



# **ABOUT** THE CHAMBER The Metro Atlanta Chamber serves as a catalyst for a more prosperous and vibrant region. We work to advance economic growth and improve metro Atlanta's quality of life across its 29 counties. Our charge is to unleash Atlanta's ambition, and we do this by growing, advocating, and promoting the region's economy, talent, and community. The Metro Atlanta Chamber expands the region's thriving economy, advocates for a competitive business climate, and elevates metro Atlanta's story on a global scale to ensure that this continues to be a region that rises as one.

# LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Even in a year marked by economic uncertainty and rapid change, metro Atlanta continues to chart a steady course. Grounded in our shared purpose and vision, we are shaping the region's future as we lead with intention to fuel business growth, build vibrant communities, and create more opportunities than ever before.

The Metro Atlanta Chamber works to ensure our region's position as one of the world's most competitive and innovative places to do business. By attracting new investment and fueling job creation, nurturing the workforce of the future, and leveraging the global spotlight to tell our story, together we are building a region that delivers opportunity to all who call metro Atlanta home.

This Impact Report showcases the reach and results of the Metro Atlanta Chamber's efforts across our core strategic imperatives: Economy, Talent, and Community. Each year we build on our momentum—elevating talent as the engine of business growth in 2023, reimagining community to create a more vibrant and connected region in 2024, and now, in 2025, harnessing those foundations to accelerate economic growth and cement metro Atlanta's place on the global stage.

As you read this Impact Report, take pride in the role you play in unleashing Atlanta's ambition. Together we will chart the course for a stronger economy and an even brighter future for metro Atlanta.

With gratitude,

Kati Kinlepatur Ryan Fgricke



In 2025, we doubled down on ambition, focused our efforts, and reaffirmed our commitment to fulfilling the promise of the future. Together, we set lasting change in motion.







TALENT HUB IN THE U.S.<sup>2</sup>

Forbes

# EXECUTIVE GOVERNING COMMITTEE



Ed Bastian CEO Delta Air Lines Past Chair Kim Greene Chairman, President & CEO Georgia Power 2028 Chair Carol Tomé
CEO
UPS
Past Chair

Ryan Marshall President & CEO PulteGroup 2025 Chair **Katie Kirkpatrick** President & CEO Metro Atlanta Chamber Chris Womack Chairman, President & CEO Southern Company Past Chair Paul Donahue
Executive
Chairman
Genuine Parts
Company
Past Chair

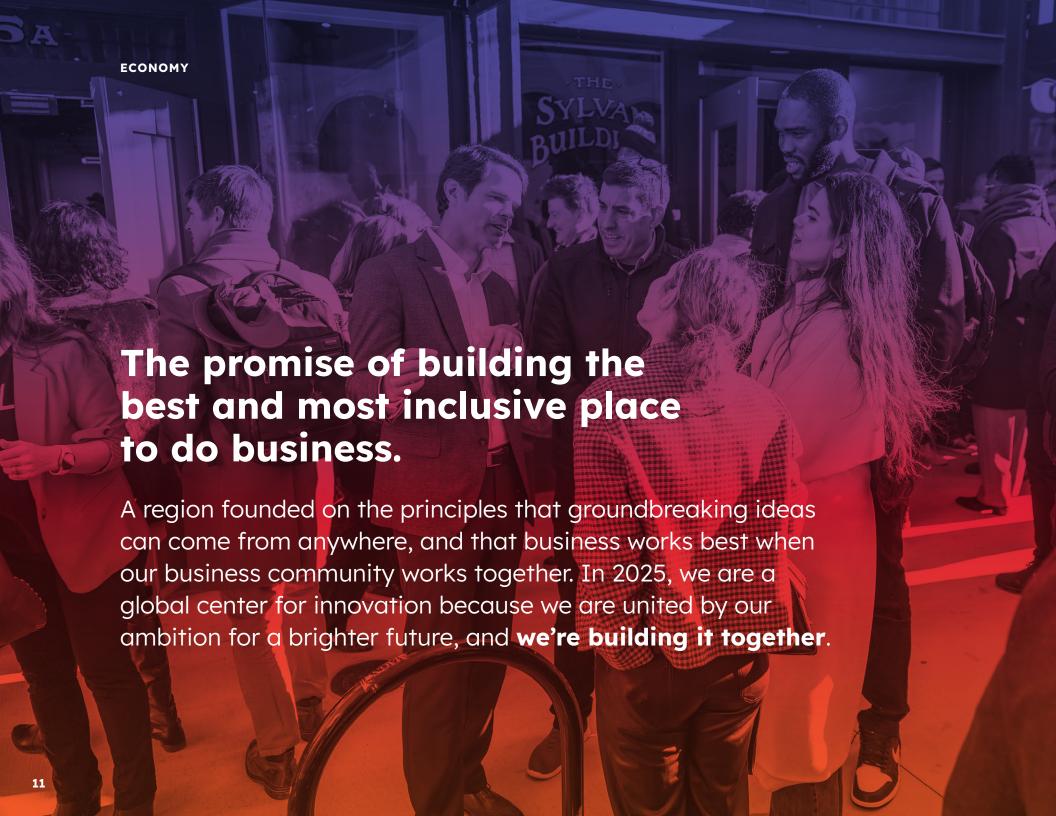
Rich McKay
CEO
AMB Sports +
Entertainment and
The Atlanta Falcons
2026 Chair

