



Atlanta Regional Commission  
regional impact + local relevance

# ARC 2020 ANNUAL REPORT – **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

A decorative graphic on the left side of the page consists of several overlapping, fan-shaped geometric shapes in various colors: dark blue, orange, teal, green, purple, and red. These shapes radiate from a central point, creating a dynamic, abstract composition.

[atlantaregional.org](http://atlantaregional.org)

**August 2020**

ARC works closely with local governments and community partners in Douglas County to improve quality of life and secure future success. This report measures progress in Douglas in the three long-range goals of the Atlanta Region's Plan: providing **World-Class Infrastructure**, fostering **Healthy, Livable Communities**, and developing a **Competitive Economy**.



## WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

ARC works with its regional partners to develop and maintain world-class infrastructure, including a transportation network that improves mobility, and a sustainable supply of clean water.



### Improving mobility in Douglas

**A** **\$18 million** in federal and state transportation funds allocated by ARC to the county. Projects include: operating assistance for Douglas County fixed route bus service and **widening of Lee Road/South Sweetwater Road**.

**1.3** fewer miles traveled by the **665 Douglas residents** who participated in the **Georgia Commute Options program**, saving them **\$733,972** in fuel and vehicle maintenance costs.



### Securing a sustainable future

**22** **toilet rebates** were received by Douglas residents, facilitating the replacement of older, inefficient toilets.



Douglas County is also working with the Natural Resources Group to recertify as a **Green Community** in 2021.



**The Metro Water District** held its eighth annual and first virtual **Water Drop Dash 5K**, which had nearly 300 runners of all ages.

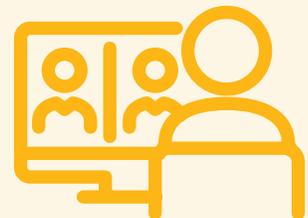
## ARC's COVID-19 RESPONSE

### Helping organizations transition to teleworking

Georgia Commute Options (GCO), a program managed by ARC, quickly mobilized to help organizations launch teleworking programs as the pandemic led to shelter-in-place orders.

The agency also developed online tools to provide additional guidance, including webinars and a "Telework Quick Start Guide" geared for businesses and local governments.

A GCO survey of business executives found that **69% said more employees will work from home periodically going forward, while 23% said more employees will work from home on a full-time basis.**



# HEALTHY, LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

ARC works to foster vibrant, pedestrian-friendly communities and supports healthy living and aging by offering a range of services for older people and individuals with disabilities.



## Improving quality of life for Douglas residents of all ages and abilities

**\$579,245**

in state and federal funds to **Douglas Senior Services** for direct services provided to Douglas residents, including **congregate and home-delivered meals, in-home support services, transportation, and case management.**

ARC's **RSVP Volunteer Program** clocked **3,129 volunteer hours** and reached **11,352 individuals.**

## Making Douglas an even better place to live, work, and play

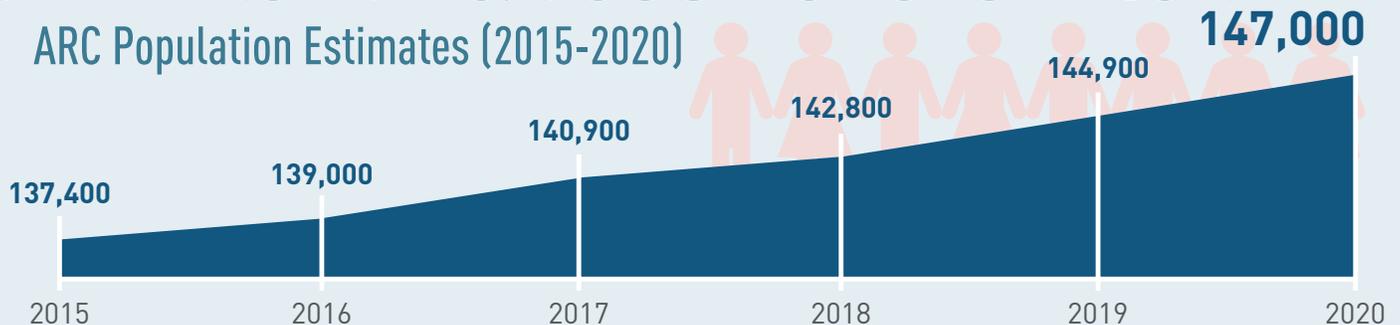
**\$100,000**

**Livable Centers Initiative grant** to the **city of Villa Rica** to assist with the Villa Rica Downtown Master Plan to make land use recommendations for revitalization of the city's downtown district, the surrounding residential and mixed-use district, and the historic Fullerville community.

**City of Douglasville** will receive critical planning and technical support through the **Community Development Assistance Program** to provide a proactive housing assessment that will identify existing challenges and opportunities to make informed decisions about the future housing needs.

## BY THE NUMBERS: DOUGLAS POPULATION

ARC Population Estimates (2015-2020)



## ARC'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

### Serving older adults and people with disabilities

ARC helped partner organizations adapt their funding to respond to older adults' critical needs, providing weeks of home-delivered meals to those on a high-priority waitlist for this service.



ARC allocated **\$5.4 million** nationwide in federal **Families First and CARES Act** dollars, as well as philanthropic funding, providing a range of critical services including caregiving, wellness support, and nutrition services. By July 2020, ARC had allocated **\$182,718** in Douglas County to help respond to COVID-19 related needs.

# COMPETITIVE ECONOMY

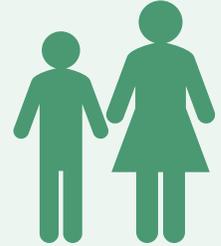
ARC works with its regional partners to ensure our economy remains thriving and competitive.



## Workforce Solutions: Connecting talent with opportunity

**124** Douglas youth received training in **WorkSource Atlanta Regional's NextGen** workforce and education program.

**133** Douglas County residents received training through **WorkSource Atlanta Regional's Career Resource Center**.



## Cultivating leaders to meet the region's challenges



**3** Douglas County residents took part in **ARC leadership programs**, including: Regional Leadership Institute (RLI), Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta (ALMA), and Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC).

# ARC's COVID-19 RESPONSE

## Supporting Dislocated Workers

WorkSource Atlanta Regional, managed by ARC's Workforce Solutions group, developed new digital tools on [atlworks.org](http://atlworks.org) to assist people who lost jobs due to the pandemic. These tools included online job listings and virtual training education while Career Resource Centers were closed. Topics included:

- How to Get the Career You Want Now
- How to Answer the Most Often Asked Interview Questions
- How to Manage Your Finances During the Corona Virus Crisis



## Providing Resources to Local Governments

ARC developed data tools and held a series of weekly webinars to help local governments navigate the health and economic crises. Webinar topics included:

- COVID-19 Economic Impacts on Metro Atlanta
- Adapting Municipal Budgets to COVID-19
- Supporting Local Businesses During COVID-19

All data is fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 except the population data, which is year ending April 30, 2020.



Atlanta Regional Commission

International Tower, Peachtree Center  
229 Peachtree Street, NE | Suite 100  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

[atlantaregional.org](http://atlantaregional.org)