decrease over the last two years (by 308 individuals, 13 percent).

Overall, the unsheltered individual homeless numbers have decreased slightly (by 88 individuals, 4 percent) from 2003 to 2013. On the other hand, the sheltered numbers have increased (by 363 persons, 11 percent) during that time period. As the sheltered numbers increased, the unsheltered numbers decreased for individuals. The average for the unsheltered numbers has been 2,117 individuals with a sheltered average of 3,498 persons.

Table 24: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type Over Time

Individuals						
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Sheltered	3,173	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429	3,536
Unsheltered	2,116	2,085	2,071	2,068	2,336	2,028
Totals	5,289	5,673	5,622	5,781	5,765	5,564
Percent		+7%	-1%	+3%	-.3%	-3

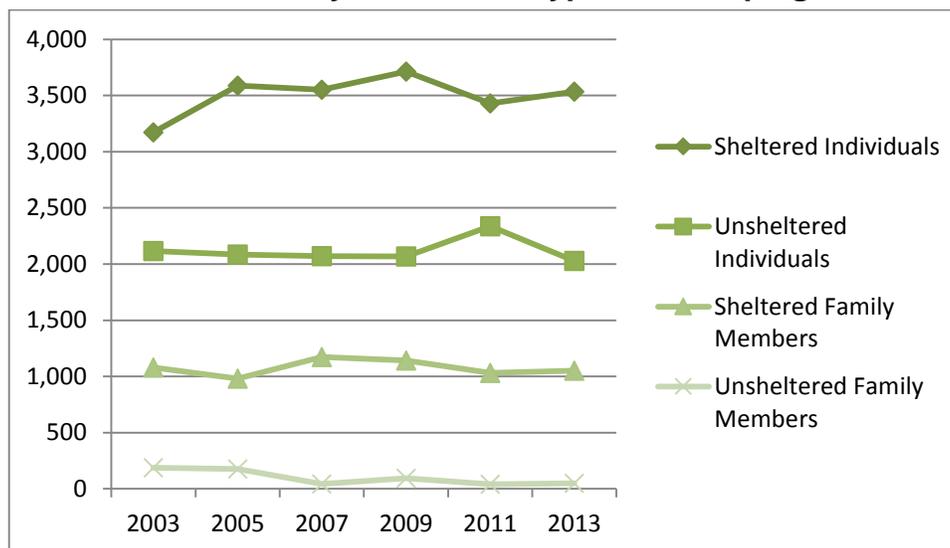
Families: Similarly to homeless individuals, the number of family members homeless in the Tri-J has also held steady (averaging 1,177 people per night). For family members, there was a decrease from 2003 to 2005 (by 109 people, 9%) with a steady increase from 2005 to 2009 (by 79 people, 7%). This is followed by a second decrease from 2009 to 2011 (by 165 people, 13%) with an increase over the past two years (by 27 people, 2.5%). The 2011 Tri-J family member numbers were the lowest of all the family counts with the highest numbers found in 2003.

Overall, the sheltered family homeless numbers have decreased slightly (by 29 persons, 3%) from 2003 to 2013. The unsheltered numbers also decreased (by 139 family members, 70%) during that time period but more dramatically. The average for the sheltered numbers has been 1,077 family members with the unsheltered average at 99 persons.

Table 25: Homeless Census by Sleeping Location and Household Type Over Time

	Family Members					
	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Sheltered	1,080	982	1,174	1,142	1,031	1,051
Unsheltered	188	177	44	96	42	49
Totals	1,268	1,159	1,224	1,238	1,073	1,100
<i>Percent</i>		<i>-9%</i>	<i>+6%</i>	<i>+1%</i>	<i>-13%</i>	<i>+2.5</i>

Figure 8: Homeless Census by Household Type and Sleeping Location Over Time



Bed Capacity and Occupancy Rate: The number of people homeless on each census night is typically a reflection of the number of beds available. For each count, about two thirds of homeless people are sleeping in sheltered locations. From 2005 to 2009, there was a steady increase in beds for both individuals (3,722 to 4,082 beds) and family members (1,449 to 1,511 beds).

Since 2007, there has been a steady decrease (235 beds, 15 percent) in the bed capacity for family members. With bed type, an interesting finding is that in 2007 and 2009 there was a

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greater number of transitional housing beds than emergency shelter beds. However, for 2011 and 2013, the reverse is true.

The overall point-in-time Tri-J homeless census occupancy rate has held fairly steady over the years (87 percent average). Typically the occupancy rate for individuals is higher (92 percent average) than for family members (76 percent average). Family beds often are unoccupied because the size of a family can be less than number of beds in the room. Additionally, emergency shelters have a higher occupancy rate (94 percent average) than transitional housing programs (81 percent average).

Table 26: 2003 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Tri-J

Total Tri-J Homeless Counts					
	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	4,570	4,725	4,855	4,460	4,587
Capacity	5,171	5,298	5,653	5,282	5,217
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	88%	89%	86%	84%	88%

Table 27: 2005 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Individuals

Individuals					
	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	3,588	3,551	3,713	3,429	3,536
Capacity	3,722	3,741	4,082	3,840	3,895
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	96%	95%	91%	89%	91%

Table 28: 2007 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Families

Families				
	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	1,174	1,142	1,031	1,051
Capacity	1,557	1,511	1,442	1,322
<i>Occupancy Percent</i>	75%	76%	72%	80%

Figure 9: 2007 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Household Type

