

Transportation Planning

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 6
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Direct Federal Grants	265,000	1.6%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	13,937,033	82.1%
State and Local Match	1,633,700	9.6%
ARC Required Match	838,721	4.9%
ARC Supplemental Funding	-	0.0%
Private Sector Funding	295,225	1.7%
Enterprise Fund Income	-	0.0%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$16,969,679	100.0%
Expenses by Work Program Titles		
06A Long Range Planning	1,643,389	9.7%
06B Program Administration and Maintenance	1,050,543	6.2%
06C Short Range Planning	637,125	3.8%
06D Travel Surveys, Models and Analysis	1,188,991	7.0%
06E Air Quality Planning	198,159	1.2%
06F Local Government Assistance	221,387	1.3%
06G Commute Connections	6,700,002	39.5%
06H Management Systems	310,021	1.8%
06I Special Studies	4,713,707	27.8%
06J Transportation Public Involvement	306,355	1.8%
06K Access to Jobs		0.0%
Total Expenses	\$16,969,679	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	2,982,512	17.6%
Contracts	3,861,772	22.8%
Equipment	91,200	0.5%
Misc. Operating	310,541	1.8%
Travel	57,500	0.3%
Rent & Related	285,039	1.7%
Computer Services	417,496	2.5%
Indirects	1,345,119	7.9%
Subgrants and Participants	7,618,500	44.9%
Total Expenses	\$16,969,679	100.0%

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Transportation planning in the Atlanta Region is coordinated by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Atlanta Region, pursuant to federal rules and regulations.

In 2004, the ARC transportation planning boundary was expanded based on the 2000 Census as required, to encompass the current ten ARC member counties (Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, and Rockdale) plus three additional counties (Coweta, Forsyth and Paulding) and portions of six more (Barrow, Bartow, Hall, Newton, Spalding and Walton). This boundary is shown below.



For the portion of the Atlanta planning boundary in Hall County, an agreement was executed assigning transportation planning responsibilities for that area to the new Gainesville-Hall MPO.

ARC by-laws were revised in 2004 to include a “limited membership for “transportation purposes only” that provides ARC limited membership to each of the additional counties except Hall (i.e., Barrow, Bartow, Coweta, Forsyth, Newton, Paulding, Spalding, and Walton Counties).

ATLANTA ATTAINMENT & NONATTAINMENT AREAS

ARC performs the technical analysis necessary to demonstrate conformity of transportation plans and programs for the Atlanta nonattainment areas which supports the ARC long range transportation plan as well as the Gainesville-Hall MPO long range transportation plan. The areas are as follows:

- 13-county Atlanta nonattainment area for ozone under the one hour standard
 - Includes ARC’s ten member counties plus Coweta, Forsyth and Paulding Counties
 - Designated as attainment on June 16, 2005
- 20-county nonattainment area for ozone under the eight hour standard - Includes the 13-county area above plus Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Coweta, Forsyth, Hall, Newton, Paulding, Spalding and Walton Counties.
- 20+ county nonattainment area for fine particulate matter (PM2.5)
 - Includes the 20 county ozone area plus small sections of Heard and Putnam Counties around major power plants.
 - ARC will perform the necessary technical analysis for PM 2.5 for the entire area to enable a required conformity determination by the April 5, 2006 federal deadline.

PLANNING PROCESS

ARC collaborates with the Region’s local governments, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority and other regional transit providers, and citizens to plan for the Region’s future transportation needs and to assure that such plans conform to air emission requirements.

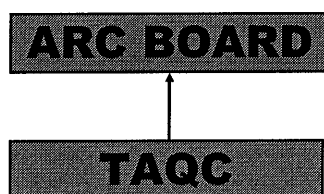
The mission of this element is to improve transportation facilities and services in the Region through an integrated planning process that meets the requirements of SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA). Together, these two pieces of landmark legislation promote a transportation system that maximizes mobility and accessibility and promotes the protection of the human and natural environments. The metropolitan transportation planning process emphasizes the link between improved planning and better decisions and provides the tools for comprehensive planning, which incorporates land use, development, environmental, and transportation considerations.

Coordination of ARC's efforts with the planning programs of its member governments and the many other government agencies along with the citizens of the Region is essential to the success of the transportation planning process. ARC has standing technical and policy committees, as well as task forces and subcommittees established to provide input for specific projects as described below. Significant emphasis is on broadening participation in transportation planning to include stakeholders who have not traditionally been involved, including community groups, members of the public, interest groups, the business community, and other governmental agencies.

PLANNING STRUCTURE

While the 39 member ARC Board is responsible for regional policy decisions, it is supported by a large number of policy makers and planning professionals who provide both policy and technical input into the transportation decision making process.

Transportation and Air Quality Committee (TAQC)

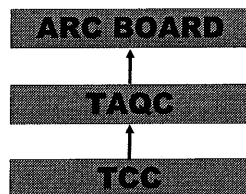


The 27 member TAQC is the transportation and air quality policy committee of the ARC. The primary function of TAQC is to develop consensus recommendations among ARC (members and limited members), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) and Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) regarding metropolitan or multi-jurisdictional transportation related policy matters. The TAQC holds regularly scheduled meetings which are open to the public.

The current membership of TAQC includes representation from the 18 county planning area. This includes the County Commission Chair of each of the 10 counties in the ARC, a designated Commissioner from each of the 8 counties in the Atlanta nonattainment area outside the ARC, the Mayor of the City of Atlanta; six additional representatives from the ARC Board, a member from each of the MARTA, GDOT and GRTA boards, and a representative from the Georgia EPD.

TAQC provides policy direction to ARC on all transportation planning matters. TAQC's guidance is very important because its membership includes GDOT, GRTA and MARTA, which implement regional transportation policy, as well as EPD, which provides state leadership in attaining air quality goals.

Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC)

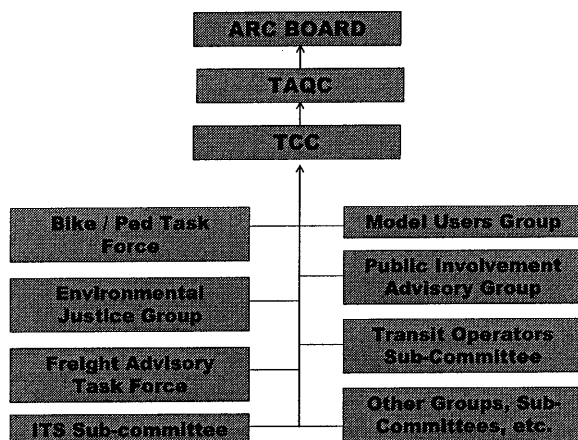


In addition to the ARC Transportation Planning Division staff and local government staffs, the 24 member Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) is responsible for providing transportation technical advice. TCC is comprised of the Chief of ARC's Transportation Planning Division and a representative (typically the planning or transportation director) from MARTA, GDOT, GRTA, EPD, the City of Atlanta and each of the eighteen (18) counties in the transportation planning boundary. Representatives from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), other municipalities in the region, interest groups and the general public typically attend and participate in the semi-monthly TCC meetings.

In 2005, a new format for TCC meetings was established. The first meeting of the month is a formal meeting; the second monthly meeting is a working session. This work session now fulfills the function of the TIP Subcommittee (i.e., serves as a brainstorming forum and sounding board on TIP development including providing direction on topics ranging from project submittal and evaluation process, document format, TIP funding policies and update schedules) therefore the TIP Subcommittee no longer meets.

TCC Task Forces / Subcommittees

Task forces and subcommittees of the TCC provide additional planning support for specific transportation-related issues.