Katie Saez Georgia and Alabama Regional President Truist Bank Treasurer Richard McPhail Executive Vice President & CFO The Home Depot 2027 Chair Dr. Raphael Bostic President & CEO Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Past Chair











BEST STATE TO START A BUSINESS<sup>4</sup>

BEST CITY FOR HEADQUARTERS

BEST CITY FOR ENTREPRENEURS

# THE STATE OF THE REGION IN MACROview.

This year, the Metro Atlanta Chamber developed **MACRO**view: a new online tool to understand the region, together. Through **MACRO**view, businesses, nonprofits, and policymakers can access accurate, up-to-date, open-source data on metro Atlanta's economy, talent, and community.

Empowering data-driven decision-making is critical to our shared success. Because when we see the trends shaping the trajectories of our 29 counties, we can be **a region that rises as one**.



See metro Atlanta in MACROview™



Since 2015, metro Atlanta's labor force

HAS INCREASED BY NEARLY

**500,000** WORKERS<sup>8</sup>

Since 2014, the percentage of metro residents with a bachelor's degree or higher

**HAS INCREASED** 

**17%** 

For every 10 students in the metro, one more is graduating high school on time today than

10 YRS AGO<sup>10</sup>

# IN 2025, WE ADOPTED A NEW GAME PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We're focusing our efforts to better complement the work of our partners. By zeroing in on strengthening existing industries and recruiting new businesses, we're supporting the success of our region and our state.





### **CRH**

Fortune 500 building materials solutions provider CRH expanded its regional presence with a new shared services center in Roswell, opening 300 new skilled financial roles.

### **DURACELL**

The world's #1 battery company established its new global HQ for R&D at Science Square, bringing 110 jobs and \$56M in investment to Midtown Atlanta.

### **FLOCK SAFETY**

Georgia-founded technology company Flock Safety opened a new manufacturing facility in Smyrna, nearly doubling its metro workforce with 210 new jobs.

### **MERCEDES-BENZ**

Mercedes-Benz cemented Sandy Springs as its new North American HQ, bringing 500 jobs and a new state-of-the-art R&D facility to the region.

### **RIVIAN**

Rivian selected Atlanta for its new East Coast HQ and broke ground on a \$5B electric vehicle factory near Social Circle. The first vehicles are expected to roll off the production line in 2028.

# SHRINERS CHILDREN'S

Shriners Children's chose Atlanta's Science Square for its new pediatric medical research facility, a \$150M investment expected to generate 470 roles in tech.

### **TRINET**

Leading HR solutions provider
TriNet established a new corporate
center in Dunwoody, creating 750
positions to support small and
mid-sized metro businesses.



## CHAMBERS ADVOCATE FOR UPGRADE TO DOBBINS C-130 FLEET

The Metro Atlanta Chamber and the Cobb Chamber called on Congress to prioritize Dobbins Air Reserve Base for a C-130J upgrade. Dobbins plays a critical role in national defense and our local economy, but is one of only three Reserve installations still flying outdated aircraft. As the aircraft would be built at Lockheed Martin's historic Marietta plant, home to every C-130 ever produced, the impact of this investment would be felt across the region.

## GLOBAL AEROSPACE MANUFACTURER LANDS IN METRO ATLANTA

PBS Aerospace selected Roswell for its new North American HQ.
The global manufacturer of small turbojet engines chose metro Atlanta for its unique strategic advantages, including proximity to the world's busiest airport and leading universities. Once fully operational, the new HQ and R&D facility will employ 150 individuals in advanced aerospace roles.

## GA TECH OPENS CUTTING-EDGE AVIONICS LAB

The Georgia Institute of Technology completed the Aircraft Prototyping Lab, a new facility to develop and test advanced aviation tech. Here, the school will work with organizations like NASA to conduct cutting-edge research on projects ranging from vertical takeoff and landing to large-scale prototype aircraft. It's forward-thinking partners like these that cement our status as a nexus of innovation.





# ATLANTA GROWTH COLLECTIVE CELEBRATES 2ND YEAR

Atlanta Growth Collective, metro Atlanta's only community exclusively for founders and CEOs of mid-market, high-growth companies, entered its second year. Created in partnership with renowned entrepreneur David Cummings, the program provides rising business leaders representing 2k+ jobs and \$500M+ in revenue with a local, trusted network of peers and mentors to support their success.



Growth Collective is all about making sure that the next generation of entrepreneurs really has that opportunity to be in deep community with each other. Because when we work together, we can create amazing things."

**Ryan Wilson**CEO and Cofounder of
The Gathering Spot





# **EXPORT CHALLENGE NEARS \$1M MILESTONE**

Since 2016, the Metro Export Challenge (MEC) has helped strengthen our region's position as a global business hub by providing vital financial and mentorship support for local businesses expanding to international markets. Kicking off the program's ninth year at its Annual Pitch Day, MEC organizers celebrated \$920k in grants awarded to 149 companies to date.