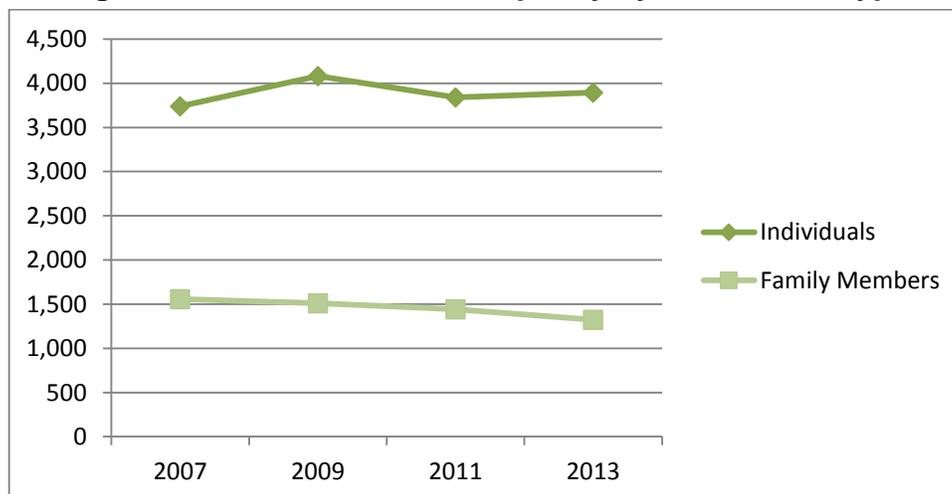


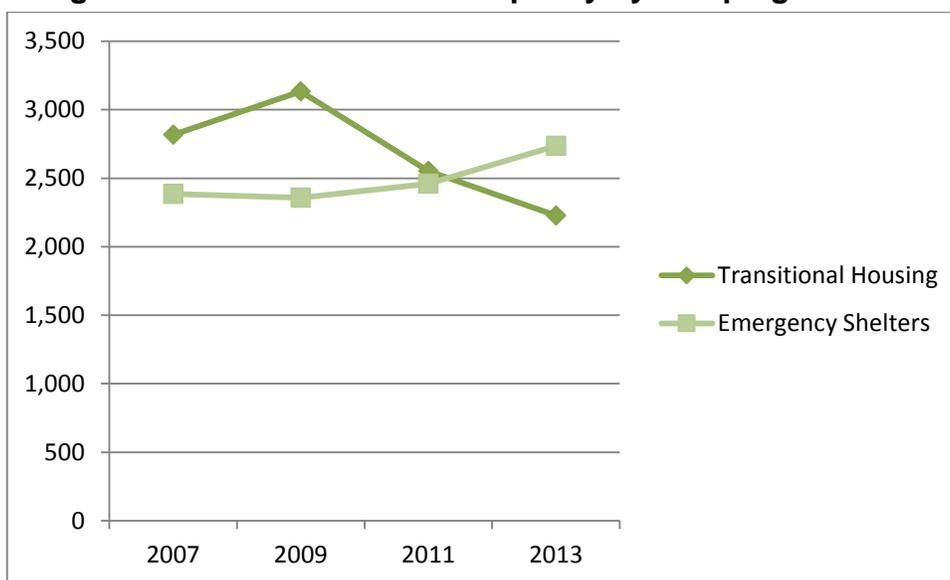
Table 29: 2007 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Emergency Shelters

Emergency Shelters				
	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	2,386	2,357	2,460	2,736
Capacity	2,481	2,460	2,729	2,989
Occupancy (%)	96%	96%	90%	92%

Table 30: 2007 to 2013 Bed Capacity and Occupancy for Transitional Housing

Transitional Housing				
	2007	2009	2011	2013
Occupancy	2,339	2,498	2,000	1,851
Capacity	2,817	3,133	2,553	2,228
Occupancy (%)	83%	80%	78%	83%

Figure 10: 2007 to 2011 Bed Capacity by Sleeping Location



Section 7: Annualized Projection

For the 2013 Tri-J homeless census, the community collected information on persons who were homeless on a single night. This provides only a snap shot of people who are homeless on a given night in winter. Over the course of a year, individuals and families will cycle in and out of homelessness. People who are homeless for a short period will be in the situation briefly as they find a permanent place to stay usually within a few weeks or months. On the other hand, people who are homeless for the long-term will remain without housing for a year or longer. The long term homeless tend to be chronic indicating that they experience a disabling condition such as a mental illness or addiction.

To estimate how many people will be homeless over the course of an entire year, Pathways projected an annualized count of homeless people based on turnover rates (also called multipliers). Multipliers have been calculated for the 2013 Tri-J homeless population to estimate the number of individuals and family members who will experience homelessness this year.

Three factors were used to determine categorically specific turnover rates:

- Length of homelessness as reported by the 2011 Tri-J homeless survey respondents
- Percent of respondents indicating each length
- Minimum turnover rate for each length category

A weighted average was then calculated based on the relative proportion of respondents who fell within each length category. The net result of this approach suggested an annual multiplier of 2.5 for family members ($2.5 \times 1,100 = 2,750$) and a multiplier of 3.3 for individuals ($3.3 \times 5,564 = 18,361$). On a regular basis, families are homeless a shorter time period than individuals. According to the 2011 Tri-J homeless survey for length of time homeless, the mode for family members was 4-6 months while the mode for individuals was 10-12 months.

Approximately 21,111 people will experience homelessness in the Tri-J area sometime during 2013. From the 2003 to 2009 Tri-J homeless counts, there was a steady increase of people homeless over the years (by 4,816 people, 22.5 percent). However from 2009 to 2011, there was a decrease of people homeless annually (by 1,670 people). Unfortunately, another annualized increase has occurred from the last homeless census (by 1,340 people). A reason for the increase is that the turnover rate for 2013 Tri-J homeless census is higher than the 2011 count (family members at 2.2, individuals at 3).

Table 31: Annualized Projections for Each Homeless Census

	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Totals	16,625	20,086	20,110	21,441	19,771	21,111
Percent Change		+21%	0%	+7%	-8%	+7%

Section 8: Conclusion

The 2013 Tri-J homeless census is the sixth count for our community. These findings reflect a homeless population that predominately lives in metropolitan areas and is literally homeless. The good news is that the homeless numbers have been steadily decreasing since 2009 when the census was found to be at its highest due to the recent economic crisis.

Over the years, the biggest finding is the relationship between bed capacity / occupancy and the number of unsheltered people in the community. Thus, as the emergency shelter and transitional housing bed capacity increases, the number of persons on the streets decrease. On the other hand, if the capacity is reduced for a particular year, the number of unsheltered people rises. This same result is also a reflection of occupancy whereby as the occupancy rate increases, the number of people sleeping unsheltered decreases.

The total Tri-J homeless numbers have held fairly steady over the years even though there has been a steady increase in the bed capacity, especially for permanent supportive housing programs. This finding indicates that adding beds to the Tri-J community does not necessarily reduce the overall number of people homeless. It merely shifts where homeless persons are sleeping at night. Instead, efforts must be made to solve the causes of homelessness, such as addiction and mental health problems.

The majority of people homeless in the Tri-J are individual. Predominately they are sleeping at emergency shelters and on the streets. The majority of these individuals are located in Atlanta. These results indicate that Atlanta must focus its efforts on tackling the issues experienced by homeless individuals.

Finally, one of the biggest concerns is the large number of children who are homeless on a nightly basis in our community. Primarily, the heads of homeless families are single mothers. Single women with children are at a greater risk of poverty than two-parent families. For single mothers, 41 percent make an annual income below the U.S. poverty level (U.S. Census Bureau 2011).

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The 2013 Metro Atlanta Tri-Jurisdictional Collaborative Homeless Census

Deployment Captains

<p>Leonard Adams Quest 35</p> <p>Melinda Allen The Salvation Army</p> <p>Megan Anderson Furniture Bank of Metro-Atlanta</p> <p>Michelle Anderson Housing and Human Services Dept., Fulton County</p> <p>Robin Bledsoe Community Advanced Practice Nurses</p> <p>Beverly Bolton Gateway Center</p> <p>Dennis Bowman Nicholas House</p> <p>Lorie Burnett Community Development Dept., DeKalb County</p> <p>Braunwin Camp Community Development Dept., DeKalb County</p> <p>Alisha Clements Furniture Bank</p> <p>Arthur Cole Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Melanie Conner Zion Hill Community Development Corporation</p> <p>Carrie DuBose Buckhead Christian Ministry</p> <p>Cassandra Edmonds Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Jimiyu Evans Project Community Concerns</p> <p>Thomas Fuller Latin American Association</p> <p>Molly Heacock Gateway Center</p> <p>Mark Henderson Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Matthew Hurd DeKalb Community Services Board</p>	<p>Shundra Jackson The Salvation Army</p> <p>Dexter Landfair The Salvation Army</p> <p>Stephen Lee Center for Pan Asian Community Services</p> <p>Melvia Richards Community Development Dept., DeKalb County</p> <p>Gerry Richardson Jefferson Place</p> <p>Claude Sandiford U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program</p> <p>Margaret Schuelke Project Community Concerns</p> <p>Brad Schweers Intown Collaborative Ministries</p> <p>Joyce Sloan Families First</p> <p>Gbolade Soneyin Tri-J HMIS, Fulton County</p> <p>Shalise Steele-Young Office of Human Services, Atlanta</p> <p>Sonia Stinson Gateway Center</p> <p>Stan Sullivan St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)</p> <p>Jason Tatum Gateway Center</p> <p>Todd Wilcher Covenant House</p> <p>Mary Watson St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)</p> <p>Amy Zaremba Community Volunteer</p>
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Special Coverage Teams

