



TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

October 23, 2020 Meeting Notes

On-Line Meeting

TCC Members or Alternates Present:

<i>ARC</i>	John Orr	<i>Forsyth</i>	---
<i>ATL</i>	Cathy Gesick	<i>Fulton</i>	---
<i>Atlanta</i>	Jason Morgan	<i>GDOT</i>	Habte Kasse
<i>Barrow</i>	---	<i>GRTA/SRTA</i>	Jamie Fischer
<i>Cherokee</i>	Jim Wilgus	<i>Gwinnett</i>	Vince Edwards
<i>Clayton</i>	Keith Rohling	<i>Henry</i>	Sam Baker
<i>Cobb</i>	Laura Beall	<i>MARTA</i>	Luz Borrero
<i>Coweta</i>	---	<i>Newton</i>	Chester Clegg
<i>DeKalb</i>	Sylvia Smith	<i>Paulding</i>	Ann Lippmann
<i>Douglas</i>	Miguel Valentin	<i>Rockdale</i>	John Moretto
<i>EPD</i>	Gil Grodzinsky	<i>Spalding</i>	---
<i>Fayette</i>	Phil Mallon	<i>Walton</i>	Joe Walter
<i>MD-1</i>	---	<i>MD-4</i>	April McKown
<i>MD-2</i>	---	<i>MD-5</i>	---
<i>MD-3</i>	---	<i>MD-6</i>	---

Advisors (Non-voting):

<i>CBMPO</i>	---
<i>GHMPO</i>	---
<i>GDOT I'modal</i>	---
<i>FHWA</i>	---
<i>FTA</i>	---

October 23, 2020 Meeting Summary

John Orr, Chair

1. Regional Development Plan Update

Jared Lombard, ARC, gave an overview of the Regional Development Plan Update. The update includes identifying assets and challenges, mapping, and the development of a work plan. The plan identifies where growth is likely, policy guidance, and provides input into the regional forecasts and recommendations to local governments. The Regional Development Plan contains four documents that are all available on the ARC website.

Assets and challenges in the plan include water conservation, housing affordability, climate change, equity, etc. The plan includes an updated Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM), which is heavily utilized in our growth and transportation planning, as well as Development of Regional Impact analysis. The UGPM will have a larger update in the near future.

The implementation of the Regional Development Plan is shown in the 2021-2025 work program. The LCI program is included in the work program to be continued for the region. Other programs included in the work program include support for Aerotropolis and creative placemaking.

Discussion:

- Regional Housing Strategy- Lack of supply is one of the main concerns for housing affordability in the region. Housing supply is at its lowest since 1982. The Regional Housing Strategy recommendations include the need to build more housing of all types. ARC housing work is available at <https://metroathousing.org/>

2. Introduction and Overview - Midtown Connector Project Concept

Taylor Morison, Midtown Connector Project (MCP) Foundation, gave an overview on the Midtown Connector Project. The project aims to stitch back together the two sides of Midtown that had been spilt due to the construction of the downtown connector. The challenges on this splitting include congestion, lack of accessibility, and reduced mobility.

Nationally, there have been many similar projects including Klyde Warren Park in Dallas, Millennium Park in Chicago, the Rose Kennedy Greenway in Boston, and Freeway Park in Seattle. The MCP is working actively with GDOT on the environmental, planning, and design studies for the area. The project limits are subject to change but are currently from North Ave to Tenth street. There may be some property impacts, but the design has not been finalized.

Challenges in the project area include traffic, safety, access, mobility, and greenspace. The project team is focused on solving these problems holistically. The project including reconfiguring the onramps to the connector, reconnecting more cross streets beyond the three main bridges across the connector, and creating more park space. As the studies are completed more data will be available to share.

A virtual Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held earlier this month and included the same information included in this presentation. The PIOH had over 4,000 participants over 10 days and about 300 comments.

Discussion:

- How was the project synthesized and how is it being funded?
 - o A philanthropist founded MCP Foundation after seeing a landscape architects rendering of the concept. Currently the project is being funded mostly through private sources. The feasibility study will outline future funding opportunities.
- Will the Grady Curve section of the Connector be included in the project?
 - o That is outside of the scope of this project and will likely be a more difficult engineering project due to the width and complexities of the roadway.

3. Announcements

John Orr announced the State of the Region Virtual Breakfast is coming up. You can register here: <https://atlantaregional.org/sorb2020>

Sherry Williams reminded everyone that polls will be open Saturday for most counties and also Sunday in Fulton and DeKalb. Also, it is Breast Cancer Awareness month, so stay healthy.