

2006 Work Program

Mission, Strategic Directions, Organizational Ideas and Work Program

**Mission, Strategic Directions,
Organizational Ideas and Work Program**

MISSION

The Atlanta Regional Commission serves as a catalyst for regional progress by focusing leadership, attention and planning resources on key regional issues.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Serve as Convener for Regional Solutions - Build consensus for action around critical regional issues.

Develop a Network of Regional Leaders - Recruit, develop and nurture a network of regional leaders who are willing to address issues in a regional context.

Excel at Comprehensive Regional Planning - Conduct comprehensive regional planning that will promote positive community change, improve the delivery of services, protect the environment and serve as a conscience for the Region.

Engage the Public in the Regional Planning Process - Expand our public engagement efforts in the planning process to be more accessible, inclusive and responsive.

Share Regional Information Resources - Continue to serve as the premier information source for the region, and proactively share and expand our resources to benefit the entire region.

Employ Cutting-Edge Communication Technology - Use ARC's technology as a community resource to communicate ideas and information for civic understanding and decisioning on regional challenges.

ORGANIZATIONAL IDEALS

Convener for Regional Solutions – We anticipate potential challenges and act on creative solutions based on professional knowledge, public involvement and collaboration with other partners.

Public Service-Oriented – We are accountable to our constituents, try to exceed their expectations and exhibit the highest standard of ethical conduct.

Continuous Learners – We constantly seek new information, knowledge and skills to better serve the Atlanta Region.

Leadership Builders – We serve as a catalyst for sustaining regional leaders who understand and act on regional challenges and opportunities.

Team Players – We work with each other internally, with other community partners and with citizens of the region in a concerted effort to build the highest quality of life for our region.

Base Data for Planning

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 1
BASE DATA FOR PLANNING**

		Percent of Total
Revenues		
Direct Federal Grants	-	0.0%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	1,063,300	52.9%
State and Local Match	-	0.0%
ARC Required Match	107,033	5.3%
ARC Supplemental Funding	824,165	41.0%
Private Sector Funding	15,000	0.7%
Enterprise Fund Income	-	0.0%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$2,009,498	100.0%
Expenses by Work Program Titles		
01A Estimates and Forecasts	1,047,183	52.1%
01G Geographic Information Systems	962,315	47.9%
Total Expenses	\$2,009,498	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	1,056,635	52.6%
Contracts	67,500	3.4%
Equipment	13,800	0.7%
Misc. Operating	50,526	2.5%
Travel	11,050	0.5%
Rent & Related	95,274	4.7%
Computer Services	264,470	13.2%
Indirects	450,243	22.4%
Subgrants and Participants	-	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$2,009,498	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 1 - BASE DATA FOR PLANNING

MISSION

The Atlanta Regional Commission is responsible for anticipating the future needs of the Atlanta Region and developing strategies for meeting them. Statistical forecasts of future population and employment distributions are important resources for fulfilling this goal. This element is devoted not only to developing such forecasts but also to producing and maintaining the database of current and historical information that is a necessary foundation for accurate assessments of the future.

The geographic information system developed and maintained under this element of ARC's work program is an asset not only for ARC but also for the entire community. All Element 1 activities are managed so as to maximize the general usefulness of the Commission's data products.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

The Atlanta Region is adding population and jobs at a remarkable rate. Keeping track of this growth will be a difficult task, especially with multiple planning areas and planning area expansions. Anticipating the location and amount of future growth as well as how alternative policies might redirect it to correspond better with regional goals will be challenging.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Produce 2006 estimates of population and housing for counties, cities, and census tracts in the Atlanta Region based on 2000 Census data.
- Produce 2005 estimates of place of work employment by industry for small areas in ARC's 10 member-counties.
- Update Street and Land Use GIS databases.
- Integrate new GIS tools (ArcReader, Spatial/3D Analyst, oblique imagery, etc.) into ARC's planning and public communication process.
- Expand GIS community facilities database.
- Update ARIS data CDs, maps, and IMS websites.
- 2006 *Atlanta Region Outlook* reports.
- Produce population forecasts as a part of the Envision 6 planning process.
- Expand Global Atlanta Snapshot series

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 1A Estimates and Forecasts
- 1G Geographic Information Systems

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Prepared GIS maps for emergency assistance personnel in New Orleans assisting with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.
- Completed 2005 Population and Housing estimates.

ELEMENT 1 - BASE DATA FOR PLANNING

1A - ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS

PURPOSE

This work provides a broad and consistent base of demographic, economic and land-related information to support the Commission's comprehensive plan, functional plans, policies and implementation strategies. The resulting statistical profile of the Atlanta Region is also widely used by other public agencies and the private sector. These estimates and forecasts are an important element in the transportation planning process and an asset for economic development programs. In 2006 special efforts to encourage increased use of this data by other planning partners and the general public will be continued.

DELIVERABLES

- Estimates of population and housing as of April 1, 2006 for the Region, its counties, cities, superdistricts, census tracts and traffic analysis zones (TAZs).
- Estimates of population as of April 1, 2005 for census tracts and traffic analysis zones (TAZs) in the 10 out-of-Region counties included in the forecast study area.
- Estimates of place-of-work employment by major industry group for the Region, its counties, superdistricts, census tracts and traffic analysis zones (TAZs) as of April 1, 2005.
- Estimates of place-of-work employment by minor industry group for the Region, its counties and superdistricts as of April 1, 2005.
- Estimates of place-of-work employment by major industry group for census tracts and traffic analysis zones (TAZ's) in the 10 out-of-Region counties included in the forecast study area.
- Forecasts of population, households by income and employment by major industry group will be produced for 5-year intervals, 2010-2030, for census tracts and traffic analysis zones in the 20 county forecast study area. These forecasts will be based, in part, on the output of the Envision 6 planning process.
- Existing *Regional Snapshot* reports will be updated with latest available data and new reports will be produced. These reports present information on the Region to non-technical audiences. They are intended to make the general public more aware of ARC's data resources while informing them of the demographic and economic characteristics of the Region and its residents.
- *Global Atlanta Snapshot* series reports will be expanded with latest available data. This series highlights information about specific ethnic groups residing in the Atlanta Region. It serves both to increase awareness of ARC's data resources and to familiarize the general public with the customs and backgrounds of these groups.
- Produce and publish *2006 Atlanta Region Outlook*.
- Review Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's).

PARTNERSHIPS

- Production of estimates and forecasts will be closely coordinated with all the member governments of the Atlanta Regional Commission as well as the governments of the ten nonmember counties that are included in the forecast study area.
- Control forecasts for the expanded forecast study area will be produced with the assistance of a Technical Advisory Group of local experts in economics and demography.

- Small area forecasts will be produced in coordination with all cognizant state and federal agencies. These include but are not limited to Georgia Regional Development Centers with member counties in the forecast study area, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Georgia Department of Transportation, Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Continue to work with local groups (The Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation, Fiscal Research Program at Georgia State University, Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership and others) to devise additional data products and resources.

COST CENTERS

- 601AE Employment Estimates
- 601AF Population and Employment Forecasts
- 601AP Population and Housing Estimates
- 601AO Global Atlanta Snapshots (Pending Funding)

ELEMENT 1– BASE DATA FOR PLANNING

1G – GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

PURPOSE

Geographic Information System Division maintains and expands ARC's geographic information system, a multipurpose computer resource that delivers extensive capabilities for the display and analysis of spatial data to all of ARC's functional units. Businesses, the public and other government agencies can access this information system through ARC's Decision Resources Center, published CDs/DVDs or ARC's website.