DeKalb County, Community Development Department, Homeless Outreach Team Latin American Association St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Community Homeless Outreach Program (CHOP)	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Healthcare for the Homeless Veterans Program
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APPENDIX

Exhibit C

Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Target Area Map

APPENDIX

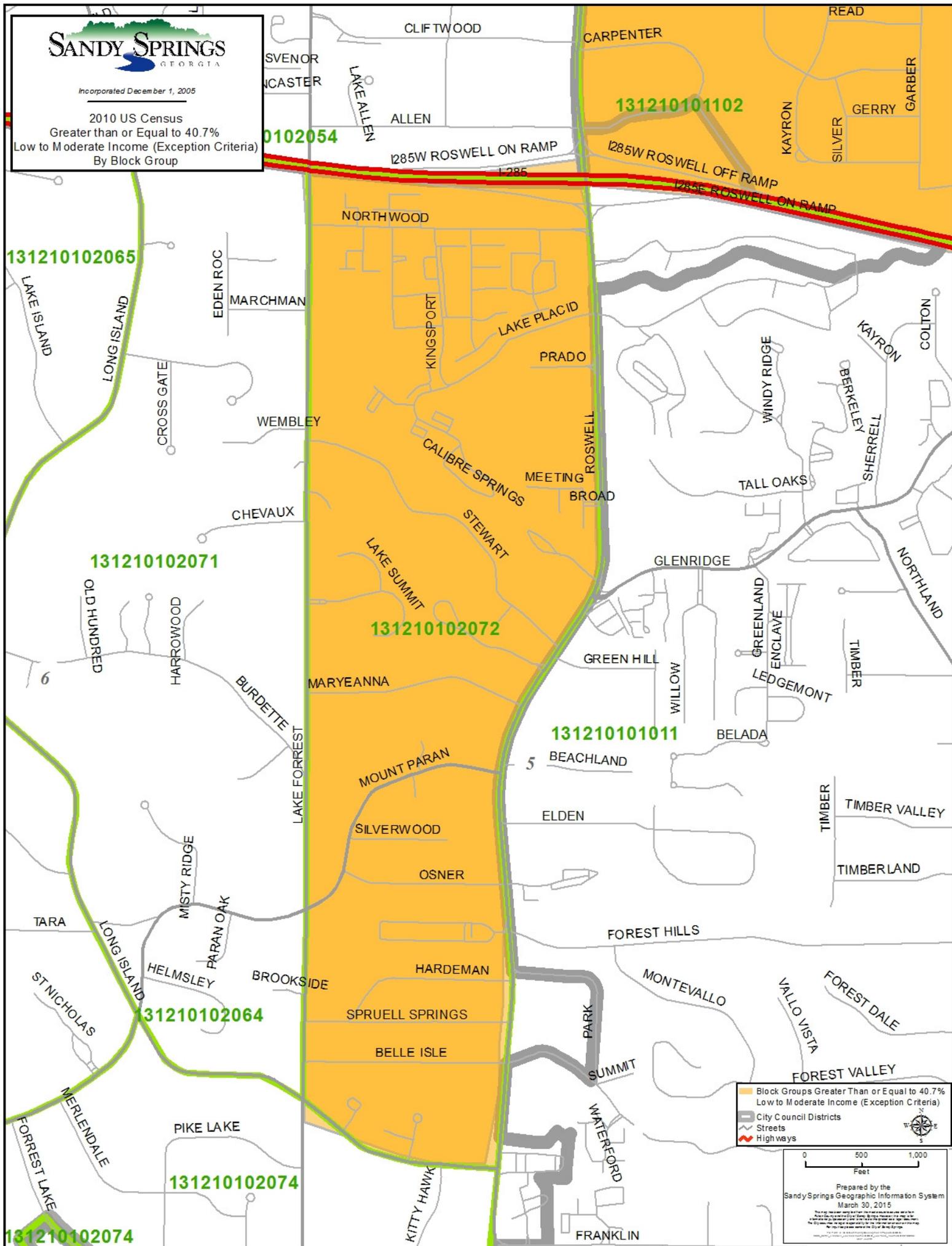
Exhibit D

South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project Map

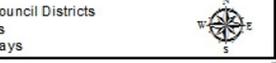
SANDY SPRINGS GEORGIA

Incorporated December 1, 2005

2010 US Census
Greater than or Equal to 40.7%
Low to Moderate Income (Exception Criteria)
By Block Group

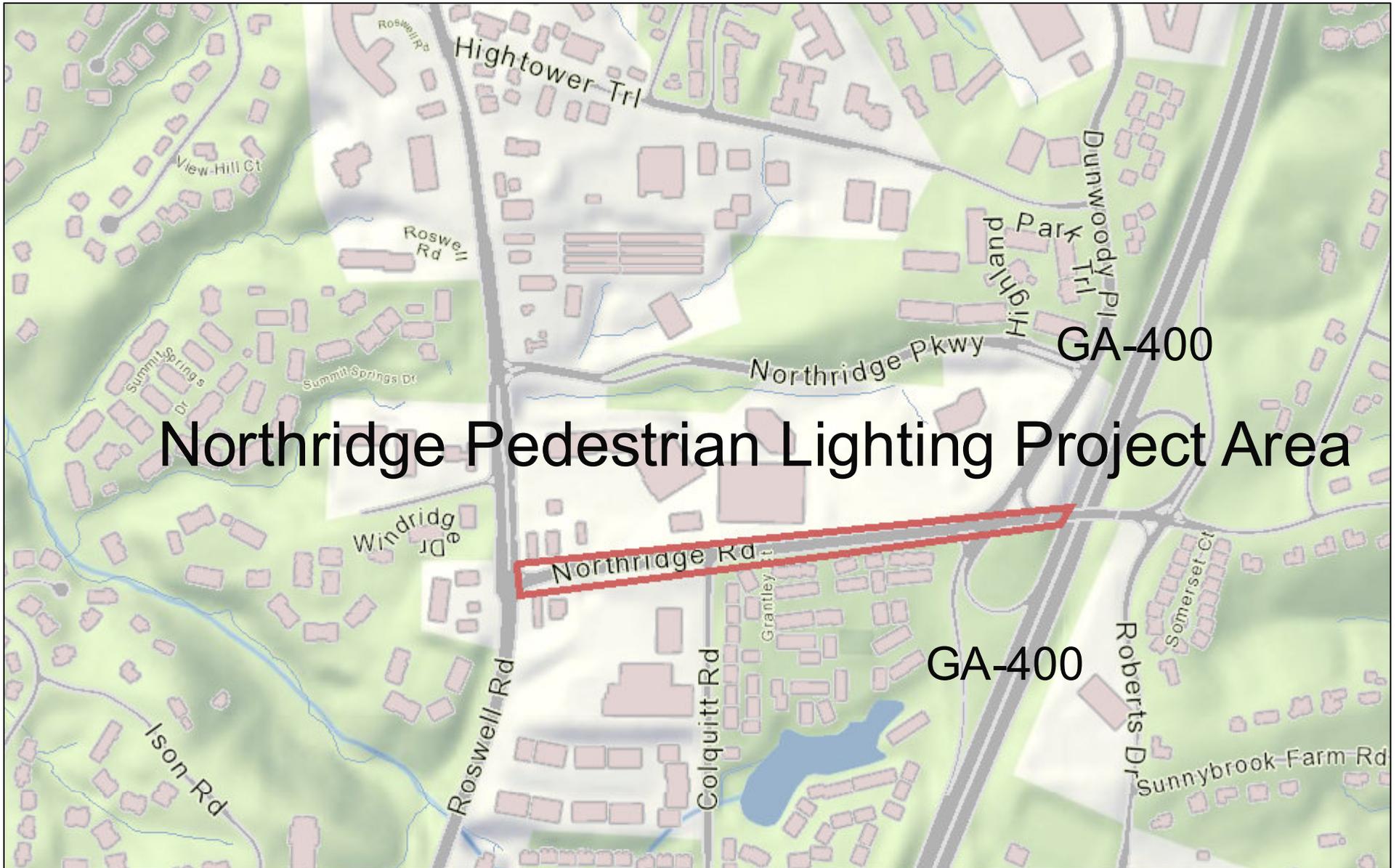


Block Groups Greater Than or Equal to 40.7% Low to Moderate Income (Exception Criteria)
 City Council Districts
 Streets
 Highways

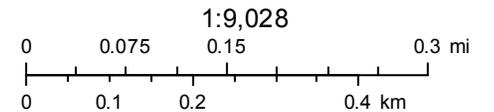


Prepared by the
Sandy Springs Geographic Information System
March 30, 2015

City of Sandy Springs



June 7, 2016



City of Sandy Springs GIS Department
Map files by Stamen Design, under CC BY 3.0. Data by OpenStreetMap.

APPENDIX

Exhibit E Fair Housing Checklist

APPENDIX

Exhibit F HUD Form SF-424 and Other Certifications

Correspondence

Public Notice

after the customer left, she would zero out the refund and pocket the cash. She had taken about \$6,000, some of which is registered on video surveillance.

■ RUNAWAY PHOTOGRAPHER:

A 22-year-old woman said she got married in September and hired a wedding photographer to photograph the event. She said paid him \$800 in November but never received the photos. Upon checking, she learned the photographer closed down his website and moved from the business that was located on Alawana Drive in Athens.

■ TRIPPING: A man said he was injured at the Regal Perimeter Pointe Stadium 10 movie theatre after he walked into a dark theater, tripped and hit his head.

The names and charges above are from area arrest warrants and crime reports. A warrant is merely an accusation of a crime and accused people are innocent until proven guilty. The Sandy Springs and Atlanta police departments release descriptions of suspects when arrests have not been made and residents' input is needed.

new fee begins immediately.

Suspect arrested

The Sandy Springs Police Department last week announced it has arrested a suspect accused of striking an officer with her car last week.

Jan. 13, just before 9 p.m., Officer Leon Millholland was on a traffic stop in the right acceleration lane from 7840 Roswell Road when he was struck by a blue, passenger vehicle. The vehicle was

4855 Tanglewood Court
Sandy Springs Just Outside City

Picture your home with a SOLD sign in the front yard
Please call me to discuss the listing and sale of your home.

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TOP AGENT IN THE COMPANY
404-591-6522
404-352-2010
www.pattijunger.com



DORSEY ALSTON REALTORS 100 W. Paces Ferry Rd. Atlanta, GA 30305

Above information believed accurate but not warranted. Offer subject to prior sales, errors, omissions, changes and withdrawals without prior notice. Equal Housing Opportunity.

DEVELOPMENT ■ SANDY SPRINGS

City Springs to become open container district

MARGOT CARVALLO
@Mc_neighbor

Sandy Springs is getting ready to welcome new restaurants into City Springs with an open container ordinance.

"This will limit the outside consumption to two drinks on any one tab. You could go get one for you and somebody else. It would limit to a size of 16 ounces we will require the sale to be (made) in a paper or plastic cup," said Jim Tolbert, assistant city manager.



Chris Burnett

