

Senate Resolution 116

By: Senators Zamarripa of the 36th, Williams of the 19th and Tate of the 38th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Atlanta Belt Line project and urging the City of Atlanta and related parties
2 to move forward with the Belt Line project; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Belt Line is a project to develop a 22 mile transit greenway within the City
4 of Atlanta using existing right of way rail lines; and

5 WHEREAS, the Belt Line would encircle over 40 of Atlanta's historic intown neighborhoods
6 that currently do not have sufficient access to rail transportation; and

7 WHEREAS, the Belt Line would act as a catalyst for redevelopment and revitalization of
8 these intown neighborhoods, as well as helping to preserve and enhance existing commercial
9 and residential areas; and

10 WHEREAS, the Belt Line would provide convenient alternative access to major destinations
11 in Atlanta, such as Piedmont Hospital, the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, City Hall East, the
12 Carter Center, the King Center, Zoo Atlanta, West End, and the King Plow Arts Center; and

13 WHEREAS, the Belt Line proposes to increase greenspace within the City of Atlanta by up
14 to 1,400 acres by expanding and creating park areas along the transit rights of way; and

15 WHEREAS, the Belt Line would be financed by federal grants and a local Tax Allocation
16 District, and would have no direct impact on the budget of the State of Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, the Belt Line would connect with existing MARTA rail and bus lines to extend
18 and enhance Atlanta's transportation infrastructure; and

19 WHEREAS, Atlanta currently ranks among the nation's worst cities for traffic, pollution, and
20 greenspace; and

1 WHEREAS, transportation alternatives are a necessary and needed part of future
2 management of traffic and pollution in metropolitan Atlanta; and

3 WHEREAS, the Belt Line would work to substantially reduce traffic and pollution and to
4 greatly increase greenspace within the City of Atlanta.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body recognizes and
6 commends the Belt Line project for its innovative approach to urban transportation and
7 greenspace.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Atlanta and all related parties are urged to
9 continue to take proactive measures to see that the Belt Line will come to fruition.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body commends former City Council of Atlanta
11 President Cathy Woolard for her work to bring the project before the public and commends
12 Ryan Gravel for his work originating the Belt Line concept while at Georgia Tech and for
13 his work on the project since then.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
15 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Mayor of Atlanta, to the City Council
16 of Atlanta, to the Chairmen of the Belt Line Steering Committee, to Cathy Woolard, and to
17 Ryan Gravel.