



Action Plan for Safer Streets Across Atlanta: Infrastructure Project Tracker

Case Example

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Photo credit: Propel ATL

Historically, there has been a lack of monitoring and progress reporting on city land use and development plans. Implementation trackers, run by third-party organizations or the agencies themselves, offer community partners and practitioners an avenue to monitor promised investments and hold agencies accountable to follow through on their plans and timelines. [Propel ATL's Infrastructure Project Tracker](#) for the [Action Plan for Safer Streets Across Atlanta](#) provides an example of how a local organization can work in collaboration with local government to provide greater transparency for plan implementation.

Increasing Transparency and Accountability through Project Tracking

In 2019, in response to several e-scooter fatalities in the city of Atlanta, Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms announced the [Action Plan for Safer Streets Across Atlanta](#) to improve safety conditions for those who walk, drive, bicycle, take transit, or e-scooter. The two-year, \$5 million plan identified over 20 city corridors for safety redesigns and rapid implementation action and promised to triple protected bicycle lanes and create over 20 miles of safer streets. Additionally, the Action Plan aimed to connect city neighborhoods, the local transit system,

Reclaiming Atlanta's streets as safe, inclusive, and thriving spaces for people to ride, walk, and roll.

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MAYOR'S ACTION PLAN FOR SAFER STREETS ACROSS ATLANTA

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Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA | Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoT...

and trail systems. Propel ATL, an Atlanta-based organization with a mission to ensure city streets are inclusive, safe, and thriving spaces for all residents to ride, walk, or roll, focused on creating a publicly available project tracker for the Action Plan in response to community partners calling for increased accountability for the implementation of city plans. Propel ATL created the Infrastructure Project Tracker as a space for the public to stay updated on plan progress. The project tracker maps the progress of transportation projects outlined in the plan to provide third-party accountability and transparency.

Advancing a Collaborative Approach to Monitoring and Reporting Progress

The project tracker was developed by a Propel ATL staff member with pro-bono assistance from a local engineering firm and the Atlanta Department of Transportation (ATLDOT). Created in 2019, ATLDOT was a new department that was open to collaborating with the local community. Before creating the project tracker, Propel ATL worked with ATLDOT to share their plans to create a project tracker and build support for this project within the department. By working with ATLDOT, Propel ATL highlighted how a transparent implementation process that is visible to constituents can benefit the department through public awareness, community trust, and civic momentum for implementation projects. When needed, ATLDOT reviewed information for accuracy and provided resources to assist Propel ATL in the process of developing the tracker. To create the tracker, Propel ATL utilized publicly available data on the ATLDOT website and received additional data sets from ATLDOT when needed. ATLDOT provided additional feedback on a beta version of the tracker to produce an accurate and detailed map specifically tracking projects from the Action Plan for Safer Streets.

The tracker shows the locations of proposed projects in the Safer Streets Action Plan, with overlays of the city's council districts and neighborhoods. It includes a typology of safer streets projects (i.e., complete streets, multi-use trail, roadway improvement, etc.), length of the projects, project status (completed, ongoing, other), and the responsible agency. Additionally, the map identifies projects that are located in the High Injury Network (HIN); streets that account for a disproportionate amount of traffic fatalities and are primarily located in Atlanta's west side, primarily in city council districts 3, 4, and 12.

Propel ATL's tracker allows community members and practitioners the ability to follow the progress of city plans, keep track of completion dates, and support change when necessary. By closely working with ATLDOT, Propel ATL created a thorough project tracker with multi-sectoral buy-in. Propel ATL's tracker has played an important role in cementing the narrative that transparent and accurate reporting of the implementation of policies and plans is crucial to creating a more just and sustainable city.