



**Budget Audit Review Subcommittee**  
**March 11, 2026**

**Members Present**

Nicole Hendrickson (Treasurer)  
Steven Stancil (Vice-Treasurer)  
Michael Caldwell  
Carlotta Harrell

**Members Absent**

Andre Dickens

**Staff Present**

Kelly Smith (ARC Deputy CFO)  
James Husserl (ARC CFO)  
Anna Roach (Executive Director)

**Meeting Outline**

- Ms. Hendrickson (Treasurer) opened the meeting at 9:55 am.
- Ms. Hendrickson presented the agenda which included:
  - a. Opening Comments
  - b. Public Comment Period
  - c. 2025 Financial Audit (Tacking place in 2026)
  - d. Other Topics (Including 2025 Final Financial Results, Partial Federal Government shutdown impact on the UASI grant, Update on the FIFA World Cup Grant Program)
  - e. Questions/Comments
- There were no public comments. Ms. Hendrickson asked staff to move to the next item on the agenda.
- Ms. Smith introduced the 2025 financial audit schedule. The audited financial report is expected to be issued by June 26, 2026. The presentation to the Budget and Audit Sub-committee (final audit report) is scheduled to be presented on August 12, 2026. Ms. Hendrickson (Treasurer) asked if the agency rotates external auditors often. Ms. Smith noted ARC retained the same audit firm for the last couple of years. Most recently (2022), the agency finalized the RFP process, and the current firm was selected. The next RFP process is expected for 2027.
- Ms. Hendrickson (Treasurer) asked staff to move to the next item on the agenda.

- Mr. Husserl introduced ARC’s unaudited financial results for 2025. The agency performed better than expected, with revenue exceeding expenses by approximately \$900,000. This result contrasts with a budgeted use of fund balance (expenses exceeding revenue) of approximately \$400,000. The change in the 2025 end of the year fund balance between the adopted budget and the actual results totaled an increase of approximately \$1.3 million.

Budget implementation during 2025 was 85% (actual expenses compared to the amended budget). This is a slight reduction from the 2024 performance of 90%. The decline was primarily the result of; 1) the Federal government transition, which resulted in grants being placed on hold or rescinded during the year and 2) the Federal government shutdown during the last quarter of 2025 (the longest federal government shutdown on record).

- Ms. Hendrickson (Treasurer) asked staff to move to the next item on the agenda.
- Mr. Husserl provided an update about the partial government shutdown, which affects the Urban Area Security Initiative Grant (UASI) administered by ARC. So far, the agency has not felt the impact of the shutdown, with expense reimbursement times and outstanding balances remaining within regular frameworks/timelines. Nevertheless, ARC expects significant delays in expense reimbursements if the partial shutdown continues.

In preparation for those delays, ARC has developed a risk mitigation plan to reduce the projected impact on cash flow resulting from these delays. This plan includes the following steps; 1) notification to vendors regarding potential delays in invoice payments (once shutdown extends over 1 month), 2) the possibility of placing contracts on hold or rescind contracts (once shutdown extends over one and a half months), 3) planning and transition of staff from the UASI grant to other task or openings within the agency (once the shutdown reaches one and a half months).

- Ms. Hendrickson (Treasurer) asked staff to move to the next item on the agenda.
- Mr. Husserl provided an update about the FIFA World Cup Grant Program (FWCGP). The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) launched this Grant Program.

The program supports the safe execution of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, by providing local jurisdictions with resources to help fund security activities required to protect players, staff, attendees, venues, and critical infrastructure across the host cities, strengthening them against potential terrorist attacks. The program provides a total of \$625 million to 11 host cities, including somewhere between \$34 and \$74 million for the Host City in Atlanta.

Grant funds will be distributed through State Administrative Agencies (SAA). In the State of Georgia, the SAA is the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (“GEMA”). Funds will then be transferred to Host City.

Through a memorandum of agreement between the GEMA, the Host City, and the ARC, a partnership structure has been formed to have the ARC support the Host City with the provision of fiscal related services associated with the FWCGP.

As of March 11, 2026, the Federal Government had not awarded the FWCGP funds to the corresponding jurisdictions. Award letters were expected to be released on January 30, 2026. The delay is expected to generate logistical challenges for all States, nationwide, holding World Cup events.

- Ms. Hendrickson (Treasurer) asked if there were any additional questions. There were no questions.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.