Now in its third year, InnovATL spotlighted the bold thinkers and diverse voices driving metro Atlanta's innovation ecosystem. Over 11 days of programming, anchored by Rowen Convergence Summit, Venture Atlanta, and Avant South, thousands gathered to celebrate the region's growing global influence.

# THE CHAMBER SUPPORTS LEGISLATION TO KEEP GA #1 FOR BUSINESS

As committed advocates for policies that advance metro Atlanta's business climate, passing tort reform legislation constituted a top priority for the Chamber in 2025. This critical policy will help ensure Georgia remains the nation's top state for business by creating a more predictable and equitable legal environment. We extend our gratitude to Governor Brian Kemp for his leadership and to the members of the Georgia General Assembly who worked to advance this landmark legislation.





## INVESTORS OF THE CHAMBER CELEBRATE **MAJOR MILESTONES**

For 166 years, it has been the honor and privilege of the Metro Atlanta Chamber to unleash Atlanta's ambition and help our region thrive. In 2025, we celebrate the milestones of metro businesses, organizations, and nonprofits who've been with us every step of the way.



**DELTA AIR LINES 100 YEARS** 



**GOODWILL OF NORTH GEORGIA 100 YEARS** 



HARTSFIELD-JACKSON ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



**DISTRIBUTORS** 

**100 YEARS** 







**PULTEGROUP 75 YEARS** 



WAFFLE HOUSE **70 YEARS** 



MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**50 YEARS** 



THE ATLANTA SPORTS COUNCIL **40 YEARS** 



THE COOK'S WAREHOUSE **30 YEARS** 



INTERCONTINENTAL **EXCHANGE** 

25 YEARS

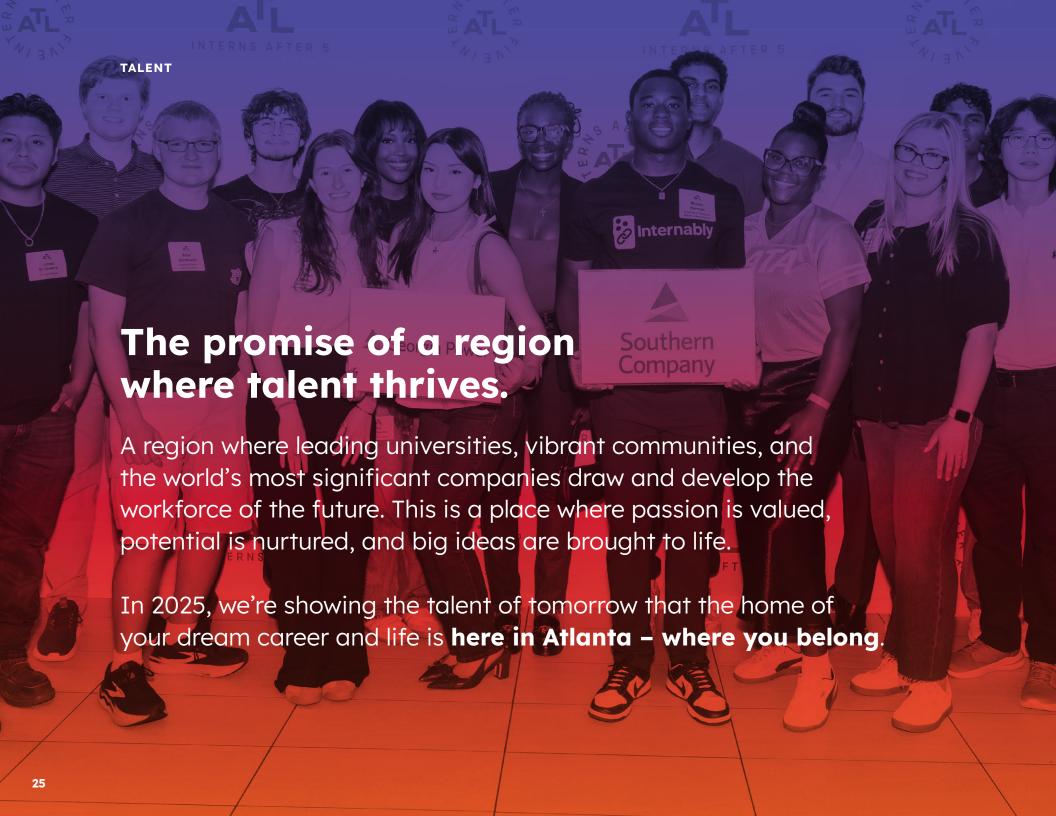


**GEORGIA AQUARIUM** 

**20 YEARS** 









BEST CITY
FOR YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS<sup>11</sup>

MOST EDUCATED CITY<sup>12</sup>

BEST METRO
FOR STEM
PROFESSIONALS<sup>13</sup>



In 2024, the Metro Atlanta Chamber worked to cement our region's status as a top destination for talent with the launch of a new brand: "Atlanta – Where You Belong." This year, we spread that message far and wide.

