



# PLACEMAKING One Brick at a Time

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# DOING A REAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



"You say, 'I'm going to lay this brick as perfectly as a brick can be laid.' You do that every single day. And soon you have a wall."

- Will Smith



# A WALL OF QUESTIONS

- Do you have a vision for your downtown? If not, how do you get one? Does your vision have multigenerational appeal?
- What is your definition of "success"?
- Are in this for a quick fix or long haul?
- Do you know if there is market demand for downtown? What land uses? How much? At what price?
- Is there a there there? Are there building blocks you can build your vision around?
- Do you have good access into downtown? Can you draw demand for 3-5 miles around? The visibility retail requires?
- Do you have infrastructure to support new/infill development?
- Are you organized to implement your vision? DDA? Redevelopment Agency, Etc.?



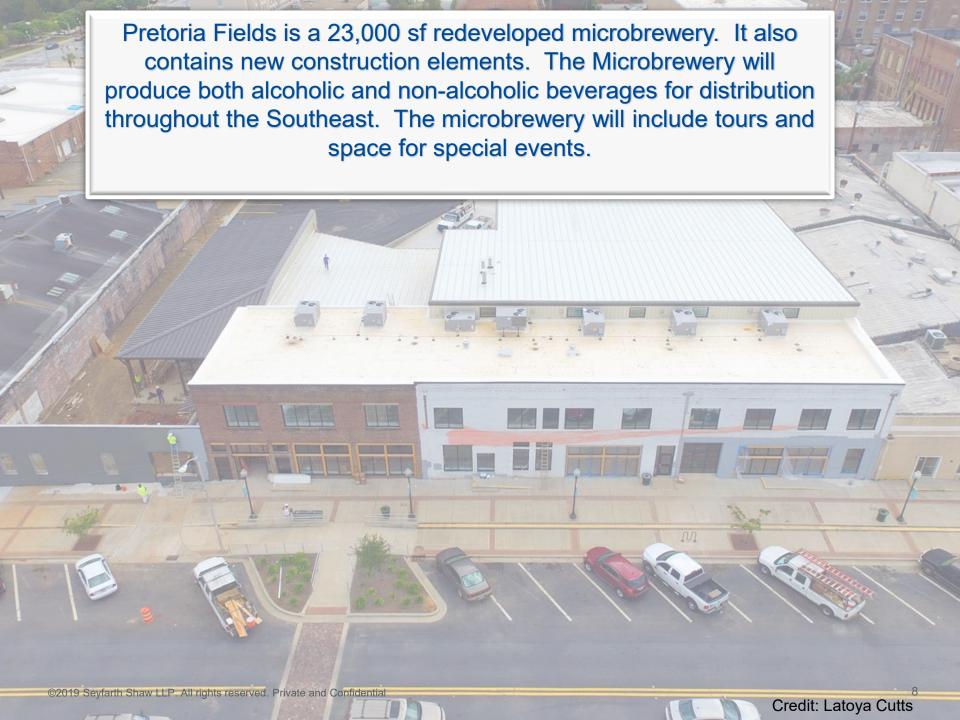
# A WALL OF QUESTIONS

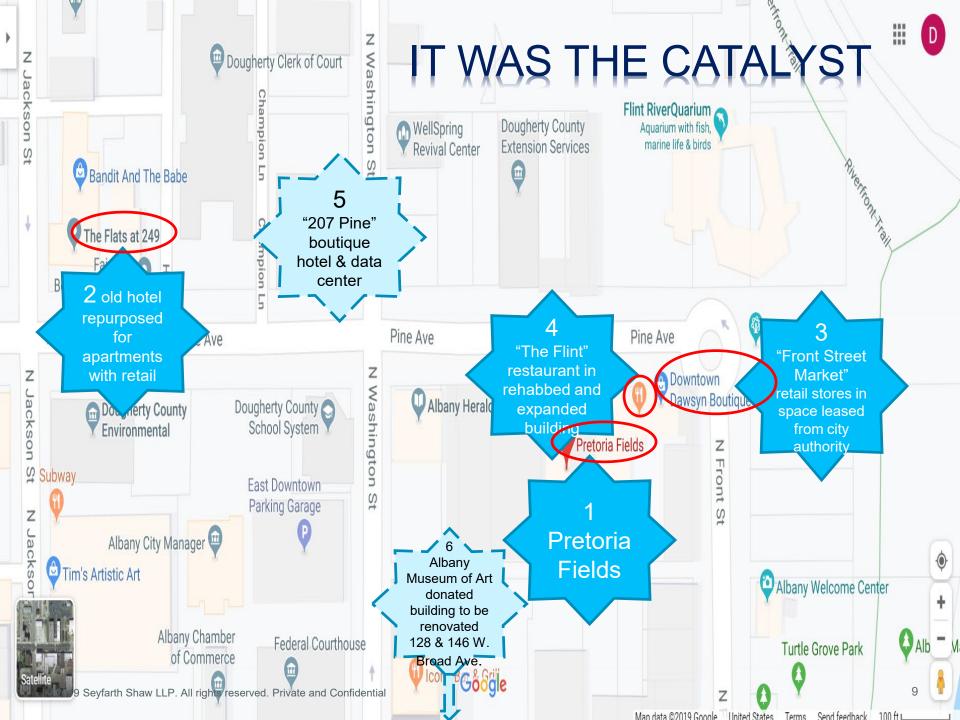
- Do you control key parcels for your vision or are they controlled by others?
- Do have funds for site acquisition, land write-downs, or infrastructure?