also host a number of festivals throughout the year. Many of the new restaurants will want to sell to-go cups of alcohol and there will be a desire to serve alcohol at city events. The state code will allow a local ordinance to establish a district where public consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed.

"Our private partner at City Springs would love to get this resolved so they can make some commitments to the folks that are talking about leasing some space," said Tolbert.

It would also allow for special events to sell alcohol in this area, he said, with the approval of the special events permit.

The boundaries are established as Mount Vernon Highway, Sandy Springs Circle and Johnson Ferry and Roswell roads. It will also include the area of the parking

lot between at Mount Vernon and Hildebrand Drive along Blue Stone Road, Tolbert said.

District 3 Councilman Chris Burnett, whose district includes City Springs, recommended signage be placed to inform residents of the protected area limits.

"Only alcohol purchased in the district can be consumed in the district," said City Attorney Wendell Willard. "We (start with) City Springs and then we can consider a bigger area."

Exceptions to this law are festival beverages or BYOB restaurants, he said.

Mayor Rusty Paul said the council remains open to considering expanding the consumption area upon businesses' legitimate concerns.

"It is easier to start small and then make it bigger than start big and then take it away," said District 4 Councilman Gabriel Sterling.

CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS PUBLIC NOTICE
17-42437

Place: City of Sandy Springs City Hall
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

Date & Time: February 7, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Purpose: Alcoholic Beverage License Application
Consumption on the Premises
Wine, Malt Beverage & Distilled Spirits

Applicant: Sea Bass Kitchen LLC
DBS Maya Steaks and Seafood
6152 Roswell Road
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS PUBLIC NOTICE
17-42065

Place: City of Sandy Springs City Hall
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

Date and Time: February 7, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Purpose: Alcoholic Beverage License Application
Retail / Package
Malt Beverage

Applicant: Northside C. Store Inc,
DBA Quick Shop
156 Northwood Drive
Sandy Springs, GA 30342

CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS PUBLIC NOTICE
17-42295

Place: City of Sandy Springs City Hall
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

Date and Time: February 7, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Purpose: Alcoholic Beverage License Application
Retail / Package
Malt Beverage and Wine

Applicant: GHM Investments, Inc
DBA Carniceria Los Pinos
6342 Roswell Road
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

DEVELOPMENT ■ CITY SPRINGS

City buying property for Triangle Park, dual roundabout

MARGOT CARVALLO
@Mc_neighbor

After a long wait, the city of Sandy Springs is ready to settle payment for the property at the Johnson Ferry Road/Mount Vernon Highway triangle.

The city might need to spend about \$4.8 million for the four-parcel property for a park and a double roundabout for traffic mitigation planned as part of the City Springs project.

At an executive session after its regular meeting at City Hall last week, the Sandy Springs City Council preapproved for City Manager John McDonough to sign a property purchase agreement.

The property is owned by Milton-based W.B. Holdings Triangle.

The dual roundabout is planned to be built east of the Johnson Ferry-Mount Vernon intersection and



Wendell Willard

the rest of the property will become Triangle Park, a public greenspace across from City Springs.