DELIVERABLES

- 2005 ARstreets to 20 counties
- 2000 Land Use 20 county 5 categories
- 2003 Land Use 20 county 5 categories
- 2005 LandPro database 13 counties 28 categories
- 2006 ARstreets to 20 counties
- Updated ARC GIS datasets
- Updated ARIS CDs/DVDs
- Completed applications for transportation data collection pilot project
- All Hazards Council support and emergency portable GIS for Mutual Aid
- STATSGO data set
- Update/expand Community Facilities database
- Expanded Pictometry applications

PARTNERSHIPS

- Internal coordination will be maintained with all other functional planning activities at ARC. Close coordination will be maintained with the Comprehensive Planning Department. External coordination will be maintained with appropriate government agencies, federal, state and local governments with particular emphasis given to the Georgia Department of Transportation, Georgia Office of Homeland Security All Hazards Council Region 7 and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

COST CENTERS

- 601GG DCA Base Contract
- 701GG DCA Base Contract
- 601GA GIS Administration
- 601GT Transportation
- 601GU GDOT Data Collection Pilot
- 601GS USGS Ortho/Oblique Imagery

Comprehensive Planning

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 2
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Direct Federal Grants	-	0.0%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	1,736,736	78.8%
State and Local Match	200,000	9.1%
ARC Required Match	120,748	5.5%
ARC Supplemental Funding	146,738	6.7%
Private Sector Funding	-	0.0%
Enterprise Fund Income	-	0.0%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$2,204,222	100.0%
Expenses by Work Program Titles		
02A Growth Strategies	288,402	13.1%
02B Implementation of Regional Development Plan	665,819	30.2%
02C Livable Centers Initiative	1,250,001	56.7%
Total Expenses	\$2,204,222	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	654,355	29.7%
Contracts	60,000	2.7%
Equipment	5,100	0.2%
Misc. Operating	62,450	2.8%
Travel	14,000	0.6%
Rent & Related	34,500	1.6%
Computer Services	78,699	3.6%
Indirects	295,118	13.4%
Subgrants and Participants	1,000,000	45.4%
Total Expenses	\$2,204,222	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 2 – COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

MISSION

The purpose of this element is to guide the activities of the Land Use Division. The Commission adopted a Land Use Strategy on May 24th, 2000 to implement the Regional Development Plan (RDP). During the past four years the Land Use Strategy has provided a framework for linking RDP land use policies represented in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

With the adoption of the 2030 RTP, the Land Use Division will increasingly lead ARC activities to link land use and development plans to transportation goals. The activities of the Land Use Division are linked to transportation planning through coordination of forecasts with local plans, the LCI program and assisting the Transportation Division with land use components of new programs. ARC has found success with facilitating and coordinating regional activities for greenspace and housing planning. Element 02 provides for resources to implement RDP policies, link land use planning at the local and regional levels with transportation investments and implement programs to promote new development strategies for the region.

Under the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, ARC as a Regional Development Center (RDC) is required to undertake certain planning activities. This element outlines this required work and provides the staff resources to assist the Commission in carrying out Georgia Planning Act requirements. An update to the RDP Technical Report and Regional Agenda were completed during 2004 as an RDC requirement. Other requirements include conducting Reviews of Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's) and other review and comment work, providing planning assistance to local governments, reviewing local plans, assisting the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in completing statewide surveys and keeping up to date information for governments in the Atlanta Region.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

Envision 6 is a major planning land use-transportation effort that began in 2005. Work will continue in 2005 under Element 02 to advance Envision 6, implement a renewed LCI program, further greenspace, trails and housing planning and continue to link the RDP with other agency plans. Element 02 will allow ARC to continue to promote new development in centers and corridors, improve local and regional land use plans, link plans to regional forecasts and integration of transportation investments with land use goals.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Growth Strategies requirements
- Implementation of the RDP
- Greenspace and Trails Planning
- Housing Planning
- LCI Program

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 02A Growth Strategies
- 02B Implementation of RDP
- 02C LCI Program

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Implementation of the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program was continued. LCI planning studies are completed or underway in 51 areas throughout the region. New implementation studies were initiated in several existing LCIs. LCI construction projects were selected and new funds allocated in the TIP for implementation including approximately \$100 million of projects between FY 2003 to FY 2005. Contracting occurred with the local governments and kick-off of studies occurred.
- All activities required under the Georgia Planning Act were completed including Developments of Regional Impact reviews (DRI). The annual update to the five-year work program of the RDP Regional Agenda was completed and adopted by the Commission.
- The Land Use staff provided planning technical assistance to local governments; conducted reviews of local comprehensive plans and short term work programs; conducted reviews of solid waste management plans and short term solid waste work program updates; and conducted reviews.
- Land Use Division staff coordinated of local comprehensive plans and development proposals with 2030 RTP small area forecasts. Review of model output for small area forecasts based on locally derived targets.
- Conducted Quarterly Regional Housing Forums with partner organizations.
- Conducted semi-annual Regional Solid Waste Meetings.
- Land Use Division staff supported the Community Choices program.
- The Land Use Coordinating Committee met monthly during the year and provided a forum for land use discussions.
- The Land Use Division supported other regional activities including the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce Quality Growth Task Force and the Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership (ANDP) Mixed-Income Community Initiative. As a result both of the activities have supported ARC goals and programs.
- Received greenspace planning grants from the Georgia Forestry Commission and the Waterfall Foundation.

ELEMENT 2 – COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

2A – GROWTH STRATEGIES

PURPOSE

This subelement provides resources for completing certain tasks required by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 and included in the DCA and ARC annual contract and related work. These tasks include local government comprehensive and solid waste plan assistance and review, reviewing DRI's and other project reviews, participating in mediation and assisting DCA on survey and local information update and participation in other work as requested.

DELIVERABLES

- Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) Reviews.
- Reviews of local comprehensive and solid waste plans.
- Hold periodic meetings with local solid waste managers to assess regional issues.
- Area Plan Reviews.
- Historic preservation forums and issues as needed.
- Regional Housing Forums and support to regional housing planning efforts.
- Workshops and activities to develop and implement comprehensive plans.
- Assistance local governments and DCA on request.

PARTNERSHIPS

This subelement will be coordinated with local government officials, ARC staff and the State Department of Community Affairs.

COST CENTERS

- 602ARC Review and Comment
- 602APA Georgia Planning Act Activities
- 702APA Georgia Planning Act Activities
- 602APH Housing Workshops
- 702APH Housing Workshops
- 602AP1 Housing Workshops
- 702AP1 Housing Workshops

ELEMENT 2 – COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

2B – IMPLEMENTATION OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RDP)

PURPOSE

This subelement provides for programs intended to implement the policies of the Regional Development Plan (RDP). The RDP is required under the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. The work includes monitoring and implementing the Regional Agenda, which meets the minimum regional planning standards adopted by the DCA Board.

This subelement supports RDP coordination with the Regional Transportation Plan through Envision 6, forecast coordination and other planning activities. The Land Use Division provides the forum through which cross jurisdictional land use issues, land use links to transportation issues and sub-regional land use planning occurs. Envision 6 will continue to be a primary task in implementing the RDP in 2006.

Regional greenspace planning efforts will be expanded during the coming year. Coordination of local governments plans, data, and implementation activities will be undertaken in addition to providing a greenspace planning best practices toolkit.

DELIVERABLES

- Envision 6 products will be:
 - Revised RDP Policies and Map
 - Revised Land Use Strategy Document
 - New RDP Policy Forecast
- Support of 2030 RTP process and improved 2030 forecast.
- Regional greenspace and trails planning and support of local government greenspace activities.
- Implementation of RDP through local governments and non-profit organizations.
- Administration and program development in support of LUCC.
- Annual update and implementation of the Regional Agenda.

PARTNERSHIPS

This subelement will be coordinated with local government officials, general public, ARC staff and the Land Use Coordinating Committee (LUCC).

