



**DATE:** February 22, 2017

**ISSUE SUMMARY:      **The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP/TIP Amendment #2****

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

**IMPORTANCE:**

On February 24, 2016, ARC adopted The Atlanta Region's Plan-RTP, including a FY 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), for the 20-county transportation planning area. This Plan was developed pursuant to federal requirements, including a Conformity Determination Report. On March 16, 2016, USDOT in consultation with USEPA made a conformity determination for both the 15-county Atlanta ozone and 22-county Atlanta PM 2.5 nonattainment areas.

This Amendment #2 to The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP and FY 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program was developed to:

- 1) Program residual FY 2017 CMAQ funds;
- 2) Incorporate new GDOT projects into the TIP; and
- 3) Reflect routine schedule and cost updates.

(For additional information on the amendment to

<http://www.atlantaregional.com/transportation/transportation-improvement-program/fy-2016-2021-tip-amendment-2>)

Regarding the required conformity determination for the TIP amendment:

1. ARC determined that the changes reflected in Amendment #2 do not require a new technical evaluation for conformity. ARC provided this information to the adjacent Cartersville-Bartow MPO, also in the Atlanta Nonattainment Area.
2. Prior to the formal public comment period, ARC received concurrence as required through the Interagency Consultation process that the conformity determination for Amendment #2 does not necessitate a new regional emissions analysis.

Pursuant to the ARC Community Engagement Plan, a 10-day public comment period was conducted, January 4 to January 13, 2017 and the results provided to TCC, TAQC and the ARC Board.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** ARC approval



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENT #2  
PLAN 2040 RTP AND TIP**

**WHEREAS**, the Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning in Atlanta Metropolitan Transportation Planning Area which includes all or parts of twenty counties; and

**WHEREAS**, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST Act) and the Clean Air Act (CAA) Amendments of 1990 require the MPO to develop and adopt a long-range regional transportation plan (RTP) and short-range transportation improvement program (TIP) that conforms with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality; and

**WHEREAS**, in February 2016, ARC adopted the Atlanta Region's Plan, incorporating updated planning assumptions, and an FY 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the twenty county area; and

**WHEREAS**, a conformity determination was made on The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP/TIP on March 16, 2016, by the US Department of Transportation in consultation with the US Environmental Protection Agency, which determined based on The Atlanta Region's Plan Conformity Determination Report, that The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP and TIP conform to the requirements of the Clean Air Act under 40 CFR Part 93 for the 8 hour ozone 2008 standards (15 county nonattainment area) and particulate matter 2.5 standard (22 county nonattainment area); and

**WHEREAS**, ARC did not perform a technical evaluation as no changes to the scope or schedule of any non-exempt status project was proposed in Amendment #2; and

**WHEREAS**, ARC did notify the Cartersville-Bartow MPO, also in the Atlanta Nonattainment Area, that such a technical evaluation would not be performed for the entire Atlanta Nonattainment Area; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to releasing the amendment for a formal public comment period, ARC received concurrence through the Interagency Consultation process that Amendment #2 consists of changes that did not necessitate a new technical evaluation for conformity, and

*For approval by TCC, TAQC, and ARC Board in February 2017.*

**WHEREAS**, Amendment #2 to The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP/FY 2016-2021 TIP was developed consistently with the requirements of 23 CFR 450.316 and in adherence with the participation processes and guidelines outlined in ARC Community Engagement Plan, 2014 Update as follows:

- Notice of such an amendment was published in a legal organ for a 10-day public comment period on January 4 to January 13, 2017;
- Interested parties were provided the opportunity to comment on the amendment through the ARC website.
- Results of this public comment period were provided to the Transportation Coordinating Committee, the Transportation & Air Quality Committee and the ARC Board for consideration.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Atlanta Regional Commission adopts Amendment #2 to The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP/TIP, as defined above; 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; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission directs the staff to continue the regular reporting on The Atlanta Region's Plan management and implementation.