



Joint ARC Board and Transportation & Air Quality Meeting

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

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

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

III. Public Comment for Joint Meeting

No comments

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

- Chairman Dickens noted the successful State of the Region event, which drew 1,300 leaders who explored the event theme of Innovation Unleashed.

V. Consent Agenda — *Andre Dickens, Chair*

A. October 8, 2025 Joint TAQC & ARC Board Meeting Summary

Approved

B. 2026 ARC Year at-a-Glance

ARC is required to set a calendar of annual meetings of the Board and standing committees. This is done through the ARC Year at a Glance Calendar posted on the Board Portal which also provides notice of the meeting schedule to the public.

Approved

- [Link to come](#)

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

A. Human Services Transportation (HST) Plan Update

Joseph Hacker, Principal, Transportation Planning

This is an information item summarizing the outreach and draft recommendations for the updated Human Services Transportation plan scheduled for adoption in early 2026.

Hacker discussed community feedback, which included concerns over travel for medical needs and for groceries. The work includes three concepts: Regional mobility hubs, integrated regional trip planner and mobile application, and a regional fare instrument.

- [ARC Presentation](#)

B. Work Session – Regional Development Plan (RDP)

Andrew Smith, Planning Coordinator, Community Development

As per the Georgia Planning Act, each Regional Commission is required to develop and adopt a Regional Development Plan (RDP) every five years. ARC is currently developing its RDP update, to be completed by June 30, 2026. The Plan is called Growing Together For 2050, Metro Atlanta’s Development Strategy.

The Community Development Department has been working on several community and stakeholder events, as well as a technical analysis to determine regional development priorities and challenges for our 11-county metro. As part of that process, today staff will provide an update on plan progress as well as engage the board in a discussion around their growth and protection priorities and challenges.

Smith engaged the board in a discussion to get feedback on the RDP update. This included the following questions:

- What are your community’s goals or milestones for growth and protection?
- What is your community challenged by historically, right now, and looking ahead?

Cherokee County Chair Harry Johnston said growth and development in his county should be focused in the cities, most of which are aligned on I-575, while preserving more rural areas. JaNice Van Ness, Chair of Rockdale County, said major issues in Rockdale include the need for seniors to age in place and preserving the county’s tree canopy. Other members commented on need for greater diversity of housing styles and price points, and the need for more investment in public transportation such as rail, and the need to focus development on existing built areas that could be better utilized.

- [ARC Presentation](#)

[Joint Meeting recess]

[TAQC Convene]

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

A. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5

Michael Haire, Principal Planner, Transportation Planning

This is an overview of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5. This amendment will advance project phases from the federal recognized Long Range years to TIP years, change project funds from a local or state fund source to a federal fund source, add new projects that are either considered exempt or non-exempt from air quality conformity analysis, delete federal funded projects exempt from air quality analysis, make adjustments to the travel demand model which includes changes to project network model years or termini points of conformity projects, and make project cost estimate and programmatic changes that are of a time sensitive nature or cannot be handled administratively. This amendment requires the modeling of air quality to ensure the updated projects maintain conformity with the region's air quality standards.

Adopted

More information

- [Executive Summary](#)
- [Project List](#)
- [Public Comment Report](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)

B. Transportation Public Participation Plan

Elizabeth Sanford, Manager, Transportation Planning

ARC has recently updated the agency's Public Participation Plan (PPP) in accordance with the federal regulations governing interested parties, participation, and consultation activities of Metropolitan Planning Organizations ([23 CFR 450.316](#)). The Transportation Public Participation Plan presents ARC's strategy for meaningful community engagement, identifies public participation metrics, and defines participation procedures for ARC's core MPO deliverables.

Adopted

More information:

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Public Comment Report](#)
- [Public Participation Plan](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)

C. 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

David Haynes, Manager, Transportation Planning

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.

Adopted

More information:

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Unified Planning Work Program](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)

[TAQC adjourn]

[ARC Board convene]

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

A. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5

Adopted

More information

- [Executive Summary](#)
- [Project List](#)
- [Public Comment Report](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)

B. Transportation Public Participation Plan
Elizabeth Sanford, Manager, Transportation Planning

Adopted

More information:

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Public Comment Report](#)
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- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)

C. 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
David Haynes, Manager, Transportation Planning

Adopted

More information:

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D. Metro Atlanta Climate Action Plan (MACAP)

Crystal Jackson, Planning Manager, Climate + Sustainability

Through funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, ARC produced the Metro Atlanta Climate Action Plan for the 29-county Metropolitan Statistical Area. The Plan serves as a roadmap to create a sustainable and resilient future for all. Strategic measures have been identified that local governments, businesses, universities and schools, non-profit organizations, and individuals can take, across sectors, to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, while also producing economic, workforce, and environmental benefits for the region. ARC is seeking Board approval for this Plan, which is contractually required to be submitted to the EPA by December 1, 2025.

Adopted

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [Metro Atlanta Climate Action Plan](#)
- [Issue Summary & Resolution](#)

E. 2026 Budget and Work Program

James Hussert, Chief Financial Officer

The provisions of Georgia Code Section 50-8-80 et seq. require that the Commission, before the 15th day of December each year, adopt a budget and work program for the succeeding calendar year. Once adopted, the 2026 Budget and Work Program will be the Commission's official policy regarding allocation of the Commission's money and staff resources during 2026. The Proposed 2026 Budget and Work Program was shared with the Board on October 22, 2025. On November 12, the Commission has an opportunity to discuss and adopt the budget.

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

F. Nominations/Declarations & Election for ARC Chair

ARC Board Chair Andre Dickens, Mayor of the City of Atlanta, was elected to a second two-year term. The term begins Jan. 1, 2026.

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

A. CEO Report - *Anna Roach*, Executive Director

- [ARC Presentation](#)

X. Adjourn

Happy Holiday!