

Candidate Questionnaire for Atlanta's 2025 Citywide Elections

Section I: Personal Background and Motivation

- Full Name: Allen Daly
- Office Sought: City Council, District 7
- Campaign Website and Social Media Handles:
 1. <https://allendaly.com/>
 2. <https://www.instagram.com/daly.allen/>
- Brief Biography (max 250 words):

My family has called Buckhead home for three generations. My grandfather opened Georgia's first Volkswagen dealership on Piedmont Road, and my parents raised me with values of service, responsibility, and loyalty.

I grew up earning my Eagle Scout rank and helping at the YMCA, where I learned that leadership means showing up and serving others. I later studied International Affairs at UGA and business abroad in Uruguay before building a career in technology and cybersecurity. Along the way, I saw how cities thrive when they plan smart, hold leaders accountable, and invest wisely.

Life also brought harder lessons. In 2019, my mom passed away just two months after a cancer diagnosis. Soon after, my dad suffered a stroke, and as an only child I stepped up to manage his care. Those moments taught me what true responsibility under pressure looks like.

Now my wife Katya and I live in District 7 with our rescue dog Rusty. Like you, we walk these streets, sit in the same traffic, and feel the same concerns about safety, taxes, and affordability.

I was fortunate to buy my first home here at 28, but I know most in my generation can't dream of doing the same. Families are leaving Atlanta for safer streets, better schools, and a fairer deal. It's time Atlanta delivers on its promises: safe streets, less taxes, and a future where families can thrive.

Section II: Priorities

1. What are your top three priorities if elected?
 1. Lowering the city millage rate.
 2. Implementing Smart Streets, a cost-effective and proven solution to address traffic congestion, starting with arterial roads.
 3. Ensuring that residents from District 7 feel seen and heard and that their concerns are addressed.

Section III: Public Safety

2. The Atlanta Public Safety Training Center has sparked both support and opposition throughout our city. How do you view the Public Safety Training Center's role in shaping the future of public safety, and how would you ensure it serves the needs of both first responders and the broader community?
 1. I believe the issue should have been decided via a referendum. Now that the facility is operating, we must embrace the opportunities it brings to improve the capabilities of our first responders. To serve the needs of the community, I would suggest placing an emphasis on community and school outreach programs.

Section IV: Transportation and Infrastructure

3. Traffic congestion, caused by delivery trucks and rideshare vehicles, physically blocks travel lanes on major roads like Peachtree and Piedmont. How can we ensure that this dangerous practice stops?
 1. The easiest solution to this is to limit deliveries to certain off-peak hours (early morning, late evening). This keeps trucks off the roads during rush hours, improves safety during peak pedestrian/commuter times, and works well for commercial districts.
 2. For rideshare vehicles, we can reach out to those apps and tell them to give clear instructions to their drivers to drop off in better areas or side streets.
4. What is your vision for revitalizing the Lindbergh area and addressing the visible blight along Piedmont Road, a key gateway into Buckhead? How would you work with city

agencies and law enforcement to improve safety and aesthetics in this high-priority corridor?

1. The Lindbergh corridor and Piedmont road should be a thriving gateway into Buckhead, not a stretch of blight and neglect. One of the first things people notice when they drive through Lindbergh and along Piedmont is not just the abandoned properties, but the crumbling streets and faded lane markers. That's not acceptable for a major entrance into our community. I will fight to make sure this corridor is prioritized for resurfacing, repaint crosswalks and lane lines with reflective paint for safer driving at night, and demand quicker city response times for potholes.

At the same time, I will push for a Code Enforcement blitz to clean up abandoned properties, partner with APD to increase patrols and security cameras, and work with MARTA, local businesses, and residents to transform Lindbergh into a safer, more welcoming place. I want us to reach out to local artists to turn blighted walls into vibrant displays. With better lighting, sidewalks, fresh streets and artwork, Piedmont Road can become a true front door to our community.

5. Buckhead lacks sufficient sidewalk infrastructure, particularly in some residential neighborhoods and near schools, making walking uncomfortable and unsafe for many residents. While progress has been made in the commercial core, large portions of the community remain disconnected. What specific policies or funding strategies would you support to accelerate and incentivize sidewalk construction throughout Buckhead?

