## Atlanta Property Group Transforms Palisades into Climate-Conscious Workplace

By year-end, Palisades' carbon footprint is projected to be nearly 40% lower than typical Atlanta office properties

**ATLANTA** (April 22, 2022) — Leading real estate owner Atlanta Property Group is transforming Palisades, a 640,000-square-foot, four-building office project in Atlanta's Central Perimeter submarket, into one of the most climate-conscious workplaces in the southeast. Among the renovations, The Plant at Palisades will come online this year as a 1 megawatt solar plant that will be the largest solar plant installed in a multi-tenant office property in the Southeast. The solar plant plus numerous other sustainable investments will make Palisades' carbon footprint approximately 40% lower than typical Atlanta office properties.

The Plant at Palisades will feature # (number to be confirmed on Monday) solar panels spanning building rooftops, parking decks, and a surface parking lot. Once fully operational later this year, The Plant will generate approximately 15% of Palisades' total energy usage, helping to power electrical systems during the workday. Once fully energized, The Plant will offset carbon emissions equivalent to 1,594,575 miles driven by an average gasoline-powered passenger vehicle each year.

"We are bringing a bigger purpose to Palisades and significantly lowering its carbon footprint – a mission we believe will resonate with tenants," said Jonathan Rodbell, partner at Atlanta Property Group. "Our goal is to create a workplace for businesses that are looking to fulfill ESG commitments, attract climateconscious employees, and do the right thing for the environment by officing in a lower carbon space."

Other environmentally responsible investments at Palisades include highly efficient HVAC systems and an irrigation system that draws exclusively from an existing onsite pond. Functioning as a "carbon sink," the pond is able to absorb carbon emissions from the air. As an all-electric environment, Palisades produces zero Scope1 emissions, or controlled greenhouse gas emissions. Palisades will also feature dimmable LED lighting in over 50% of the building, water bottle fillers across the property and sustainable landscaping using perennial plants. In addition, Atlanta Property Group has created a green purchasing policy at Palisades, committing to using eco-friendly building materials and supplies such as recycled carpet and furniture, as well as janitorial supplies created with post-consumer recycled materials.

The property offers multiple opportunities for building top signage with visibility from I-285, which serves more than 200,000 cars per day.

Employee wellness is another focus of the repositioning. Situated in a highly walkable area in Atlanta's Central Perimeter, Palisades offers on-foot access to amenities like local shops and restaurants. Public transit is also in walking proximity to the campus. To foster a sense of community, intimate groupings of courtyard seating were created in the empty spaces between buildings, allowing employees to connect and gather outdoors. Wellness-oriented programming and amenities, such as free yoga classes, walking

trails, and educational seminars help to deepen shared values among tenants. The property has applied for a Fitwel designation, which it expects to receive this summer.

Rodbell added, "The most environmentally friendly building is the one that already exists. Atlanta doesn't need new office buildings; we need our existing buildings to be more energy efficient so that they do their part to make the world a healthier place. We believe this is of utmost importance to current and future tenants who have a greater appreciation for the health of our environment."

Over the last decade, there has been substantial growth in sustainable investment, as people increasingly advocate for ESG standards to be reflected across business sectors. In 2021, <u>Bloomberg</u> reported that an estimated \$120 billion was invested in sustainable funds, compared to \$51 billion in 2020, marking a record year for ESG. And, with 72% of adults in the U.S. expressing interest in sustainable investments according to investment research firm <u>Morningstar</u>, companies are more motivated now than ever to align their business accordingly.

Palisades is the latest example of Atlanta Property Group's efforts to incorporate sustainable initiatives at its properties. For example, Atlanta Property Group was one of the first office landlords to install solar panels, having installed them in 2006 at Peachtree 25th in Buckhead.

Palisades was the recipient of the 2022 Georgia TOBY Earth award, is Energy Star Certified, and won the 2022 Excellence in Environmental Sustainability award from the CRE Insight Journal. Each of the four buildings have earned LEED Gold certifications. Palisades also expects to receive its Fitwel designation this year.

For more information on Palisades, visit growatpalisades.com.

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## **About Palisades**

Palisades, a four-building 640,000-square-foot office project in the Central Perimeter submarket of Atlanta, is one of the most climate-conscious office properties in the Southeast. Owner Atlanta Property Group has invested significantly in initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint, including the installation of a 1 megawatt solar plant called The Plant at Palisades. Because of the The Plant at Palisades and many other initiatives, Palisades is projected to have a nearly 40 percent lower carbon footprint than typical Atlanta office properties. Palisades is a climate-conscious place to grow your business. To learn more, visit growatpalisades.com.