- Are you prepared to offer public incentives to achieve your vision?
- Do you have zoning policies in place that can support new development?
- Are you prepared to engage in an RFQ/RFP process for developers?
- Do you expect a short term or longterm return from your investment?

# IRL



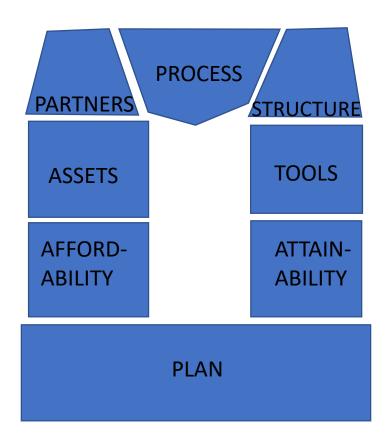
# THE ALBANY MICROBREWERY PROJECT





# THE BUILDING BLOCKS

## **BOTTOM UP DEVELOPMENT**



### PLAN

#### Some possibilities

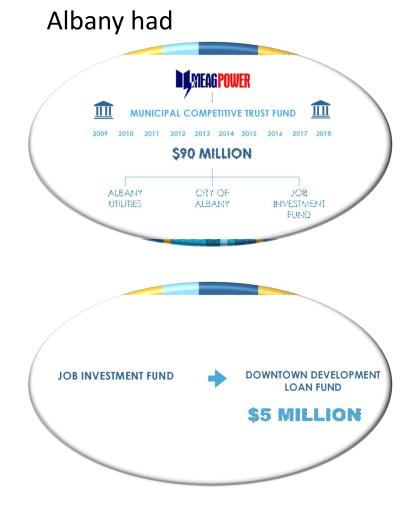
- Master Plan
- Redevelopment Plan-Redevelopment Powers Law
- Urban Redevelopment Plan-Urban Redevelopment Law

- Albany had-
  - 1996 Albany Downtown Riverfront Master Plan
  - 2008 Redevelopment Plan for Albany Tax Allocation District #1: Albany Riverfront and Gateway TAD
  - 2010 Urban Redevelopment Plan
  - 2015 Downtown Investment Loan Fund (DILF) Program
    - from Job Investment Fund

#### **AFFORDABILITY**

#### Some possibilities

- City general fund
- Contract revenue bonds
  - Issued by local authority, repaid by City
- Pass-through loans
  - GCF, DCA
- Monetization of project revenues
  - HMT
  - PILOTs
- Create and monetize district
  - See "Tools", slide 16



Images credit: Latoya Cutts

#### **ATTAINABILITY**

You might have the resources to afford something, but...

