

Regional Development Plan (RDP)



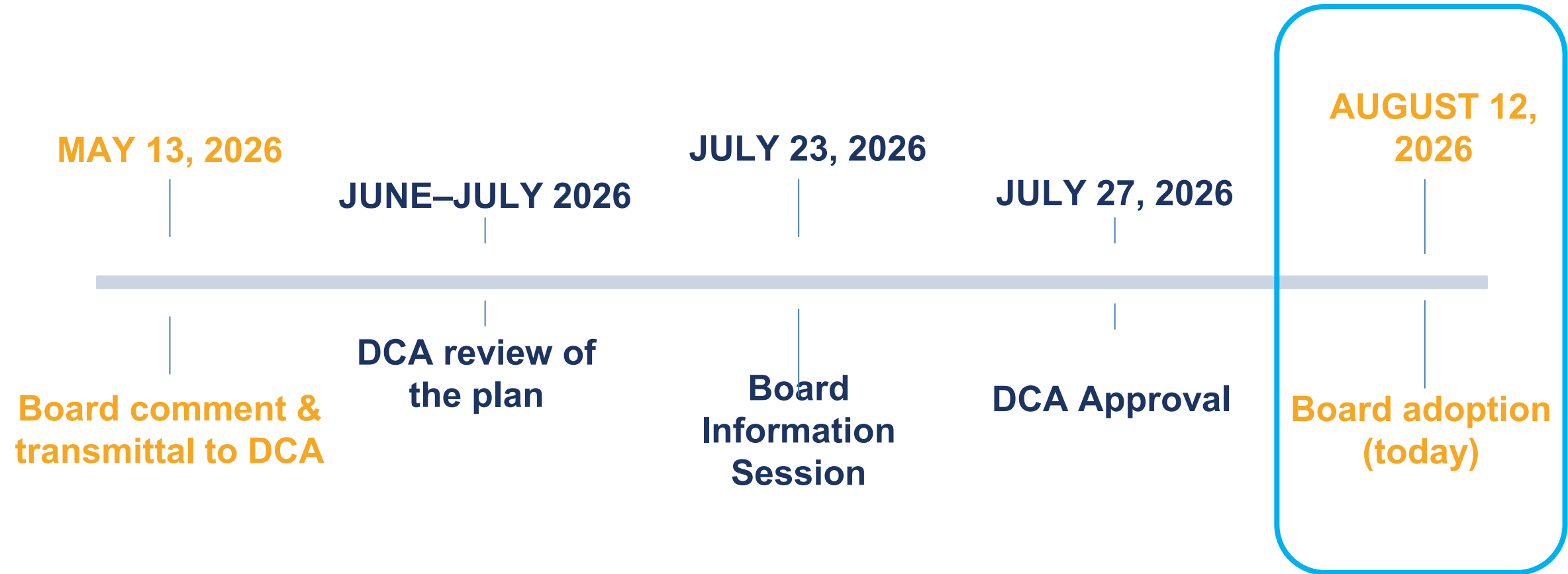
Growing Together for 2050

METRO ATL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

2026 Regional Development Plan · Board Adoption

August 12, 2026

Plan Approval Process and Timeline



Addressing Board Feedback from May Meeting

The board provided feedback and staff committed to hosting a working session prior to August meeting

Comments Received

- Does the ARC transportation funding process result in greater allocation for areas already doing well economically?
- How do slower-growth or underinvested areas receive funding that helps them thrive?
- Is it possible for the regional commission to change the UGPM and other inputs that are based on local information from local governments.

Staff Response

- Create a detailed informational presentation to share decision-making process and the role of tools versus stakeholder input.
- Created county-level sheets providing information on projects funded since 2005 to demonstrate comprehensive coverage.
- Held individual meeting and board work session on July 23rd to discuss role of local govts and Regional Commission.

Intended Outcomes

- Provide a fuller understanding of the process and ways for local governments to influence decisions throughout the process.
- Result in a clearer view of local governments' key role in funding and how ARC works closely with local governments to make investment decisions.
- Identify new ways to engage the board members and their staff in the upcoming MTP update as well in TIP and CTP updates.

July 23 Board Work Session

Agenda

Purpose: Give the Board an in-depth look at how ARC-programmed transportation funds are prioritized and gather county input.

- 📅 Welcome & overview of the day
- 📅 Deep dive: MTP → CTP → TIP funding process, the four-step prioritization, and equity criteria
- 📅 Q&A with the Board
- 📅 County factsheets & small-group discussion at county tables
- 📅 Report out & closing summary to be presented at the August Board meeting

Confirmed Attendees

12

Board members

8

Counties represented

37

Total confirmed

Counts reflect current RSVPs (edit as more respond).

County	Board	Staff
Clayton	2	4
Cobb	2	0
DeKalb	1	1
Douglas	1	0
Forsyth	1	0
Fulton	1	0
Gwinnett	1	2
Henry	1	2
To confirm	2	0
Total	12	9

July 23 Information Session: Key Takeaways

1

Information presented was helpful and clarified roles and responsibilities. This would be helpful to share with all local governments.

