

Mayor Franklin,

Last night at an ADNA meeting (Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association) it was brought to our attention that the City is considering placement of public toilets in the area known as Broad Street Plaza. This is an area that is known for loitering, drug use and public intoxication and is a frequent haven and sanctuary for those fleeing the police after committing crimes in the area. To provide the amenity of public toilets would only add to this public nuisance and further jeopardize the quality of life for nearby residents of the Metropolitan.

I strongly endorse the need for public toilets downtown and as a resident support thoughtful placement in areas that are well-lit and well-patrolled. One logical area is in Woodruff Park in front of the GSU Police station (Edgewood side). Another site to consider is the 5 Points MARTA station. Although the station has public toilets, sadly, they are not accessible to the public without riding MARTA. Public toilets on Peachtree St. in front of the station would be in a well-lit and safe environment and is an easy landmark when giving directions.

Further, these public toilets should have a nominal charge to enter. This will provide a token revenue stream but more important, a buy-in value to those who use the facilities. Twenty-five to fifty cents is appropriate.

Please give this very careful consideration and pass along my comments to those who will be making this decision.

Sincerely,
Whitney Rusert
President, ADNA