- Will you get a satisfactory ROI?
- How much of your resources can you justify committing?
- Even if you make an investment, even if it is more than you **should** have invested... will the project succeed?
- How do you explain yourself if the project fails?
- Many factors are beyond your control, including
  - What type/quality/size project your demographics will sustain
  - Your location

#### Albany analysis

- The developer is a doctor, but
  - He hired a qualified microbrewery consultant
  - He hired an experienced microbrewery operator, and
  - He is local.
- City's investment was 22% of total project costs (see "Structure", slide 19)
  - Above does not include value of land under ground lease with nominal ground rent
  - higher than normal TAD funding for a project
  - but these are not TAD funds
- Important noncash factors
  - expected economic stimulus from project
  - evaluation of likelihood of success- Project was expected to locate anyway in unincorporated County if it could not be attracted to downtown
  - need

# ASSETS What you have to work with

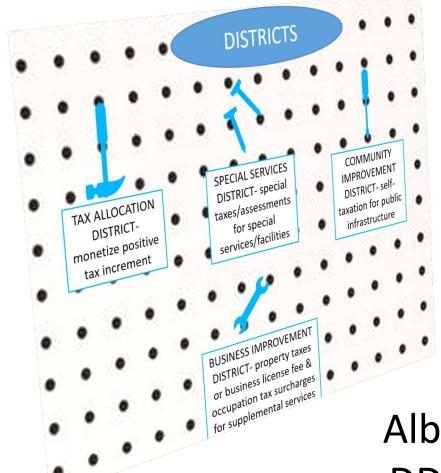
#### **Possibilities**

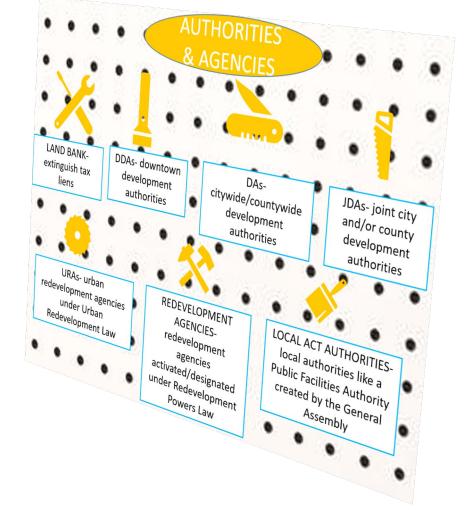
- Publicly-owned property
- Local authorities organized and operating
- Development districts in place
- Funding
- Access to expertise
- Leadership ("Every project needs a champion." Dan McRae)
- Elected official support
- Support of the public

#### Albany had

- City-owned site
- DDA and ADICA
- TAD
- Funding
- Professional advice
- Strong, capable city manager
- Support of City Commission
- Public willing to give it a try on the right terms

### **TOOLS- Possibilities**





Albany: TAD, DDA, ADICA

(local act redevelopment authority)

#### **Partners**

#### **Possibilities**

- DIY; e.g., DDA as developer (Albany's Front Street Market project by ADICA and DDA)
- Contractual relationship; e.g., fee developer/prospect (Suwanee DDA multifamily/retail project)
- P3- public/private partnership; e.g., master developer (Chamblee Town Center project)

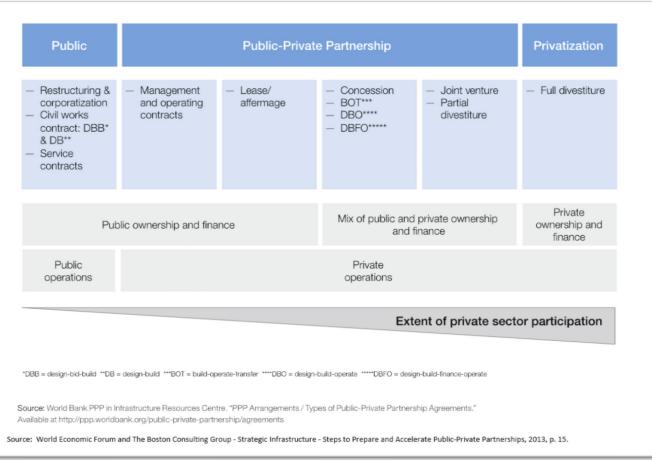
#### **Albany**

- "P3 the Georgia way"
- Involves both "contractual relationship" and "P3"
- Structure designed to comply with Constitutional prohibition of "gifts and gratuities"
  - land ground leased to keep in public ownership until Public Benefit Consideration received
  - in exchange for cancellation of subordinated loan, DDA will receive an ownership interest in the Project which it will resell for the Public Benefit Consideration
- see "Structure", slide 19