1. Funding for sidewalks and other improvements often comes erratically and unexpectedly. Atlanta should look towards Federal and State grants if necessary. Livable Centers Initiative (LCI), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB), and Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) are good places to start.

Section V: Education - Atlanta Public Schools (APS)

6. Many schools throughout Atlanta are currently facing significant under-enrollment. As part of the ongoing Facilities Master Plan, the APS Board is considering recommendations for school consolidations and redistricting by late 2025. Specifically, APS has circulated a

[recent plan under community review](#) that outlines various scenarios that could repurpose and consolidate existing facilities. What is your position on potential school closures or consolidations within APS? How do you believe these changes could impact schools in Buckhead, which currently experience some of the highest enrollment levels in the district?

1. Based on feedback I've heard from parents across the area, this is a deeply unpopular and unnecessary plan, at least for Buckhead area schools. APS needs to focus on improving proficiency scores of their students and getting rid of their 46 excess/surplus properties.

Section VI: Watershed

7. Considering the recurring and increasingly severe flooding events along Peachtree Creek, what specific policies or infrastructure investments would you advocate for to mitigate future flood risks and protect vulnerable neighborhoods? How will we pay for these?

1. Based on what Atlanta Watershed has implemented in Poole Creek, I would prioritize replacing undersized culverts, installing debris screens to keep inlets clear, and expand green-infrastructure retrofits like permeable paving, rain gardens, and tree trenches to slow runoff. These are all relatively low-cost, environmentally friendly solutions, many of which can utilize NGOs and volunteers (debris clearing, green-infrastructure refits). If needed, we'll leverage FEMA and federal resilience grants, low-interest state revolving loans, and local stormwater utility funds, paired with private-sector partnerships.

8. The city has experienced multiple water main breaks and wastewater spills in recent years. What specific policies or oversight mechanisms would you support to prevent future infrastructure failures?

1. Per their last report in 2023, our Watershed Department is behind on collections, starving the system of funds. We can't begin to push for projects if the department is not collecting.

Section VII: Tree Protection Ordinance (TPO)

9. Buckhead contains the majority of Atlanta's tree canopy and has seen significant community concern regarding the finalized Tree Protection Ordinance (TPO). How would you balance the need for development with the goal of protecting Atlanta's urban forest,

especially in rapidly growing neighborhoods? What new policies or solutions, if any, would you support to strengthen the Tree Protection Ordinance (TPO) code enforcement process, currently managed by the Arborist Division within the Department of City Planning?

1. Atlanta has one of the strongest tree protection ordinances on paper, but enforcement is weak and the canopy is still shrinking. Meanwhile, residents with unhealthy trees are at risk. To improve overall efficiency and speed of the Arborist Division, we need more staff. We can accomplish this by partnering with local universities to bring on Environmental Science and Urban Forestry students as interns and part-time workers. We should also hire recent graduates full-time to grow the city's in-house expertise, creating a career pipeline that reduces costs compared to contracting consultants.

Section VIII: Final Thoughts – How Buckhead can Help the City of Atlanta

10. In what ways can the Buckhead community actively support the priorities you've set for your district or post within the City of Atlanta? Where do you believe Buckhead can have the most meaningful impact in advancing Atlanta's overall growth, prosperity, and quality of life?

1. The Buckhead community can support my priorities by getting involved and staying engaged. The best leaders don't make decisions on their own, they listen to smarter people, consider multiple perspectives, and respect feedback. I will want to be hearing from all concerned citizens about my ideas and solutions.

Where Buckhead can make the most meaningful impact is by leading with example. Our district contains the majority of Atlanta's tree canopy; we can show the city how to grow responsibly while protecting the environment. We're home to some of Atlanta's strongest business corridors and we have excellent public-private partnerships that promote safety, beautification, and transit improvements. We must continue to make advances in public safety and cleanliness so that we can continue to attract the best companies and residents. This will allow Buckhead to continue being the high-end engine of Atlanta's growth.