### SHOWCASING OPPORTUNITY

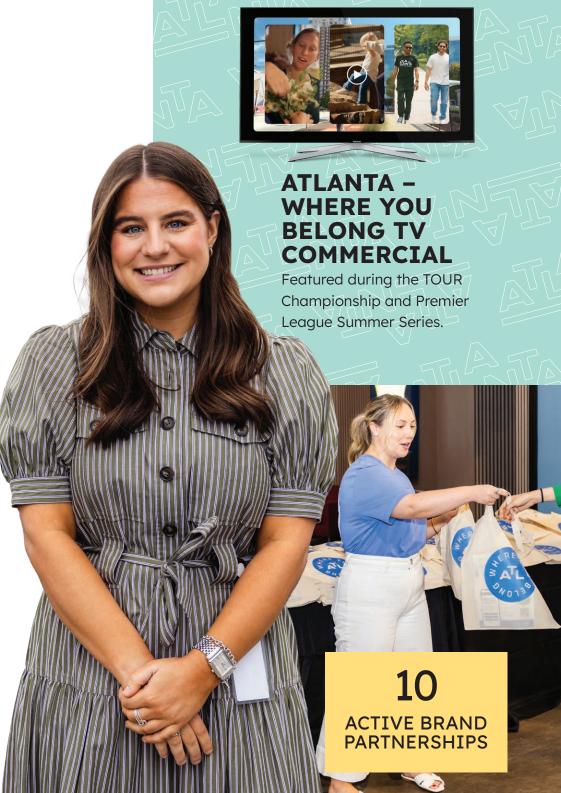
Telling the stories of young professionals at top metro companies through "A Day in the Life"—style videos.

### SHARING CULTURE

Highlighting ATL's vibrancy through social content and collabs with iconic brands like Atlanta United.

### **SPOTLIGHTING COMMUNITY**

Welcoming everyone to the neighborhood with community tours, interviews, and profiles on localfavorite spots.





### **MAKING A SPLASH**

In 2025, Atlanta – Where You Belong social media generated:

1,666%

INCREASE

**IN IMPRESSIONS** 

1,075%

**INCREASE** 

IN ENGAGEMENT

# CREATING A HOME FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF TALENT

Metro Atlanta is opening doors to opportunity for young talent.







# 1,000+ ATTEND ATLANTA - WHERE YOU BELONG INTERNSHIP FAIR

The Metro Atlanta Chamber hosted 1,011 students and recent grads at the Delta Flight Museum for an in-person internship fair. With 33 top metro companies in attendance, the event offered aspiring interns the opportunity to connect with prospective employers and explore all the career paths metro Atlanta has to offer.

# COMCAST 88.4% of Interns After 5 participants are now interested in starting their career in metro Atlanta

# ATL INTERNS AFTER 5 EXPANDS ACROSS THE METRO

Building robust talent pipelines is about more than just connecting young talent to opportunities; it's about helping them feel they belong. That is the mission of the Chamber's signature young-talent program, ATL Interns After 5. With an expanded calendar of events catering to summer interns across the metro and new programs including virtual career counseling, ATL Interns After 5 continues to evolve to better support our region's vibrant and diverse talent pool.

1,905
INTERNS

#### **REPRESENTING**

76 companies 243 colleges and universities



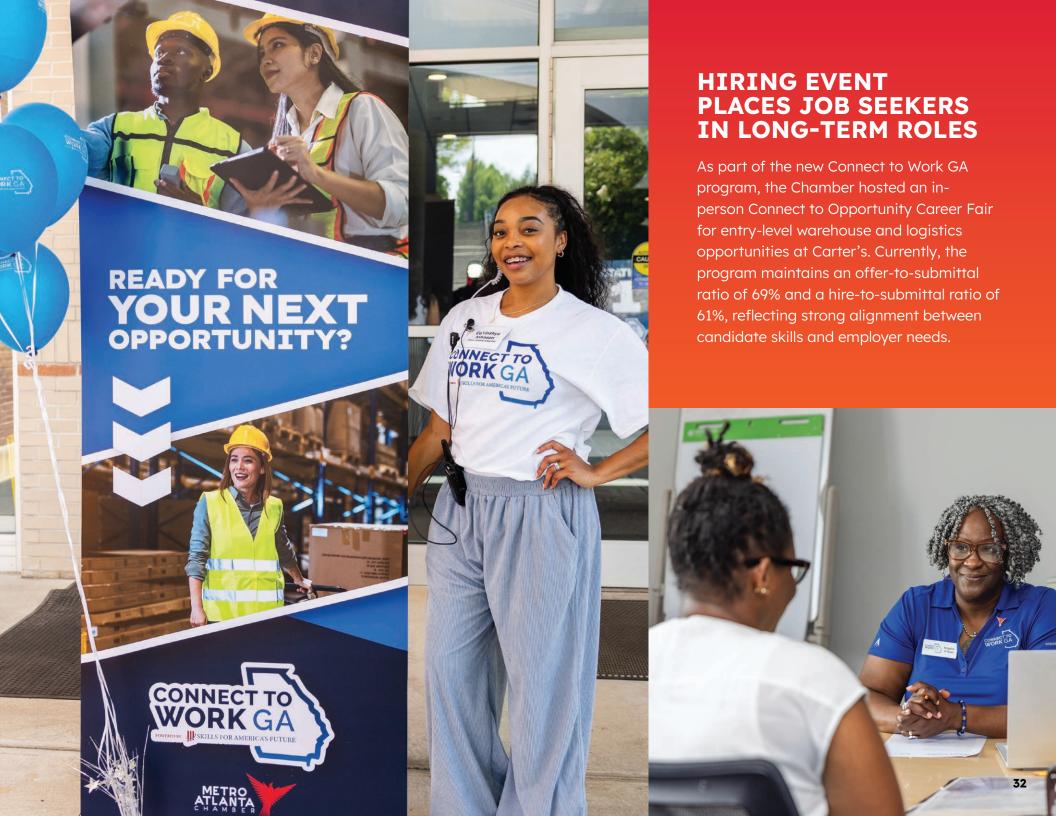
# PROMOTING TALENT DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE REGION

In 2025, we're working to ensure that the opportunity that lives in metro Atlanta is available to all.



