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Pulse of Progress Reader Survey

At ADA, we value feedback from our readers, constituents and partners. Please take a moment to fill out this brief survey about the Pulse of Progress newsletter so that we can better address your needs each month. We appreciate your input!

Visit the following website to enter the survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZTNDBD9>.

ADA Sponsors The IndUS Entrepreneurs (TiE) Summit

ADA is proud to support the TiE Entrepreneurial Summit (TES), the Southeast's largest entrepreneurial gathering, July 16-17 in Atlanta.

Organized by TiE-Atlanta in partnership with TiE Carolinas and TiE Florida, the summit offers exceptional networking opportunities whether you are a business professional or a student with entrepreneurial aspirations, an emerging entrepreneur or an angel investor, venture capitalist or a representative for institutional investment.

The summit will showcase the products and services of 100 entrepreneurial individuals and organizations with innovative solutions to succeed in this new and challenging economic environment. Exhibiting at this event provides an excellent opportunity for your company to network and build relationships with influential venture capitalists, angel investors, institutional investors as well as high quality future customers amongst approximately 500 attendees.

The summit will include more than 40 speakers, including J.D. Power III, founder of JD Power and Associates; Vivek Wadhwa, entrepreneur and academic; and Gus Whalen, chairman of The Warren Featherbone Company. Panel sessions will be hosted by successful entrepreneurs, leading angel & venture investors, industry leaders, policy makers and thought leaders. Discussion topics include: technology, media and telecommunications; financial services, social media, healthcare and medical technology; opportunities for startups; entrepreneurial lifecycle; and social entrepreneurship. Regardless of the business you are in, the key to winning and transforming industries always remains the same - people with an entrepreneurial spirit. We at ADA are excited about working with TiE on TES 2010 and look forward to seeing you there.

Registration and other details are at www.tesatlanta.com. To register at TiE member prices, use the special ADA code: TES716GA

ADA Awards \$3.3 million in Grants to Revitalization Projects in the Vine City and English Avenue Communities

The Atlanta Development Authority (ADA) has awarded \$3.3 million in capital improvement grants to projects located in the Vine City and English Avenue communities this summer.

Twelve projects competed for the dollars, and six have been selected for an award. The average award amount is \$550,000. The 2010 winning projects include:

- Hagar Civilization Training Missionary Phase III
- International Brotherhood of Police Officers Headquarters
- Quest Resource and Workforce Development Center
- Vine City Plaza Phase II
- Westside TAD Demolition, Clean and Close
- Westside Village Public Improvement Project

The grants will be used for a variety of capital improvements, including: construction of a job training center; rehabilitation of the old Bronner Brothers building; MARTA façade improvements; tenant improvements of the former Publix space; and new office space for police officers, district attorneys and other law enforcement-related employees.

"We are excited to see TAD dollars generated by Downtown development at work in the neighboring communities just a stone's throw away," says Ernestine Garey, interim president for the Atlanta Development Authority.

While the ADA board of directors ultimately approves the projects that receive funding, these decisions are not without significant public input. An advisory board composed of representatives from the local community meets monthly with ADA staff. This Westside TAD Neighborhood Advisory Board evaluates each submission and provides input and recommendations on which projects should be awarded funds. In addition, ADA staff members provide quarterly updates to the community at meetings of Neighborhood Planning Unit L.

Support for this neighborhood revitalization program comes from the Westside Tax Allocation District Neighborhood Fund. This initiative received approximately 20 percent of the share of bond proceeds from downtown projects generating new property tax that were funded by the \$63.8 million Westside TAD bond issuance of 2008.

Since the inception of this program, the Neighborhood Fund has distributed more than \$15 million in grants to 17 projects. These funds leveraged an additional \$12.6 million in private investment for the English Avenue and Vine City communities.

The Villas at the Dome, a 30-unit townhome rental project, received \$1.3 million from the 2007 awards. "This property had been a major blight on the community for years," says Jeff Riddle, managing member of Vine City Holdings and owner of Villas at the Dome. "Today it stands as a model for transit-oriented, community-scale redevelopment. It is 100 percent occupied with mostly residents from the community and it wouldn't have been possible without the grant from the TAD."

"For the first time in years, we have completed projects that have accompanied City of Atlanta-funded grants," says Councilmember Ivory Lee Young, Jr. "Projects ranging from affordable housing, historic restoration and commercial redevelopment to the restoration of our infrastructure serve as a catalyst to complete the larger vision of our revitalization. Real congratulations should go not only to the community-based developers but also to the Atlanta Development Authority; both largely contributed to the success of this initiative."

New TADs Aim to Boost Development in Atlanta's Southside and Westside

June 30, 2010, marks the long awaited opening of Atlanta's Commercial Tax Allocation Districts. The CTADs, as they are called, are Atlanta's newest and final tax allocation districts and include: Campbellton Road TAD, Hollowell/MLK TAD, Metropolitan Parkway TAD, and Stadium Neighborhoods TAD. The opening marks the beginning of the 2010 application round; applications will be accepted until September 30.

The CTADs are primarily focused on larger commercial, industrial and mixed-use developments with total project sizes of \$5 million and greater. Developers and property owners should contact ADA staff at CTADs@atlantada.com to schedule meetings and bus tours of the districts.



Upcoming Economic Development Events

July 16-17, **TiE Entrepreneurial Summit**. The Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel, 2450 Galleria Parkway. See article above for details.

July 20, **New Commercial TADs: Boosting Development on Atlanta's Westside**. 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Atlanta Board of Realtors, 5784 Lake Forrest Drive. Join the council for Quality Growth and the Atlanta Board of Realtors to learn about ADA and the city of Atlanta's newest Tax Allocation Districts. This event is free, but seating is limited. Register online at www.councilforqualitygrowth.org.

July 22, **BeltLine Southwest Study Group - Subarea 1 Master Planning**. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Space Atlanta, 1310 White Street SW. The study group will review and discuss the draft master plan.

July 26 - August 8, **Downtown Atlanta Restaurant Week**. This event showcases Downtown Atlanta restaurants with special dining promotions of three-course dinners for a fixed price of \$25.00 or \$35.00 per person, plus tip and tax. For more information visit www.atlantadowntown.com.

August 4, **BeltLine Southeast Study Group - Subarea 4**. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Trees Atlanta, 225 Chester Ave. SE. The study group will review and discuss the final draft plan phase of master planning.

August 5, **Atlanta BeltLine Night at the Braves**. Turner Field, 7:10 p.m. Join the BeltLine Partnership in showing our support for the Atlanta BeltLine at the second annual Atlanta BeltLine Night at the Braves. The Braves are scheduled to play the San Francisco Giants. For details on how to order tickets visit www.beltline.org.

October 28, **6th Annual Business Growth Expo**. Cobb Galleria Centre. Put your brand in the spotlight at the biggest networking event of 2010. From startups to well-established corporations, key executives will be looking for new ideas, proven strategies and inspired products to supercharge their growth. To sponsor this event or get an exhibit booth contact Emily Boyle at eboyle@bizjournals.com or 404.249.1069. Get full details and purchase tickets at www.businessgrowthexpo.com.

November 17-19, **Environmental Trade Mission 2010**. ETM 2010™ will provide a forum where people from around the world come together to showcase cutting edge clean technologies, including products, services and processes that create a pathway to economic development opportunities for sustainable business practices. For more information and to register online, visit www.environmentaltrademission.org.