

DATE: <u>February 22, 2017</u>

ISSUE SUMMARY: HST Plan Update: Managing Mobility in the Atlanta Region

FROM: Mike Alexander, Director, Center for Livable Communities

The Atlanta Region's initial coordinated Human Services Transportation (HST) Plan was developed and adopted by ARC in 2010 pursuant to the requirements of SAFETEA-LU (which expired in 2012) to support planning for programs or projects funded through three Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs: Section 5310, Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program; Section 5316, Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Program, and Section 5317, New Freedom Program.

MAP-21 (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century) was signed by the President in July 2012. Under MAP-21 the JARC and New Freedom programs were repealed and no funding for these programs were authorized beyond FY2012. The current reauthorization bill, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, requires that projects selected for funding under the Section 5310 Program, Enhanced Mobility for Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities, be included in a locally developed, coordinated human services transportation plan and that the plan be developed through a process that includes members of the public, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, HST providers, and others.

In order for the Atlanta Region to retain funding eligibility under Section 5310, and to assure that the requirements, findings, and recommendations of the FAST Act, the 2010 Census, The Atlanta Region's Plan, and other major initiatives are in sync with and included in the region's HST vision, an update of the existing HST plan was deemed necessary.

The updated HST has been developed with ongoing involvement and assistance from the HST Advisory Committee comprised of HST stakeholders and representatives. The updated HST Plan consists of goals and strategies supporting the regional goals of developing a coordinated HST system as part of an integrated transportation system. The updated HST Plan will provide input into The Atlanta Region's Plan and in development of future Regional Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs.

ACTION REQUIRED: ARC approval



A RESOLUTION BY THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION ADOPTING AN UPDATE TO THE HUMAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (HST) PLAN, MANAGING MOBILITY IN THE ATLANTA REGION

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning within the Atlanta Metropolitan Area Boundary which includes all or portions of 18 counties; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users was signed into law August 2005 and established that a coordinated public transit-Human Services Transportation Plan must be developed locally to guide planning for programs and projects funded through three Federal Transit Administration programs (Section 5310, Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program; Section 5316, Job Access and Reverse Commute Program; and Section 5317, New Freedom Program); and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Atlanta Regional Commission resolved that the transportation needs of older adults in the Atlanta region be identified and addressed through the regional planning process, and in 2006, an HST Steering Committee was established to help guide and develop a coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the Atlanta Regional Commission adopted the Atlanta Region's *Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, 2010*; and

WHEREAS, the previous surface transportation reauthorization, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), was signed into law on July 6, 2012 and established that a coordinated public transit Human Services Transportation Plan must be developed locally to guide planning for programs and projects funded through the Federal Transit Administration under Section 5310, Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Atlanta Region to retain funding eligibility under Section 5310, and to assure major initiatives are in sync with and included in the region's HST vision, a technical update of the existing *Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan*, 2013, was deemed necessary, and

WHEREAS, the update to the *Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan*, 2013, which covers the entire MPO planning area, has been developed with ongoing involvement and assistance from an HST Advisory Committee comprised of Human Services Transportation stakeholders and representatives of planning and implementation agencies, public

transit operators, state and local health and human service agencies, workforce boards, non-profit organizations, for-profit transportation providers, advocates, and the general public; and

WHEREAS, the updated Human Services Transportation Plan, *Managing Mobility in the Atlanta Region* consists of the goals and strategies supporting the regional goal of developing a coordinated Human Services Transportation system as part of an integrated transportation system, as well as descriptions of policies and programs recommended to be implemented throughout the Atlanta Region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission adopts the updated Human Services Transportation Plan, *Managing Mobility in the Atlanta Region*, as the policy guide for human services transportation planning in the Atlanta Region, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission will use the goals and objectives from the Human Services Transportation Plan, *Managing Mobility in the Atlanta Region*, as input in the update of the PLAN 2040 RTP/TIP and in development of future Regional Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission directs its staff to prepare and distribute to appropriate individuals, organizations and agencies documents describing the Human Services Transportation Plan, *Managing Mobility in the Atlanta Region*.