COST CENTERS

- 602BPL Regional Development Plan Implementation
- 602BTP Land Use and Transportation Planning Coordination
- 502BGS Greenspace Planning
- 602BGS Greenspace Planning
- 602BAD Workshop Administration

ELEMENT 2 – COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

2C – LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE (LCI)

PURPOSE

This subelement provides the resources to conduct the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program. The LCI program provides local governments and non-profit organizations funds for planning transportation projects and other programs to improve accessibility, expand mixed-uses, utilize transit and support further development in activity and town centers.

ARC policy supports and the 2030 RTP provides \$1 million annually of planning funds and \$500 million of transportation project construction funds for the LCI program. The LCI program seeks to increase the amount of mixed-use development, new housing and transportation accessibility in regional centers and select corridors. The LCI areas represent the primary employment centers and urban locations of the Atlanta region.

The LCI 2004 Annual Report demonstrated that the LCI areas are adding significant amounts of new development to the region. Through center and corridor development the LCI programs seeks to assist the Atlanta region to better use existing infrastructure while adding new jobs and households.

DELIVERABLES

- Study documents, information, programs and transportation projects for selected corridors, activity and town centers.

PARTNERSHIPS

This subelement will be coordinated with local government officials, consultants, ARC staff and the Land Use Coordinating Committee (LUCC).

COST CENTERS

- 602CAT Livable Centers Initiative (Program Management)
- 602CAS Livable Centers Initiative (Subgrants)
- 602CA1 Livable Centers Initiative (Subgrants)
- 502CAT Livable Centers Initiative (Program Management)
- 502CAS Livable Centers Initiative (Subgrants)
- 502CA1 Livable Centers Initiative (Subgrants)

Environmental Planning

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 3
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Direct Federal Grants	-	0.0%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	427,594	18.4%
State and Local Match	1,116,199	48.0%
ARC Required Match	-	0.0%
ARC Supplemental Funding	761,369	32.7%
Private Sector Funding	-	0.0%
Enterprise Fund Income	20,000	0.9%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$2,325,162	100.0%
Expenses by Work Program Titles		
03A Regional Water Resources Activities	793,839	34.1%
03B Environmental Management Projects	275,354	11.8%
03C Chattahoochee Corridor	139,768	6.0%
03D Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District	1,116,201	48.0%
Total Expenses	\$2,325,162	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	825,962	35.5%
Contracts	783,242	33.7%
Equipment	5,100	0.2%
Misc. Operating	171,816	7.4%
Travel	11,800	0.5%
Rent & Related	61,162	2.6%
Computer Services	93,569	4.0%
Indirects	372,511	16.0%
Subgrants and Participants	-	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$2,325,162	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 3 – ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

MISSION

The mission of this element is the planning and protection of natural resources in the Atlanta Region from the effects of the Region's growth. This is accomplished through forecasting future needs and impacts and by developing projects, programs and policies that minimize or prevent problems. It also provides for support for the planning initiatives of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

Sustainable use and protection of the Region's water resources is necessary for a continued quality of life. Future water supplies are limited and must be managed efficiently. Water quality protection of our rivers and lakes must improve.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Monitor ACT/ACF interstate water conflict and coordinate related regional activities.
- Operate the Chattahoochee River/Lake Lanier Information Management System and produce the annual report.
- Assist local governments in meeting Clean Water Act Municipal Stormwater Permit requirements.
- Provide training on the Georgia Stormwater Design Manual in coordination with GWPCA.
- Assist local governments with TMDL Implementation Plans.
- Assist local governments in implementation of multi-jurisdictional water-supply watershed protection agreements (such as Big Creek).
- Metropolitan River Protection Act reviews and assistance to governments and public.
- Provide planning staff for the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.
- Investigate non-water environmental issues for incorporation into work program.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 03A Water Resources
- 03B Environmental Management
- 03C Chattahoochee Corridor
- 03D Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Continued monitoring of ACT/ACF interstate water conflict and litigation.
- Coordinated local efforts on the SeFPC litigation.
- Operation of the Chattahoochee River/Lake Lanier Management System.

- Coordinated Stormwater education activities and programs through the Clean Water Campaign.
- Continued review and monitoring under the Metropolitan River Protection Act.
- Supported the GA Power Plan of Study for the Relicensing of Morgan Falls Dam.
- Provided staff for the Water Planning District and technical assistance for the District-wide Watershed Management Plan, the Long-term Wastewater Management Plan and the Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan, provided stormwater ordinance training for local governments, conducted a future floodplain mapping seminar, held a water conservation ICI water audit seminar, developed revised retrofit of old inefficient plumbing fixtures policy, conducted a survey of septic system county practices, and conducted the “Water – Use It Wisely” and “Clean Water Campaign” public education campaigns, conducted a Project Wet training for local educators.

ELEMENT 3 – ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

3A – WATER RESOURCES

PURPOSE

The Atlanta Regional Commission provides water supply coordination activities related to the ACT/ACF River Basins Interstate Water Allocation conflict, manages the Chattahoochee River/Lake Information Management System, and provides assistance to local governments on water issues.

DELIVERABLES

- Monitor ACT/ACF Interstate Water Allocation litigation, coordinate related activities and management of legal and technical assistance.
- Operate the Chattahoochee River/Lake Lanier Information Management System, including SeFPC lawsuit settlement requirements, and produce the annual report.
- Coordinate drought response and information on water restrictions in the Region in the event of drought or other water shortages.
- Support Georgia Power FERC relicensing for Morgan Falls Dam.
- Monitor and Participate in development of State Water Plan

PARTNERSHIPS

Local water utility managers; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Georgia Department of Natural Resources; U.S. Geologic Survey; The Georgia Power Company; Georgia Water Wise Council

COST CENTERS

- 603ARM River/Lake Management System
- 303AR2 River/Lake Management System Storage Charges
- 603AWS Water Supply Coordination, Data and Reviews
- 303AWW Technical Assistance Contracts
- 603AWW Technical Assistance Contracts

ELEMENT 3 – ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

3B – ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PURPOSE

The Atlanta Regional Commission helps to protect and improve the Region's environment by providing technical assistance for multi-jurisdictional efforts such as the Chattahoochee River Water Quality Model Group, providing training for the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual and other special environmental projects as needed. This subelement also provides for the Division's involvement in DRI reviews and other environmental management projects.

DELIVERABLES

- Facilitate and coordinate the Chattahoochee River Water Quality Model Issues Working Group.
- Training sessions for the Stormwater Design Manual in coordination with GAWP.
- DRI and other miscellaneous reviews and local assistance.
- Assist with Envision 6.
- Assist local governments with TMDL Implementation Plans.
- Assist local governments in implementation and operation of multi-jurisdictional water-supply watershed protection agreements (such as Big Creek).
- Assist Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) and participating local and state agencies with implementation of the Clean Water Campaign.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal partnership will involve the Land Use Planning Division. External partnerships will involve local governments, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the MNGWPD.

COST CENTERS

- 503BTL Coosa River Basin TMDL Project
- 603BSP Special Projects (DRI review, Envision 6, Manual Training)
- 603BPE Clean Water Campaign (Pending Funding)
- 603BTL TMDL Project (Pending Funding)
- 003BWW Wastewater Management Project

ELEMENT 3 – ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

3C – CHATTAHOOCHEE CORRIDOR

PURPOSE

One of the Atlanta Regional Commission's responsibilities is the protection of the Chattahoochee River by reviewing proposed developments and monitoring compliance with the protection measure standards of the Chattahoochee Corridor Plan, as required by the Metropolitan River Protection Act (MRPA). The purpose of these activities is to protect the Region's primary drinking water source as well as the scenic, recreational and natural resources of the river and its surrounding lands. This work program also provides for other river protection research, planning and education activities to promote greater public awareness of the river, the issues and problems facing it, and the need for its protection.

DELIVERABLES

- Complete all MRPA and Area Plan Reviews of submitted development applications.
- Provide information on requirements, specific review issues and past review histories to applicants, local governments and the public.
- Work with local governments to encourage enforcement of MRPA and to resolve violations of Corridor Plan standards.
- Provide education on MRPA and river protection to interested groups.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal partnership is with Review and Comment. External partnerships include local governments, Georgia Mountain RDC and the National Park Service.