The transaction terms still need to be reviewed and set by City Attorney Wendell Willard before the final draft is approved.

The property has been mostly empty for a couple of years, except for Magic Mike's Automotive, on the south side of the land. The shop was moved to

6560 Roswell Road at the beginning of the year after the city paid about \$73,000 in relocation settlement.

Mike's, formerly known as Eddie's Automotive, opened at that location in the '60s. Because of the building's preservation issues, the city is studying not using federal funds for demolition but instead using special-purpose local-option sales tax money.

IN BRIEF ■ SCHOOL NEWS

Breakfast

As part of National School Choice Week, The Georgia Public Policy Foundation will host a leadership breakfast Thursday at 8 a.m. at the Georgian Club in southeast Cobb County. Speaker Ben Scafid, director of the Education Economics Center at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business, will reveal the results of his new study titled "Balancing the Books in Education." Tickets are \$30.

Information and tickets: <http://bit.ly/2hkLmR6>

Woodward

Woodward Academy recently announced five news items.

First, Woodward's upper school student produced yearbook, The Phoenix, and literary magazine, Silent Voices, recently earned the top award in the large school category of the 2016 Georgia Scholastic Press Association's General Excellence competition.

Second, Woodward senior Alexa Flesch recently placed

first in the special group category at the second Jiang Su Cup Chinese Speech Contest for High School Students held at the Confucius Institute at Emory University. More than 30 students from high schools throughout Georgia participated in the contest. Juniors Grayson Prince and Samuel Etheredge also participated in the contest in the Level III category and

each received encouragement awards.

Third, the Woodward upper school novice debate team recently traveled to Columbus for the Blue Devil Debates at Columbus High School. Freshmen Saket Surapaneni and Vikram Kumar took first place overall in the novice division, achieving a 4-0 record. The War Eagles also took five of the top 10 speaker awards in

novice: Vikram (first), Prahalad Gururajan (second), Siddu

CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS PUBLIC NOTICE
16-41239

Place: City of Sandy Springs City Hall
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

Date and Time: February 7, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Purpose: Alcoholic Beverage License Application
Consumption on the Premises
Wine, Malt Beverage & Distilled Spirits

Applicant: Three O'Clock Somewhere, Inc
DBA Verde Taqueria
4600 Roswell Road, Suite D140
Sandy Springs, GA 30342

SANDY SPRINGS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 7, 2017

2017 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The City of Sandy Springs, GA has begun preparations to submit its 2017 Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by May 15, 2017, tentatively. To meet the requirements of Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs, Sandy Springs will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. The Phase II of the sidewalk project and the Northridge Road Sidewalk Enhancement project have been completed. Staff is now focusing on the implementation of South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project, specifically the area south of Interstate 285 (Phase III). Citizens can offer input on this project at the public hearing, as well as other needs in their community relative to the CDBG Program. The CDBG program assists cities with developing viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Citizens in need of translation services or materials in alternative formats should call 770-730-5600 seven calendar days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Additional CDBG Program information can be found on the City's CDBG webpage at <http://www.sandyspringsga.org/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg>.

SWAT command vehicle costs being shared by local cities

BY DYANA BAGBY
 dyanabagby@reporternewspapers.net

A new command vehicle for the North Metro SWAT Team is being purchased with funds from the four cities it serves – Dunwoody, Brookhaven, Sandy Springs and John's Creek.

Total cost of the Freightliner command vehicle from Summit Bodyworks is \$247,659. The cost for the vehicle is being divided according to populations of the four cities, with Dunwoody paying \$41,916; Sandy Springs paying \$88,228; Brookhaven paying \$43,897; and John's Creek chipping in \$73,616.

"We've needed a command vehicle for quite a long time," Dunwoody Police Chief Billy Grogan told Dunwoody City Council on Jan. 9. "This is a piece of equipment urgently needed. Right now our command and control is being done on the hood of a vehicle."

As part of a memorandum of understanding among the cities, Sandy Springs will purchase the vehicle and maintain it. The vehicle is not a military vehicle, but was designed by a company that specializes in outfitting specialty vehicles.

"This command vehicle will be huge for us," said Sandy Springs Capt. Mike Lindstrom.

Sandy Springs police Sgt. James McNabb, tactical commander for the North Metro SWAT Team, said the vehicle will be important for the team and for any critical incident in which local law enforcement must be at a scene for an extended period of time.

"It's just a good idea to have a centralized command area. It allows us to unify everything and keep everyone on the same page," McNabb said.

A command vehicle also helps keep su-

supervisors safe during harsh weather, he said, and will have a special area for hostage negotiators to be in contact with suspects while also knowing what is happening on the ground among fellow officers.

North Metro SWAT was called out on fewer than 10 calls last year, McNabb said, but one included a violent home invasion in Brookhaven where two suspects barricaded themselves in an apartment. The suspects were arrested without injuries.

McNabb said the specialized equipment the SWAT team currently has includes two "throwbots," mini-robots that can be easily thrown through a window or door and relay sound and video to officers trying to gauge how dangerous a situation is.

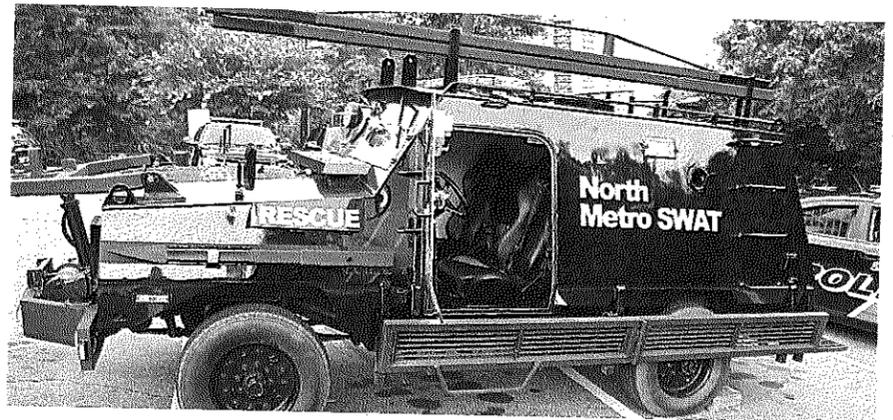
Last year, Sandy Springs police received a \$15,894 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to buy a second "Throwbot XT" for the North Metro Swat unit.

The SWAT unit also has an ICOR Caliber T5 robot that stands nearly 2 feet tall and weighs about 150 pounds. This robot has a claw that is able to retrieve suspicious packages and a camera that relays what it comes across to officers. It is also designed to breach doors if needed, said McNabb.

"The throwbots can be more secret and [provide] stealth, but with this [the ICOR robot] you know it's coming," he said.

The SWAT team also has an armored vehicle, known as a Bearcat, which was purchased and is owned by the Dunwoody Police Department. It can be used to forcefully enter a building, but can also be used in an active shooter situation by positioning it between an injured civilian and a gunman, explained McNabb.

The Bearcat is often used when officers need to approach a structure where an armed individual may be holed up, such as during the Brookhaven home invasion last



year, he said. The Bearcat holds between eight to 10 officers, including a medic.

"Anytime we any do sort of warrants and need to get close to a bad guy structure ... we use the Bearcat," he said.

