Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Framework: Project Evaluation (15 min)

MOBILITY 2055

METRO ATLANTA ON THE MOVE

Board / TAQC Meeting

November 12, 2026

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Atlanta Regional Commission

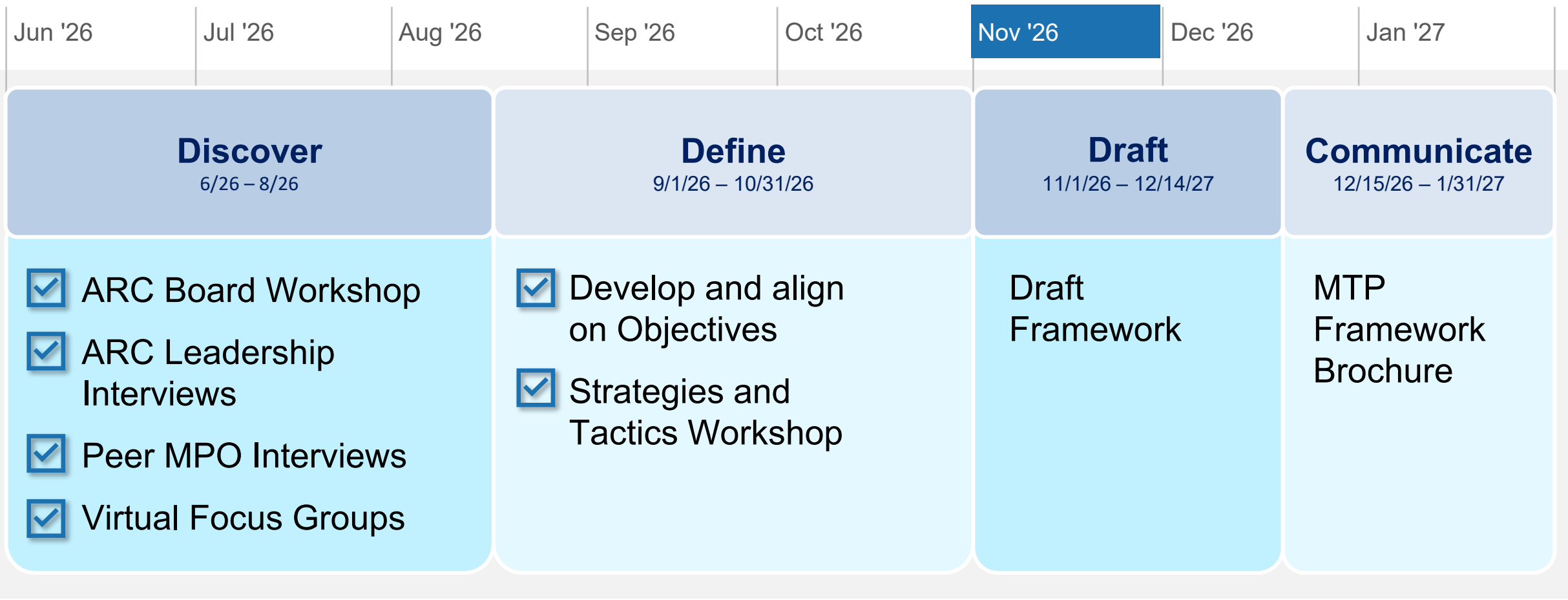
Agenda

MTP Framework Overview

Priorities, Objectives, and Strategies

Next Steps

MTP Framework Progress and Timeline



Accomplished Tasks

Engagement Summary

ARC TAQC/Board & TCC Input

April board working session and September board meeting

TCC engagement in May, June, and September

Leadership Interviews

Three interviews with ARC leadership to surface policy and organizational priorities

Peer MPO Review

Insights from five peer MPO interviews and policy analysis

Focus Groups

Three facilitated discussions with over 150 attendees to inform strategies and tactics

Objectives Workshops

Align on a set of key objectives for the MTP Framework through two workshops with ARC Staff

Strategies + Tactics Workshops

Identify the approaches and actions that put each objective into practice with two workshops

Discover: Key Insights

ARC Board Priorities	ARC Leadership Priorities	Peer MPO Insights	Focus Groups
• Direct resources to the **greatest needs** • Prioritize **transit** and **multimodal investment** over highway expansion • **Spread funding** across both large and small projects	• Focus on a **small number** of **clear priorities** • Prioritize **economic mobility** and **access** to **opportunity** • Take a **regional perspective** across all jurisdictions	• Tie **frameworks** to **funding** • Plan for **friction** in aligning on **trade-offs** • Avoid **legacy project** traps	• **Congestion and safety** were common concerns • **Transit, multimodality, and freight and goods movement** are opportunities for the region • Prioritize **state of good repair**

Framework Components Defined by MTP

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Policy Framework

PRIORITIES	The outcomes the region is working towards over the life of the MTP
OBJECTIVES	Standing commitments that guide how investments are selected and delivered, and how the region prioritizes its time and resources.
STRATEGIES	Specific approaches, actions, and programs that put objectives into practice.