1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force - Created in 1993 as ARC began efforts to draft the *Atlanta Region Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways Plan*, the Task Force has membership from city and county transportation, recreation and planning departments within the Atlanta region. The Task Force is also open to any interested individual or group. The Task Force continues to meet on an as needed basis to update the plan and address other bicycle and pedestrian issues as part of the long and short term transportation planning process.
2. Environmental Justice Group - This group was formed to assist in the continued integration of environmental justice into the transportation planning process. Considerable attention is directed toward ensuring the fair and equitable distribution of benefits and burdens combined with equal opportunity for citizens to help shape the substance of regional plans and policies. ARC's comprehensive approach emphasizes outreach to all segments of the community, an equitable allocation of dollars, broad based community partnerships, and balanced planning impacts. The group meets on an as needed basis.
3. Freight Advisory Task Force – The task force, comprised of freight community and public sector representatives including railroads, airport, trucking industry, chamber, the port, GDOT etc., was established in 2002. The main purpose of the Task Force is to help ARC in addressing challenges facing the goods movement industry, and identifying priority freight corridors and facilities in the region as well as potential solutions. The Task Force serves as the main forum to identify ways to better incorporate and integrate freight into the regional transportation planning process. The Task Force provides on going input into the development of the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. The Task Force meets quarterly.
4. ITS Subcommittee - This subcommittee is comprised of all ARC member agencies and planning partners involved in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technology planning and deployment in the region as well as other interested parties. The subcommittee serves as a forum for ITS planning, coordination, integration, and deployment issues as well as discussions on incorporation of ITS projects into the regional transportation planning process. The subcommittee also provided technical support for the development of the Atlanta Regional ITS Architecture and will continue to provide support for the maintenance and implementation of the Regional ITS Architecture. The subcommittee meets on an as needed basis.
5. Model Users Group – In 1999, the Model Users Group was formed as a subcommittee of the TCC to provide a forum to foster, develop and aid in coordinating travel demand forecasting and the design and implementation of travel demand models among local governments, and to serve as an advisory council in these matters. This group meets on an as needed basis but at least quarterly as a minimum.
6. Public Involvement Advisory Group (PIAG) – This group was formed in 1999 as part of the update of the Transportation Public Involvement Plan adopted by the ARC Board in May 1999. The objectives of this group are to create a network for public involvement activities in the region, share public involvement techniques, help to create the Citizen's Guide to Transportation Planning, help prepare for required TIP or RTP public outreach meetings, and ensure Title VI and environmental justice guidance for public involvement is followed.
7. Transit Operators Subcommittee (TOS) - Created in 1998, the transit operators subcommittee includes membership from agencies currently providing or scheduled to provide public transportation (MARTA, CCT, Clayton, Douglas and Gwinnett Counties, and GRTA).

Additionally, agencies with transit funds programmed in the TIP for future transit service as well as other interested parties are invited to participate. The mission of the TOS is to discuss, evaluate and coordinate regional transit issues for presentation to the TCC and incorporation into the regional transportation planning process.

Additionally, beginning in 2005 and continuing throughout development of the update of the Regional Transportation Plan, existing subcommittees, groups and task forces will provide support to RTP development as Planning Teams, as applicable. For interdisciplinary issues, Ad Hoc Issues Groups will be established at the request of the Planning Advisory Group described below.

Other ARC Transportation Task Forces / Subcommittees

In addition to the subcommittees and task forces of the Transportation Coordinating Committee, other transportation task forces and subcommittees provide additional planning support for specific transportation-related issues.

1. Land Use Coordinating Committee – Implemented in 2000, the LUCC reports to the ARC Board’s Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC). Membership includes planning directors or titled equivalents from the planning departments of the ten counties in the ARC planning area and the City of Atlanta, and categorical members. LUCC meets monthly to review, discuss and make recommendations on implementation of Regional Development Plan policies. LUCC reviews staff work on TAZ population forecasts for suballocation areas. LUCC and TCC meet together periodically to discuss interrelated land use and transportation issues.
2. ELUC / TAQC Conference Committee - This committee was established in 2005 as a subcommittee of both ELUC and TAQC with three members from each. This committee will provide guidance on issues identified by LUCC and TCC during development of *Envision 6* (the updates of the Regional Development Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan).
3. Planning Advisory Group - This group was established in 2005 as a subcommittee of both the Land Use Coordinating Committee and the Transportation Coordinating Committee to assist in development of the Regional Development Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan. Membership includes designated TCC and LUCC members as well as representatives from other areas such as the Area Agency on Aging and the Atlanta Regional Health Forum.
4. Interagency Consultation Group – The Clean Air Act requires intergovernmental consultation for the development and submittal of applicable State Implementation Plan revisions and before findings of conformity of transportation plans, programs and projects within the SIP, in airsheds designated as nonattainment. To fulfill this requirement, an Interagency Consultation Group facilitated by ARC, was established and meets on a regular basis to discuss and resolve matters relative to air quality and transportation. Formal membership in this Group includes ARC, GDOT, EPD, EPA, FHWA, FTA, MARTA, and ARC counties receiving federal transportation funding to provide transit services (Cobb, Douglas and Gwinnett). Additional agencies participate including GRTA, the State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA), and the new Gainesville-Hall MPO (GHMPO).
5. TransAQ - A technical subcommittee of the Atlanta Interagency Consultation Group, this group has been in place since early 2003. Membership consists of the air quality specialists from ARC, GRTA, GDOT and EPD. The group meets on an as-needed basis to discuss the technical

aspects of transportation conformity that cannot be handled effectively within the larger Interagency Group. Discussion topics include, but are not limited to such things as emissions modeling, scheduling of conformity analyses, and mobile source control measures.

6. Long Range Regional Forecast Technical Advisory Group – This TAG assists ARC staff in the production of regional control forecasts for the forecast study area as a whole. The small area forecasts derived using these controls support the development of regional transportation plans. The TAG advises regarding inputs to the Interactive Population and Econometric Forecasting (IPEF) model used to produce the regional control forecasts; reviews results of the IPEF model calibration runs; reviews IPEF model output after each iteration and suggests revisions, and recommends the final results to the ARC for adoption. The most current set of regional control forecasts is for a 13 county area and was completed in early 2003. ARC's next set of forecasts will be for a 20-county study area. They are currently scheduled to be completed by June 1, 2006.
7. Access to Jobs
 - Access to Jobs Transportation Coalition - This group was created in August 2000 to provide oversight, guidance and technical input into the development of the five year regional plan for job access and reverse commute projects and activities. The plan was completed in June 2001. The coalition membership includes representatives from transportation, human services, housing, workforce development, low-income citizen advocacy groups, faith-based groups, child care providers, and employer and business groups. In 2002, the Coalition was expanded to include representation from persons with disabilities as well as organizations and agencies representing the interests of this stakeholder group. Communication is maintained with the Coalition via a listserve and with individual stakeholders, as needed
 - Job Access and Reverse Commute Management Coordination Team - Established in 1999, this group includes membership from agencies providing transportation services developed as part of the job access and reverse commute program (MARTA, Cobb County Transit and the Georgia Department of Human Resources). The Coordination Team meets as needed to discuss progress, plans and coordination issues related to the ongoing implementation of projects and the incorporation of job access projects into the planning process.

PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

The major transportation planning focus in 2004 was development of *Mobility 2030* (the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan and FY 2005-2010 Transportation Improvement Program) which was adopted by the ARC in December 2004. A conformity determination on *Mobility 2030* was made in December 2004 which also supports the Hall County RTP and TIP developed and adopted by the Gainesville-Hall MPO in December 2004. In 2005, both ARC and GHMPO began development of a FY 2006-2011 TIP for adoption in early 2006. An associated technical analysis will be performed to demonstrate conformity to PM_{2.5} criteria so that a conformity determination can be made by the April 5, 2006 federal deadline.

In 2005, there were many challenges to the Atlanta transportation planning process including requirements associated with the new transportation reauthorization (SAFETEA-LU), continued

incorporation of new planning areas into the planning process and addressing the requirements of multiple Atlanta nonattainment areas.

Based on the requirements of TEA-21, the next update of the regional transportation plan was due by December 2007 and the next TIP update by December 2006. However, based on the requirements of SAFETEA-LU signed by the President on August 10, 2005, the RTP, TIP and conformity determinations are now on 4 year cycles. During 2006, planning activities will be evaluated and adjusted, as applicable, to address these new requirements.

Work plans associated with the Regional Transportation Plan update will incorporate and integrate applicable work activities associated with other agency planning efforts such as update of the Regional Development Plan.

The RTP update will establish long-term policies and strategies that will both address the Region's transportation needs and improve air quality. The goal of short range planning and the TIP update is to facilitate the movement of people and goods to the various population and employment centers, and other destinations in the near future and to meet federal air quality standards. .

The continued, ongoing refinement of the travel demand models used to simulate regional travel demand, as well as the enhancement of the tools used to estimate vehicle emissions for mobile source emissions modeling, are essential to air quality planning and update of the RTP and TIP. ARC will also provide technical assistance to local governments on travel demand modeling and emission modeling, to ensure consistency of the local models with the regional model.

Transportation management systems are tools to ensure that transportation infrastructure is effectively managed and maintained and that it operates as efficiently as possible. The information on infrastructure conditions and system performance from ARC's Congestion Management System (CMS) as well as Georgia DOT's other optional management systems (Safety, Bridge, Pavement, Public Transportation, and Intermodal) will be used to support the RTP and TIP.

Consultant assistance will be used in support of long and short range planning, bike/pedestrian planning, travel demand model development, data collection activities, the Congestion Management System update, and Transportation Demand Management activities.