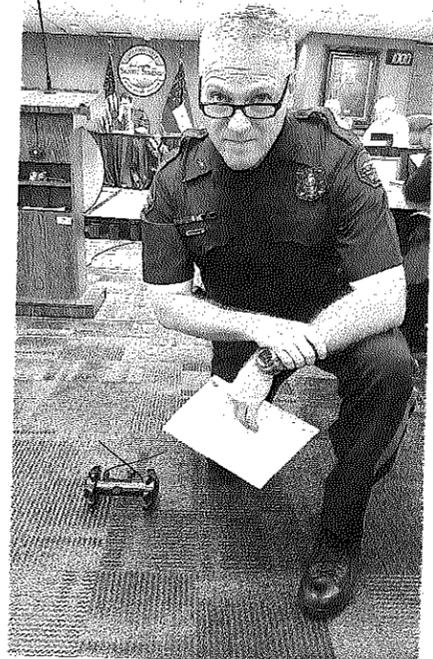
A shovel-like device can be attached to the Bearcat to break down a door and there is a turret on top of the vehicle where a rifleman can sit.

"I've heard them being called tanks, but they are nothing like that," he said. "It does have a place for a rifleman to sit up front, but there are no cannons or machine guns aboard."

FILE PHOTOS

Top: The Bearcat, an armored personnel vehicle, is used by the North Metro SWAT Team in such situations as when officers need to get close to a building where an armed shooter is suspected of hiding.

Right: Sandy Springs Police Chief Ken DeSimone poses with a Throwbot XT robot.



SANDY SPRINGS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FEBRUARY 7, 2017

2017 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The City of Sandy Springs, GA has begun preparations to submit its 2017 Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by May 15, 2017, tentatively. To meet the requirements of Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs, Sandy Springs will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall located at 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. The Phase II of the sidewalk project and the Northridge Road Sidewalk Enhancement project have been completed. Staff is now focusing on the implementation of South Roswell Road Multiyear Sidewalk Project, specifically the area south of Interstate 285 (Phase III). Citizens can offer input on this project at the public hearing, as well as other needs in their community relative to the CDBG Program. The CDBG program assists cities with developing viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Citizens in need of translation services or materials in alternative formats should call 770-730-5600 seven calendar days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Additional CDBG Program information can be found on the City's CDBG webpage at <http://www.sandyspringsga.org/city-services/urban-development/planning-and-zoning/cdbg>.

SANDY SPRINGS NOTICE OF REZONING

Petition Number: RZ16-0090
 Petitioner: SRPF A/North River, LLC
 Property Location: 8765, 8800, and 8877 Roswell Road and 0 Dunwoody Place (North River Shopping Center)
 Present Zoning: C-1
 Request: To rezone from C-1 to C-1 to change zoning conditions on the existing development and develop a proposed grocery store with concurrent variances.
 Public Hearings: Planning Commission February 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor and City Council March 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600

SANDY SPRINGS NOTICE OF VARIANCE PETITION

Petition Number: V16-0092
 Petitioner: Chick-fil-A
 Rep: Joseph Latimer
 Location: 8433 Roswell Road
 Request: One (1) Variance from the Zoning Ordinance Article XXXIII. Signs H. Sandy Springs Overlay District. 2. Wall Signs. a. Wall signs are permitted on street-facing walls. To allow a wall sign on a non-street facing wall.
 Public Hearings: Board of Appeals February 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600

public hearings, written comments on the county's proposed Amendments by mailed by Feb. 13 5 p.m. to Fulton County Government, Department Housing and Community Development (Attention: Linda Callaway), 137 Peachtree St. SW, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30303 Callaway at 404-613-8087 Linda.Callaway@fultoncountga.gov.

George Heery 404.974.4378



Lake Burton. \$5,995,000
 50 Point Morgan Lane
 6BR/7BA/2HBA FMLS: 5766814
 Carrie Faletti 404.909.1453
 Caelyn Pyles 404.281.5850

770.652.1890



Milner. \$1,599,000
 469 6th Street Ext
 4BR/3BA/2HBA FMLS: 5758546
 Clay Henderson
 770.652.1890

404.808.6295



Roswell. \$853,280
 1295 Thomas Circle
 5BR/4.5BA FMLS: 5761254
 Robin Ives
 770.870.4009

770.652.1890



Milner. \$699,000
 520 Camp Road
 4BR/3.5BA FMLS: 5721
 Clay Henderson
 770.652.1890



City of East Point		
City of Palmetto	2014	\$8,738.37
Atlanta Legal Aid	2016	\$40,000
In His Great Name Ministry	2016	\$26,000
In His Great Name Ministry (facility rehab)	2016	\$76,000
CDBG Subtotal		\$300,435.37
HOME	Fiscal Year	Delete Allocation
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	2009	\$144,677
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	2010	\$100,117
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	2016	\$179,153.64
HOME Subtotal		\$423,945.64
Grand Total		\$724,383.30

tory center are in partnership with Belgian, French and British organizations."

The first exhibition is March 6 through April 30 with the presentation of "The Great War in Broad Outlines: 1914-1918." This exhibition, which comes from Belgium, includes 30 exhibition panels which are at the center of this touring program, and recount the conflict from an international perspective.

That exhibition will be fol-

unique portrait of WWI battlefields and features the work of Michael St Maur Sheil.

Don Rooney, the center's director of exhibitions, said "The Great War in Broad Outlines" was created by the Belgian National Institute for Veterans and Victims of War, and the center is expected to be the only venue in the Southeast to host it.

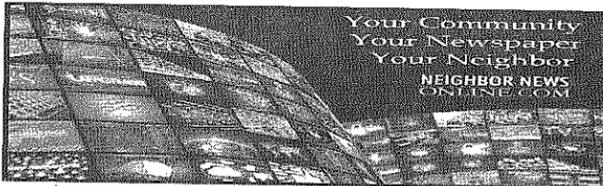
Information: (404) 814-4000 or www.atlantahistory-center.com

Questions may be submitted until 5:00 p.m., March 3, 2017. Questions received after this date and time may not be answered.

Questions must be directed in writing by e-mail to:
Nesby Ingram, Purchasing Manager
ningram@sandyspringsga.gov

Any Responses from the City to questions received and any RFQ addenda will be posted to the City's website at <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/business/doing-business-with-the-city/city-procurements>. Please check the website regularly for updates.

Issue Date: February 22, 2017



STAFF REPORT I SEASON OF GIVING

Buckhead businesses unite to reward nonprofit owner

Maria Heckscher Salon on Paces Ferry Place in Buckhead recently hosted the Season of Giving Contest in which the salon, along with two other businesses located on that street, would treat a person or family that deserves a day of pampering, either for their benevolence or their perseverance.

The prize included hair services at the salon, gift cards to Labels Resale Boutique and dinner at Portofino Bistro.

Contest nominations rolled in for cancer survivors and their caretakers, for small business owners and for people who tirelessly give to others before themselves. But one nomination in particular by a woman named Monique Hart told the story of her selfless, tenacious friend, Deborah Sims. Hart described how for the last several years, Sims fed the homeless and distributed toys to underprivileged kids with her own money every year.

Last year, she was working to earn 501(c)(3) status for her nonprofit, Sweet Serenity SSI, when she needed to step down in order to care for her longtime partner and best friend in his last days as he suffered from congestive heart failure in hospice. Sims' partner died the day before the salon reached out to inform her that she'd been nominated and selected to win the contest.

