Atlanta Regional Commission

ONE great REGION

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 | 1:00 PM

Joint ARC Board & Transportation and Air Quality Committee (TAQC) Meeting

ARC Conference Center | 229 Peachtree Street NE | Atlanta, GA 30303

The meeting agenda with all presentations and references can be found at:
www.atlantaregional.org/board

I. Call Joint ARC Board & TAQC Meeting to Order — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

II. Pledge of Allegiance — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

III. Public Comment for Joint Meeting

IV. Chairman's Comments — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

V. Consent Agenda — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. September 9, 2026 Joint TAQC & ARC Board Meeting Minutes

VI. Joint First Read – *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) ***(10 mins)***
Michael Kray, Planning Coordinator, Transportation Planning

Summary: The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is ARC's annual statement of work identifying the planning priorities and activities to be carried out within the Atlanta metropolitan planning area. The UPWP includes a description of the planning work and resulting products, who will perform the work, time frames for completing the work, the cost of the work, and the source(s) of funds.

B. FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) / 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Amendment 7 ***(10 mins)***

- Public Hearing for FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) / 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Amendment 7

Michael Haire, Planner, Principal Transportation Planning

Summary: The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a list of federally funded transportation project phases over a short-range planning horizon. ARC has developed a draft of the new FY 2027-2030 TIP, which is undergoing a public comment period throughout the month of October. Additionally, this TIP update will be accompanied by Amendment #7 to the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), as project changes are being made in both the short-range and long-range plans. Included in these updates are the awards from the 2026 TIP Solicitation, which is the process through which ARC programs it's regionally suballocated

federal funds on projects in the region, as well as federal funding awards from GDOT's competitive project call. An informational presentation on the TIP Solicitation was provided in August. The plan updates to the TIP and MTP are intended to facilitate the following: 1) addition of new projects that are considered either exempt or non-exempt from air quality conformity analysis, 2) the deletion of projects that are considered either exempt or non-exempt from air quality conformity analysis, 3) project cost estimate and programmatic changes that are of a time sensitive nature or cannot be handled administratively, 4) the programming of federal funds on a project phase for the first time, 5) the moving of projects from the TIP to the MTP, or from the MTP to the TIP, 6) the updating of project details that impact air quality conformity, or 7) the updating of project details that do not impact air quality conformity.

VII. Joint Discussion/Information Items – *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. I-285 Top End Express Lanes Status Update ***(10 mins)***
Jannine Miller, State Planning Director, Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)

Summary: Jannine Miller will provide an update on the I-285 Top End Phase 1 procurement, which is scheduled for award at the GDOT Board meeting the following day. The same update will also be presented to the GDOT Board Committee.

B. Trails and Bike Facility Planning Update ***(10 mins)***
Eric Meyer, Planning Coordinator, Transportation Planning

Summary: ARC staff will brief the Board on *Riding Forward*, the unifying banner for three interrelated trail and bicycle plans advancing under a single regional vision: the Regional Trail and Bicycle Facilities Network Plan (all 19 MPO counties), the South Metro Trail and Bicycle Facilities Network Plan, and the Flint River Trail Plan, a signature corridor reconnecting Atlanta's Southside communities to the BeltLine. Building on ARC's *Walk. Bike. Thrive!* plan, *Riding Forward* frames trails and bikeways as short-distance mobility infrastructure and advances the region's active transportation, safety, equity, and economic competitiveness goals, feeding directly into MTP 2055 and the TIP. Staff will present the initiative's purpose, phased engagement approach, progress to date, and the path toward adoption in 2028.

[Joint Meeting recess]

The Joint meeting of the ARC Board and TAQC will recess, and the ARC Board meeting will convene.

VIII. ARC Consent Agenda — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. ARC Governance Revisions: ARC Standards of Ethical Conduct ***(10 mins)***
Eric Johnson, Chief Legal and External Affairs Officer, Office of Legal and External Affairs

Summary: The Board will consider a resolution adopting a revised Standards of Ethical Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy, replacing ARC's current policy. Developed with inputs from the ARC Ethics Subcommittee and Governance Committee, and presented for a first read

to the Board on September 9, the final policy has incorporated any comments received, as appropriate. Board approval is requested via consent agenda, which will enable implementation next steps in the coming months.

IX. ARC Board Action Items — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. 2026-2031 Live Beyond Expectations Plan ***(7 mins)***
Becky Kurtz, Senior Managing Director; Director, Area Agency on Aging

Summary: After engaging with neighborhoods with low average life expectancy for the past 5 years, the Aging & Independence Services Department proposes to build on its learnings for the next 5 years as described in this plan. The plan a) recommends actions for local governments and other partners, b) proposes continued research and stakeholder engagement in neighborhoods, and c) proposes leveraging of resources – all with the aim of supporting longevity. The plan was reviewed and approved by the Advisory Committee on Aging on August 25, 2027.

B. 2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CED) Annual Report ***(5 mins)***
Keri Stevens, Planning Administrator, Community Development

Summary: The Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Economic Development District (EDD) by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Federal regulations require ARC, as an EDD, to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) every five years (adopted in 2022) and provide an Annual Report approved by the ARC Board, including a resolution. The 2026 CEDS Annual Report outlines the implementation successes and initiatives for 2026.

X. ARC Board Discussion/Information Items — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. Housing Strategy Update – Part 2 ***(30 mins)***
Samyukth Shenbaga, Managing Director, Community Development
Kristin Allin, Regional Housing Planning Coordinator, Community Development

Summary: ARC staff will present the final portion of the Regional Housing Strategy: Housing Forward 2035, a blueprint for addressing metro Atlanta's housing affordability challenges through coordinated regional action. Building on the presentation and discussion begun at the August 12 Board meeting, staff will complete the presentation of the Strategy, including its recommended housing goals, ten proposed actions, and implementation framework with priority initiatives for the 11-county region.

B. Proposed Census Rule Update & Regional Implications ***(10 mins)***
Ann Carpenter, Chief Research & Innovation Officer, Office of Research & Innovation

Summary: Staff will provide an update on the U.S. Census Bureau's proposed changes to Census residence criteria and demographic data collection and discuss potential implications for ARC programs, regional planning, federal funding, and data availability.

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XI. Adjourn

Upcoming Meetings

October 21: BARS
November 4: State of the Region 2026
Reminder: The November Joint Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 12
November 12: ARWDB, GOV Com