

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

Transportation & Air Quality Committee (TAQC)

Charlotte Nash, Chair

February 9, 2017 Meeting Summary

Members Present:

Commissioner Charlotte Nash, Chair
Mr. Mike Houchard
Mr. Kerry Armstrong
Mr. Mark Mathews
Mayor Nancy Harris
Commissioner Donald Hawbaker
Commissioner Jeff Turner
Mr. Rich McDonald
Mayor Eric Clarkson
Commissioner June Wood
Mr. Tread Davis
Mayor Rochelle Robinson
Ms. Martha Martin
Commissioner John Eaves
Mr. Jay Roberts/Ms. Cindy VanDyke
Commissioner Romona Jackson Jones
Commissioner Eric Maxwell
Commissioner Mike Boyce
Mayor Clark Boddie

Members Absent:

Commissioner Buzz Ahrens, Vice Chair
Mayor Kasim Reed
CEO Michael Thurmond
Mr. Mark Burkhalter
Mr. Fred Daniels
Commissioner Keith Ellis
Commissioner Kevin Little
Ms. Liane Levetan
Commissioner Oz Nesbitt
Commissioner Al Smith
Commissioner Dave Carmichael
Commissioner Pat Graham
Ms. Donna Sheldon
Commissioner Todd Levent
Mayor Eric Dial

Actions Taken:

1. The Atlanta Region’s Plan- RTP/TIP Amendment #2- Motion to approve made by Mr. Mike Houchard, Citizen Member, seconded by Mayor Clark Boddie, City of Palmetto and unanimously approved by TAQC.
2. The Regional Trails Plan- Motion to approve made by Mr. Tread Davis, DCA, seconded by Mayor Eric Clarkson, MAMA, and unanimously approved by TAQC.

1. Welcome / Acceptance of 1/12/17 TAQC Meeting Summary / Public Comment period

Commissioner Nash, TAQC Chairman, called the meeting to order and asked if there were any comments on the draft 1/12/17 TAQC Meeting Summary and hearing none, declared the summary accepted as previously distributed. No public comments.

2. FIRST READ: Issue summary and Draft Resolution Adopting the Human Services Transportation Plan Update

Lori Sand, ARC, gave a presentation on the recently completed Human Services Transportation (HST) Plan Update. HST includes a broad range of service options designed to meet the needs of the region's transportation disadvantaged, including persons with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes and older adults. The Draft HST Plan Update is a coordinated effort to improve the efficiency of limited transportation resources to meet the various needs of these individuals. The HST Plan was first developed and adopted by ARC in 2010 and last updated in 2013. The current plan update was informed by the HST Advisory Committee, work sessions, and public outreach. The plan is structured around a needs assessment and specific targeted improvements for local action. The plan includes a framework based on a personal decision-making process, education and training, integration with local-level funding mechanisms, and connectivity between mobility management and human services transportation.

The needs assessment included a review of HST transportation options including fixed route, paratransit services, vanpools, volunteer drivers, Uber and Lyft, and others. It also reviewed the persons and households access to these options including potential barriers such as cost, service hours, service area, accessibility, and safety. Targeted improvement strategies focused on components of the decision-making process, by mode, education and awareness, trip origin and destination, disability factors, income factors, linguistic factors, travel time, and safety and comfort.

This plan has a regional impact and will improve customer experience by emphasizing resource efficiencies for the customer, by helping evaluate projects for consistency with HST policies, and by informing the implementation process of HST projects.

When asked about the inclusion of services such as Uber and Lyft in plan creation, ARC staff responded that attention is being given to ride-hailing services in an ongoing manner. While not well-suited for all populations, they are a growing piece of the transportation landscape.

3. Regional Transit Suballocation Policy Development

Kofi Wakhisi, ARC, gave a presentation on federal transit funding and regional suballocation policies. The FAST Act authorizes FTA funding for 6 years (2015-2020). The federal funding is then distributed via formula or discretion to states and regions. From there, the funding is suballocated locally.

