

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

STRATEGIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 9, 2017 – Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Mayor Eric Dial, Chair	C.J. Bland
Julie Arnold	Tony Cooper
Mike Houchard	Amol Naik
Clair Muller	Mayor Jere Wood
Bob Reeves	
Betty Willis	

1. **Public Comment Period**

Eric Dial, Strategic Relations Committee Chair, opened the meeting with greetings, stated that there were no public comments and proceeded with items as outlined on the agenda.

2. **Legislative Update**

Scott Haggard, ARC's Government Affairs Manager briefed the committee on the Legislative work to date and stated the following: Feb. 9, marked the 15th day of the General Assembly session. Crossover Day (Day 28) is scheduled for Friday, March 3rd with Day 40 (Sine Die) set for Thursday, March 30. There has been some movement on a few key items in which ARC has an interest. First, the Senate and House both have bills that would create a Council (or Commission) on Transit Governance and Funding, which includes membership from legislators, gubernatorial appointees, transit operators, and MPOs. Both of these bills are expected to pass their respective chambers, with differences to be worked out in conference committee. Also, HB 134 would allow for counties choosing to place a T-SPLOST before their voters the option of extending the life of the tax to 20 years, rather than the existing limit of 5 years, in order to fund transit capital projects such as rail or bus rapid transit. This bill is part of ACCG's platform and is supported by Gwinnett County, among others. In the area of water, we are

tracking two bills of interest to the Metro Water District related to storm water utility fees. In the area of aging, we are following the progress of an additional \$4.2 million in the Governor's budget for home and community-based services and legislation on dental care for seniors.

Regional Snapshot

Mike Carnathan, Manager of ARC's Research and Analytics division, provided a briefing on the February 2017 Regional Snapshot, entitled: "What Have We Learned about Educational Attainment?" looked at the change in the past decade in the percentage of the population that has a bachelor's degree or higher in the metro, county, and local levels.

The entire presentation can be found at: <http://33n.atlantaregional.com/regional-snapshot>

3. I285/GA 400 Construction Communications

Malika Reed Wilkins with ARC's Mobility Services Division briefed the committee on the Communication Strategy to communicate the efforts of the Transform I285/400 Initiative. Ms. Reed-Wilkins said that the region's transportation agencies have joined forces to develop a regional marketing and communications strategy designed to encourage people to try alternative commute options, such as transit, carpooling and teleworking, during the four-year construction process.

4. New Voices Global-Update

Julie Ralston gave a brief update on the New Voices: Global Advisory Panel initiative. The formation of the panel is underway. A new private Facebook page has been setup and all members of the Steering Committee have been invited to view at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/globalAtlanta>. To date, 64 people from across the region have applied. Recruitment will end on Friday, Feb. 24 with a kick-off meeting to be held on Monday, March 20 at the Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community.

5. Other

Chairman Dial took a few minutes to thank Julie Ralston for her 31 years of dedicated service to ARC. Ms. Ralston has been the communications voice for the ARC and will retire on February 28. A brief reception was held for Ms. Ralston immediately following the committee meeting.

There being no other items for discussion the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