# Structure- P3 possibilities



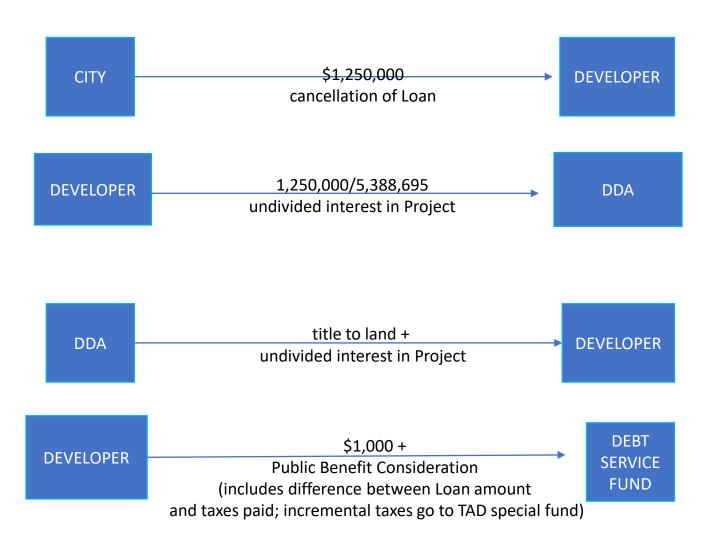
#### P3 vs. Public or Private Project Delivery



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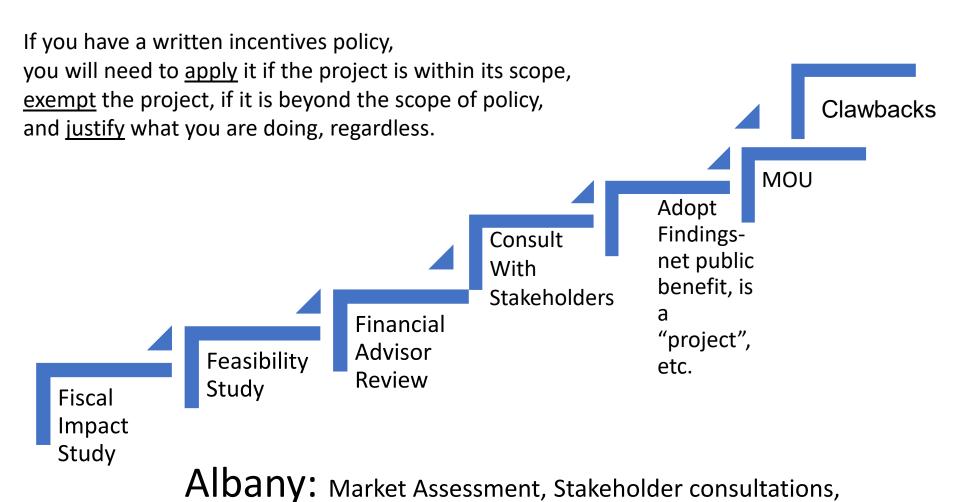
image credit: Charles Whatley

# Structure- Albany



### **Process- Possibilities**

"Steps" you need, particularly if your project is large or controversial



# **CONCLUSION**

MAKE NO LITTLE PLANS.
THEY HAVE NO MAGIC TO
STIR MEN'S BLOOD AND
PROBABLY THEMSELVES
WILL NOT BE REALIZED.
MAKE BIG PLANS. AIM
HIGH IN HOPE AND WORK.
REMEMBERING THAT A
NOBLE, LOGICAL
DIAGRAM ONCE
RECORDED WILL NOT DIE.

DANIEL H BURNHAM

# **MORE INFORMATION**

### **QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions or comments on this presentation, please do not hesitate to let me know.

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at http://danmcrae.com/whitepapers