



DATE: August 13, 2025

ISSUE SUMMARY: Approval of the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) 25 Year Impact Report and New Program Goals

FROM: Mike Alexander, Chief Operating Officer

IMPORTANCE:

IMPORTANCE: The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) created the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program in 1999 to reduce vehicle miles traveled and improve air quality by providing grants for planning studies that help local jurisdictions create vibrant, walkable communities. In 2024, ARC celebrated the 25th anniversary of the LCI program and, with a consultant team, created the LCI 25 Year Impact Report. This report details the program's history and its significant positive impacts on the metro Atlanta area. Based on these findings, the report proposes "Considerations for the Future" and establishes three new program goals to guide the LCI program for the next 25 years, aligning with ARC's broader goals for creating healthy communities, fostering a competitive economy, and ensuring diverse stakeholder engagement. This resolution formally adopts the impact report and these new strategic goals.

ACTION REQUIRED: Adoption



Atlanta Regional Commission

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LCI 25 YEAR IMPACT REPORT
AND NEW PROGRAM GOALS**

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is a Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission created pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-8-80, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 50-8-93 designates such a commission to be the planning agency for comprehensive transportation planning under the administrative requirements of the United States Department of Transportation; and

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 20 counties; and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) includes a formula-based Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) to MPOs which provides flexible funding for projects that preserve and improve the conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission created the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program in 1999 to reduce vehicle miles traveled and improve air quality in metro Atlanta, to ensure continued federal funding for transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the LCI program provides grants to fund planning studies that incentivize local jurisdictions to re-envision their communities as vibrant, walkable places that offer multimodal transportation options, encourage healthy lifestyles, and provide improved access to jobs and services; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission celebrated the 25-year anniversary of the LCI program in 2024 at its annual State of the Region event.; and

WHEREAS, as part of the 25-year anniversary of the LCI program, the Atlanta Regional Commission worked with a consultant team to create the LCI 25 Year Impact Report; and

WHEREAS, the report documents the LCI program's history and its quantitative and qualitative impacts on metro Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, based on the documented program impacts, the report provides "Considerations for the Future" to improve the program over the next 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the FY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program has allocated STBG funds through 2028 to the LCI program; and

WHEREAS, the report provides new program goals that align with three of the Atlanta Regional Commission's goals, as follows:

1. **Healthy, Safe, Livable Communities:** Create multimodal developments that prioritize connectivity, public health, and safety for people of all ages and abilities;
2. **A Competitive Economy:** Maximize the economic potential of downtowns and transit nodes with a diverse mix of housing, jobs, and community services;
3. **Diverse Stakeholder Engagement:** Empower and engage all stakeholders through comprehensive and impactful community outreach.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission approves the LCI 25 Year Impact Report, as attached, and the three LCI program goals as stated above.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Atlanta Regional Commission on August 13, 2025.

Charissa White-Fulks, ARC Executive Assistant/Board Secretary