The emotion was overwhelming and her first reaction was that she wanted to share her day of pampering with her friend Monique, who had nominated her.

Sweet Serenity is seeking a place to store food, cook and serve meals. People are also welcome to donate gift cards, blankets, winter coats for adults and children,

canned vegetables and monetary donations.

Information: 678-650-2552

SANDY SPRINGS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 7, 2017

2017 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The City of Sandy Springs, GA has prepared its draft 2017 Annual Action Plan required for participation in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Annual Action Plan describes how the City intends to use its 2017 CDBG allocation to achieve the broad goals described in the City's 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

The City of Sandy Springs anticipates receiving CDBG funds March 2017. The City proposes to use these funds to continue the multi-year sidewalk improvement program in designated low- and moderate-income target areas on the east and west sides of Roswell Road to improve access to commercial areas, public transit, parks, and health services for residents. The City also intends to pursue a Section 108 loan to provide alternative financing for these projects.

As required by 24 CFR Part 91.105 (b) (2), the draft 2017 Annual Action Plan will be available for a 30-day public comment period beginning March 10, 2017 through April 10, 2017. A copy of the plan is available for those interested in reviewing it under the "Community Development Grant Program" heading at the top of the City's CDBG webpage <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/City-Departments/Community-Development/Community-Development-Block-Grant>. Hard copies of the document can also be reviewed at the following locations:

Sandy Springs City Hall
Community Development Department
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Sandy Springs Regional Library
395 Mt. Vernon Hwy., NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Dorothy C. Benson Senior Multipurpose Complex
6500 Vernon Woods Drive
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

March 7, 2017, 5:00 p.m.
Questions received after this date and time may not be answered.

Information concerning this solicitation may be found electronically at <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/business/doing-business-with-the-city/city-procurements>.

This website will contain the Invitation to Bid, any addenda, and any clarifications, schedule changes and other important information regarding the solicitation. Offerors should check these electronic pages daily.

INVITATION TO BID #17-012 ATMS III ITS SYSTEM EXPANSION AT THIRTY INTERSECTIONS PROJECT PI0013141

PRE-BID CONFERENCE

February 28, 2017; 9:00 a.m.

City of Sandy Springs
7840 Roswell Rd., Building 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

BID DUE DATE

March 29, 2017; 2:00 p.m.

City of Sandy Springs
Purchasing Office
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Questions must be directed in writing to:
City of Sandy Springs, Purchasing Agent,
Lynn Taylor,
via e-mail to:

etaylor@sandyspringsga.gov

Deadline for questions from prospective contractors March 1, 2017; 5:00 p.m.
Questions received after this date and time may not be answered.

etaylor@sandyspringsga.gov

Bidders are referred to the bid package on the City of Sandy Springs website, purchasing page, at <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/business/doing-business-with-the-city/city-procurements> and should check the site for the most current bidding information.

The City of Sandy Springs in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 78 Stat. 252, 42 USC 2000d-42 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, part 21, Nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

→ Estos hijos de famosos buscan su propio lugar

Libran su propia lucha

No es fácil seguir los pasos de sus padres.

● Alejandro Jasso
Agencia Reforma

Conocen la fama y el éxito a través de sus padres, ahora buscan brillar con luz propia siguiendo los pasos de sus progenitores, pero solo el tiempo dirá si lo lograrán. Entre ellos se encuentran los 'retoños' de Vicente Fernández, Ricardo Montaner, Napoleón, Emmanuel y Joan Sebastian, que libran su lucha en el medio de la música. ■

FOTOS: ARCHIVO AGENCIA REFORMA



José María. Lleva años cantando en bares y recientemente 'El Chema' acompañó a su papá Napoleón en conciertos y en su más reciente producción discográfica, 'Vive'.



José Manuel Figuerola. El hijo de Joan Sebastian no ha logrado colarse en los primeros lugares en radio ni ventas de discos como su padre lo hacía.



Alexander Hacha. Las comparaciones que le hacen con su padre lo molestan y a pesar de que tiene una voz parecida a Emmanuel, no ha conseguido el éxito deseado.



Mau y Ricky Montaner. Se han abierto camino por sí solos como cantantes y también lo han hecho como compositores de artistas como Thalía.



Vicente Fernández Jr. Su hermano Alejandro sí se posicionó como un gran vendedor de discos, pero no consigue alcanzar los pasos de su padre.

SANDY SPRINGS AUDENCIA PUBLICA - 7 DE FEBRERO DEL 2017

La ciudad de Sandy Springs ha preparado su proyecto Plan de acción anual 2017 necesario para la participación en los programas del Departamento de vivienda y desarrollo urbano de subvención de desarrollo comunitario (CDBG) (HUD). El Plan de acción anual describe cómo la ciudad intenta utilizar su asignación de CDBG 2017 para lograr los objetivos generales que se describe en el Plan consolidado de 2013-2017 de la ciudad.

La ciudad de Sandy Springs anticipa recibir los CDBG fondos aproximadamente en Marzo 2017 y propone utilizar estos fondos para continuar con el programa de mejoras de aceras en áreas de bajos y moderados ingresos en el este y oeste de Roswell Road para mejorar el acceso a zonas comerciales, los servicios públicos de transporte, parques y servicios de salud para los residentes. La ciudad de Sandy Springs también tiene la intención de perseguir el préstamo del Section 108 para así financiar estos mismos proyectos.

Como es requerido por 24 CFR parte 91.105(b)(2), el proyecto Plan de acción anual 2017 estará disponible durante un período de 30 días para comentario público que comienza el 10 de marzo de 2017 hasta el 10 de abril de 2017. Una copia del plan está disponible para aquellos interesados en revisarlo bajo el encabezado "Programa de Ayuda del Desarrollo de la Comunidad" en la parte superior de la página web CDBG de <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/City-Departments/Community-Development/Community-Development-Block-Grant> de la ciudad.

Copias impresas del documento también pueden consultarse en las siguientes ubicaciones:

Sandy Springs City Hall
Community Development Department
Morgan Falls Office Park
7840 Roswell Road, Building 500

Aquellos que deseen formular comentarios sobre el Plan de acción anual 2017 pueden usar el buzón del programa CDBG en cdbgprogram@sandyspringsga.gov por correo electrónico o enviar correspondencia escrita al Departamento de desarrollo comunitario Sandy Springs en la dirección arriba hasta el 10 de abril de 2017. Aprobación definitiva del Plan de acción anual 2017 está prevista para el 2 de mayo de 2017 en la reunión ordinaria del alcalde y el Concejo Municipal. Todas las reuniones comienzan a las 6:00 p.m., están abiertas al público y se llevan a cabo en el ayuntamiento, localizado en el 7840 Roswell Road, edificio 500, Sandy Springs, GA, 30350. Los ciudadanos que necesitan servicios de traducción o materiales en formatos alternativos deben llamar 770-730-5600 siete días antes de la reunión programada.