2

There are several opportunities, both in the technical analysis and stakeholder engagement, to prioritize projects in underserved areas.

3

Local government decisions are the primary inputs in the UGPM, TIP, and MTP.

4

Counties should work closely with their cities to set funding priorities through the CTP.

5

Board members identified the need to work together on identifying transit future for the metro and work directly with State

Comments Received on Draft Plan

DCA has approved the plan and provided us with comments received from

DCA: Editorial Comments

-  Added a section mapping ARC categories to DCA's required categories
-  Aligned land use categories with Developed, Developing, Rural, and Conservation required by DCA
-  Standardized legends, scale, and data sources on all maps

DCA: Content Edits

-  Corrected the Report of Accomplishments (ROA) table
-  Carried unfinished projects from previous ROA table into the new Work Program
-  Clarified some of the information in the local performance standards and fixed some formatting of tables.

Comments from Local Governments & Partners

-  Fixed pagination, contents, and map formatting (Powder Springs)
-  Added captions to full-page photos
-  Referenced the state's Conservation Opportunity Areas (GA DNR)

What's next?

Implementation of plan and coordination with ongoing initiatives through 2026

Reconvene stakeholders to present implementation plan

August-September 2026

Get back in front of the RDP Internal and External Advisory Committees to summarize the plan, demonstrate links between their feedback and plan outcomes, and discuss next steps.

Present plan content and implementation plan to local governments

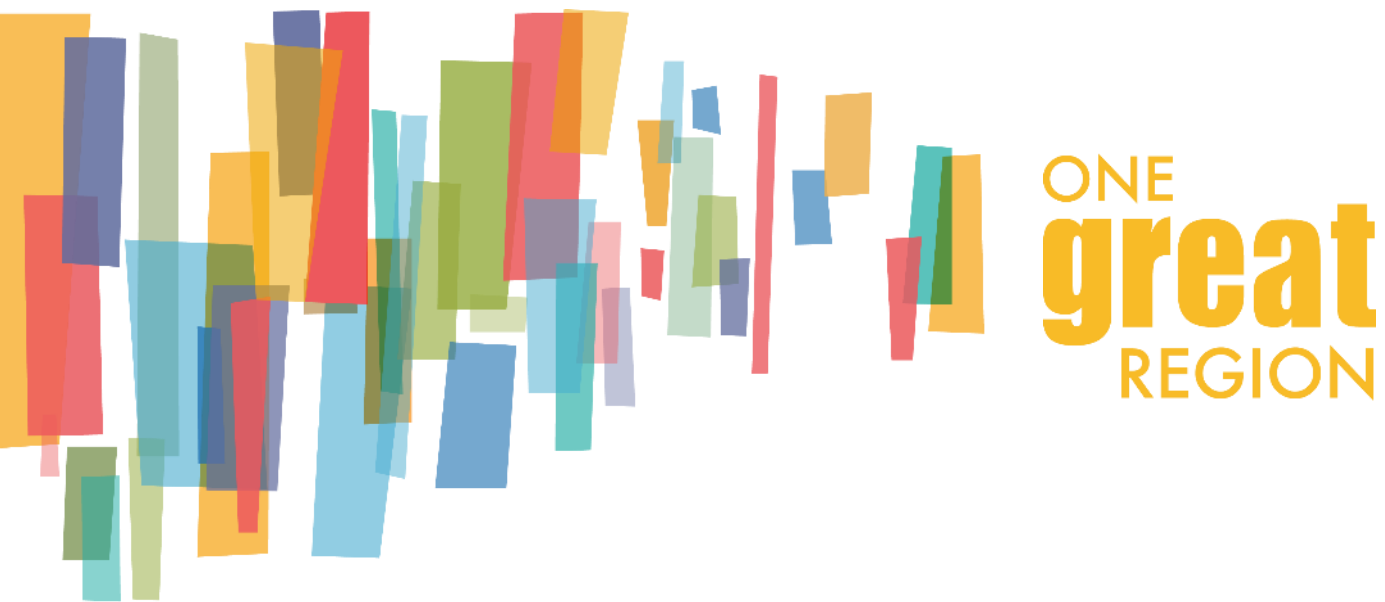
Now- December 2026

Create presentations and communication materials for local government audiences that summarize the plan, convey key actions/responsibilities, and highlight next steps. This will also specify how local governments should utilize the plan as a guide in local decision-making process and how ARC will track their progress.

Coordinate policies and actions across ongoing and upcoming regional planning initiatives.

2026-2027

Build coordination pathways between the RDP and other critical ARC plans that are in the pipeline – MTP, upcoming CTPs, Regional Housing Strategy, Regional Trails Vision, etc.



MOTION: Adopt the 2026 Regional Development Plan

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