

Joint ARC Board and Transportation & Air Quality Meeting

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, October 8, 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 public comments

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

Reminds board members of the State of the Region event on Friday, Oct. 24.

V. Consent Agenda — *Andre Dickens*, Chair

A. August 13, 2025 Joint TAQC & ARC Board Meeting Summary

Approved

VI. Joint First Read – *Andre Dickens*, Chair

**A. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/FY 2024-2027
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5
Michael Haire, Principal Planner, Transportation Planning**

Public Hearing

No Public Comment

Joint Briefing:

This is an overview of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5. The amendment covers 53 projects and reflects changes to existing project budgets, timelines, and scopes. It also adds new projects.

This amendment requires the modeling of air quality to ensure the updated projects maintain conformity with the region's air quality standards. A 30-day public comment period will run until October 23, 2025, with approvals during the November committee and Board meetings.

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [TIP Amendment 5 Project List](#)

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.

- [Public Participation Plan - Document](#)
- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [ARC 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.

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [ARC Resolution](#)

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

A. Flint River Gateway and Regional Trails Plan Update

Mike Alexander, COO, Office of Operations

Eric Meyer, Planning Coordinator, Transportation Planning

This program funds ARC's comprehensive regional trail planning initiative, launching three interconnected planning efforts in 2026. Over three years, ARC will develop the Flint River Gateway Vision Plan and the South Metro Trail and Bicycle Facility Plan, which will create vital connections across the South Metro region linking the Chattahoochee and South Rivers, and Atlanta BeltLine corridors

These efforts will culminate in an updated Regional Trail and Bicycle Facility Plan that integrates all components into a cohesive network. The program also delivers hands-on Complete Streets implementation support through model codes, design standards, funding strategies, and training workshops that help communities advance both the new trail plans and ARC's Walk Bike Thrive! recommendations.

- [ARC Presentation](#)

B. Metro Atlanta Climate Action Plan

Crystal Jackson, Planning Manager, Climate + Sustainability, Natural Resources

Through funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, ARC is producing the Metro Atlanta Climate Action Plan for the 29-county Metropolitan Statistical Area. The Plan will serve as a roadmap to create a sustainable and resilient future for all. Strategic measures have been identified that local governments, businesses, and individuals can take, across sectors, to significantly reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050, while also producing economic, workforce, and environmental benefits for the region.

- [ARC Presentation](#)

[Joint Meeting recess]

[ARC Board convene]

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

- A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Report
Keri Stevens, Planning Administrator, Community Development

The Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Economic Development District (EDD) by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Federal regulations require ARC, as an EDD, to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) every five years (adopted in 2022) and provide an Annual Report approved by the ARC Board, including a resolution. The 2025 CEDS Annual Report outlines the implementation successes and initiatives for 2026.

Approved

- [ARC Presentation](#)
- [CEDS Annual Report](#)
- [CEDS Resolution](#)

IX. Nominations & Declarations for ARC Chair

Rob Pitts nominates Andre Dickens to serve a second term; he accepts nomination

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

- A. “18 Summers” United Way Regional Strategy
Milton Little, Executive Director, United Way of Greater Atlanta

Postponed

- B. Gwinnett County Development
Highlight *Chairwoman Nicole Hendrickson*, Gwinnett County
Stan Hall, Executive Director,
Explore Gwinnett

Discussed the growth of the Gas South District, which is owned by Gwinnett County and operated by the county CVB. The presentation included discussion of a new Westin hotel at the site, the conversion of a vacant building to become a Marriott hotel, and the Arena renovation process.

XI. Adjourn

[Adjourn]

Upcoming Meetings:

November 5 (Energy and Resilience Council)

November 12 (SPG, ARC Board/TAQC)