During 2006, ARC will continue with special planning studies such as the Regional Transit Institutional Analysis Study, Multimodal Corridor Investment Studies, the Regional Freight, Goods and Service Mobility Strategy Study, and the Southern Regional Transportation Accessibility Study, to address special transportation issues in the Region. ARC will also participate in various special planning studies conducted by planning partners. Special studies which support the development of a regional, integrated multi-modal transportation system lead to better decisions on strategies to be included in the RTP and TIP.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

- Incorporation of transportation planning requirements from SAFETEA-LU
- Continued incorporation of new planning areas into the transportation planning process.
- Incorporation and compliance with requirements for the Atlanta nonattainment areas for ozone under the 8-hour standard and for PM2.5, into the planning process for long range plan development, short range program development, and conformity determinations.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Adoption of the FY 2006-2011 TIP.
- Conformity determination for PM2.5 on the ARC and GHMPO 2030 RTPs and FY 2006-2011 TIPs by April 5, 2006.
- Completion and implementation of the expanded travel demand model for the 20 county Atlanta nonattainment area.
- Amendment of the FY 2006-2011 TIP to reflect project change requests, reauthorization and possible state legislative action.
- Conduct of special planning studies such as the Freight Mobility Study and the Southern Regional Transportation Accessibility Study.
- Development and publication of the fourth edition of Breaking Ground, a report of TIP implementation progress for FY 2006.
- Continued incorporation of recommendations from the 2003 Certification of the Atlanta Transportation Management Area into the planning process.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

6A – Long Range Planning	6G – Travel Demand Management
6B - Program Administration and Maintenance	6H - Management Systems
6C – Short Range Planning	6I - Special Studies & Projects
6D - Travel Surveys, Models and Analysis	6J - Transportation Public Involvement
6E - Air Quality Planning	6K – Access to Jobs
6F - Local Government Assistance	

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Transportation Planning Division

- Continued integration of land use and transportation planning through implementation of *Envision 6* (2030 RTP update covering 2008-2030 and FY 2008-2013 TIP) planning activities which included a charrette in September to solicit input from planning partners and the public.
- Continued facilitation of subcommittees and groups to aid in the development of *Envision 6*.
- Developed the FY 2006-2011 Transportation Improvement Program with adoption targeted for early 2006.
- Amended the FY 2005-2010 Transportation Improvement Program.

- Facilitated two major activities with regional impact - the Governor's Congestion Mitigation Task Force charged with making recommendations by 2005 year end to address congestion in the Atlanta nonattainment area, and the Regional Transit Institutional Analysis tasked with making recommendations for coordination of regional transit.
- Continued expansion of the public involvement program to incorporate and involve citizen input into the transportation planning process.
- Developed and published the third edition of *Breaking Ground*, a report on FY 2005 implementation of the TIP.
- Continued implementation and refinement of an ARC-developed integrated planning/modeling database, Plan-IT.
- Continued implementation and refinement of an interactive project mapping and information retrieval system for application on ARC's website and in other products for general distribution to planning partners and the public. This tool enables mapping of projects on an individual basis.
- Continued to maintain the Congestion Management System and to use as a tool in development of the RTP update.
- Continued to play an active role in NASA's Atlanta Urban Heat Island Study and in a joint long-range air quality modeling initiative between ARC, EPD, GRTA and other planning partners, requiring enhanced collaboration between ARC's Land Use, Transportation, and Environmental Planning Divisions.
- Continued the refinement and application of travel demand and air quality modeling tools.

Transportation Demand Management Division

- Provided regional ridematching services to over 26,000 individual commuters and to 12 Employer Services organizations.
- Managed the Regional Guaranteed Ride Home Program and worked with Employer Services organizations to improve service levels for their clients.
- Continued to work with State Agencies to improve the strategic plan and process for providing TDM services in the region.
- Provided technical advice, contracting assistance, and contracting management support for TDM projects in the region.
- Participated in TDM-related activities by serving on the boards and committees of organizations that have the potential to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6A – LONG RANGE PLANNING

PURPOSE

ARC, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Atlanta region, is required by federal regulation to develop and maintain a long range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP must meet requirements of TEA-21 and the recently adopted federal transportation reauthorization bill SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users). This transportation plan includes actions that maintain an integrated, intermodal transportation system.

The ARC's ten (10) member counties and eight (8) limited member counties are also part of the Atlanta nonattainment areas (a 20 county area for ozone and a 20+ county area for particulate matter). The regional transportation plan must also meet the requirements the Clean Air Act Amendments and demonstrate conformity with air emission budgets and requirements for the nonattainment areas.

A major RTP update was approved in 2004 with the development of *Mobility 2030*. This \$53 billion plan update included a significant reappraisal of future funding as well as the region's transit and HOV lane strategies. The first step in development of the financially constrained RTP was development of an unconstrained "Aspirations Plan" composed over \$74 billion of projects.

Initial planning activities for development of the next RTP, *Envision 6*, began in 2005 with an assessment of the regional land use vision for future growth and a reassessment of needs. During RTP development in 2006, the Aspirations Plan's five major systems will be reassessed. Close coordination of regional transportation planning will occur in conjunction with developing the Regional Development Plan (RDP). Continued integration steps will also be taken for the new counties added to the MPO planning boundary, including understanding needs and strategies for these rapidly growing areas. Other critical 2006 RTP activities include stakeholder outreach and a reconfirmation of the regional goals. *Envision 6* final adoption is scheduled to occur in Summer 2007.

Other 2006 long-range planning tasks address critical planning areas such as bicycle and pedestrian planning, the congestion management system, safety, Title VI, and environmental justice issues. Other critical tasks will also include financial planning and legislative analysis. ARC staff will also monitor the impact of SAFETEA-LU on the current transportation planning process and adjust work efforts accordingly.

Several work activities will require consultant assistance, such as those in areas bicycle and pedestrian plan development, financial forecasting, and transit supportive-activities.

DELIVERABLES

- Update Aspirations Plan - Updated Aspirations Plan for the *Envision 6* planning process. Other activities shall include outreach with stakeholders and developing updated forecasts of federal funding based on SAFETEA-LU.
- MPO Planning Area Integration - Inclusion of the expanded planning area into the transportation planning process. Reassessment of partial county integration into MPO.
- Regional Transit Management Planning – Implementation of the conceptual agreements reached by regional leaders in the context of the Regional Transit Institutional Analysis Study. Activities in 2006 will range from drafting intergovernmental agreements to miscellaneous system-level planning efforts and other activities, as needed. ARC will undertake other regional transit planning activities as appropriate.
- Inventory of Pedestrian Facilities Around Transit – Training for local governments and transit agencies in the use of ARC developed software and inventory tools. The data from this program will be used to help identify projects for consideration in the next RTP update and future bicycle and pedestrian plan updates.
- Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update - A Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update will begin in 2006 to help continue the integration of the new counties into the regional bicycle and pedestrian planning process. The focus of the plan will include a thorough reassessment of multi-use trails crossing multiple jurisdictions and pedestrian planning focused on regional centers. The project will also help develop interactive bicycle suitability maps for the ARC website. The 18 month study will be used as input into future RTP updates.
- Planning Database and Website Enhancements – Improved and enhanced Plan-IT database designed to integrate project data and the travel demand model processes. The focus in 2006 will be working toward the integration of ARC's project databases with GDOT's database, T-PRO. ARC will continue to enhance the current TIP/RTP ArcIMS website interface and features.
- Other Critical Activities - The following activities will continue and will be incorporated into the planning process as applicable:
 - On-going update of the Congestion Management System.
 - Freight planning including conduct of a Regional Freight Study
 - Safety data analysis and refinement from crash locations in the region
 - Inclusion of Title VI and Environmental Justice issues.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination with other Transportation Planning Work Tasks is critical to the success of Long Range Planning. Other ARC Work Tasks that must be coordinated with Work Task 6A include 1A – Estimates and Forecasts and 2B – Implementation of the Regional Development Plan.

External coordination is also very important for this Work Task. Primary external coordination will be with local governments, interest groups, general public and appropriate state and federal agencies, such as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), State Road & Tollway

Authority (SRTA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other groups and agencies.

COST CENTERS

- 606ALR Long Range Planning
- 606ABP Regional Bike/Ped Plan
- 606ACM Regional Congestion Management Planning
- 606ART Regional Transit Study

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6B – PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION & MAINTENANCE

PURPOSE

The main objective of this work program task is to carry out the general coordination, administrative and management tasks essential to maintain the Atlanta Transportation Management Area. These activities are structured by federal regulations, most notably SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users), professional planning standards, and an ethic of collaborative decision-making. Specific activities include regular support to the formal transportation planning process, and management and coordination of Unified Planning Work Program activities. This work task also encompasses information management both to the public and ARC's planning partners.

DELIVERABLES

- Facilitation and support of the Transportation & Air Quality Committee and the Transportation Coordinating Committee and its subcommittees and task forces. These activities include development of annual schedules, preparation of meeting materials, preparation of meeting summaries, and other related activities.
- Implementation of the recommendations made during the 2003 Planning Process Certification Review conducted by FHWA/FTA Team as appropriate. Preparation for the conduct of the next Certification Review due by June 2007.
- Expanded tri-party Atlanta planning Memorandum of Agreement to include the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, both as a state planning partner and as a regional transit provider. Additional memoranda of agreement with GRTA and nonattainment counties defining roles and responsibilities for planning, air quality issues and transit as appropriate.
- Consideration of the expansion of the Atlanta metropolitan transportation planning boundary to include the current five partial counties in total.
- Activities related to the revision and management of the 2006 UPWP and preparation of the 2007 UPWP.
- Administer and maintain the Atlanta Region Functional Classification System.
- Contract administration of all UPWP grant, subgrant and contract documents.
- Develop and manage the Transportation Planning Division budget.
- Review and comment on local comprehensive plans, Developments of Regional Impact and other proposed actions.
- Communication with local jurisdictions regarding transportation issues and activities.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination is maintained with UPWP activities and other applicable agency activities and all other Element 6 activities.