# PROGRAM HELPS BREAK DOWN HIRING BARRIERS

Launched in February 2025,
Connect to Work GA continues
to make progress in connecting
Georgians to quality employment
opportunities. This year, the program
prioritized frontline warehousing and
logistics roles, connecting candidates
to career-building opportunities with
top employers such as Carter's and
Porsche North America.



# 248 RISING STARS DEEPEN CONNECTIONS TO METRO BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Two years after the relaunch of ATLeaders, our signature young professionals program continues to strengthen. Now including 248 members, the program convenes rising stars selected by their employers for small-group learning sessions and in-person events. From luncheons with top metro CEOs like Kim Greene, Donna Hyland, and Paul Donahue to tours of South Downtown with Atlanta Ventures, ATLeaders aims to continue a culture of community and collaboration within our next generation of business leaders.





# THE CHAMBER CHAMPIONS LEGISLATION FOR A STRONGER VETERAN WORKFORCE

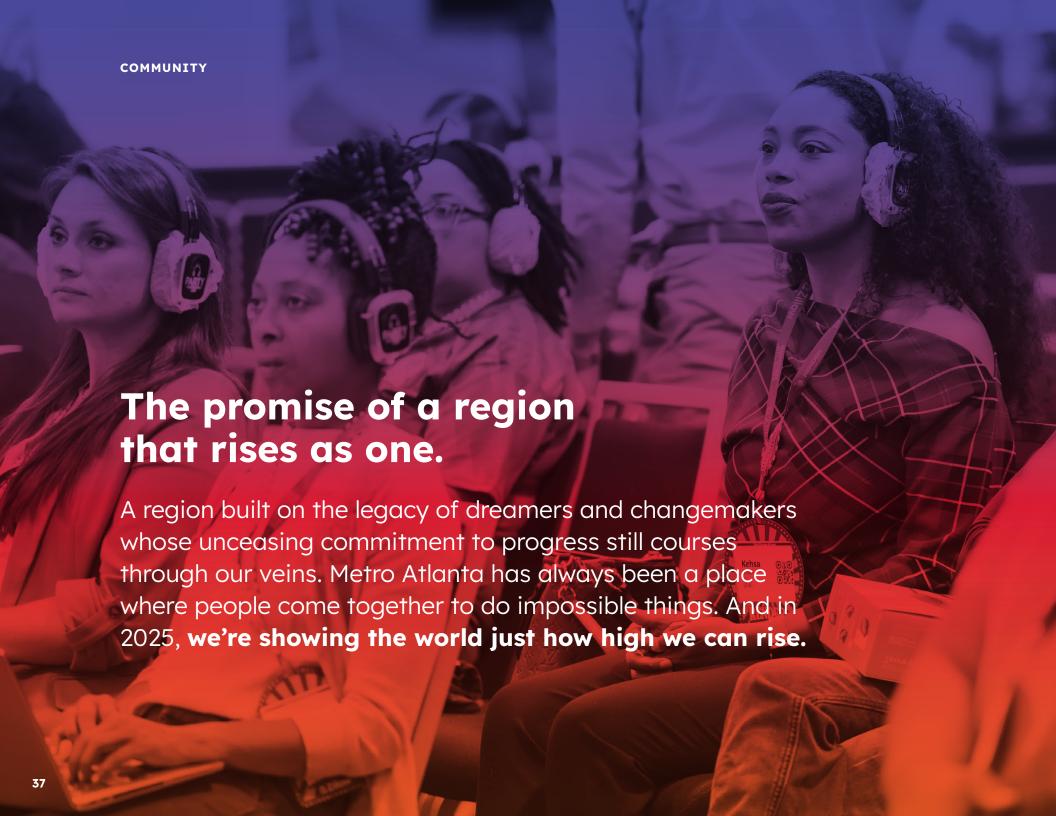
The Metro Atlanta Chamber traveled to
Fort Benning with metro business leaders
in 2023 to find solutions to better support
service members returning to civilian life.
After learning that Georgia loses many
military retirees to states with more favorable
veterans tax policies, the Metro Atlanta
Chamber took action to address the issue.

This year, the General Assembly took a major step to support our veteran workforce by passing House Bill 266, dramatically increasing tax exemptions on military retirement benefits, keeping skilled veterans working in Georgia, and enhancing our ability to retain top talent.











