

## **Joint ARC Board and Transportation & Air Quality Meeting**

### **Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

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

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

**III. Public Comment for Joint Meeting**

*None*

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

The Chairman reminded ARC Board of the upcoming Regional Assembly for Public Officials to be held Thursday, June 26 at the Cobb Galleria Centre.

He noted that three board members were recognized at ACCG’s annual meeting for completing training. He congratulated Chair Harry Johnston, Chairwoman Lisa Cupid and Chairwoman Carotta Harrell on completing various trainings in leadership development, certified county commissioner and integumental relations

He also noted that Fulton and Gwinnett counties were both recognized as Counties of Excellence for 2024 and congratulated Chairman Pitts, Chairwoman Hendrickson and their hard-working staffs for this great honor.

**V. Consent Agenda – *Andre Dickens, Chair***

**A. March 12, 2025 Joint TAQC & ARC Board Meeting Summary**

*Approved*

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

**A. Competitive Grants Update**

*David Haynes, Manager, Transportation Planning*

The recent change in administration has created uncertainty around many competitive grants awarded to the Atlanta region in recent years under the

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Staff provided provide an update on which projects have been impacted, with additional information on five which are being led by ARC.

- [ARC Presentation](#)

**B. Housing and Transportation Study**

*Kristin Allin, Principal Planner, Community Development*

The Housing and Transportation Plan will serve as ARC's Regional Housing Strategy to support a unified vision, goals, and agency-wide actions to close the gap between housing supply and demand in the region.

The proposed budget for FY25-FY26 is \$250,000, with plan completion expected by Dec. 31, 2026.

The Regional Housing Strategy will establish a framework to:

- Adopt a set of regional housing goals to guide long-range planning
- Align regional housing goals with department level MIPs and KPIs
- Clearly communicate ARC's priorities and role in addressing the region's housing challenges
- Analyze gaps in regional tools, services, and resources, and provide feasibility for ARC development

- [ARC Presentation](#)

[Joint meeting recess]

[TAQC Convenes]

**VI. TAQC Action Items – Carlotta Harrell, Chair, TAQC**

**A. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 4**

*Jean Hee Barrett, Planning Administrator, Transportation Planning*

This is an action item for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 4. The amendment will advance federal recognized long-range years into the TIP years, update general cost estimate increases to federal-aid projects beyond the

threshold for an administrative modification, program remaining TIP Solicitation fund awards, and add new projects exempt from air quality conformity analysis. An initial presentation was given in March.

*Adopted*

[TAQC Adjourn]

[ARC Board Convene]

### **VIII. ARC Board Action Items – Andre Dickens, Chair**

- A. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 4

*Jean Hee Barrett, Planning Administrator, Transportation Planning*

This is an action item for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 4. The amendment will advance federal recognized long-range years into the TIP years, update general cost estimate increases to federal-aid projects beyond the threshold for administrative modification, program remaining TIP Solicitation fund awards, and add new projects exempt from air quality conformity analysis. An initial presentation was given in March.

*Adopted*

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

- A. Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) and Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) Selection

*Lauren Blaszyk, Planning Administrator, Community Development*  
*Jillian Willis, Program Manager, Community Development*

Community Development staff provided a brief presentation and overview of

the six (6) studies selected for funding through the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program, and seven (7) studies or plans selected for funding, partner, or technical assistance through the Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP), from the 2025 Call for Projects.

Community Development used a two-step process to evaluate the applications, which included review and evaluation by both an internal committee of ARC staff and an external committee of representatives from other regional agencies and partners. Prior to finalizing the list of awardees, staff provided a presentation and description of the recommended studies for selection to the Executive Director and COO.

The LCI studies selected are:

- Atlanta Ashby MARTA Station Connectivity Study
- Avondale Estates Downtown Master Plan Update
- DeKalb County Kensington Area Master Plan Update
- Kennesaw Cobb Parkway Gateway & Connectivity Study
- Olde Town Conyers Master Plan Update
- Tucker-Northlake CID One Northlake Plan

The CDAP projects selected are:

#### ARC Staff Assistance

- Clarkston Housing Summit
- Rockdale County Housing Assessment
- Cherokee County Pearidge Small Area Plan

#### Partner-Led Assistance

- McDonough Blacksville Small Area Plan
  - Douglasville: An Economic Envisioning Plan
  - Decatur Heat Mitigation Strategy
- Grant Assistance  
Clayton County and Cities Housing Assessment and Strategy

- [ARC Presentation](#)

#### B. Data Center Trends in Metro Atlanta

*Celine Benoit*, Principal Planner, Natural Resources – Water Conservation and Efficiency

ARC staff provided an update to the Data Centers and Community Considerations presentation provided at the November 2024 board meeting. This presentation shared the latest regional statistics and additional considerations for communities considering or addressing data center developments in their jurisdiction.

These considerations include:

- Land use today and in the future
  - Water resource needs
  - Mitigating environmental and environmental health impacts
  - Be prepared to address critical issues such as noise, transmission lines, drought management, and emergency outages
- [ARC Presentation](#)

C. Legislative Update

*John Bayalis, Manager, Intergovernmental Affairs*

Adjourn