For approval by TCC, TAQC and ARC Board in February 2020

Action Date: 2/26/2020

ISSUE SUMMARY: Update of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Element of The Atlanta Region’s Plan

FROM: Charlotte Nash, Chair, Transportation & Air Quality Committee

IMPORTANCE:

The Atlanta Region’s Plan is the comprehensive plan to “win the future” through an emphasis on world class infrastructure, support for a competitive economy, and establishing healthy livable communities.

ARC is in the process of completing The Atlanta Region’s Plan, the regional unified plan that encompasses both 1) the state Department of Community Affairs (DCA) required Regional Agenda and 2) the federally-required Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). In this process, ARC has sought comprehensive approaches to accommodate economic and population growth sustainably in the Atlanta Region over the next 30 years.

The Regional Transportation Plan element is required by federal regulations to be completed in February 2020. Work is underway and nearing completion for the DCA elements of The Atlanta Region’s Plan, with approval of the DCA-required elements being a separate follow-up Committee and Board action later in 2020.

The Regional Transportation Plan element of The Atlanta Region’s Plan was developed through the ARC Committee structure with input from regional stakeholders, local governments, and the public. Action is requested for approval of the RTP. Pursuant to the ARC Community Engagement Plan, a 30-day public comment period for the Regional Transportation Plan was completed on December 13, 2019.

ARC request approval of the RTP in February 2020 in order to meet federal regulatory deadline requirements and to ensure the continuity of federal funding programs in 2020. Additional information on the plan document and project listings is available on-line at https://www.atlantaregionsplan.org/update/.

ACTIONS REQUIRED: TCC, TAQC and ARC Board Adoption
RESOLUTION BY THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION TO ADOPT THE UPDATE TO TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) ELEMENT OF THE ATLANTA REGION’S PLAN

WHEREAS, since 1952, the Atlanta Regional Commission has developed and adopted regional plans for the Atlanta region; and

WHEREAS The Atlanta Region’s Plan is the comprehensive plan to “win the future” through an emphasis on world class infrastructure, support for a competitive economy, and establishing healthy, livable communities; and

WHEREAS The Atlanta Region’s Plan consists of two primary elements that 1) meet the Minimum Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning developed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and 2) meet the federal requirements for a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) as required by the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, signed into law December 4, 2015; and

WHEREAS ARC has completed technical and community engagement activities for the Regional Transportation Plan update, which has strived for comprehensive approaches to accommodate economic and population growth sustainably in the Atlanta region through the year 2050; and

WHEREAS The Atlanta Region’s Plan transportation element has incorporated strategies and projects outlined in existing plans and programs such as the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI), Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan, Atlanta Aerotropolis Blueprint, and others; and

WHEREAS ARC implemented a communication process that provided regular updates on plan development to local government officials and other planning partners and provide opportunities for local government, citizens and non-governmental organization engagement in key steps in the plan development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission adopts The Atlanta Region’s Plan, Regional Transportation Plan element; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission authorizes staff, with approval of the Chair of the Atlanta Regional Commission, to make non-substantive technical corrections to the final documents as necessary.