# "SMARTEST CITY" IN THE U.S.14

BEST CITY
TO LIVE
IN THE U.S.<sup>3</sup>

TOP MOVING DESTINATION IN THE U.S.<sup>15</sup>

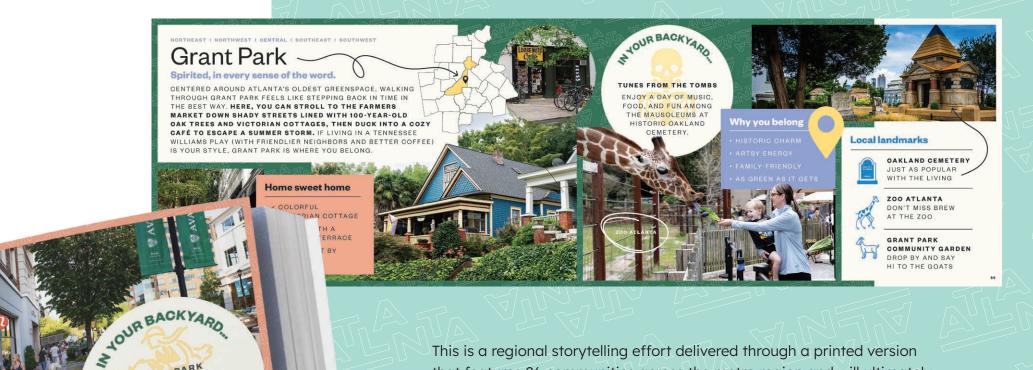




## NEW GUIDE PUTS ATL COMMUNITIES IN THE SPOTLIGHT

From Marietta to Old Fourth Ward, our region is home to culture and communities unlike any other. Through the Metro Atlanta Community Guide, we're working to showcase the vibrancy, beauty, and opportunity that lives in every corner of our region.





WILLS PARK AN EQUESTRIAN CENTER.

ARBORETUM, PLAYGROUNDS

AND PARKS, ATHLETIO FACILITIES, ARTI WILLS

PARK HAS IT ALL, AND

THEN SOME.

belong

SUBURBAN LIVING

TED SCHOOLS

This is a regional storytelling effort delivered through a printed version that features 26 communities across the metro region and will ultimately expand to a digital experience that will highlight 115 communities across all 29 counties. Designed to inform and attract prospective employers and talent, this guide will help everyone discover truly where they belong.





# \$120M INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS MAKING STRIDES

Thanks to a historic \$120 million investment approved by the Atlanta City Council in 2024, critical improvements to Downtown's street-level infrastructure are well underway. To date, nearly five miles of Downtown streets have been resurfaced, with extensive sidewalk and traffic signal improvements set to be completed early next year.



# SOUTH DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION TAKING SHAPE

South Downtown is coming alive with new energy.

Joining local favorites like Tyde Tate Kitchen and

Spiller Park Coffee will be Japanese-American fusion
at Bottle Rocket, El Tesoro, Broad Street BBQ, and more.

The South Downtown team's focus is on bringing local,
unique, boutique spaces to the neighborhood.

# FIRST CENTENNIAL YARDS TOWER OPENS DOORS

Three years after breaking ground in the Gulch, The Mitchell apartment tower at Centennial Yards is now completed and ready for residents. Soon to be followed by its neighbor, the Hotel Phoenix, the two towers are bringing 304 apartments and 292 hotel rooms to Downtown, creating a more connected, vibrant neighborhood for visitors and residents.

#### AZALEA FRESH MARKET OPENS IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BUILDING

Atlanta's first municipal grocery store is officially open for business. Created through a public–private partnership between the City of Atlanta, local grocer Savi Provisions, and community organizations, Azalea Fresh Market is bringing new life to the historic Olympia building and providing a vital resource to Downtown residents.



# SPORTS IS MORE THAN SPORTS

From neighborhood fields to global tournaments, sports is part of metro Atlanta's DNA. But our thriving sports scene is more than just a passion, it's a catalyst for growth that unites communities and moves metro Atlanta forward.



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#### COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF GOES THE EXTRA YARD FOR GA TEACHERS

Atlanta became the first-ever repeat host city of the CFP National Championship. Since hosting the 2018 CFP National Championship, the Atlanta Football Host Committee, the CFP Foundation, and community partners have donated over \$8M to support educators throughout the state.

#### MARCH MADNESS DRIVES MAJOR ECONOMIC IMPACT

The NCAA® Men's Basketball Sweet 16 and Elite 8 came to State Farm Arena, bringing an estimated 34k fans to the region.





### MLB ALL-STAR GAME CREATES A LEGACY BEYOND THE BALLPARK

100k+ fans descended on the Battery for All-Star Week. Beyond Truist Park, MLB pledged \$4M to support youth athletics, veterans, and food access across the metro.

#### **TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

Thousands flocked to East Lake Golf Club for the TOUR Championship. Since 2005, the Championship has donated \$65M+ to help create 1,000 affordable homes in the community.















# FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP 2025™ SUPPORTS NEXT GENERATION OF FANS

Atlanta became one of 11 U.S. cities to host the first FIFA Club World  $Cup^{\text{TM}}$  in North America. To mark the event, FIFA donated hundreds of tickets to underprivileged metro-area youth.

