A strong community knows how to leverage its most important assets to improve sustainability. For many communities, one of their strongest assets is proximity to transit. Atlanta and many other cities around the region are taking seriously the opportunity to improve quality of life through “transit-oriented development” (TOD). TOD is often defined as community development that includes a mix of housing, office, retail and other amenities in a walkable neighborhood and located within a half-mile of public transportation.

An important evolution of this development model is the overlay of equity. Equitable transit oriented development, or ETOD, attempts to address critical community needs and how they are woven into the fabric of the development. How do we ensure affordability in opportunity- and transit-rich communities? How do we assure that some measure of permanent housing affordability is included in the development or redevelopment? What workforce development, jobs training and other programs are needed to lift existing residents? How are developers and transit system officials engaged?

The next quarterly Atlanta Regional Housing Forum will answer these questions and more. Attendees will learn about MARTA’s TOD initiative and hear from a local developer currently engaged in two such projects. Lastly, we will present special panel discussion with members of the Transformation Alliance, Atlanta's ETOD collaborative.

Join us at the next Atlanta Regional Housing Forum as we discuss the issue of equitable transit oriented development. The Forum will be held Thursday, March 10 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 435 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA. Free parking is available in the pay lot across the street from the church.

AGENDA

9:30 a.m. Welcome & Introductions - Bill Bolling, Chairman & Senior Adviser, Food Well Alliance
9:35 Jason Ward, Manager, MARTA Transit Oriented Development
10:00 Dillon Baynes, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Columbia Ventures, LLC
10:25 Panel Presentation from Transformation Alliance Members

- Chris Appleton, Executive Director, WonderRoot
- Odetta MacLeish-White, Program Director, Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.
- Robert Reed, Director, Residential and Community Sustainability Services, Southface
- Deborah Scott, Executive Director, Georgia STAND-UP

11:45 a.m. Adjourn

Please bring canned or nonperishable food items for donation to Atlanta Community Food Bank!