

Discussion on the Purposes of RTC and Future Possibilities

Regional Transit Committee



March 14, 2019



Atlanta Regional Commission

Key Points About the MPO Regional Planning Process

- In order to receive federal and state funds for projects, the state of Georgia and the Atlanta region must follow prescribed processes:
 1. Have a long-range plan (20+ years) that is referred to as the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
 - I. Must be financially constrained
 - II. It must be “multi-modal” and include roads, bridges, bicycles and transit.
 - III. It must address: Safety, the Environment, and Economic Development
 2. Have a budgetary program (at least 4 years) that is referred to as the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The 2020 Update to the Atlanta Region’s plan will have a 2050 horizon year. The ARC TIP is a 6 year program (we are two years in so it now runs from 2019 to 2022 and the next tip will run to 2025).

Recent Stages of Regional Transit Planning & Service Coordination Leading to the ATL Authority

Iteration	Dates	Products
Regional Transit Institutional Analysis	2004-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transit Planning Board Creation
Transit Planning Board (TPB)	2006-2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Transit Map• Unified Regional Governance Framework Statement• Service Coordination• Regional Transit Vision (Concept 3)
Transit Implementation Board (TIB)	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Governance Statement• Creation of the Regional Transit Committee
Regional Transit Committee (RTC)	2010-present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Transit Data Warehouse & Open Transit Data• Regional Fare Study & Breeze Coordination• Unified Bus Stop Signage Design• Conceptual Regional Transit Governance Legislation• Updated Regional Transit Vision

The ATL logo consists of the letters 'ATL' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, positioned to the left of a stylized starburst icon. The starburst is composed of eight arrow-like shapes pointing outwards, with four in white and four in red, all set against a dark blue rectangular background.

Integration of the ATL Authority Regional Transit Plan into the ARC Federal Planning Process

- ATL's Regional Transit Plan is a critical regional planning document
- Directly impacts the federal and state planning process:
 1. ARC – as the MPO - will not include projects in the RTP/TIP that are not in the ATL Regional Transit Plan
 2. Future transit referendums cannot proceed unless it is included in the ATL Authority-approved Regional Transit Plan
- The Regional Transit Plan is both a filter and the guiding implementation vision for the Regional Transportation Plan

RTC is a Formal, ARC By-laws Identified, Committee with Specific Duties

3) Duties:

- a. RTC has the lead role in providing transit planning input in the regional transportation planning process. All RTC transit policy planning recommendations that impact RTP/TIP development or the regional federal/state legislative agenda will follow the Atlanta metropolitan planning organization process (i.e., the MPO technical and policy committees). Other actions of the RTC that are more operational in nature will be directed to the Commission or to transit operating agency boards, as appropriate.

<http://atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/arc-bylaws.pdf>

RTC Next Steps - ARC Staff Recommendations

- Continue to Meet Quarterly Through 4th Quarter 2019
 - Reassess the status of the Committee in the 4th Quarter
 - Extend participation to all counties with existing or planned transit services
 - Monitor overall potential ARC Committee and associated By-law changes in Spring/Summer 2019
- Support 1) the ATL Authority's Work Program and Mission and 2) support ARC Regional Planning Efforts
 - Utilize RTC as transit discussion group to help inform regional planning in 2019
 - Emphasize discussions on the update of the Regional Transportation Plan in 2019

More Information?

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