COST CENTERS

- 603CCR Chattahoochee Corridor Reviews, Assistance and Education

ELEMENT 3 – ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

3D – METROPOLITAN NORTH GEORGIA WATER PLANNING DISTRICT

PURPOSE

Legislation passed in the 2001 Georgia Legislature created the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District and gave ARC certain responsibilities relative to the staffing and planning work for the District. ARC will provide planning staff in 2006.

DELIVERABLES

- Provide administrative support to the District and meeting support of the Water District Board, Committees and Advisory Councils.
- Provide staff level review of requests to amend District Plans and facilitate the public process where requests are considered.
- Provide technical assistance in support of the District-wide Watershed Management Plan, including stormwater Model Ordinance training and implementation assistance, Local Stormwater Monitoring Data Collection and preparation of source water protection education materials.
- Provide technical assistance in support of the Long-term Wastewater Management Plan, including support of local wastewater planning, development of septic tank inspection and maintenance guidelines, facilitation of multi-jurisdictional approaches and facilitation of discussion on Chattahoochee water quality issues.
- Provide technical assistance in support of the Water Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan, including support of local utilities, providing a mechanism for review and oversight of the Plan's water conservation element, guidance and workshops for water conservation coordination including program planning, and system data collection and review.
- Management of the District's education program, including public awareness, the Clean Water Campaign and the Water Use It Wisely Campaign elements, targeted workshops and primary and secondary education programs.

PARTNERSHIPS

Member Governments of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District; Local water utility managers; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Georgia Department of Natural Resources; U.S. Geologic Survey; The Georgia Power Company; Georgia Water Wise Council

COST CENTERS

- 203DPT Water District Support Activities (GA Tech Project)
- 603DPL Water District Support Activities
- 603DPE Water District Education Program
- 203DPS Water District Special Funds
- 603DP1 Water District Support

Workforce Development

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 4
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Direct Federal Grants	-	0.0%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	6,397,027	99.5%
State and Local Match	31,854	0.5%
ARC Required Match	-	0.0%
ARC Supplemental Funding	-	0.0%
Private Sector Funding	-	0.0%
Enterprise Fund Income	-	0.0%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$6,428,881	100.0%

Expenses by Work Program Titles

04A	Economically Disadvantaged Adult Training	1,688,645	26.3%
04C	Economically Disadvantaged Youth Training	1,163,067	18.1%
04E	Dislocated Worker Training	3,535,356	55.0%
04I	Individual Training Account	31,813	0.5%
04S	Skills Shortage and System Innovations	10,000	0.2%
Total Expenses		\$6,428,881	100.0%

Expenses by Type

Salary and Benefits	822,354	12.8%
Contracts	42,500	0.7%
Equipment	-	0.0%
Misc. Operating	67,241	1.0%
Travel	13,800	0.2%
Rent & Related	292,391	4.5%
Computer Services	134,376	2.1%
Indirects	340,469	5.3%
Subgrants and Participants	4,715,750	73.4%
Total Expenses	\$6,428,881	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 4 – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

MISSION

The goal of this element is to: (1) conduct functional planning and programming in employment and training programs; and (2) respond to federal, state, community and other needs for specialized Workforce Development planning activities within the Atlanta Region.

The Atlanta Regional Commission's Workforce Development Division serves as the grant sub-recipient for the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board. The ARWB is responsible for policy development and systems oversight in Service Delivery Area 7 sub-region for residents of Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

Potential funding cuts and a reduction in funds to administer programs continue to challenge ARC in providing quality services under the law. Funding for 2006 is unknown at this time, and will undoubtedly be affected by the status of the economy, and by funding priorities affected by Iraq, the war on terrorism and the Hurricanes experienced during the summer of 2005. Also affecting the future will be priorities and new directions mandated by the reauthorization of the WIA, when and if that occurs.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Develop a Business Services Strategy and implement key services such as professional placement services, entrepreneurial workshops and resources, and selected recruitment services to assist local businesses with specialized needs, if funding is available.
- Pilot with Gwinnett Department of Labor and Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce on a Business Advisory Committee to provide gap analysis and service planning for addressing the current and future employment needs of Gwinnett businesses.
- Continue to seek funding for implementation of High Demand Occupational Training expansions in sectors such as Information Technology, Life Sciences and Advanced Manufacturing.
- Continue Healthcare Improvement Strategies and employer Customized Training with the implementation of the School At Work (SAW) Project.
- Continue job training and skills service training to region's citizens.
- Continue to provide the Atlanta Region with a one-call hotline number for information regarding Workforce Investment Act services.
- To provide administrative and staff support for the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board and its committees including the Regional Planning to address Skills Shortages Committee, the Executive Committee, the One-Stop Partner Committee and the Youth Council.
- To implement and administer the Workforce Investment Act system for Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry, and Rockdale counties.
- To provide a regional Individual Training Account/Eligible Provider listings system for several of the metro Atlanta Workforce Investment Boards.
- Participate in local, regional, and statewide coordination of services in order to insure the most effective use of program funds and avoid duplication of services.

- To provide administrative systems and staff functions for the Regional Individual Training Account Advisory Committee, comprised of several of the metro area Workforce Investment Boards.
- Develop and maintain a system of one-stop centers (Career Resource Centers) for employment and training services.
- Development and implementation of specialized services for displaced workers at major companies facing closure or downsizing.
- Development and implementation of business and customer resources on the ARC website.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- Adult, Youth and Dislocated Worker Services – A, C, E,
- Skills Shortages Services and Systems Innovations/Special Projects – S, Z
- National Emergency Grants - N
- Regional Workforce Planning/Regional ITA System – R, I

2005 WORK PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

QUALITY CUSTOMER SERVICE

- Over 46,053 individuals logged in visits to the Career Resource Center network, receiving core WIA services such as job search, resume preparation, computer literacy, etc. during Program Year 2004-2005, which ended June 30, 2005.
- 3652 individuals received WIA services including assessment, counseling, job search and training services.
- Combined service for both program years has resulted in 89% of customers who were reported as exiting services were employed with an average starting wage of \$16.79 per hour.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO INCREASE SERVICES

For Program Year 2004-2005, ARC requested and received an additional \$1.6 million to add to the original allocation.

CAREER RESOURCE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS/PARTERSHIPS AT ONE-STOPS

- Continued the charters of one full-service Career Resource Center (Clayton Branch), and affiliate Career Resource Centers (Cherokee, Gwinnett Tech, Norcross, Gwinnett DOL Career Center).
- Provided updated resources for Career Resource Center sites, including all new computer equipment for the resource area and staff at the Clayton Career Resource Center.
- Worked in partnership with Georgia Department of Labor Career Centers in Gwinnett and Cobb/Cherokee to host job fairs in the local areas.
- Development of a “mini” career resource center in conjunction with Rockdale Emergency Relief Services began with arrangements for staff one day per week. Equipment and furniture were ordered and staff began customer orientations in January, 2005. The Rockdale Collaborative continues to met to develop a larger “workforce center” in Rockdale County. ARC, United Way and Goodwill are on the steering committee in addition to the County Manager to determine an implementation plan.
- Plan development for relocation of the Douglas County Career Resource Center to a county sponsored site at the old Courthouse in Douglasville. The location in the Pope Building in conjunction with DFCS became unavailable when DFCS relocated to the home office. Career Advisors continue to provider service to Douglas County residents prior to having a permanent

site. The site is expected to be open by Fall, 2005. Plan development involves the Douglas Chamber of Commerce Workforce Committee as well as the City and County governments.