#### AJC PEACHTREE ROAD RACE RAISES \$53K FOR METRO CHARITIES

The 56th annual Peachtree Road Race drew 52k+ runners and thousands of attendees to the world's largest 10K, raising nearly \$53k for metro-area charities.

## PREMIER LEAGUE SUMMER SERIES

Atlanta hosted the final double-header of the Premier League Summer Series. The league held a pro soccer clinic for young metro-area athletes in partnership with Soccer in the Streets.



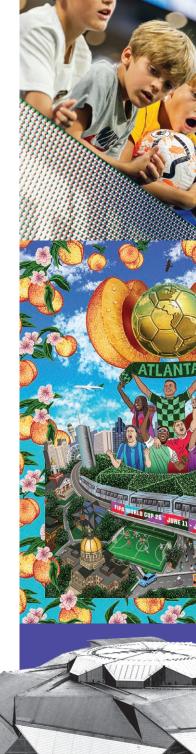


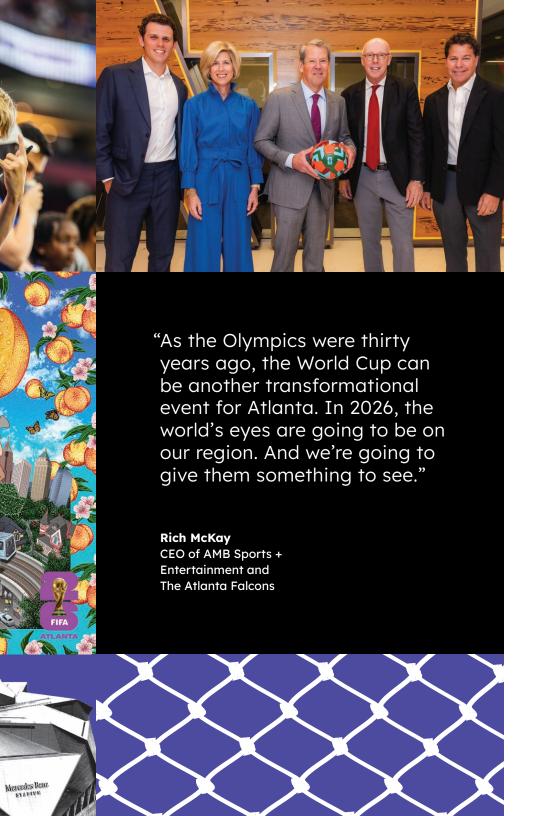
# READY FOR FIFA WORLD **CUP 26**<sup>™</sup>

Hosting FIFA World Cup 26™ isn't just a milestone or a proud moment. It's the opportunity to build a legacy for our culture, our economy, and our future. As part of the Atlanta World Cup Host Committee, the Metro Atlanta Chamber works hand-in-hand with our Host City Sponsors, elected officials, and community organizations to support the success of this once-in-a-generation event and ensure its legacy will be felt for years to come.



ATLANTA





#### FIFA WORLD CUP 26™ LEGACY PROJECT

Ahead of the tournament, the Atlanta World Cup Host Committee will oversee development of a new StationSoccer field at the Hamilton E. Holmes MARTA Station. Created in partnership with Soccer in the Streets and the Host City Supporters, the space will serve as a community hub for youth programming, transportation, education, and sports.

#### FIFA FAN FESTIVAL

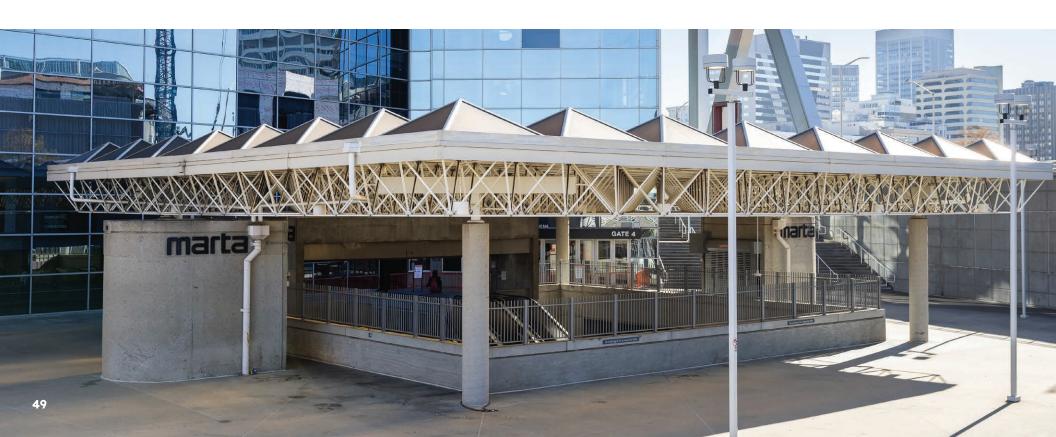
Thirty years after the 1996 Olympic Games, Centennial Olympic Park will be center field for sports fans once again at the official 2026 FIFA Fan Festival.

# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GEORGIA STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

Beyond the city of Atlanta, the Atlanta World Cup Host Committee is partnering with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Georgia to deliver programs statewide, bringing the spirit and legacy of FIFA World Cup to every corner of Georgia.