External coordination is also very important for this Work Task. Primary external coordination will be with local governments, interest groups, general public and appropriate state and federal agencies, such as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Federal Highway

Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other groups and agencies.

COST CENTERS

- 606BAM UPWP Management & Coordination

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6C – SHORT RANGE PLANNING

PURPOSE

Short range planning of transportation involves facilitating access to employment, other destinations, and goods and services in the near future while working toward meeting federal air quality standards. Pursuant to the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), short range planning involves working cooperatively to identify, select and prioritize transportation projects to be included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which must cover a minimum of four fiscal years. Emphasis is placed on integrating the recommendations of special studies, the ongoing work of various committees, task forces and planning teams, and other initiatives into the TIP in a timely manner.

The TIP must demonstrate how limited financial resources will be applied to increase the capability of the regional system to efficiently move people and goods without leading to further degradation of the region's air quality. The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 require that the TIP conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for attaining and maintaining national air quality standards

Short range planning also includes:

- On-call local government transportation planning assistance as shown in Work Task 6F.
- Developing new and maintaining existing transportation demand management (TDM) programs aimed at reducing commuter traffic congestion and improving air quality as shown in Work Task 6G.
- Refinement and monitoring of the Congestion Management System (CMS) as shown in Work Task 6H.
- Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of transportation projects.
- Management of a project planning and reporting database.
- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) and Management and Operations (M&O) planning initiatives.
- Safety planning initiatives.
- Coordination with the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program.
- Coordination with GIS initiatives.

DELIVERABLES

- Administrative changes to the FY 2005-2010 TIP as necessary.
- An adopted FY 2006-2011 TIP in early 2006. Develop and process administrative changes to the TIP as necessary.
- A revised TIP project submittal form and evaluation criteria in anticipation of development of a FY 2008-2013 TIP in 2007 in conjunction with the *Envision 6* RTP. Conversion of the submittal form to a web-based application will be explored.
- The *Breaking Ground in 2006* report on project implementation.

- Review and reconciliation of data contained in ARC and GDOT project databases on an ongoing basis.
- Guidance for access management plan requirements for Q23-funded roadway capacity projects through participation in early concept meetings with GDOT and local project sponsors.
- A coordinated process to award circulator shuttle operating assistance among eligible systems using CMAQ funds. Development of this process will be coordinated with GRTA.
- Participation in ITS and Management & Operations groups such as the Regional Traffic Operations Task Force, the Traffic Incident Management Enhancement Task Force (TIME), and a possible new standing ITS/M&O Committee.
- A web-based crash analysis tool (pending AMPO grant).
- Refined transportation ArcIMS site integrated with other agency mapping applications.
- Bimonthly *Transportation Spotlight* electronic newsletter.

PARTNERSHIPS

Short range planning activities are performed within the context of the comprehensive long range planning and clean air initiatives. Internal coordination is maintained with the Regional Transportation Plan and all special studies being conducted by the Transportation Planning Division. Regular coordination also occurs with the Policy and Intermodal Planning, Model Application and Travel Demand Model Development functional groups within the Transportation Planning Division on issues which impact current and potential new TIP projects. Land Use, TDM, Research, Environmental Planning, GIS, Communications, Government Affairs and Aging Services are other divisions whose initiatives have direct affects on short range planning work tasks. Short range planning coordinates education and public information activities with regional economic development, regional leadership and training resource center goals and activities.

External coordination is also very important for this work task. Primary external coordination will be with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) and other transit service providers, Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), municipal and county governments, community improvement districts, transportation management associations, advocacy groups, neighborhood planning units, business organizations and other special interests.

COST CENTERS

- 606CTP Short Range Planning

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6D - TRAVEL SURVEYS, MODELS & ANALYSIS

PURPOSE

This Work Program provides for the continual enhancement of the travel demand models used to forecast regional travel demand and mobile source emissions used for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The models are a series of complex and integrated computer and mathematical programs used to analyze the impact of major transportation improvements on travel and development patterns, as well as the effect on mobile source emissions levels for the nonattainment region. The development of these tools requires significant data collection on travel behavior and patterns, and continued enhancement of the tools used to estimate vehicle emissions for air quality modeling. These models are integrated with the development of socio-economic forecasts. The application of the models will be used to forecast travel demand and associated transportation emissions to support activities of the Atlanta Region transportation planning program, air quality planning and RTP update activities.

This Work Program also includes providing technical assistance to local governments on travel demand and emissions modeling as described in Work Program 6F.

Consultant assistance will continue to be required in the areas of model enhancement and development.

DELIVERABLES

- Complete model applications and apply them for 20-county geographic area to address the requirements of the expanded Atlanta transportation planning area and the Atlanta nonattainment areas for ozone and PM2.5. This will include defining and finalizing the geography, collecting base year socio-economic data, determining how future socio-economic forecasts will be prepared, obtaining other needed data such as external station counts and daily traffic counts, evaluating existing travel demand networks for potential incorporation, and calibrating the expanded model.
- An enhanced model including calibration and validation of the travel demand model and refinement of mobile source emissions model to incorporate MOBILE6 and integration and coordination with the freight planning study.
- Incorporation of new applicable data into the modeling process at appropriate points in the process, such as the results of the freight management study which will include a commercial vehicle survey.
- Enhanced commercial vehicle component of regional travel demand model.
- Performance measures to allow evaluation of transportation plan and program performance over time.
- Modeling and evaluation to support proposed RTP/TIP amendments; subarea, intermodal and corridor studies; and various GDOT, GRTA, MARTA and local government preliminary engineering, Environmental Impact Statements and traffic requests.

- Technical refinement of Plan-IT and other interfaces between the transportation networks and databases and the ARC Geographic Information System (GIS) which enhances mapping and analysis capabilities.
- The annual Transportation Factbook.
- Quarterly Model Users Group Meetings.
- Integration of the mode choice model enhancements into the overall regional model stream, and fully test its implementation.
- Development of tour-based and activity-based modeling techniques, including the early deployment of the population synthesizer, as a parallel track to the 4-step process, and further test the future capabilities and feasibilities of implementation.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination will be closely coordinated with the following Element 6 Work Programs: Long Range Planning, Short Range Planning, Management Systems, Special Studies / Projects, and Air Quality Planning.

The GIS linkage of the transportation networks will be coordinated with the Support Services Department activities.

External coordination is also very important for this Work Task. Primary external coordination will be with local governments, interest groups, general public and appropriate state and federal agencies, such as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), State Road & Tollway Authority, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other groups and agencies.

COST CENTERS

- 606DMD Model Support
- 606DM1 Travel Demand Modeling
- 506DM1 Travel Demand Modeling
- 606DM2 Travel Demand Modeling
- 606DMX Travel Surveys

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6E - AIR QUALITY PLANNING

PURPOSE

Transportation conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments are linked to transportation planning through surface transportation reauthorization legislation. The essence of transportation conformity is that, in areas failing to meet federal standards for air quality such as the Atlanta Region, transportation plans and programs are required to be in conformance with the transportation provisions of the state's air quality plan (State Implementation Plan – SIP), which demonstrates how the state will meet the standards.

In recent years, conformity determinations have been made by US DOT in consultation with US EPA as follows:

- July 25, 2000 on *Transportation Solutions for a New Century*, the 2025 RTP and FY 2001-2003 TIP
- November 28, 2001 on the FY 2002-2004 TIP
- January 7, 2003 on the 2025 RTP Update and associated FY 2003-2005 TIP
- December 21, 2004 on *Mobility 2030*, the 2030 RTP and FY 2005-2010 TIP

The December 2004 conformity determination was performed against both the one-hour and eight-hour ozone standards and supported not only the ARC's 2030 RTP but the long range transportation plan of the new Gainesville Hall MPO as well. A conformity determination under the new PM2.5 standard must be made by April 5, 2006, in order to meet the federal deadline.

During 2006, it will be necessary to ensure that the RTP and TIP maintain conformity under the revised eight-hour ozone standard and the new PM2.5 standard.

Under this Work Task, policies and technical tools relative to air quality planning and analysis will continue to be developed and refined.