ELIGIBLE TRAINING PROVIDERS EXPANSION

- Successful implementation of a regional partnership to address the Individual Training Account/Eligible Provider Listing system with the metro area Workforce Investment Boards.
- Evaluated performance of Training Providers throughout the metro area, resulting in Hold status for under-performers.
- Since inception of the Regional Partnership, ARC has evaluated 848 Training Provider Applications, program requests, price changes for review and approval prior to forwarding to GDL.
- Performed on-site reviews and monitoring, conducted two Training Provider Technical Assistance meetings, updated Training Provider Website Application, provided technical assistance to providers seeking to apply and to eligible training providers, led regional discussions on Training Provider performance and issues, investigated customer complaints.
- Updated the Regional Demand Occupations Listing (March, 2005).
- 1681 customer service surveys were mailed to customers who left training. 266 responses were received and a completed analysis of response was forwarded to the metro boards. For the ARWB, 841 surveys were mailed, with 168 responses (20%). Survey results are used to provide continuous improvement of service delivery.

RAPID RESPONSE TO EMPLOYEE DISLOCATIONS

- Displaced workers continue to receive information about WIA services including career advisement, labor market information, and retraining, during visits to employers experiencing major layoffs and company closings, including AT&T, KMC Telecom, Winn Dixie, Siemens Automation, Olsonite, Marshalls/Marmaxx, SunTrust, CheckFree, Bank America, and Photocircuits.
- Provided pre-layoff assistance with job search, resume preparation, job applications, etc.
- Coordinated with Photocircuits in Fayette County to establish an on-site transition center for 600 laid off workers. ARC and the GDOL will jointly operate and staff the center, which will have computer lab, resource materials, training and job search assistance. Continued work with the Fayette Chamber of Commerce and the Fayette Development Authority to match employment opportunities at known companies with the skill sets of the Photocircuits workers.

DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS ALLIANCES

- Organized the pilot Gwinnett County Business Services Advisory Steering Committee which is charged with mapping current business services resources in the county and preparing a gap analysis. Initial members include GDOL, the Gwinnett Chamber, Gwinnett Technical College, Manpower, Inc, and ARC and a WIB Business member. It is anticipated that a Business led Advisory Committee will be established to lead service delivery implementation in the county.
- Explored the development of a Business Services Strategy and implementation of key services such as professional placement services, entrepreneurial workshops and resources, and selected recruitment services to assist local businesses with specialized needs.
- Continued to seek funding for implementation of High Demand Occupational Training expansions in sectors such as Information Technology, Life Sciences and Advanced Manufacturing.
- Coordinated lead staff assignment and membership for each chamber within service area. Staff began meeting with ARWB members and Chamber Economic Development staff.
- Development of ARWB on-the-job (OJT) policies and procedures. Proposed policies include fixed fee training payments based on individual trainee's wages, and a lump sum job retention

payment. Policies are customized to each county's wage data. Implemented first pilot OJT with small business in Gwinnett County.

- Partnered with Kaiser Permanente to provide screening of customers in need of low-cost health insurance.
- Developed partnerships with Gwinnett Medical Center, Veterans Administration Hospital, Children's HealthCare and St. Joseph Hospital on SAW project.

SPECIALIZED GRANT ACTIVITY

Hispanic Certified Nurse Assistant Project (Update)

Partners in Long Term Case Staffing, a community initiative headed by The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), provides Certified Nurse Assistant training with necessary English Language Instruction to Hispanic Citizens in Metropolitan Atlanta Counties. Other partners include Emory University Center for Health in Aging The Latin American Association, The (Georgia) Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Southern Home Care Services, DeKalb Workforce Board and Atlanta Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging and the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board (ARWB). Marketing to the target population is spearheaded by AARP with the Latin American Association as the first point of contact. Applicants are referred to Career Centers for orientation and eligibility determination, and career advisement, assessment, training and follow-up is provided with WIA funds... Students will be enrolled into CNA training. Program participants may receive supportive assistance for child care, gas cards, and program "extras" while they attend training. Career Advisors will maintain contact with each student and be available to access a full range of community resources to ensure that the student will be able to complete the training. Additional Life Skills Training includes MoneySmart, establishing a bank account, obtaining a drivers license, etc. Upon completion of training, students will achieve state certification and enter the workforce. Status: AARP provided a second recruitment flyer; faith and community-based organizations are assisting with distribution of the flyer. Two students have been enrolled into training. Two major challenges in implementing this project are (1) identifying customers able to achieve program entry score on the English Test of Adult Education and (2) locating a bi-lingual instructor to teach the course to those students who do not dominate the English language. Several proposals to private foundations for funding immersion contextualized English language instruction with CNA training have been submitted; however, no funds have been awarded.

CNA to LPN Bridge Project/ Ethica HealthCare, Inc. (Update)

This project, funded by a Health Care Demonstration Grant from Georgia Department of Labor, is proceeding on target. The collaborating partners are Atlanta Regional Commission, Atlanta Regional Workforce Board, DeKalb Workforce Board, DeKalb Workforce Development, Department of Community Health, Ethica Health and Retirement Communities and the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education. Certified Nurse Assistants currently employed at two Ethica nursing homes began career ladder training to become Licensed Practical Nurses. The four-tier training curriculum enables students to earn four Technical Certificates of Credit. Completers of CNA III, Health Care Technician, will also achieve Phlebotomist and Electrocardiologist certifications. Students completed CNA II in June 2004 and received pay raises and new job descriptions with higher level technical job duties. Status: Thirteen students continue in the CNA III program. Several students are taking higher level English and Math required in the DeKalb Tech nursing program. The GDOL grant ended June 30, 2005; Atlanta Regional Workforce Board has assumed funding responsibility for the five students at The Seasons in Rockdale County, and DeKalb Workforce Board has assumed funding responsibility for eight students who came to the program as Traditions employees in DeKalb County. WIA funds are coordinated with HOPE funds to cover tuition, books and fees. The original cohort of students has completed half of the curriculum while working 37.5 hours per week.

Youth Health Care Employment Project (Update)

Collaborative efforts by the ARWB Youth Council, Hearts to Nourish Hope, Clayton Career Resource Center, Clayton College and State University, CVS, and Southern Regional Medical Center resulted in a \$20,000 grant award from The United Way Enterprise Foundation targeting the Emerging Worker Population, youth ages 18-25. The grant provides a HealthCare Career Facilitator who will act as a bridge for this population group into occupations in allied health, fitness and critical health care areas. Hearts to Nourish Hope will be the administering agent for the grant; the HealthCare Career Facilitator will be stationed at Clayton Career Resource Center. Referrals to the project will be through all organizations providing services to the 18-25 age group in the seven counties served by ARWB. The project will provide youth with an opportunity to explore different health care careers, receive guidance in education needs for health careers, and provide connections to the business community. The Facilitator will work with the assistance of the Clayton Career Resource Center staff in coordination of assessment of youth interested in health care careers, occupational skills training and work readiness. Additional funding is being sought from private foundation grant makers to provide tuition to train the emerging workforce youth in three health care occupations: ten certified nurse assistants at Clayton College and State University, five phlebotomists at Southern Regional Hospital and 20 pharmacy associates, pharmacy technicians and lead pharmacy technicians while they are employed at CVS pharmacy. Status: June 30, 2005 was the end date for United Way/Enterprise Foundation Grant awarded Hearts to Nourish Hope on behalf of the ARWB Youth Council. Although Hearts to Nourish Hope efforts to obtain additional funding for training were unsuccessful, the following performance outcomes were accomplished: 115 Black Bag Medical Assessments; 20 referred for CNA/Phlebotomy Training; 5 are attending training, 10 have completed and are in job search. This project also has worked closely with CVS Pharmacies for subsidized placement into starter jobs towards health careers. 62 youth in four of the six ARWB Youth Council projects were introduced to healthcare careers by attending "Fast Forward To Your Future" video sessions. 7 youth have taken part in the CVS subsidized/unsubsidized job component.

