Urban Circulators
The Core of the Issue
Context for Urban Circulators

Is an urban circulator right for my community?

What are your City/Community Plans telling you?

• Vision
• Density
• Mixed use
• Pedestrians
• Options
• Priorities
• Parking
//Context for Urban Circulators

A focused and compelling vision for the central city?
//Context for Urban Circulators

Greater density than surrounding neighborhoods?
//Context for Urban Circulators

New and infill development in the form of compact urban mixed use and walkable neighborhoods
//Context for Urban Circulators

Support for quality pedestrian environment with pedestrian oriented design and accessible human scale architecture
//Context for Urban Circulators

Support for transportation options
//Context for Urban Circulators

Priorities on downtown employment, housing, parks and recreation, schools, community amenities
//Context for Urban Circulators

Parking management that reinforces pedestrian, bicycle, and transit use
//Context for Urban Circulators

Strong Political Support
//Example: Portland Streetcar

The Central City Plan, Portland, 1988
• The power of the plan
• Role of land use
• Role of the urban circulator
//The Power of the Plan

The Central City Plan, Portland, 1988
The Role of Land Use

Pearl District Development Agreement
City-PDC-Hoyt Street Properties
- Lovejoy Ramp Project – 87 DUA
- Streetcar Project – 109 DUA
- Tanner Creek Park – 131 DUA
By 2006, 5000 HU (1000 Affordable)
Role of the Urban Circulator

Strong Political Support
Implementation takes a long time (show timeline)

Portland Streetcar
2001-2012
//Example: Atlanta Streetcar

- The power of the vision
- Role of land use
- The Connect Atlanta Plan
- Role of the urban circulator
The Power of the Vision

The Atlanta Region has one of the 3 commuter rail systems built in the US in the 1970-80’s

- 9th Largest Transit System in the U.S.
- MARTA ridership at 500K/day
- Lacking last-mile connectivity
The Power of the Vision

Transit
22-mile loop

Affordable & Workforce Housing

Parks
1300 + new acres, 40% increase

Existing Communities & Historic Preservation

Trails
33 miles

Public Art & Streetscapes

Jobs & Economic Development
20 areas, 30k jobs
6,500 acre TAD

Environmental Clean-up
1100 + acres
// The Role of Land Use

Promote improved connectivity

Promote denser development

Promote improved livability
//Role of the Urban Circulator

Connect Atlanta Plan        Atlanta BeltLine
Which comes first? The supportive land uses or the urban circulator?

- Downtown Portland had the supportive land use pattern, then programmed the streetcar into it, and strengthened the Central City.

- Streetcar urban circulator role: City serving and City shaping.

- Downtown Atlanta has supportive land uses – and is investing in streetcar to help catalyze development investment to become a more walkable, livable, downtown urban area – like Portland.

- Streetcar urban circulator role: City serving and City shaping - help transform/restore the city to a pattern of vital, interconnected urban neighborhoods.

- The urban circulator does not act alone.