

The Public's Health and the Law in the 21st Century
5th Annual Partnership Conference

Concurrent Session

**Leveraging Law and Private Investment for Healthy Urban
Redevelopment: The Atlanta BeltLine Project**

Wednesday, June 14
8:45-10:15 am

Moderator: Howard Frumkin, MD, DrPH, Director, National Center for Environmental Health, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, CDC, Atlanta, GA

Panel: Andrew L. Dannenberg, MD, MPH, Associate Director for Science, Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services, National Center for Environmental Health, CDC, Atlanta, GA

Ralph Edwards, Chairman of the Board, Trust for Public Land; Chief Executive Officer, Edwards Day Property Investments; Member, Beltline Partnership, Atlanta, GA

Karen Leone de Nie, MS, Research Scientist, Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development, Project Manager, Beltline Health Impact Assessment, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Kimberly Redding, MD, Director, Chronic Disease and Health Promotions Branch, Georgia Department of Human Resources, Public Health Division, Atlanta, GA

Session Purpose

The Atlanta BeltLine is a nationally recognized inner-city redevelopment project with the potential to direct development and greatly improve the health of Atlanta residents for decades to come. The concept, which began as a city planning student's graduate thesis, has been transformed into a plan to convert an abandoned railroad that encircling downtown Atlanta and passes through 47 separate and economically diverse neighborhoods, into a transit corridor and a multi-use trail. In January 2005, elected officials in Atlanta, its school district, and surrounding Fulton County approved a \$1.7 billion Tax Allocation District (TAD) that will fund the BeltLine vision through tax increment financing. With plans that include a greenway, significant improvements to 700 acres of existing parks, and the development of 1400 acres of new parks, the BeltLine has the potential to spur residential, retail, and commercial development along the rail corridor, offer increased in-town mobility, and increased opportunities for physical activity. The goals of this session are to provide an overview of the Atlanta BeltLine project and its potential to improve public health; discuss legal tools used to facilitate funding for the BeltLine project; and review research initiatives underway examining the relationship between health and the built environment.

Learning Objectives

By the close of this session, conference participants will be able to:

- Describe the Atlanta BeltLine project and identify its potential public health benefits;
- Describe the connection between the built environment, public health and the law; and
- Suggest practical ways in which law and multidisciplinary partnerships can be used to facilitate the development of green space.

Session Convener:

The National Center for Environmental Health

Resource Materials

Atlanta BeltLine - <http://www.beltline.org>

The Atlanta Beltline Fact Sheet
Trust for the Public Land
http://www.tpl.org/content_documents/ACF2788.pdf

The Beltline Emerald Necklace: Atlanta's New Public Realm –
Trust for the Public Land
http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=17915&folder_id=249

BeltLine Redevelopment Plan
Atlanta Development Authority
<http://www.atlantada.com/adalntiatives/BeltLineRedevelopmentPlanA.jsp>

Atlanta BeltLine Health Impact Assessment
<http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/HIA/>

World Health Organization Health Impact Assessment
<http://www.who.int/hia/en/>