Project Access

In March, 2004 ARWB was awarded a \$25,850 sub grant from Cobb Works' Work Incentive Grant for expanding services and increasing accessibility for people with disabilities. The grant provides for designation of a Disability Navigator for development of resources and accommodations to better serve individuals with disabilities. Accessibility studies were completed at all full service career resource centers and plan is being developed to implement recommendations along with the addition of additional assistive technology to expand resource opportunities across varied disability focus areas. Project will provided staff training on disability awareness and development of Disability Advisor at each center who can broker information on available resources for assisting individuals with disabilities. Community outreach will involve providing one day training to training providers, career center staff, and local business representatives on disability awareness/debunking the disability myths and providing local, state and federal resources available for working with individuals with disabilities. The WindMills Disability Awareness program has been purchased and will be utilized in staff training and a package will be offered to local HR managers to utilize the program in their internal training agendas. Community outreach will also involve participation with other local community support agencies working with individuals with disabilities and educating them on services available at the Career Resource Centers. Status: Grant funding ended March 2005. Sustainable activities include ADA accessibility issues addressed at Career Resource Centers, assistive technology implemented at career resource centers which includes but not limited to accessible workstation with assistive technology software and hardware, TTY, personal amplification system, and amplified phone. Disability Services Advocates designated for each of the career resource centers who have been trained on assistive technology

and resources for individuals with disabilities. In-service training is on going for all field staff on disability awareness and field staff has completed on line course, "At Your Service". Outreach made to all social service agencies and school districts within 7 county WIA region to provide information on updated services and resources for individuals with disabilities.

School At Work (update)

Funding for a series of three hospital based School At Work (SAW) programs has been provided to ARWB as part of the President's High-Growth Job Training Initiative. School at Work (SAW) is a distance learning delivery system that delivers instruction directly to hospitals using Internet and television technology. Catalyst Learning, developer of SAW, is expanding its dialogue with State and Local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to learn whether SAW can help them achieve their healthcare workforce objectives. The ARWB was chosen to pilot the project in Georgia. SAW students are incumbent workers employed in entry-level positions, e.g., foodservice, housekeeping, environmental services, office positions and nurse aides. The goal of the Career Ladder program is to provide loyal, hard-working employees with the skills that they need to advance one rung up the job ladder and to continue their education for certification. SAW also provides employees with the knowledge, confidence and motivation needed to enroll in local certificate and degree programs available at the community college. State/local funds are leveraged by having the Board provide funding for half of the local hospitals in the program; with the SAW grant providing funding for the other half. Workforce staff are currently working with local area hospitals which have expressed initial interest in participating in the project.

Status: Fourteen students graduated from the first St. Joseph's SAW class. Two are attending training funded by WIA for higher level careers, and one is awaiting start date for an in-hospital radiology program. The GDOL Incumbent Worker Grant award to fund six additional SAW projects includes a second St. Joseph's class, Veterans' Medical Center, Gwinnett Medical and Children's Hospital. DeKalb Medical, Piedmont and Emory Eastside Hospitals are candidates for the two additional sites.

Proposals Submitted Requesting Funds to Improve Systems and Services

Proposals requesting funding to enhance services primarily for health care training have been submitted in this quarter:

- Ecolab, Letter of Inquiry for \$22,000 to provide full time salary for Health Care Career Facilitator.
- Scientific Atlanta, \$159,984 to fund training for Hispanic CNA students.
- Staples Foundation for Learning, \$24,650 to provide furniture for planned Rockdale Career Resource Center – This was not funded.
- Staples Foundation for Learning - \$45,490 to provide tuition for Phlebotomy, CNA and CVS three-tier pharmacy training.
- Touching Lives in Gwinnett - \$500,000 – Faith-Based Community Organization initiative. Was not funded.
- United Way Enterprise Foundation - \$35,000 – Awarded \$20,000 for half salary Health Care Career Facilitator.
- US Department of Labor - \$2,572,068 Unsolicited proposal to provide for expansion and replication of CNA/LPN Bridge Project, Hispanic CNA and CVS Pharmacy health care training projects.
- US Department of Labor High Growth Job Initiative Healthcare - \$1,000,000 to replicate CNA/LPN Program submitted in partnership with Ethica Health and Retirement Communities, DeKalb and Coosa Valley Workforce Boards. Funding notification pending
- American Woodmark Foundation Letter of Inquiry for emerging workforce healthcare training. Declined

- Frances Abreu Charitable Trust - \$50,000 for career advisement, financial supportive services for Hispanic students attending DeKalb Technical College. To supplement grant awarded Georgia Department Technical and Adult Education. – no response
- SunTrust Bank of Atlanta Foundation - \$45,490 to provide tuition for Phlebotomy, CNA and CVS three-tier pharmacy training.
- Tull Charitable Trust - \$45,490 to provide tuition for Phlebotomy, CNA and CVS three-tier pharmacy training.
- GA. Incumbent Worker Grant - May 2005- awarded \$44,450 – SAW project
- USDOL/ FBCO Building Communities in Gwinnett \$500,000 May 05– not awarded
- Georgia Health Foundation - \$127,152 - March 05 - not awarded
- USDOL – Community Based Job Training Partnership w/ GA Perimeter, DeKalb WIB and DeKalb Tech – July 05 - Pending

Staff review the daily US Government grant announcements and research Grant Makers at The Foundation Center; currently lists of GrantMakers with the following Fields of Interest are being reviewed: Economically Disadvantaged, Youth Services, Healthcare, Nursing Homes and Convalescent Facilities, Biomedical and Offenders.

QUALITY YOUTH SERVICES

The WIA funded year-round, comprehensive youth services for 492 WIA-registered youth during Program Year 2004 (7/1/04 – 6/30/05). Of these, 191 were exited, and 146 of these exited with a positive outcome. There continues to be a strong emphasis on service to several economically-disadvantaged target populations: high school dropouts, youth with disabilities, foster care youth, youth in the juvenile justice system, and Hispanic and other immigrant populations. Services include a wide variety of paid and unpaid work experiences in non-profit and for-profit settings, actual employment, step-up employment, basic skills and GED preparation, counseling and other support for remaining in school, career preparation, work readiness, job application and job search activities, community and leadership projects. Outcomes from projects include employment and employment advancement, obtaining a High School diploma or GED, acquiring work readiness or occupational skills, remaining in school and building a resume and determining a career plan, as well as unsubsidized employment in career starter jobs. Youth service providers carry out one year of follow-up services for all youth after they exit from programs.

These services are provided to each of the workforce area counties by six contract service providers, which were procured under a competitive Request for Proposals in May, 2004. These contracts have been extended for the next program year (PY 2005) that begins on July 1, 2005. The contractors are WORKTEC, Hearts To Nourish Hope, Prevention Plus, CorVel, Youth Elements of Success, and Cherokee Youth FOCUS (Cherokee Schools).

Summer Jobs for Youth Program -

This special project used \$60,000 in non-WIA funds made available in late May, 2004 by the GDOL, enabled 96 WIA and non-WIA youth to become employed for the summer in subsidized work experience settings, which include for-profit as well as non-profit settings. The same funding level was received for the same project in late May, 2005, and has enabled the same services for 85 youth in the summer of 2005, thus far. Four Youth Service Providers have managed this program throughout the workforce area.

Marketing, Fundraising and Business Partner Development -

The Business Development Committee of the Youth Council continues to focus on marketing, fundraising and business partner development. Activities have included a Chamber of Commerce

presentation, the development of a business-focused Youth Programs brochure, as well as publicity in area newspapers. Large and small businesses are providing a range of resources for Youth Service Providers, ranging from employment opportunities to customized job fairs to work readiness instruction. Key players include UPS, CVS, FedEx and Con-Way Air.

Several major proposals, supported by ARC staff, were submitted by local youth-serving organizations. These included large Federal proposals by Hearts To Nourish Hope for an HHS Offenders into High Growth Occupations (not-funded) and Prevention Plus for a HUD Clayton Youth Build project (pending). Pending for WORKTEC is a large Federal DOE application to become a Projects with Industry site.

