



Dear LINK Participants,

On behalf of the Atlanta Regional Commission, I'd like to welcome you to the Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia (DMV) region for LINK 2025. The DMV region, also known as the National Capital Region, is moving forward — and it's moving fast. *We are excited to highlight suburban growth for this year's LINK program.*

From Washington, D.C. through Maryland and Virginia, the DMV metro area is leading a new era of connected infrastructure, inclusive growth, and smart investment.

We are thrilled to offer our 28th LINK program. This year, your LINK experience will provide first-hand insight into:

- the region's long-standing position as a leader in the global digital economy with continued technology, workforce development, and the economic prowess of Data Center Alley -- the world's largest concentration of cloud infrastructure
- the region's exemplary managed lanes system, that includes dynamic tolling, seamless commuter options, and integrated express routes
- how the region is setting regional affordable housing goals, and the tools local governments are using to accomplish these efforts
- and we'll hear from the region's leaders who are working on massive reinvestment and redevelopment opportunities, in partnership with the private and public sectors.

Like Atlanta, Washington metro area is an innovative region with a dynamic mix of suburban communities, all focused on driving one great region forward.

As we do every year, we'll also be offering engaging, Immersive LINK Labs that provide opportunities to get to know metro Washington, D.C. even better. These include:

- Black & Forth – a community-driven entrepreneur collective
- Bethesda Urban Partnership
- Purple line: advanced TOD planning and transit expansion
- Riverdale Park Station: a sustainable mixed-use redevelopment
- Takoma Park: EV & green infrastructure
- VA Tech Innovation Campus
- Tysons, VA Transformation
- Northern Virginia Community College Data Center Program
- Data centers –QTS and Equinix
- Amazon Headquarters
- Regional BRT Small Group Discussion

I hope that you find this year's LINK experience to be highly informative and insightful. Welcome again to DMV, with a look beyond Capitol Hill. I know you'll enjoy exploring all that it has to offer as you network with your LINK colleagues and learn ways that metro Atlanta can continue to shine, as well as become an even greater region.

Sincerely,

Andre Dickens

Board Chair, Atlanta Regional Commission
Mayor, City of Atlanta

Anna Roach

CEO & Executive Director, Atlanta Regional Commission

Air Travel + Connections

You are responsible for your own air travel to and from metro D.C. We will provide transportation from Ronald Reagan, Washington National, and Dulles International Airports on August 20 to the initial meeting site for those who chose in the travel survey to take the shuttle. Representatives of our transportation company will meet you in the airport greeting area immediately after baggage claim with LINK signage. They will then lead you to the LINK shuttle buses. If you miss the shuttle for some reason, you may reach out to staff or Uber to the appropriate venue site.

The bus will transport you and your luggage to the LINK hotel – the Archer Hotel Tysons. Once you are dropped off at the opening venue for initial programming, your luggage will be taken along to the hotel. Be sure to have anything you need with you for the afternoon ready and separate from your stored luggage.

If you arrive on a flight outside the pickup window previously communicated, or have other travel arrangements, you may Uber to the hotel or the appropriate venue depending upon your arrival time. The program will officially begin with lunch and presentations at noon on Wednesday, August 20 at the VA Tech Innovation Campus in Alexandria, VA. There will be an early arrivals session beginning at 10:15 a.m. at Amazon HQ2 at National Landing, VA for those arriving before 11 a.m. on August 20.

For the return trip to the airport on Saturday, August 23, shuttles will leave the hotel starting at 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. If you plan on departing the hotel earlier or later than this, please secure your own ground transportation.

Luggage

Included in this package is a LINK luggage tag. **Please place your business card or your identifying information in the luggage tag and attach it to your bag. We use these tags to properly identify your luggage and place it in your hotel room for an express check-in.**

If you ride from the airport on a LINK bus, your bag will be taken to the Archer Hotel and placed in your hotel room ahead of check-in.

Hotel Accommodations

The Archer Hotel Tysons

7599 Colshire Drive, Mclean, VA

Your room is prepaid through your LINK registration. Incidental charges – including restaurant charges, room service, local and long-distance calls, etc. – are not included. **You must provide your credit card at the front desk to cover any incidental expenses.** This can be done any time after your initial check-in; *this must be taken care of by Friday morning.* If you are arriving early or staying late, you will be asked to cover payment for those nights at either check-in or checkout.

Welcome Bag

When you arrive, you will find a LINK welcome bag provided by our LINK sponsors. These gifts are provided to help prepare you to explore the DMV region. We greatly appreciate all the sponsors who make this trip possible and thank them for their ongoing support.

LINK Briefing

This year's LINK briefing is digital. You can find the online link included in the LINK program app. Be sure to explore the information we have gathered about the DMV region within this briefing to help you get oriented and excited for what's ahead. Please look it over before the trip, as there will be little time to do reading once you land!

LINK App

You can also access details about the LINK program, sessions, and speakers through the **LINK mobile app**. The app instructions will be sent to you via email. Many thanks to our presenting sponsors, Cox Enterprises, Partnership Gwinnett, HNTB, and GA Sky Mobility for sponsoring the app. If you have any issues downloading or logging into the LINK app, please contact the LINK staff team.

Timelines

Moving a group of people around under normal circumstances can be a challenge. This difficulty is compounded by our tight agenda and the complexity of LINK. **Please be on time and stay with the group.** As much as possible, we will adhere to the published departure times. You will be advised of any change in venue or schedule, and you may consult the agenda provided to you or in the LINK mobile app if you need to reconnect with the group. Staff cell phones will be on during regular function times.

Melissa Roberts 404-668-3562

Sythea Lester 678-668-6995

Attire

Attire for all functions and activities during the LINK daytime program is smart casual, no ties. Detailed information on each day's program as related to dress for activities is included in the LINK app.

Please note that for any evening receptions, we have planned time for you to change and refresh in your hotel room prior.

Take special note: Please do pack comfortable shoes (all LINK Labs will include some outside walking), bring a water bottle, and plan for steamy August temps!

Sponsors

We could not offer this program without the generous support of our many leadership program sponsors. Thank you to all organizations sponsoring ARC's leadership programs – LINK, the Regional Leadership Institute (RLI), and the Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC) youth development program.

We offer a special thank you to our LINK Presenting Sponsors, **Cox Enterprises, Partnership Gwinnett, HNTB, and GA Sky Mobility.**

2025 Regional Leadership Sponsors

- Presenting -



- ARC Annual Partners -



- Premier -



- Champion -



- Supporting -

