



Atlanta Regional Commission



BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

December 4, 2019

Kerry Armstrong Re-elected as ARC Board Chair

The ARC Board voted unanimously to re-elect Kerry Armstrong for a fourth term as Board Chair. Armstrong has served on the ARC Board since 2008 and was elected to his first term as Board Chair in 2013. His fourth two-year term will begin on January 1, 2020.

Under the leadership of Armstrong and the other board members, ARC has worked with regional partners on several key initiatives. In recent years, this includes developing the Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy to help local communities address their housing challenges, as well as major updates to the Atlanta Region's Plan, a long-range blueprint that provides investments to support world-class infrastructure, healthy, livable communities, and a competitive economy for metro Atlanta.

ARC 2020 Work Program and Budget Adopted by ARC Board

The Board unanimously adopted ARC's 2020 Work Program and Budget. Executive Director presented details, and noted that the program aligns with the three main elements of the

Atlanta Region's Plan: World-Class Infrastructure; Healthy, Livable Communities; and Competitive Economy.

Highlights of the work program include:

- Adopt and implement the metro housing strategy
- Implement enhanced Aging & Independence Services programs, including a new behavioral health coaching partnership with area housing authorities.
- Continue and expand the ConnectATL program
- Complete a major update of the Atlanta Region's Plan, which includes a Regional Transportation Plan, Community Development Plan, and elements from aging, workforce, natural resources and homeland security.
- Continue UASI work in support of NCAA Final Four events and 2021 MLB All-Star Game.
- Develop and implement an ARC Strategic Communications Plan.
- Complete Board Engagement Task Force work and implement recommendations adopted by the Board.

Mr. Hooker also discussed the 2020 budget, which anticipates expenditures of \$92 million. Budget objectives include: Maintaining an appropriate fund balance; using local dues to match federal grants; seeking additional grant and sponsorship revenues; and a 2.5% average merit compensation

- [2020 Work Program and Budget Resolution](#)

ARC Board Adopts 2020 Unified Planning Work Program

As the Atlanta Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), ARC is required to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that discusses the planning priorities facing the region. The UPWP outlines the priorities regardless of funding as is developed in collaboration with other state and local transportation and planning agencies. The Board adopted the resolution unanimously.

- [2020 Unified Planning Work Program Resolution](#)

Resolution Passed to Adopt the Regional Workbook for Complete Streets

The Regional Workbook for Complete Streets was unanimously adopted by the Board. The workbook acts as a supplement to ARC's [Walk, Bike, Thrive! plan](#) that supports the goal of helping the region become "one of the most connected and safest regions in the United States for walking and bicycling." The workbook seeks to guide the implementation of complete streets in metro Atlanta, recognizing that the needs in urban centers are generally different than those of more suburban areas. Before the workbook, a lot of guidance existed on

implementing good complete streets in city centers, but not as much guidance existed for metro suburbs.

The workbook does not seek to define complete streets, as they can be different based on the context of the area, but instead present the best practices for implementing complete streets elements. The workbook is particularly important for parts of the region that have major arterial roads, the complete streets workbook can help them navigate improvements for congestion, pedestrian safety, bus stops, and more.

- [Regional Workbook for Complete Streets Resolution](#)

Regional Housing Strategy Update

Marisa Ghani presented the Metro Atlanta Housing Strategy, which was unveiled at the State of the Region Breakfast in November. The strategy was developed as a response to local government's request for tools to address housing needs. Working groups that developed the plan included housing experts and government and housing authority staff. The plan was based, to some extent, on the ULI Affordable Atlanta report from 2018, which addressed healthy housing and engaged business leaders and other stakeholders. ARC took this framework to other stakeholders, breaking the issue down into several strategies.

- [Regional Housing Strategy Presentation](#)

John Bayalis Delivers Preview of Legislative Session

John Bayalis, Manager of Intergovernmental Affairs, provided updates on upcoming notable items in the legislative session, including transportation funding at a state level. The most immediate issue is the federal budget reconciliation, which is in its second continuing resolution. The current resolution ends on Dec. 12, 2019. We are likely to see another continuing resolution.

Announcements and References

- DRAFT 2020 ARC Year-at-a-Glance
- State Ethics Requirements for ARC Board Citizen Members – Time Sensitive (Due on or before 01.31.20)
- SAVE THE DATE: Green Communities 10th Anniversary, Wednesday, December 4, 2019 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. (symposium) and 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. (reception), Georgia Tech Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design
- SAVE THE DATE: empowerline forum – In Plain Sight: Elder Protection, December 10, 2019 8:30 – 12:15, Heffner Hall, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 4882 Lavista Road, Tucker 30084

- SAVE THE DATE: Atlanta Regional Workforce Development Board (ARWDB) Meeting & Customer/Business Recognitions, Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 11:30 a.m.
- Board Member Orientation, Monday, January 22, ARC, 10:00 a.m.

The next ARC Committee Day is Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020.

The next ARC Board meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020 at 1 p.m.