WIA Youth Service Providers received funds from multiple State and other local sources: from the State Children and Youth Coordinating Council, from the National Association of Street Schools, from Clayton Schools, and from the State Department of Human Resources.

WORKFORCE BOARD COLLABORATION

- Initiated 1681 customer surveys of individuals who had completed training for the local WIBs. Customers were able to access the survey on the ARC website or complete hard copy surveys and return by mail. 20% of ARWB customers responded and 14% of other workforce board's customers responded. In general, the rating reflected an overall positive increase compared to last years. Customers indicated a significant decrease in optimism about the employment outlook. A web based format and reporting instrument has been designed to ease compilation of results.
- The ARWB Youth Council and WIA-funded projects have been heavily involved in State-sponsored comprehensive youth development system building, at both the local, Region 3, and State level. Staff serves on the Evaluation Committee of the Georgia Partnership for Youth Investment.
- Development and collaboration with WIBs throughout the state on improvements to the financial tracking system.
- Developed Demand Occupations Listing for metro Workforce Boards.

CONTINUOUS SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS

- Developed a labor market research tool to be used with customers requesting training. The form is required for all individuals seeking Project Management, Information Technology and Six Sigma Training.
- Developed a Program Research instrument to be used for assessing differences in training programs and compatibility with customer skills and abilities.
- Utilized the Model developed under the Skills Shortage Grant to focus on health care occupation shortages. Developed expertise among career advisor staff in medical occupations through research, field trips, hospital meetings, etc.
- Developed a One-Stop System Manual for WIA Activities at all Career Resource Centers and provided training for all Career Resource Center staff on policies/procedures.
- Updated User Manual for Resource Labs in the Career Resource Centers to assist customers in accessing Internet and other automated aids for career exploration and job search.
- Provision of training for Board and Career Resource Center staff to gain information and increase skills regarding occupations in demand, assessment, etc.
- Continuous search for other funding to improve systems and services to customers.
- Enhanced website information including electronic copies of applications for services and tracking of electronic hits, website applications and survey instruments.
- Bridging the gaps in communication between ARC, Career Advisors, and ITA Vendors through

new and improved procedures and guidelines in the One-Stop Manuals and the ITA Vendor Agreements.

- Enhanced disability friendly environment within the career resource centers.

ELEMENT 4 - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

A, C, E - WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT, ADULT, YOUTH AND DISLOCATED WORKER SERVICES

PURPOSE

Title I of the Workforce Investment Act provides adult and youth individuals who are economically disadvantaged, unskilled or have other serious barriers to employment, training and related services for entry into the labor force. Title I of the Workforce Investment Act also provides retraining, job search assistance and other services for workers who have lost their jobs as a result of business closings, mass layoffs and the effects of economic change. It provides services to dislocated workers who have had a significant attachment to the labor force, but who need retraining in order to return to work. Services provided include: planning and development systems, implementation, administration, core and intensive services, services such as assessment, employability development planning and counseling, job search and job retention skills, job placement and follow-up, and supportive services; occupational skills training; on-the-job training; customized-employer specific training and remediation.

The Atlanta Regional Commission's Workforce Development Division serves as the sub-grant recipient for the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board. The Board is responsible for policy development and systems oversight for residents of Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties.

DELIVERABLES

- Continue implementation of workforce development initiatives, including the provision of WIA services at one stop career resource centers.
- Provide a system of youth services for low income youth, to include summer employment experiences.
- Provide a system of Individual Training Accounts for customers to access training opportunities and provide regional processes for implementation of the Eligible Provider Listing.
- Participate in Rapid Response activities with the Georgia Department of Labor to disseminate information about retraining services to employees and employers experiencing layoffs and implement services.

PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination will occur with a variety of agencies and other workforce boards within the region, County Human Service Coalition Committees, County DFCS offices, Rehabilitation Services, local school systems, Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Agencies. Additional partners include: GDL/USDOL and the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

COST CENTERS

- 504AY, 604AA, 604AY
- 504AZ, 604AB, 604AZ
- 504CA, 604CA
- 604CB, 604CD
- 504EY, 604EA, 604EY
- 604EB, 604EZ
- 504EF
- 504AD

Adult Administration
Adult Program
Youth Administration
Youth Program
Dislocated Worker Administration
Dislocated Worker Program
Dislocated Worker Statewide Activities
Adult Statewide Activities

ELEMENT 4 - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

S - SKILLS SHORTAGES AND SYSTEMS INNOVATIONS

Z – SPECIAL PROJECTS

PURPOSE

SKILLS SHORTAGES:

Initiatives developed as part of the IT Skills Shortages Demonstration Project including: the design and implementation of a comprehensive skill shortage action plan in the general area of information technology, collecting information related to community employment needs, designing and pilot testing training strategies, and incorporating lessons learned so that the partnership and workforce system will continue to respond to the skill shortage will continue as responsibilities/services of the Skills Shortages Committee and ARWB staff. Continued growth of business partner base will ensure current skill gap assessment across industry sectors and provide the foundation for development of future customized training programs for new and incumbent workers. Implementation of the model to the Health Care Industry has been initiated and will be expanded as new training options are identified. Application of the model will be made to additional industry specific sectors as skills needs are identified.

HEALTH CARE INITIATIVES: USDOL established the Business Relations Group to connect large, national-in-scope businesses to the public workforce system and to work collaboratively with partners to build a demand driven and responsive public workforce system. As a part of this initiative, the High Growth Job Training Initiative targets demand occupations, increasing career path opportunities for workers in response to local economic needs. Targeted high growth industries include: information technology, health care, biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, and others. In line with this demand driven system, ARC has responded to and developed several initiatives in the health care and information technology sectors.

The Georgia Department of Labor awarded Atlanta Regional Commission and the Atlanta Workforce Board two Healthcare Retraining Partnership Demonstration Grants for implementation and expansion of the Health Care program service model. ARC contracted with CVS Pharmacy to train and certify entry level employees in three levels of training with increasing responsibility requiring higher level technical skills. This project completed in 2004. The second Health Care Demonstration Grant was to Atlanta Regional Commission, the Atlanta Workforce Board and a group of partners: DeKalb Workforce Board, DeKalb Workforce Development Department, Department of Community Health, Department of Technical and Adult Education and Ethica Health and Retirement Communities to provide a Customized Bridge Training Program to move Certified Nurse Assistants employed in two Ethica Health and Rehabilitation Centers up the nursing career ladder to Licensed Practical Nurses. Both of these projects have dual goals of an upward career path with increasing skill levels for support staff and increasing the retention rate of qualified workers in the health care workforce.

Hispanic CNA Project : This initiative resulted from a community collaborative to address both health care needs and services to the Hispanic/Latino population. The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) initiated a community partnership to provide Certified Nurse Assistant training with necessary English Language Instruction to Hispanic Citizens in Gwinnett and DeKalb County, Georgia. Other partners include: Emory University Center for Health in Aging, The Latin American Association, The (Georgia) Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, GAHSA Institute on Aging,

The Hispanic American Center for Economic Development (HACED), Southern Home Care Services, DeKalb Workforce Center representing the DeKalb Works and the Atlanta Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging and Workforce Development Division representing the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board (ARWB). Funding for the both the career advisement, testing and assessment, occupational skills training and followup is provided by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) through the Atlanta Regional Commission and DeKalb Works. An Assessment of English/Spanish Basic skills, interests and aptitudes, with special attention to appropriateness of a health care career, will be completed on each applicant by the ARWB and DeKalb Works. Upon completion of the assessment, a WIA training referral will be made to either PCA or CNA training

SCHOOL AT WORK: Funding for a series of School At Work (SAW) health care incumbent worker training programs has been provided by the Georgia Department of Labor. School at Work (SAW) is a distance learning delivery system that delivers instruction directly to hospitals using Internet and television technology. Catalyst Learning, developer of SAW, is expanding its dialogue with State and Local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to learn whether SAW can help them achieve their healthcare workforce objectives. The ARWB was selected to be the pilot site in Georgia.