DELIVERABLES

- Conformity analysis and documentation for the PM2.5 standard as well as the parallel conformity analysis of the eight-hour ozone standard for the 2030 RTP (update) and FY 2006-2011 TIP in early 2006.
- Continued conformity under the PM2.5 standard and eight-hour ozone standard if the transportation plan or TIP is updated or amended.
- Investigation and evaluation of new mobile source emission control measures, as necessary.
- Facilitation of the TransAQ Team (an interagency team with membership from ARC, EPD, GDOT and GRTA), as needed.
- Outreach and education to new counties affected by 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 nonattainment area designations.
- Participation in State CMAQ Partner process to prioritize projects for CMAQ funding in the region.

- Support to the interagency consultation process required by the Clean Air Act.
- Implement recommendations from the following studies as appropriate:
 - GRTA/EPD Atlanta Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Inventory and Emissions Study
 - NASA Urban Heat Island Study
- Research possible implementation of managed lane (pricing) strategies in the Atlanta area, to include review of travel modeling techniques needed to estimate impact on travel demand and emissions. Continue to stay involved in local and/or state initiatives involving value or congestion pricing, including but not limited to continued involvement in SRTA pricing studies and the proposed Value Pricing Pilot Program.
- Facilitate integration of health impact assessment into transportation planning process through Multimodal Corridor Studies. Present results of work to ARC committees and the Environmental Justice Group as needed.
- Participate in TRB's Transportation Air Quality Committee to include presentation on PM2.5 conformity analysis at annual TRB conference, January 2006.
- Participate in AMPO's Technical, Air Quality and Policy Committees, as needed.

PARTNERSHIPS

Air quality analysis is performed in coordination with the Long and Short Range Planning Work Tasks, as well as Travel Surveys, Models and Analysis, Local Government Assistance, Special Studies / Projects.

External coordination is also very important for this Work Task. Primary external coordination will be with local governments, interest groups, general public and appropriate state and federal agencies, such as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other groups and agencies.

COST CENTERS

- 606EAQ Air Quality Planning

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6F - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

PURPOSE

ARC staff provides planning assistance to local governments. The nature of this assistance ranges from participating in locally sponsored transportation studies and comprehensive plan updates to providing targeted technical services, data and information on local based planning issues that have region wide implications. Technical services include support for project evaluations and traffic impact analysis.

As several ARC planning partners have developed travel demand models for their jurisdictions, ARC provides technical assistance on travel demand modeling to ensure the consistency of the local structure and data inputs with the regional model. ARC also relies on planning partners to periodically review and verify the portions of the regional model applicable to their jurisdiction.

DELIVERABLES

- Provide local governments with traffic and transit forecasts from the regional model as well as land use and socioeconomic information to assist with project impact evaluations.
- Prepare networks and produce traffic assignments as needed for local government special studies or requests.
- Coordinate the development of local government's travel demand models with the regional model.
- Provide local governments with information regarding implications of existing and proposed legislation and regulations on transportation process, policy and financing.
- Serve as liaison planners to local governments by participating in local government studies and transportation program development.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination is required within the Element 6, Transportation Planning.

External coordination is also very important for this Work Task. Primary external coordination will be with local governments, interest groups, general public and appropriate state and federal agencies, such as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other groups and agencies.

COST CENTERS

- 606FLG Local Government Assistance

ELEMENT 6 – TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6G – TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Work Program is to increase the use of commute options, such as carpooling, vanpooling, biking, walking, transit, and teleworking in the area designated as non-attainment for air quality under the Clean Air Act. To accomplish this, the TDM Division will provide regional services to individuals and employer service organizations that support and facilitate an increase in the use of commute options among residents and employees in the Atlanta region. Increasing the use of alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel is intended to reduce the rate of growth in the daily vehicle miles traveled, to decrease the rate of growth in traffic congestion, and to contribute to improving air quality in the designated non-attainment area.

DELIVERABLES

- Regional Ridematching services to individuals and TDM employer service organizations. Maintain a capability to accept applications by toll-free hotline, on-line registration (from email via website), telefax or surface mail.
- Complete a comprehensive validation process to verify and maintain the accuracy of information in the regional rideshare database on a continual basis.
- Maintain an on-line, real-time matching capability.
- Administer an employer-based Regional Guaranteed Ride Home Program that provides an emergency ride home for users of alternative transportation at no cost to the commuter.
- Continue leadership role in regional TDM strategic planning, policy development, and regional stakeholder cooperation.
- Develop TDM programs, in conjunction with the TDM community, in support of approved TDM strategies aimed at increasing carpools, vanpools, transit use, bicycling, or walking, and submit projects as part of the regional planning process.
- Provide technical advice, contracting assistance and contract management support for new and existing transportation demand management programs that seek to improve transportation efficiency at the local and regional levels.
- Collect information, convert available data, and report air quality benefits in support of partners in the Atlanta region.
- Represent ARC on boards, committees and organizations which have the potential to create a synergistic effect in support of mitigating traffic congestion and improving air quality.
- Support other TDM-related tasks, as dictated by regional needs and goals, provided funding is adequate and available to support the additional requirements.

PARTNERSHIPS

ARC's TDM Division works closely with Georgia Department of Transportation, Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, Georgia Environmental Protection Agency, eight Transportation Management Associations, The Clean Air Campaign, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, ARC leadership, transit providers, transportation vendors, educational

institutions, chambers of commerce, the national Association for Commuter Transportation, TDM consultants, and a wide spectrum of business, environmental, civic, and citizen interest groups.

COST CENTERS

- 606GCC Commute Connections
- 606GES Employer Services Program

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6H - MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

PURPOSE

Transportation management systems are processes that provide systematic information for decision-makers on transportation asset and infrastructure condition and transportation system performance. The results are to be the identification and implementation of strategies, policies, plans and project selection that promote the preservation and efficient use of the existing transportation system, improve safety, alleviate congestion and enhance the mobility of people and goods.

This Work Task includes the maintenance and application activities for the federally required Congestion Management System (CMS). The process identifies appropriate congestion mitigation strategies that focus on improving transportation system efficiency, and providing modal choice alternatives to single-occupant vehicles.

The 1999 update of the Congestion Management System concluded in January 2000. In 2001, a data collection activity to update the CMS was performed and in each year since, the CMS was again updated. The CMS will be continuously maintained and used as a tool in the identification and evaluation of projects for the RTP and TIP. Consultant assistance will be required with Congestion Management System monitoring and update.

This Work Task also includes coordination of planning activities in support of any other optional management systems maintained by the Georgia Department of Transportation (Safety, Bridge, Pavement, Public Transportation and Intermodal), and for any data collection activities necessary to support the maintenance of the CMS, transportation control measures (TCMs) monitoring for air quality planning and system monitoring for performance measures and benchmarking.

DELIVERABLES

- Apply the CMS and other management systems data in the project identification and selection process as needed in support of RTP and TIP updates or amendments. Also apply CMS information in other short-term planning initiatives such as special studies.
- Coordinate data collection activities as necessary to support CMS activities, TCM development and evaluation and system performance.
- Maintain, monitor and update the CMS. This process will include an updated ranking of all facilities in the region identified as congested with particular attention dedicated to how the definition should vary in activity centers, documentation of the ranking methodology, identification of an updated Congestion Monitoring Network, and associated GIS files and documentation.
- Integrate the data into the CMS project evaluation process as it becomes available from planning partners such as from NaviGator, GDOT's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), MARTA's Intelligent Transit System (ITS) and GDOT's Skycomp.
- Integrate recommendations of the Governor's Congestion Mitigation Task Force, as appropriate, into the regional planning process and the identification of congestion relief projects.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination is maintained with the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program and all special studies being conducted by the Transportation Planning Division. Regular coordination also occurs with the Policy and Intermodal Planning, Model Application and Travel Demand Model Development functional groups within the Transportation Planning Division on issues which impact current and potential congestion relief projects. TDM, Research, GIS and Communications are other divisions whose initiatives have direct affects on CMS work tasks.

External coordination is also very important for this work task. Primary external coordination will be with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) and other transit service providers, Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD), State Road & Tollway Authority (SRTA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), municipal and county governments, community improvement districts, transportation management associations, advocacy groups, neighborhood planning units, business organizations and other special interests.

COST CENTERS

- 606HCM Management Systems
- 506HCS Congestion Management System Update
- 606HCS Congestion Management System Update

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6I - SPECIAL STUDIES & PROJECTS

PURPOSE

ARC provides assistance to local governments, transit agencies, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority and groups with interests in transportation issues through conduct or participation in various planning studies and projects as part of the Special Studies Work Program. These Special Studies support the ongoing development and refinement of the long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the short-range Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

This Work Program is coordinated with ARC's ongoing mission to develop a regional, integrated multi-modal transportation system as called for by the latest federal transportation bill Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

Included within this Work Task are projects that, because magnitude or funding source, fall outside the routine transportation planning scope, such as those High Priority Projects identified in TEA-21 and now SAFETEA-LU for which ARC will be designated to have a lead role.

