

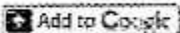
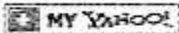
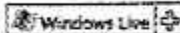

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Excerpt from: Atlanta and Decatur In-town Homes and News

OCTOBER 29, 2007

Metro Atlanta Planners Begin Exploring Transit Service in Suburbs

Officials envisioning rail lines further into the suburbs, and bands of bus service encircling the city

Hi neighbors. The City of Atlanta is synonymous, unfortunately, with traffic gridlock. What's being done about it? Today's Atlanta Journal reports that Atlanta officials drew up a new transit plan last week that would put spokes of rail transit far out into the suburbs in several directions. Bands of bus service would link suburbs to suburbs, encircling the city, says the AJC.

The officials, who are representatives of metro Atlanta counties and cities on the Transit Planning board, will probably take a vote on the plans in November. Then they will ask for public comment before giving it final approval.

Their plans extend heavy rail north to Alpharetta and put streetcar light rail from downtown up I-75 to Town Center, all across the area of northern I-285 and up the direction of I-85 to Gwinnett Place. From downtown Atlanta, two spokes of rail go northeast, through Lawrenceville and Duluth; one goes west north of I-20; and two go south through Peachtree City and Lovejoy. The plan would also include the Beltline and the Peachtree streetcar. The board hopes to have the plan approved for legislators to see in the new year's legislative session. Anything to help our congestion, and the accompanying air pollution, will be welcome. The Zac Team will watch and report.

Topic Tags: Atlanta public transit, Atlanta rail transit, Atlanta streetcar, Atlanta traffic gridlock, Atlanta Transit Planning board, Beltline project, City of Atlanta, MARTA, Peachtree

by **Zac Pasmanick**

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