William B. Hartsfield

- Mayor of Atlanta—late 1930s to early 1960s
- Helped to locate Atlanta’s first airport in 1925
  - Used an abandoned racetrack
  - Grew to be one of the busiest in the world
  - Named after him in 1971
- Directing the building of GA’s expressway system (interstate)
  - This would allow people and goods to move through the state faster
- With the improved transportation—Atlanta’s population grew
- Businesses and industries flourished too
- Atlanta—“transportation hub of the South”
- Brought stability to during the civil rights era
  - Promoted Atlanta as a progressive city without hatred or violence
  - City “too busy to hate”

Ivan Allen, Jr.

- Mayor of Atlanta—1962-1970
- Oversaw the building of Atlanta’s Memorial Arts cultural center and civic center
- Developed the MARTA transportation system with his administration
  - Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority
  - Passenger railway to connect locations within the city
  - Used by millions of people every year
- Most famous for bringing three professional sports teams to Atlanta
  - Braves baseball—1966
  - Falcons football—1966
  - Hawks basketball—1968
  - Brought national recognition and state pride
  - Plus a huge economic boost
- Brought stability to during the civil rights era
  - Used his power to safeguard the citizens of Atlanta