As public policy manager of the Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership Inc. (ANDP), Nathaniel Q. Smith Jr. worked directly with Fulton County Commissioner Robb Pitts to pass the state’s first inclusionary zoning ordinance, which encourages developers to allocate a certain number of residential units as affordable housing.

He is now working with Atlanta and DeKalb County to pass similar ordinances.

“Nathaniel is the epitome of the type of up-and-coming leader the city of Atlanta needs,” said Sibyl Howell, community development manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. “He works tirelessly to promote public policy that enables the working poor to lead safe, sustainable lives.”

In addition, for the second straight year, the ANDP worked with the English Avenue community to stage a place-based job fair at the Georgia World Congress Center.

The event began with a public safety forum before employers, such as FedEx Corp., United Parcel Service Inc., McDonald’s Corp. and The Kroger Co., presented job opportunities in the area.

The ANDP also worked with the Familial Foundation, a national faith-based organization, to coordinate the Metro Equity Summit to promote fair access and use of land.

“Overall, we want to encourage the community to think about the impact they can have on policy and other issues that directly affect their lives,” Smith said.

— Doug DeLoach