DELIVERABLES

Special Studies to be conducted by ARC

- **Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Coordination & Implementation** – Since the development of the LCI program in 2000, ARC has provided technical support and guidance to project sponsors for the LCI Program. This element helps provide resources for ARC to manage the implementation program for transportation projects programmed from LCI studies. These critical coordination and implementation activities shall continue in 2006.
- **Multimodal Transportation Corridor Studies** – This program was initially identified in the *Mobility 2030* RTP approved in 2004. Initial selection of the first year of studies began in 2005. ARC will lead these studies, in cooperation with the Georgia DOT and local jurisdictions, to further a thorough alternative analysis on chosen corridors by taking into account the need for major transportation investments, environmental issues, economic development and land use planning. The Tara Boulevard and Buford Highway corridor studies will be on-going in 2006 and are planned to be completed in 2007. Study recommendations shall be considered in the next RTP update in 2007. Additional corridors will be identified in 2006 and studies initiated.
- **Regional Freight Mobility Plan** – The study will look in detail at each freight mode (trucking, rail and air cargo) and the linkages between modes. The study will also address land use, economic development and community impact. In 2005, ARC and GDOT cooperatively developed an RFP and selected a consultant firm to conduct the study. Significant work activities are planned for 2006 including understanding the region's freight movements and characteristics. The data collected will supplement the freight and truck component of the travel demand model. Project completion is scheduled for 2007. Study findings and recommendations shall be used in the update of the next RTP.

- Southern Regional Transportation Accessibility Study – In 2004, the region’s transportation plan identified the need to conduct a multi-county study for the southern part of the region due to rapid growth. The travel patterns and lack of east-west mobility are two of many issues to be analyzed so that a comprehensive set of strategies can be identified and considered in the next RTP update. ARC and GDOT cooperatively developed an RFP and selected a consultant in 2005 to conduct this study. Initial planning activities occurred in 2005 with significant public involvement and technical activities planned in 2006. Final deliverables for the project will be completed in 2007.
- I-285 Transit Corridor AA and DEIS –The locally preferred alternative was adopted by ARC in 2003 and the Alternatives Analysis was completed in 2004. ARC staff will provide support during the development of the draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2006.
- Regional Transit Institutional Analysis – Begun in 2004, this 18-month project analyzed the existing institutional arrangements in the Atlanta region that govern the way transit services are planned, delivered, and coordinated, comparing the structure to regions of similar size and composition. Comparisons were presented to the leadership of the region along with the opportunity to speak with experts in the field. A strategic plan for carrying out these changes was developed and is being reviewed in 2005. ARC plans to complete final activities associated with this study by early 2006.
- Walkable Community Workshops Program – ARC began implementation of the successful Walkable Community Workshop Program in 2003. In 2006, additional workshops will help local officials, municipal engineers and planners, school districts, transit authority representatives and neighborhood and business associations identify needs and strategies to improve the quality of life in regional communities. The primary focus is to generate hands-on solutions to local problems of walkability. Results of the workshops will be used in the RTP in 2007 and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan update in 2006 to help identify future transportation projects.
- SR 6 (Camp Creek Parkway / Thornton Road / C.H. James) Corridor Study – *Mobility 2030* identified Thornton Road as a critical need for continued study in future planning efforts. The Thornton Road Corridor Study will begin in 2006. The purpose of the study is to identify critical corridor needs and identify solutions to corridor mobility challenges. This multi-county study will take approximately 18 months to complete. Significant planning activities will occur in 2006, including public involvement and assessment of needs.

Special studies to be conducted by planning partners with ARC facilitation

- County Transportation Plan (CTP) Program – The *Mobility 2030* RTP, approved in 2004, identifies supporting development of county transportation plans as a regional objective to improve the identification of needs and priorities. This program helps fund county-level comprehensive transportation plans in the Atlanta region. In 2005, ARC funded the first round of county transportation plans. Additional county plans will be funded in 2006 and 2007. CTPs are expected to take approximately 18 months to complete. The results from these plans will be used to help update future RTPs.
- DeKalb County Comprehensive Transportation Plan – This study, begun in 2003, provides funding for DeKalb County to develop a county-wide comprehensive transportation plan. Draft recommendations were provided in 2005 with plan completion expected in early 2006.
- Effective Cycling Program - This program provides funding in 2005-2006 to the Atlanta Bicycle Campaign (ABC) to train and certify instructors, to implement an outreach program to

promote the course to the public, and to provide safe cycling courses for children and adults at locations with demonstrated demand for such courses.

- Henry County and Paulding County Transit Plans – This program provides funding to Henry and Paulding Counties to enable their development of county transit plans.
- Walk to School Initiative - This is a program of Pedestrians Educating Drivers on Safety, Inc. (PEDS) and addresses the need in metro Atlanta to increase the number of children, supervised by adults, who walk or ride a scooter or bicycle to school. The Walk to School Initiative seeks to overcome barriers that prevent children from walking to school by changing attitudes to favor walking, putting more adult eyes on the street, engaging children in efforts to educate drivers about children's need for safe streets, and empowering communities to advocate successfully for safer routes to school. Funding is provided in 2006 and 2007 to help support the program.
- Johns Creek Greenway Transportation Master Plan - This project began in 2005 to develop a Master Plan for the Johns Creek community. Project activities will continue into 2006.
- Downtown Atlanta Parking Management Plan - This project begins in 2006, targeting Downtown Atlanta's employers. The objective is to create an environment that supports greater use of transit, vanpools, carpools, flexible work schedules, as well as bicycle and pedestrian access. Strategies may include variable parking charges, an area-wide parking cash-out program, a parking and transit information program, and preferential parking for carpool and vanpool patrons.
- SR 14 Spur (South Fulton Parkway) Access Management Plan - This project is scheduled to begin in 2006 and will develop an access management plan to provide guidance for access to South Fulton Parkway. This plan will utilize accepted engineering standards to address the frequency and spacing of intersecting streets and private driveways; the location, spacing, and coordination (for progressive two-way traffic flow) of existing and future traffic signals; the location and design of acceleration/ deceleration and turning lanes; provision of median barriers, channelization, or other turning movement controls; minimum sight distance requirements; and corner clearance requirements.

PARTNERSHIPS

This Work Program will be coordinated with the Long and Short Range Planning Work Tasks. Overall activities will also be coordinated with GDOT, transit operators, local governments and private interests. For special studies conducted by ARC, consultant support will be used.

COST CENTERS

- | | |
|----------|--|
| • 306ILC | Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Coordination & Implementation |
| • 306IL2 | Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Coordination & Implementation |
| • 506ICS | Multimodal Transportation Corridor Studies |
| • 506IFS | Regional Freight Mobility Plan |
| • 506IRS | Southern Regional Transportation Accessibility Study |
| • 406ITM | Regional Transit Management Plan |
| • 506ICP | County Transportation Plan (CTP) Program |
| • 606ICP | County Transportation Plan (CTP) Program |
| • 306IDP | DeKalb County Comprehensive Transportation Plan |

- 506IBK Effective Cycling Program
- 506IPH Henry County Transit Plan
- 506IPC Paulding County Transit Plan
- 606IWS Walk to School Initiative
- 606ITR SR 6 / Thornton Road Corridor Study
- 406IJK Johns Creek Greenway Transportation Master Plan
- 606IPS Downtown Atlanta Parking Management Plan
- 606IAM SR 14 Spur (South Fulton Parkway) Access Management Plan

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6J - TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PURPOSE

Public involvement is an integral part of the transportation planning process as defined in SAFETEA-LU. The framework for the Atlanta Regional Commission's transportation-related public involvement activities is outlined in the *Atlanta Region Transportation Public Involvement Plan* (TPIP), which underwent a major update in 2002. The revised TPIP includes a feedback mechanism for public comments and a process to evaluate the effectiveness of the public involvement activities.

ARC continues to support and provide resources to build the capacity of Public Involvement Advisory Group (PIAG). Established in 1999, the objectives of this group are to create a network for public involvement activities in the region, share public involvement techniques, help to create the Citizen's Guide to Transportation Planning, help prepare for RTP and TIP public meetings, and ensure Title VI and Environmental Justice guidance for public involvement is followed.

Public involvement and outreach activities will continue to focus on transportation planning in general, updates of the Transportation Improvement Program, as well as needed updates to the Regional Transportation Plan. Public outreach also occurs for other mode and corridor studies. Efforts will also continue to inform in the transportation planning process as well as maintain an active, staff-level speakers bureau.

Activities conducted under this transportation work activity will be coordinated and meshed with the activities of the agency-wide public involvement program conducted under Subelement 21P to assure an efficient, comprehensive agency public involvement program.

