

Joint ARC Board and Transportation & Air Quality Meeting

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

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

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

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

IV. Oath of Office by New Board Members

The oath of office was administered to:

- **Marvin Nesbitt Jr.**, ARC Citizen District 4
- **Liliana Bakhtiari**, Atlanta City Council

V. ARC Board Action Item — *Andre Dickens, Chair*

A. 2026 Committee Roster

Adopted

[ARC Board Meeting recess]

[Joint Meeting convened]

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

VII. Public Comment for Joint Meeting

No public comments

VIII. Consent Agenda — *Andre Dickens, Chair*

A. February 11, 2026 Joint TAQC & ARC Board Meeting Summary

Adopted

IX. Joint Discussion/Information Items – Andre Dickens, Chair

A. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Amy Goodwin, Planning Administrator, Transportation Planning

Summary: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) provides the Region’s long-range transportation vision and details the investments that will be made over the next 25 years. The MTP is federally mandated to be updated every four years. The current MTP was approved in 2024, and so the next MTP will be adopted in 2028. ARC has been working on hiring a consultant and plans to formally kick off the 2-year long planning process in March 2026.

- The 2055 MTP will build off ARC’s Vision of One Great Region.
- Board priorities will be established to inform scenario planning, needs assessment, and MTP project selection criteria.
- Next steps include the following: continued engagement with public, stakeholders, state and federal partners, and Board and committees; a needs assessment built upon ARC’s modal and local plans; development and board adoption of MTP policy framework; development of automated fiscal constraint tool.

More information:

- [ARC Presentation](#)

B. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 6

Michael Haire, Principal Planner, Transportation Planning

Summary: This is an overview of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 6. This amendment will add new projects that are considered exempt from air quality conformity analysis and make project cost estimate and programmatic changes that are of a time sensitive nature or cannot be handled administratively. This amendment does not require the modeling of air quality to ensure the updated projects maintain conformity with the region’s air quality standards, as all of these projects are non-capacity adding and considered exempt from air quality analysis. A 15-day public comment period will run from April 1 through April 15, with approvals during the May committee and Board meetings

- Amendment 6 includes:

- 30 projects total (26 new, 4 existing)
- \$115.2M of new federal funds programmed through 2050 (including \$4.4M in state match and \$17.8M local match)
- Of the \$115.2 in new federal funds programmed, \$79M is contained in the TIP
- More than half the Amendment 6 projects are being awarded funding through GDOT's TAP/FLAP programs.
 - \$28.3M awarded to 16 projects (14 new, 2 existing)
 - All 16 projects are bicycle-pedestrian centric (13 multi-use paths, 1 pedestrian bridge, 2 sidewalk installations)

More information:

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Executive Summary](#)
- [TIP Amendment 6 Project List](#)
- [Resolution](#)

[Joint Meeting recess]

[TAQC Convene]

X. TAQC Action Item – Carlotta Harrell, Chair

A. 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #1
David Haynes, Manager, 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. The 2026 UPWP was approved by TAQC and the ARC Board in November 2025. This amendment involves adding one federally funded initiative led by ARC: the "Origin-Destination Atlanta Region Travel On-Board Survey", a \$1.6 million initiative which 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. The amendment also includes the addition of seven locally led planning studies recently funded from the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All competitive grant program, as well as six studies to be led by the ATL Authority using FTA 5307 grants. An informal public and agency partner review and comment period was

conducted from February 16-26, and no comments were received on the proposed changes.

Adopted

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)
- [UPWP Plan Document](#)

[TAQC adjourn]

[ARC Board Convene]

XI. ARC Board Action Items – Andre Dickens, Chair

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Adopted

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)
- [UPWP Plan Document](#)

XII. ARC Board Discussion/Information Items – *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. Regional Housing Strategy Update

Kristin Allin, Principal Planner, Community Development

Summary: Board review and update on the development of the Housing Strategy for the Atlanta Region. The consultant, HR&A, will propose scenarios for housing distribution at the regional level based on preferred policy outcomes.

The ARC Regional Housing Strategy will establish a shared vision, define actionable steps, and strengthen regional capacity to meet housing goals. The strategy development includes stakeholder input via a project advisory group, survey, focus groups and interviews, and a housing summit.

The strategy development analysis is being conducted to address the question: What types of homes are needed, and where, to accommodate forecasted growth over the next ten years. The focus of this presentation is on location (where growth is forecasted to occur, and where it should go, based on ARC’s goals) and income & tenure (what types of homes will be needed, based on what residents can afford).

ARC forecasts the 11-county region will grow by about 350,000 new households by 2035. The following policy objectives were identified in collaboration with the Project Advisory Group to guide the analysis and create ARC’s recommended regional growth scenario:

- Align Housing and job growth: What if new households could afford to live within a 30-minute commute of new jobs?
- Lower housing and transportation costs: What would the region look like if new households lived within a half mile of transit
- Increase equitable access to opportunity: What if new low-income households could find housing in high-opportunity neighborhoods?
- Promote climate resilience: What would the region look like in 2035 if growth was limited in areas with high climate risk?

Board discussion followed. The conversation covered the following issues:

- Aligning new housing development in areas with jobs and transit.
- Reducing home building costs to bring down prices.
- Ensuring that people who work in a community are able to afford to live in that community.

More information

- [ARC Presentation](#)

B. Regional Development Plan (RDP)

Public Hearing for the RDP

Andrew Smith, Planning Coordinator, Community Development

Summary: The Regional Development Plan is a high-level policy guide for Metro Atlanta local governments and other leaders in areas including land use, quality of life, infrastructure, economic development, natural resource management, and intergovernmental coordination.

Community engagement surfaced four connected priorities pointing to the same challenge: uneven distribution of access to opportunity.

- Housing & Stability: People need homes near opportunity, but they're not finding them.
- Connectivity & Mobility: The region's #1 gap: Getting from where you are to where you want to be.
- Community Assets: Residents love what makes their communities unique, and fear losing it.
- Economic Mobility: Youth dream big. The region must build the infrastructure to match

A Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM) will be created for the Atlanta region that will add new regional priority areas to target regional investment

C. Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC) Class of 2026

Antemil Jorkey, Community Engagement and Culture Planner, Community Development

Summary: The purpose of this presentation is to provide a look back at the Model Atlanta Regional Commission's (MARC) 2025-2026 class and to highlight MARC students' perspectives. This youth leadership program has engaged over 1,000 students in experiential learning with the region's leaders and experts in transportation, natural resource sustainability, community development, and more.

D. Legislative Outlook/Federal Update

John Bayalis, Manager, Intergovernmental Affairs

Summary: Monthly update on state and federal government affairs activity. Bayalis provided an update on the state budget process, transportation funding, aging-related legislation, and HB 638, a bill that impacts GRTA and the ATL.

[Adjourn]