SAW students are employed in entry-level positions, e.g., foodservice, housekeeping, environmental services, office positions and nurse aides. The goal of the Career Ladder program is to provide loyal, hard-working employees with the skills that they need to advance one rung up the job ladder. SAW also provides employees with the knowledge, confidence and motivation needed to enroll in local certificate and degree programs available at the community college. The SAW program is operated by Catalyst Learning and Anne Arundel Community College.

State/local funds are leveraged by having the Board provide funding for half of the local hospitals in the program; with the SAW grant providing funding for the other half. Workforce staff began working in July 2004 with local area hospitals which have expressed initial interest in participating in the project. Actual instruction began in January 2005. Additional hospitals are being recruited to begin activity in 2006.

DELIVERABLES

- Continue to recruit potential business partners as subcommittee members of the Regional Planning Committee for Skills Shortages.
- Target skill specific customized training needs with business partners for development of customized training programs.
- Develop a Business Services Strategy and implement key services such as professional placement services, entrepreneurial workshops and resources, and selected recruitment services to assist local businesses with specialized needs.
- Pilot with Gwinnett Department of Labor and Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce on a Business Advisory Committee to provide gap analysis and service planning for addressing the current and future employment needs of Gwinnett businesses.
- Continue to seek funding for implementation of High Demand Occupational Training expansions in sectors such as Information Technology, Life Sciences and Advanced Manufacturing.
- Continue Healthcare Improvement Strategies and employer Customized Training with continuation of the School At Work (SAW) Project in regional hospitals.

PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination will occur with a variety of training providers, business organizations, including chambers of commerce and human resource associations and agencies involved in one-stop collaboration.

COST CENTERS

- 504SA Incumbent Worker Administration (SAW)
- 504SB Incumbent Worker Program (SAW)

ELEMENT 4 - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

4N - NATIONAL EMERGENCY GRANTS

PURPOSE

National Emergency Grants are made available from the US Department of Labor during emergency events, such as hurricane/tornado devastation relief, company closings or economic downturn. The Georgia Department of Labor, applied for a National Emergency Grant to provide services to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The Atlanta Regional Commission's Workforce Development Division serves as the grant sub-recipient for the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board. The ARWB is responsible for policy development and implementation of programs for residents of Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties.

DELIVERABLES

- Services will be provided to assist Hurricane Katrina evacuees and their families with career advisement, training, temporary jobs and placement and support services.

PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination will occur with a variety of agencies and other workforce boards in the region, Georgia Department of Labor, One Stop Partners, Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Organizations.

COST CENTERS

- 504NK NEG Katrina

ELEMENT 4 – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

R – REGIONAL WORKFORCE PLANNING

I – REGIONAL ITA SYSTEM

PURPOSE

In order to better understand its labor market and economic environments, the consortium of local areas WIBs (Region 3) designed a regional workforce planning initiative to develop a regional labor market analysis, state of the workforce report and a strategic plan for Information Technology Career Clusters. The report was completed in 2004, however, information from the data gathered continues to be of utmost importance to both customers seeking training, local workforce staff and the business and education community. The local WIBs within Region III are committed to utilizing this research and reports for local planning and for disseminating the information to key customers and stakeholders, such as employers, economic development practitioners, educators, and policy makers.

In addition to this study and report, the Regional Workforce Boards meet bi-monthly to discuss items of regional importance and work on collaborative projects. For example, for the October meeting, a regional business will present needs for current workers to remain employed through the acquisition of new skills sets.

Several of the metro Boards participate in a Regional ITA System, which encompasses the majority pathway for customers to attend training funded by the Workforce Investment Act. ARC is the administrative agent for the DeKalb Workforce Board and the City of Atlanta Workforce Board, in addition to the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board. ARC provides the applications for new training providers, reviews the applications and makes recommendations to a Metro ITA Advisory Board.

DELIVERABLES

- Continue to assess the current economy, including industry trends and initiatives; economic development; occupational trends; general labor force characteristics; employer needs; job seeker customer segments and their needs; regions' ability to respond to current needs.
- To provide a regional Individual Training Account/Eligible Provider listings system for several of the metro Atlanta Workforce Investment Boards.
- Participate in regional coordination of services in order to insure the most effective use of program funds and avoid duplication of services.
- To provide administrative systems and staff functions for the Regional Individual Training Account Advisory Committee comprised of several of the metro area Workforce Investment Boards.
- Continue to provide the Atlanta Region with a one-call hotline number for information regarding Workforce Investment Act services and referral to other metro Workforce Boards

PARTNERSHIPS

Partner with the Region III Workforce Boards, which also include: City of Atlanta, Cobb, DeKalb, and Fulton. Additional partnerships will include: GDL, business and industry representatives, local governments, local Boards of Education, technical colleges in Region III, Board of Regents governed institutions within Region III, organized labor, Chambers of Commerce in Region III, and related workforce development organizations.

COST CENTERS

- 504IT, 604IT Management of Regional ITA System

Economic Development

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 5 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MISSION

The Economic Development Element of ARC's work program is intended to facilitate a collaborative decision-making process by elected officials, business leaders and civic leaders on Community and Economic Development issues. This process will lead to strategies that promote sustainable economic opportunity, foster effective infrastructure systems, enhance and protect the environment, and balance resources through sound management of development practices. Ultimately, a strategy will provide a roadmap for the Atlanta region to improve our quality of life and respond to economic development opportunities as the region continues to grow.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

- The issue of economic development is indirectly, yet inextricable related to all regional challenges including land, use transportation water supply and quality of education.
- The field of economic development is faced with major challenges including balancing interests between small town business and major retailers on which the economy thrives.
- There is no formal structure to promote public and private sector partnerships in order to identify and respond to development issues and opportunities facing the Atlanta region.
- There is currently no forum through which local government economic development staff can meet to network and share ideas and information.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Serve as liaison between local government, business community and economic development professionals on regional growth issues.
- Provide an annual update for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in accordance with Economic Development Administration guidelines.
- Create a forum through which local government economic development staff can routinely share ideas, experiences and expertise.
- Provide technical assistance to local governments and economic development organizations on their economic development activities, programs, and grant applications.
- Produce a quarterly newsletter for local government economic development professionals to facilitate communication across jurisdictions.
- Host quarterly economic development lunches to encourage the sharing of best practices.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 05A Regional Economic Development Plan

ELEMENT 5 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5A - REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PURPOSE

The Economic Development Element of ARC's work program is intended to facilitate a comprehensive decision-making process by elected officials, business leaders and civic leaders on growth-related and economic development issues. This process will lead to strategies that promote sustainable economic development and opportunity, foster effective infrastructure systems, enhance and protect the environment, and balance resources through sound management of development. Ultimately, a strategy will provide a roadmap for the Atlanta region to improve our quality of life and respond to economic development opportunities as the region continues to grow.

DELIVERABLES

- Provide formal and informal mechanisms for reaching out to community and economic development professionals including developing a regular newsletter for economic development professionals and regularly convening economic development staff throughout the region
- Serve as liaison between local government, business community and economic development professionals on regional growth issues.
- Update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in accordance to Economic Development Administration guidelines.
- Develop training through the Community Planning Academy that has a focus on local government economic development strategies

PARTNERSHIPS

The Regional Economic Development Plan is an effort designed to foster collaboration in economic and community development. Internal partners include Workforce Development, Aging Services, GIS, Research, Transportation Planning and Land Use Planning. External partners include public leaders and elected officials, local economic development officials, chambers of commerce and community leaders.

COST CENTERS

- 605AR Regional Economic Development Plan