Based on requirements of the FAST Act, ARC must adopt an updated Regional Transit Suballocation Policy to address the distribution formula, suballocation procedures, and the transit Program of Projects (POP) update process. The three funding programs that ARC is planning to adopt a new suballocation policy for are: 5307/5340, 5337, and 5339.

The urbanized area formula (5307/5340) is the largest program, and suballocation is based on a variety of factors (e.g. population, population density, vehicle revenue miles etc.). 5307 funding is the broadest funding bucket; it covers planning, engineering, design, capital and limited operating assistance. The regional subrecipients are: ARC, MARTA, GRTA & 20 counties.

5337 is a program serving state of good repair needs for fixed guideway transit. To receive the funding, a service must have been in operation for seven years. Thus, MARTA is the only recipient in the Atlanta region.

5339 is a program serving state of good repair needs for motorbus facilities. To receive the funding, a service must have been in operation for four years. 5339 can be used to purchase, replace, or rehab bus and bus-related facilities. The regional subrecipients are: MARTA, GRTA and 7 counties.

The Transit Operators Subcommittee (TOS) will make the final recommendations to TCC and TAQC on updated suballocation policies. A draft of the final resolution will be presented in March, and a final resolution will be ready for adoption in April.

4. Action Items:

- **The Atlanta Region's Plan- RTP/TIP Amendment #2**
John Orr, ARC, reviewed the resolution to adopt the RTP/TIP Amendment #2. The RTP/TIP will be amended to capture residual FY 2017 Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and STP-Urban/TAP funds, incorporate new GDOT projects, and reflect routine schedule and cost updates. The resolution was approved unanimously and will go to the ARC board on February 22, 2017.
- **Regional Trails Plan**
Mr. Orr presented the resolution to adopt the Regional Trails Plan, which outlines activities and projects that should be implemented to accomplish the overall regional trail vision for the Atlanta region. Aspects of the plan include identifying network gaps, refining project prioritization in high priority areas and coordinating a regional trail network that focuses on closing network gaps and expanding the network. Mr. Davis suggested an amendment to the resolution to recognize the goal of five years for the trail plan implementation. The resolution was approved as amended unanimously and will go to the ARC board on February 22, 2017.

5. 2017 Project Solicitation

Patrick Bradshaw, ARC, explained the new application process for the upcoming project solicitation, which will open on 2/17/2017. ARC will be soliciting projects for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, the Transportation Alternatives Program, and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program. The process will be similar to the most recent solicitation, though the online tool will be different. There will be a 90-day window upon opening the

application for the current solicitation, however, the application website will be maintained so project applications can be submitted on a rolling basis in the future. There will be three main funding requesting: studies/non-capital, requesting funding for phases previously federally funded, and funding requests for projects or phases not previously federally funded. An online mapping portal will also be available.

Every application will go through a project deliverability assessment to ascertain where it should be programmed for scheduling purposes. Every application will also have resolution documentation requirements to express the jurisdiction's commitment to match (must be signed by chief elected official or executive officer as appropriate).

The solicitation website (atlantaregional.com/projectsolicitation) is currently under construction. Once the application is open, office hours will available after TCC to help jurisdiction staff apply.

Handouts supplied at meeting:

- TAQC Agenda: February 9, 2017
- Issue Summary and Draft Resolution Adopting a Regional Trails Plan
- Issue Summary and Draft Resolution Adopting TIP RTP/TIP Amendment #2
- Issue Summary and Draft Resolution Adopting the Human Services Transportation Plan Update

Handouts supplied in advance on ARC website (<http://www.atlantaregional.com/taqc>)

- TAQC Agenda: February 9, 2017
- Draft Meeting Summary: January 12, 2017
- Presentation: RTP/TIP Amendment #2 Summary
- RTP/TIP Amendment #2 Programming Changes
- Presentation: Regional Trail Report
- Regional Trail Report Document
- Presentation: Human Services Transportation Plan
- Human Services Transportation Plan Executive Summary
- Presentation: Regional Transit Suballocation Policy Development
- Presentation: 2017 Project Solicitation