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**SANDY SPRINGS
NOTICE OF REZONING**

Petition Number: RZ16-0090
 Petitioner: SRPF A/North River, LLC
 Property Location: 8765, 8800, and 8877 Roswell Road and 0 Dunwoody Place (North River Shopping Center)
 Present Zoning: C-1
 Request: To rezone from C-1 to C-1 to change zoning conditions on the existing development and develop a proposed grocery store with concurrent variances.
 Public Hearings: Planning Commission March 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor and City Council April 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600

**SANDY SPRINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 7, 2017**

**2017 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development
Block Grant (CDBG) Program**

The City of Sandy Springs, GA has prepared its draft 2017 Annual Action Plan required for participation in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Annual Action Plan describes how the City intends to use its 2017 CDBG allocation to achieve the broad goals described in the City's 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

The City of Sandy Springs anticipates receiving CDBG funds March 2017. The City proposes to use these funds to continue the multi-year sidewalk improvement program in designated low- and moderate-income target areas on the east and west sides of Roswell Road to improve access to commercial areas, public transit, parks, and health services for residents. The City also intends to pursue a Section 108 loan to provide alternative financing for these projects.

As required by 24 CFR Part 91. 105 (b) (2), the draft 2017 Annual Action Plan will be available for a 30-day public comment period beginning March 10, 2017 through April 10, 2017. A copy of the plan is available for those interested in reviewing it under the "Community Development Grant Program" heading at the top of the City's CDBG webpage <http://www.sandyspringsga.gov/City-Departments/Community-Development/Community-Development-Block-Grant>.

Hard copies of the document can also be reviewed at the following locations:

Sandy Springs City Hall
 Community Development
 Department
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road
 Building 500
 Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Sandy Springs Regional Library
 395 Mt. Vernon Hwy., NE
 Sandy Springs, GA 30350

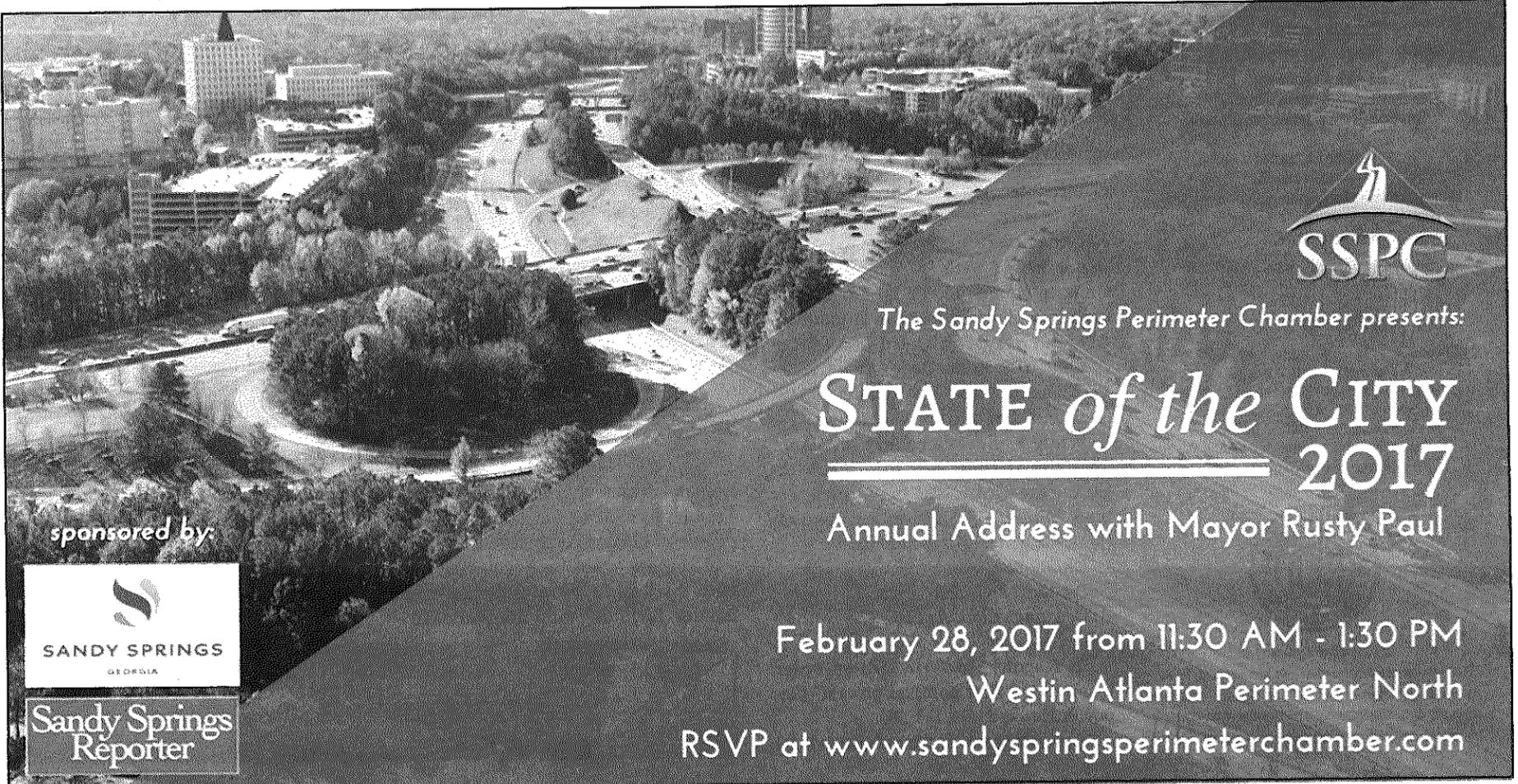
Dorothy C. Benson Senior
 Multipurpose Complex
 6500 Vernon Woods Drive
 Sandy Springs, GA 30328

**SANDY SPRINGS
NOTICE OF TEXT AMENDMENT**

Petition Number: TA17-0001
 Petitioner: City of Sandy Springs
 Request: An Ordinance to Amend Article III, Definitions, Article XXII, Variances, Modifications and Appeals of the Sandy Springs Zoning Ordinance, relating to withdrawal and deferral procedures
 Public Hearings: Planning Commission March 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Mayor and City Council April 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600

**SANDY SPRINGS
NOTICE OF TEXT AMENDMENT**

Petition Number: TA17-0002
 Petitioner: City of Sandy Springs
 Request: An Ordinance to Amend Section 4.23 of the Zoning Ordinance, to add landscaping requirements
 Public Hearings: Planning Commission March 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Mayor and City Council April 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Sandy Springs City Hall
 Morgan Falls Office Park
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350
 770-730-5600



The Sandy Springs Perimeter Chamber presents:

**STATE of the CITY
2017**

Annual Address with Mayor Rusty Paul

February 28, 2017 from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
 Westin Atlanta Perimeter North
 RSVP at www.sandyspringsperimeterchamber.com

The prize includes services to Labels Resale Boutique and dinner at Portofino Bistro.

Contest nominations rolled in for cancer survivors and their caretakers, for small business owners and for people who tirelessly give to others before themselves. But one nomination in particular by a woman named Monique Hart told the story of her selfless, tenacious friend, Deborah Sims. Hart described how for the last several years, Sims fed the homeless and distributed toys to underprivileged kids

**2017 Annual Action Plan for Federal Community Development
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Purchasing Office
 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500
 Sandy Springs, GA 30350

Questions must be directed in writing
 City of Sandy Springs, Purchasing Agent
 Lynn Taylor,
 via e-mail to:

etaylor@sandyspringsga.gov
 Deadline for questions from prospective
 contractors March 1, 2017; 5:00 p.m.
 Questions received after this date and
 may not be answered.
etaylor@sandyspringsga.gov

Bidders are referred to the bid page

Public Comment