



**DATE:** Sept 28, 2016

**ISSUE SUMMARY: Transmittal of the Annual Progress Report for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to the US Economic Development Administration (EDA)**

**FROM:** Stephen Causby, Manager, Community Partnerships

**IMPORTANCE:**

ARC officially began the development of the Regional Competitiveness Strategy, which serves as the region's CEDS, in 2012. Upon adoption of the Regional Competitiveness Strategy in December, 2012, ARC staff began immediately working to implement the strategy.

EDA rules require that we transmit a CEDS Annual Progress Report in September of each year. This report tracks some economic indicators and documents progress made in implementing the strategy document during the previous year.

To date in 2016, we have held over 17 meetings of the four Subcommittees that are working on implementation of the Regional Competitiveness Strategy, and have advanced implementation in areas including Education, Livability, Innovation and Economic Development.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

ARC Board Adoption

**RESOLUTION BY THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
TO APPROVE THE REGIONAL COMPETITIVENESS STRATEGY'S 2016 ANNUAL  
PROGRESS REPORT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
ADMINISTRATION**

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

**WHEREAS**, PLAN 2040 addresses the comprehensive needs for the ten county area; and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and associated Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the eighteen county area, and

**WHEREAS**, PLAN 2040 must be prepared pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 and consistent with Minimum Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning developed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA); and

**WHEREAS**, ARC developed a regional unified plan and strategic vision for PLAN 2040 and has sought comprehensive approaches to accommodate economic and population growth sustainably in the Atlanta region during the next 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, ARC seeks to improve the region's quality of life, improve and maintain infrastructure, support job creation and economic progress for all areas of metro Atlanta;

**WHEREAS**, during 2012, ARC completed the Regional Competitiveness Strategy;

**WHEREAS**, during 2014, ARC began implementation of the Regional Competitiveness Strategy, through a collaborative process that brought together multiple stakeholders in the public, private and non-profit sectors;

**WHEREAS**, the final Regional Competitiveness Strategy supports the goals of PLAN 2040 and meets the federal Economic Development Administration's requirements for a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS);

**WHEREAS**, the federal Economic Development Administration requires annual reports on progress made towards CEDS implementation;

**WHEREAS**, ARC completed the 2016 Annual Progress Report, documenting progress made toward the action items outlined in the 2012 Regional Competitiveness Strategy and Implementation document;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission supports the CEDS 2016 Annual Progress Report for submission to the Economic Development Administration as documentation of progress made towards implementation of the 2012 5-year CEDS.