# TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE February 19, 2021 Meeting Summary On-Line Meeting

# **TCC Members or Alternates Present:**

ARC	John Orr	GRTA/SRTA	Jamie Fischer
ATL	Cain Williamson	Gwinnett	
Atlanta	Jason Morgan	Henry	Sam Baker
Barrow		MARTA	
Cherokee	Jim Wilgus	Newton	
Clayton		Paulding	Ann Lippmann
Cobb		Rockdale	
Coweta		Spalding	
DeKalb	Sylvia Smith	Walton	
Douglas	Miguel Valentin	MD-1	
EPD	Gil Grodzinsky	MD-2	
Fayette	Phil Mallon	MD-3	
Forsyth	John Cunard	MD-4	April McKown
Fulton		MD-5	
GDOT	Charles Robinson	MD-6	James Miller

# **Advisors (Non-voting):**

CBMPO	
GHMPO	
GDOT I'modal	
EPA	
FHWA	
FTA	

# February 19, 2021 Meeting Summary John Orr, Chair

## 1. Welcome; Meeting Summary Review & Public Comment

John Orr, ARC, greeted the committee and welcomed them to the meeting. The February 5, 2021 meeting minutes were approved. Mr. Orr reminded attendees that all materials and presentations are posted on the ARC TCC website. He also moved two agenda items to accommodate presenters' schedules.

There were no public comments.

## 2. Discussion on Technology-Related Planning Efforts

John Orr, ARC, introduced Maria Roell, ARC, and Kofi Wakhisi, ARC, to provide an update on technology-related planning at ARC. Ms. Roell gave a brief overview of the TSMO advisory committee and two recent grants that ARC has won for advancing planning efforts. She talked through several technology-related current activities, projects, and programs underway at ARC. See presentation for specific details.

Ms. Roell also provided more insight into the ITS4US grant that was recently awarded to ARC. The grant supports mobility for all travelers to "go from origin to destination" without gaps. The project award is \$9.4 million in three phases. Ms. Roell introduced the team members and partners. The immediate efforts will be focused on concept development in Gwinnett County. The county provides a diversity of populations and land uses that is useful for proving and testing the app. She highlighted several project challenges, including user knowledge, lack of transit reliability, and difficulty recognizing and avoiding potential conflicts. She discussed some potential solutions to those challenges and ways to integrate solutions into deployment.

Kofi Wakhisi, ARC, discussed the Community Transportation Association of America Transit Planning 4 All grant that ARC recently received. The grant will help support an inclusive Mobility on Demand app for limited English proficiency riders and public transit agencies. The grant will support on-board equipment and software; data standard development; and real-time trip data exchange. The grant will be \$300k over two phases.

Maria Roell asked any TCC members or local jurisdictions to contact her if they would like to participate in the grant.

#### 3. Georgia 2020 Ozone Season Review

John Orr, ARC, introduced Kyung-Hwa Kim, ARC, and James Boylan, Georgia EPD, to give an update on the Georgia 2020 ozone season.

Dr. Boylan reviewed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. He highlighted attainment status for the Atlanta metro area from 2015 to 2018 and onwards. He provided information on ozone days over 70 parts per billion from 1990-2020. John Orr stressed that statewide fuel programs from the 1990s has contributed significantly to declining numbers over 30 years. Dr. Boylan continued with a review of ozone formation processes and how point source and non-point source emissions contribute to regional levels. He concluded that EPD is working to certify 2020 monitoring data and predicted the future trends in emission data. See presentation for specific details.

Jamie Fischer, GRTA/SRTA, asked for "before and after" calculations of travel time during the COVID pandemic which months are included in each time period?

- Dr. Boylan responded that he will need to check the INRIX report that calculated that data:
  - https://inrix.com/campaigns/impact-of-coronavirus-on-freight-movement-study/
- Gil Grodzinsky, Georgia EPD, clarified that the data was previous reported by ARC also.

John Orr, ARC, asked whether it is a shift for the Atlanta airport to becoming a more significant hotspot for emissions?

• Dr. Boylan responded that other point sources – especially coal- and gas-fired power plants – have gotten cleaner and thus made the airport stand out more. Increased air travel at the airport, with runway and operations expansion, has significantly increased the impact of the airport. Modern satellite data has also confirmed the significance of the airport as a large emitter.

Tejas Kotak, ARC, asked whether there were any plans to add more monitors in the metro region?

• Dr. Boylan stated that there are no plans to increase monitoring in the area. The current nine sensors seem to be adequate for gauging trends and distribution.

John Orr concluded with a statement on the importance of ozone emissions for transportation planning and deciding how to regulate or prioritize future investments.

#### 4. New Business

No new business was introduced by committee members.

### 5. Announcements

- John Orr, ARC, announced that the TIP Amendment #2 will have an action vote in March and requested TCC members attend the next meeting so that a quorum can be reached.
- Byron Rushing, ARC, announced that the upcoming Regional Trails Webinar (previously scheduled for February 23) will be rescheduled to a later date.

#### 6. Adjourn