# MARTA STATION RENAMING SIGNIFIES NEW ERAFOR DOWNTOWN

We continue to reimagine Downtown Atlanta as a vibrant, connected neighborhood and premier event destination where a seamless transit experience is essential. As part of this effort, the Chamber partnered with key stakeholders to work with MARTA on renaming downtown's GWCC/CNN Center Station to reduce confusion and make navigation easier for riders. MARTA has approved the new name "Sports, Entertainment, and Convention (SEC) District Station" with updated signage and branding scheduled to debut before the end of 2025.



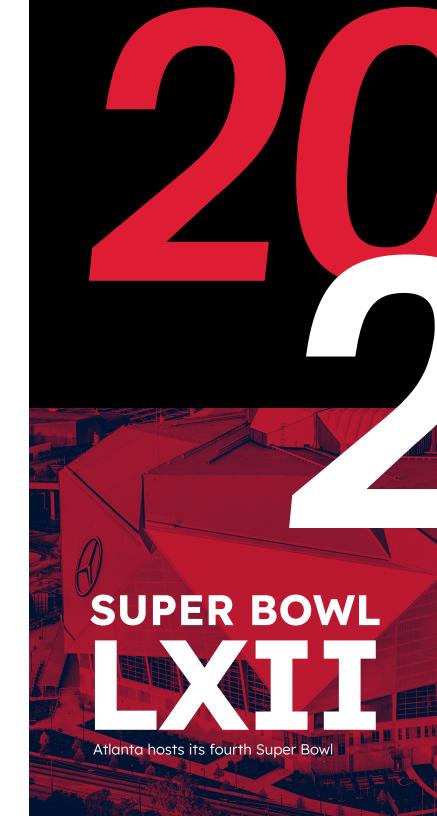


#### METRO ATLANTA CHAMBER HELPS SECURE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR A SAFE WORLD CUP

Representing the Atlanta World Cup Host Committee, the Metro Atlanta Chamber teamed up with all other U.S. host cities to secure a \$625 million appropriation through the federal reconciliation process. The funding, backed unanimously by Georgia's congressional delegation and the White House Task Force on the FIFA World Cup 2026, supports public safety personnel and first responders to ensure a safe and memorable experience for participants, fans, and residents.

# HERE'S ÉVEN MORE TO COME

Our work doesn't end with FIFA World Cup 26™. As the Atlanta Sports Council celebrates its 40th year, we're continuing our efforts to keep Atlanta the ultimate host city for sports. Today, we've locked in a lineup of events to keep metro Atlanta cheering for years to come.







As we stand at the edge of a new era for metro Atlanta, we see a future full of promise. And we know that it is our duty to deliver on it. The work we do at this moment has the potential to create a legacy of prosperity for our region that will reverberate for generations, and we will rise to it, together.

Because we know that the promise of the future is more than a hope; it's a commitment.

Andwe're all in.



#### **WHAT'S NEXT?**

Metro Atlanta is built for business.

It's where you belong. And as the world turns its eyes on us for FIFA World Cup 26™, we're ready to lead. That's why the Metro Atlanta Chamber is fueling momentum through innovation, industry growth, and global opportunity.



191 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 3400 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

#### **METROATLANTACHAMBER.COM**

1 Kimberly Graulein, "2025's Top States for Business: How the Winners Are Outpacing the Rest," Area Development, September 24, 2025, https://www.areadevelopment.com/Top-States-for-Doing-Business/q3-2025/2025s-top-states-for-business.shtml. 2 Jacob Rowden, "Talent Hubs 2025," JLL, accessed October 1, 2025, https://www.jll.com/en-us/insights/talent-hubs. 3 Laura Begley Bloom, "The 20 Best Cities To Live In The World, According To A 2025 Report," Forbes, June 18, 2025, https://www.forbes.com/sites/laurabegleybloom/2025/06/18/the-20-best-cities-to-live-in-the-world-according-to-a-2025-report/. 4 Adam McCann, "Best & Worst States to Start a Business (2025)," WalletHub, January 20, 2025, https://www.forbes.com/site-selectors-tor-top-ten-south/. 5 Ron Starner, "Site Selectors Survey: Why Site Selectors Love the South," Site Selection Magazine, accessed October 14, 2025, https://site-selectors-survey-why-site-selectors-love-the-south/. 6 Andreea Neculae, Small Business, Big Potential: Scottsdale, Miami & Atlanta Lead 2024's Best Cities for Entrepreneurs," CoworkingCafe, September 24, 2024, https://www.coworkingcafe.com/blog/top-cities-for-small-businesses/. 7 "Gov. Kemp: Georgia Breaks Tourism Records for Third Year in a Row," Office of the Governor, September 26, 2025, https://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2025-09-26/gov-kemp-georgia-breaks-tourism-records-third-year-row. 8 Metro Atlanta Chamber, MACROview, 2025. 9 Metro Atlanta Chamber, MacRoview, 2025, MalletHub, https://www.extraspace.com/blog/city-guides/best-cities-for-young-professionals/. 12 Genevieve Carlton, "What Are The Most Educated Cities In The U.S.? Top 100 Cities Ranked," Forbes Advisor, October 12, 2023, https://www.porb