DELIVERABLES

- Updated Transportation Public Involvement Plan (TPIP).
- Public outreach activities in support of RTP and TIP updates or amendments, and coordination with the RDP and current transportation planning studies and planning activities such as the County Comprehensive Transportation Plan Assistance Program.
- Expand effectiveness of the Public Involvement Advisory Group and the Georgia Chapter of the International Association of Public Participation.
- Expanded public comment and feedback mechanisms.
- Public Comment Reports giving outreach results.
- Annual Evaluation of Public Involvement Activities.
- Outreach activities including focus groups, listening sessions, speaking engagements, and public meetings.
- Expanded distribution of citizen materials in additional appropriate venues.
- Updated transportation activities on the ARC web site.
- Environmental Justice outreach and feedback activities.
- Surveys and opinion polls to get statistically significant feedback.

- Improved coordination in educating the public on the connections between transportation, land use and population/economic growth estimates as well as other areas of the agency.

PARTNERSHIPS

This Work Program will primarily require coordination with the Long and Short Range Planning Work Tasks. Additionally, coordination will be required with the TCC, TAQC, other committees as appropriate, ARC Board and ARC planning partners regarding public meetings and hearings, public comments and ARC response.

COST CENTERS

- 606JPI Transportation Public Involvement

ELEMENT 6 - TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

6K - JOB ACCESS

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Job Access and Reverse Commute program is to improve access to jobs for low-income individuals and welfare recipients making the transition from welfare to work and to assist the general public in accessing suburban jobs. The program is inclusive of maintaining multi-agency community partnerships and a human services/transportation collaborative planning process to facilitate the development of services linking people with jobs in major employment centers and other employment related services. ARC has been the recipient of these funds in the Atlanta region. Continuation is subject to additional federal funding.

DELIVERABLES

- Administration and implementation of the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program grant and subgrants.
- Continue applications for additional expansion funding from the Federal Transit Administration.
- Maintain a public involvement process and a collaborative communication mechanism through the Job Access Transportation Coalition.

COST CENTERS

- 206GCS Job Access Planning & Implementation

Community Partnerships

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 7
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Direct Federal Grants	-	0.0%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	80,000	21.7%
State and Local Match	-	0.0%
ARC Required Match	20,000	5.4%
ARC Supplemental Funding	135,806	36.8%
Private Sector Funding	-	0.0%
Enterprise Fund Income	133,000	36.1%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$368,806	100.0%
Expenses by Work Program Titles		
07A Regional Leadership	201,004	54.5%
07B Community Choices	100,003	27.1%
07C Model Atlanta Regional Commission	1,500	0.4%
07E Regional Goals	66,299	18.0%
Total Expenses	\$368,806	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	98,537	26.7%
Contracts	98,000	26.6%
Equipment	-	0.0%
Misc. Operating	109,189	29.6%
Travel	3,098	0.8%
Rent & Related	8,023	2.2%
Computer Services	11,589	3.1%
Indirects	40,370	10.9%
Subgrants and Participants	-	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$368,806	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 7 – COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

MISSION

Positively affect community change in the Atlanta region by convening diverse regional leadership and facilitating discussions about issues critical to continued regional prosperity. This includes local government staff, elected officials, appointed citizen planners, school district elected and appointed officials and civic and business leaders. Community representatives will be brought together a number of different times in a variety of venues and formats. The objective is to encourage collaboration and to connect and enhance resources of the region to develop a sustainable community.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

- Rapid growth in the Atlanta region is accompanied by both opportunity and challenge.
- Challenges of growth and the tools available to deal with those challenges are becoming increasingly complex.
- The complexity of the issues and challenges also requires decision makers to spend more time on single issues that are often occurring in a single geographic area.
- The Atlanta Regional Commission is committed to encouraging community building through the development of innovative and constructive partnerships between different sectors and interests to promote progress toward sustainability and successful communities.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Design, plan and implement the 2006 LINK trip.
- Design, plan and implement the 2006 Regional Leadership Institute.
- Develop Phase 2 of the Community Choices Local Government Implementation program.
- Design, plan and implement training courses on community planning challenges through the Community Choices program including an economic development class, water class and impact fee class.
- Conduct research and write the fourth annual Platforms for Progress report including a special section with in depth information and research on an area specifically within ARC's purview.
- Continue facilitating the Schools and Communities forum to promote communication and cooperation between school systems and local governments.
- Enhance the CREATE Community local government awards program.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 7A Regional Leadership
- 7B Community Choices
- 7E Regional Goals

ELEMENT 7A – COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

7A – REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

PURPOSE

Leadership is the critical link in making a good community a great community. Informed and committed leaders can serve as the catalyst to transform problems into innovations and to provide vision and action. ARC offers a wide variety of leadership and education programs that prepare today's and tomorrow's leaders with tools and training to meet the region's challenges. This element provides support for the planning and operations of the Regional Leadership Institute (RLI), the LINK regional visits program, Model Atlanta Regional Commission, State of the Region breakfast and other civic engagement programs.

DELIVERABLES

- Design, plan and conduct the 2006 Regional Leadership Institute.
- Conduct follow up meetings with the 2005 Regional Leadership Institute class.
- Design, plan and conduct the 2006 LINK program.
- Enhance sponsorship program for RLI and LINK that offsets ARC staff time for program development, trip planning and trip operations.
- Develop a scholarship program for RLI that helps offset the cost for regional leaders who would not otherwise have the opportunity to participate
- Design, plan and conduct the 2005 – 2006 MARC programs.
- Produce the 2006 State of the Region breakfast.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Regional Leadership subelement is a partnership between various Divisions within ARC. Internal partners include Transportation Planning, Aging Services, Land Use Planning, Environmental Planning, Communications and Workforce Development. External partners include the Regional Leadership Forum, Regional Business Coalition, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and other city, county and community leaders.

COST CENTERS

- 607AP RLI Planning
- 607AO RLI Operation
- 607AL LINK
- 607AC State of the Region
- 607 MARC

ELEMENT 7 – COMMUNITY CHOICES

7B – COMMUNITY CHOICES

PURPOSE

Community Choices is an agency wide quality growth initiative that seeks to provide a broad range of resources, tools and services to assist local governments, citizens, business, community and nonprofit leaders design communities to suit their needs. Resources such as education, training, outreach, tools and personalized technical assistance will develop and build necessary partnerships as well as successful communities.

DELIVERABLES

- Enhance outreach and education about quality growth concepts by revising all material to directly address local government needs and challenges
- Work with local government elected officials to provide assistance that will encourage *implementation* of quality growth concepts
- Meet regularly with internal staff to plan for and collaborate on Community Choices projects.
- Continue to attend community and local government meetings and forums to provide updates about the Community Choices initiatives including new events and tools.

PARTNERSHIPS

This initiative requires collaboration with all internal departments and divisions of ARC. External partnerships are required with the 71 ARC local governments and the 40 GQGP member organizations and associations.

COST CENTERS

- 607BA Community Choices

ELEMENT 7 – COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

7E – REGIONAL GOALS

PURPOSE

In the past decade over one million people have relocated to the Atlanta region because it offers a high quality of life. In order to take advantage of this growth while simultaneously sustaining a high quality of life for all, it is time for the region to conduct a self-examination. **“Platforms for Progress – Atlanta Regional Goals for Today...Indicators of Tomorrow”** involves the development of regional goals and successful community indicators to provide the region with a clear idea of where we want to go and annual progress reports to let us know how well we are doing in getting there. Goals were developed through a series of focus groups held during the Summer of 2002 and a statistically significant survey of the region conducted in the Fall of 2002.

DELIVERABLES

- Conduct research on 41 indicators to track the region’s progress toward achieving regional goals set out in the *Platforms for Progress* report.
- Form and regularly meet with an indicators advisory committee.
- Develop and conduct a formal outreach plan targeted toward high level decision makers build support for the Platforms for Progress initiative.
- Write and publish the second progress report to be distributed at the State of the Region Breakfast
- Evaluate and enhance the local government CREATE Community awards process

PARTNERSHIPS

This project requires inter-agency collaboration to ensure it enhances the existing planning work of ARC. External partners include Universities that may provide valuable resources including the University of Georgia, Georgia tech and Georgia State University. In addition to the primary regional-decision making agencies and other organizations that have undertaken similar efforts such as the Regional Leadership Foundation, Research Atlanta, the Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Regional Business Coalition, GRTA and United Way.

