



DATE: March 11, 2026

ISSUE SUMMARY:
AMENDMENT #1

2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FROM: Carlotta Harrell, TAQC Chair

IMPORTANCE:

Federal regulations require ARC, as a Metropolitan Planning Organization, to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that discusses the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describes all metropolitan transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities anticipated within the area regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities. The UPWP must be developed cooperatively with the State, public transit operators and other planning partners.

The 2026 UPWP was adopted by ARC on November 12, 2025 and was jointly approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on November 17, 2025.

Over time, changes may occur to previously identified planning activities and new initiatives may need to be included. This amendment adds:

- An "Origin-Destination Atlanta Region Travel On-Board Survey", which is a \$1.6 million initiative led by ARC and funded by an FTA 5307 grant and the State of Georgia Transit Trust Fund. The study will begin in the fall of this year and be completed in late 2027. It will involve the collection of data from transit passengers to be used for scheduling and operations planning, performance analysis, long-range planning, and regional travel demand modeling.
- Six initiatives to be led by the ATL Authority funded by FTA 5307 grants and the State of Georgia Transit Trust Fund.
- Seven locally led planning studies recently funded from the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) competitive grant program.

ACTION REQUIRED: Approval of Amendment #1 to the 2026 UPWP.



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE
2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT #1**

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning within the Atlanta Metropolitan Area Boundary which includes all or portions of 19 counties; and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 require the MPO to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that discusses the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describes all metropolitan transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities anticipated within the area regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities; and

WHEREAS, the **2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** was developed pursuant to federal requirements in a cooperative manner with the State, public transit operators and other planning partners; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 UPWP includes the following:

- Elements from the ARC's Annual Work Program and Budget (2026), adopted by ARC on November 12, 2025, that describe ARC's transportation-related work activities for the period between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026;
- Transportation-related accomplishments from the previous year (2025) and transportation-related objectives for the current year (2026), reflecting input from each of the counties within the planning area as well as the City of Atlanta, public transit operators, and state planning partners; and
- Applicable studies programmed in the FY 2024-2027 TIP, which was originally adopted in January 2024 and most recently amended in November 2025.

WHEREAS, over time the scope, schedule and budget of existing planning activities included in the UPWP may change, or new initiatives may be identified that need to be included; and

WHEREAS, the following new initiatives and studies need to be amended into the 2024 UPWP:

- An "Origin-Destination Atlanta Region Travel On-Board Survey", which is a \$1.6 million initiative led by ARC and funded by an FTA 5307 grant and the State of Georgia Transit

Trust Fund. The study will begin in the fall of this year and be completed in late 2027. It will involve the collection of data from transit passengers to be used for scheduling and operations planning, performance analysis, long-range planning, and regional travel demand modeling.

- Six initiatives to be led by the ATL Authority funded by FTA 5307 grants and the State of Georgia Transit Trust Fund:
 - Vanpool Program Assessment
 - Project Delivery Report Development
 - Regional Technology Assessment
 - Regional Transit Asset Management Plan
 - Regional Transit Service Planning
 - Annual Transit Report (2027-2029)

- Seven locally led planning studies recently funded from the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) competitive grant program:
 - City of Dunwoody – Reducing Crash Severity on the High Injury Network
 - City of Fairburn – Safe Streets Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
 - City of Lovejoy – Vision Zero Plan
 - City of Mableton – Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
 - City of Morrow – Safety Action Plan
 - City of South Fulton – Vision Zero Action Plan
 - Spalding County – Safety Action Plan

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission approves an amendment to the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program that adds the above planning initiatives and studies; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ARC staff take all necessary administrative actions to update relevant documentation and information on the ARC website related to the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Atlanta Regional Commission on March 11, 2026.

Charissa White-Fulks, ARC Board Secretary