



LIVABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION

Working to improve metro Atlanta's quality of life through smart growth

With 40 member organizations, the Livable Communities Coalition brings together a diverse group of citizens, organizations, institutions, and businesses that all share a determination to promote smart growth in the metro Atlanta region. No group working on growth and development in metro Atlanta has broader representation. Coalition members believe that everybody has an interest in making our community a better place, and it works to serve as a catalyst for thoughtful, inclusive decision making about growth and development.

Goals and Methods

The Coalition works to:

- Support greater densities and mixed-use developments in appropriate areas, especially in our region's centers and transportation corridors
- Increase housing choices by removing barriers that artificially restrict the market
- Integrate transportation and land use decisions
- Ensure that greenfield development is designed to achieve a sense of community, provide more housing choices, leverage existing infrastructure, and conserve natural resources.

By adhering to these four principles of quality growth, the Coalition believes that our region can build stronger communities, improve quality of life, provide more and better choices in housing and transportations, reduce traffic, recycle underutilized and blighted properties, make more efficient use of public infrastructure, and save green space.

Coalition work generally to focuses on three areas:

- Projects, including providing technical assistance and other support to local governments and citizen groups that support smart growth. It also encourages private investment consistent with that growth.
- Public policy, especially advocacy of policies, ordinances and regulations that advance smart growth.
- Communication and education. The Coalition promotes informed public discussion of growth issues facing the region.

History

The Livable Communities Coalition grew from recommendations formulated by the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce's Quality Growth Task Force after eight months (2003 – 2004) of research and analysis of growth patterns in the region. The task force concluded that the *metro Atlanta region can grow in a way that protects and improves our quality of life and strengthens our business environment* if it adopts smart growth principles to guide that growth. It also recommended than an independent nonprofit agency be created to pursue ongoing and long-term education and advocacy efforts on behalf of those principles. The Livable Communities Coalition was formed in 2005 to meet that need.