Key ARC Policy Levers (PACE)

The PACE levers (plan, allocate, convene, enable) are filters to help discern if a strategy fits within ARC's sphere of influence.

Plan	ARC can ensure the MTP Framework directly guides the agency's own planning efforts.
Allocate	ARC can use its discretion over a portion of its suballocated federal funds, including STBG-Urban, TAP, and the Carbon Reduction Program, to prioritize projects that advance the MTP Framework.
Convene	ARC can use its regional leadership and influence to coordinate action and advance priorities where implementation depends on others.
Enable	ARC can give jurisdictions the tools, information, and capacity they need to act.

Priorities, Objectives, and Strategies

MTP Policy Framework Priorities

- Eliminate serious transportation injuries and fatalities
- Support economic competitiveness and innovation
- Expand sustainable, well-planned bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure
- Advance access to economic mobility for vulnerable populations
- Maintain and optimize the existing transportation system
- Build a resilient transportation system that also supports public health

Draft MTP Policy Framework

MTP Priorities & Objectives

1. Eliminate serious transportation injuries and fatalities

- 1.1 Apply a safe systems approach to all roadway projects
- 1.2 Apply complete streets policies and guidance to regionally funded roadway projects

2. Expand sustainable, well-planned bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure

- 2.1 Enhance transit service and expand system coverage
- 2.2 Concentrate growth and housing around high-capacity transit stations and corridors
- 2.3 Improve network connectivity for walking and biking

3. Maintain and optimize the existing transportation system

- 3.1 Upgrade and maintain freight network capacity
- 3.2 Achieve state of good repair and manage congestion on the region's roadway network before funding new roadway capacity expansion

MTP Priorities & Objectives

4. Support economic competitiveness and innovation

- 4.1 Adapt to disruptive technologies and evolving mobility needs
- 4.2 Accelerate transportation project implementation

5. Advance access to economic mobility for vulnerable populations

- 5.1 Build shared regional priorities through meaningful engagement with vulnerable populations, local partners, and elected officials
- 5.2 Increase access to opportunity (e.g., jobs, health, culture, education)

6. Build a resilient transportation system that also supports public health

- 6.1 Reduce transportation pollution and improve air quality
- 6.2 Apply climate resiliency measures in regionally funded projects

Priority 3: Maintain and optimize the existing transportation system

Objective

3.2 Achieve state of good repair and manage congestion on the region's roadway network before funding new roadway capacity expansion.

Strategies



P

Use state and local asset-management data to assess regional infrastructure conditions and establish state-of-good-repair priorities and targets.



A

Require roadway capacity expansion projects seeking ARC discretionary funding to document operational, TDM, safety, and access-management alternatives before expansion is funded.



C

Coordinate ARC, GDOT, transit agencies, and local governments to identify recurring congestion and operational challenges, align improvement priorities, and advance coordinated solutions.



E

Provide shared asset-condition data, system-performance tools, and targeted technical assistance to help local governments identify maintenance needs, improve operations, and develop priority projects.

How will the framework be used?

Plan	Project Selection Activities (process underway with TCC)
Allocate	Project Scoring and Pilot Programs (example: set aside for active transportation projects)
Convene	Alignment amongst partner agencies such as MARTA, GDOT, FHWA, and FTA
Enable	Tools to help local jurisdictions identify projects that perform well within existing funding programs

Project Qualifying Criteria

- Originates from a plan sponsored or adopted by a state agency, ARC, transit agency, or local jurisdiction.
- Project sponsor is an eligible entity under the applicable transportation funding program and the entity responsible has satisfied applicable certification and recipient requirements.
- Eligible for federal aid.
- Locally-sponsored project on the state system must have GDOT concurrence
- Project is designated as regionally significant for air quality conformity analysis purposes.
- Project must meet cost, advancement, and policy network alignment tests.

Scoring Criteria

Scoring criteria follow the MTP Framework Priorities:

- Eliminate serious transportation injuries and fatalities
- Support economic competitiveness and innovation
- Expand sustainable, well-planned bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure
- Advance access to economic mobility for vulnerable populations
- Maintain and optimize the existing transportation system
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Next Steps

Final MTP Framework Memorandum

Public Facing Brochure

Application of MTP Framework Throughout Remainder