COST CENTERS

- 607EP Regional Goals

Aging Services

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 8
AGING SERVICES**

		Percent of Total	
Revenues			
Direct Federal Grants	212,500	1.1%	
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	16,707,090	89.4%	
State and Local Match	765,976	4.1%	
ARC Required Match	291,380	1.6%	
ARC Supplemental Funding	163,050	0.9%	
Private Sector Funding	-	0.0%	
Enterprise Fund Income	181,000	1.0%	
Other Revenue	368,480	2.0%	
Total Revenues	\$18,689,476	100.0%	
Expenses by Work Program Titles			
08A Older Americans Act & SSBG	9,595,568	51.3%	
08B State Funded Programs	4,751,678	25.4%	
08C Community Care Services Program	3,680,136	19.7%	
08D Enterprise Projects	179,003	1.0%	
08E Special Projects	444,507	2.4%	
08F Area Plan on Aging	38,584	0.2%	
Total Expenses	\$18,689,476	100.0%	
Salary and Benefits	2,707,381	14.5%	
Contracts	332,912	1.8%	
Equipment	9,100	0.0%	
Misc. Operating	117,425	0.6%	
Travel	15,262	0.1%	
Rent & Related	217,854	1.2%	
Computer Services	204,754	1.1%	
Indirects	1,120,892	6.0%	
Subgrants and Participants	13,963,896	74.7%	
Total Expenses	\$18,689,476	100.0%	

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

MISSION

The mission of this element is the development and implementation of a comprehensive and coordinated "continuum of care" service delivery system for older persons within the planning and service area. Focus is placed on the availability of community services which provide a choice in supported living arrangements and social and health care assistance with emphasis on independence and individual initiative in the planning and managing of one's own life. Additionally, attention is being given to increasing awareness of the implications of an aging society and assisting communities in becoming "age friendly".

Designated the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by DHR, ARC works toward this mission through planning, developing, implementing and coordinating programs to meet the diverse needs of the region's older adults, their families and their caregivers. A majority of the activity is funded through grants received through the Department of Human Resources including the Older Americans Act, the Social Services Block Grant, the Home and Community Based Services Program (HCBS) and the Community Care Services Project (CCSP). ARC does not provide direct services, but contracts with county-based agencies and specialized agencies to deliver direct services.

The Aging Division is also responsible for a number of initiatives funded by both public and private sources. Initiatives include providing the region's aging and long-term care information and referral service through the AgeWise Connection; managing CONNECT, the statewide provider database; administering the CCSP and the CCSP intake and screening process; providing intake and screening services for the SOURCE program; providing health insurance and prescription drug counseling through *GeorgiaCares*; marketing the ESP Aging and Long Term Care database to businesses, health and social services agencies; marketing the ESP software to state departments, AAAs and local agencies outside Georgia; managing the older refugee program; developing caregiver services, including the publication of the Georgia Generations magazine and the convening of CareNet, a faith-based coalition; managing the Medicare Fraud Project under a direct grant with AOA; overseeing advocacy activities in the region including Senior Week, COAGE and the Aging Services Advisory Group; Special initiatives also include the development of Kinship resource centers, an intergenerational "Grand Teens" project linking trained teenagers with older adults needing assistance with tasks around the house; "Mapping Your Future" an initiative to reach and assist pre-retirees; health and wellness programs including exercise, nutrition counseling, cholesterol management and education and the Thanks Mom and Dad Fund. ARC continues to contract with corporate service companies to provide Elder Care Consultation and Referral Services to employees and retirees of participating businesses. Other available corporate services include employee seminars, corporate volunteer services, and special "company specific" projects.

Goals for the Aging Atlanta Project, funded by RWJ Foundation, include: (a) increasing awareness of aging issues (b) closing the gaps in long term care and supportive services (i.e. implementing Care Options); (c.) creating more flexible, affordable and locally based services for older adults, and (d) addressing the needs of under-served older adults. Through the NORC (Natural Occurring Retiring Communities) Project and working with community organizations, local governments and the business community, special initiatives focus on assisting older adults to remain independent and in their communities and "aging in place" .

Persons with developmental disabilities are living longer and aging parents caring for adults children with developmental disabilities are often faced with unexpected and overwhelming caregiving responsibilities. The AgeWise Connection information and referral service has initiated the development of a "one-stop resource center " and will continue to collaborate closely with the developmental disabilities network to respond to this need.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

The region's older population, especially those over age 55, is increasing at a far more rapid rate than the rest of the population. This rapidly growing older population is better educated, healthier, more financially secure and has more lifestyle options than ever before. In fact, early retirement and longer life expectancy have increased the average retirement life to 21 years. The aging of the baby boomers will impact all parts of society including the economy, housing, employment, education, health, social services and leisure. However, many older adults experience a decline in income when they retire and are more likely to be poor than are other adults.

Older adults use medical services to a far greater extent than the rest of the population. However, the health care system is designed to treat primarily acute illness and does not adequately address the chronic and multiple health problems experienced by most older persons. The fragmentation and disconnect between the medical care and the supportive services available through the aging network, present major barriers to older adults in need of care. Additionally, the demand for services far exceeds availability and care giving responsibilities fall primarily on family member. Consequently, employers and government policy makers are recognizing the growing care giving responsibilities placed on families and are implementing special programs to assist those in care giving roles.

The ability to pay for needed care, whether through public funds or private pay, continues to be an issue. With families less able to provide and/or pay for needed care and government funds being limited, the quality of life for individuals needing long-term care has and will continue to be affected.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Update the FY 2004-2007 Area Plan on Aging.
- Administer all federal, state and privately funded grants.
- Provide, through contract, a continuum of services to older adults and their caregivers.
- Manage the CCSP program, coordinate implementation and contract for care coordination services.
- Provide, through AgeWise Connection, information and consultation services to assist older adults and their caregivers in making informed choices.
- Provide, through the Georgia Cares Program, health insurance and prescription drug counseling.

- Implement a special outreach initiative to enroll beneficiaries eligible for Medicare prescription coverage.
- Serve as the central intake point for long term care including CCSP, SOURCE, services available through the aging network and other public and privately funded alternatives.
- Manage the Family Caregiver Support Program including the continued publication of Georgia Generations and the convening of the Care Net faith based advisory group.
- Provide Medicare/Medicaid education to beneficiaries through the Medicare Senior Patrol Project.
- Provide health and wellness services and nutrition education to improve the quality of life for older adults.
- Assist older refugees in accessing needed services.
- Implement *Aging Atlanta* funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Project to increase awareness of aging issues, close gaps in the long-term care system and creating more flexible affordable Services
- Implement NORC Projects in East Point, Toco Hills and Cheshire Bridge.
- Implement the Grand Teens Project, an intergenerational project being developed in cooperation with the American Red Cross.
- Implement a Kinship resource network for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.
- Expand AgeWise Connection to serve as the "one stop resource Center" for older adults with developmental disabilities and older parents caring for adult children with developmental disabilities.
- Expand the ESP aging and long-term care database to include resources for persons with brain and/or spinal injuries, health and wellness programs and volunteer services.
- Increase subscriptions to the ESP Aging and long term care database.
- Implement the ESP (Elder Services Program) Web Edition, a bridge between the ESP Web Edition and the DHR AIMS (Aging Information Management System) and implement the web enabled intake and screening component for CHAT (Client Health Assessment Instrument).

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 08A Older Americans Act, SSBG, and Federal Grants
- 08B State Funded Programs
- 08C Community Care Services Program
- 08D Enterprise Projects
- 08E Special Projects
- 08F Area Plan on Aging

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Prepared and distributed the 2005 Area Plan on Aging.
- Updated all federal, state and privately funded grants.
- Provided, through contracts with county based aging programs and specialized service agencies, a continuum of services to older adults.
- Monitored all programs and completed close out programmatic and fiscal reports.
- Provided consultation and referral services to older people and their families.

- Provided client intake and screening services for the CCSP, SOURCE and other long-term care and supportive services
- Managed the CCSP program and expanded coordination and provider liaison efforts.
- Provided consultation regarding health insurance and prescription coverage through the Georgia Cares Program.
- Expanded the ESP aging and long-term care database and increased subscriptions to Connect.
- Implemented the Medicare/Medicaid Watch Program
- Co-sponsored the Pro-Health Seniors Task Forces and supported activities of the subcommittees.
- Implemented "Health to Heart" a cholesterol management program, the Vial of Life" project, "Steps for Healthy Aging" and clinics through the Footcare Coalition to promote health and wellness.
- Provided "Aging Network Information Alerts" to the aging services network.
- Continued advocacy efforts through COAGE, Senior Week, the Aging Services Advisory Group and the CCSP Advisory Group.
- Implemented model projects under the Robert Wood Johnson grant project, Aging Atlanta.
- Supported county and city planning efforts to establish age friendly communities.
- Developed the Access Care Atlanta, an integrated care management project to coordinate medical services provided by a managed care organization and support services available through the aging network.
- Developed Mapping Your Future/Long Life Planning retirement planning initiatives.

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

8A - OLDER AMERICANS ACT, SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT, AND FEDERAL GRANTS

PURPOSE

This work program includes the administration of a wide range of services to adults age 60 and over as mandated by and in compliance with the Older Americans Act, the Social Services Block Grant, and other federal (i.e. Administration on Aging) grant regulations and standards. Information and referral services are provided at the Area Agency on Aging level in cooperation with the Atlanta Regional Commission's contract network. All direct services funded by the above referenced grants are provided through contract.

DELIVERABLES

- A continuum of services responsive to the needs of older adults and caregivers in the Region.
- Executed contracts for direct service delivery.
- Training and technical assistance to strengthen existing programs.
- Written findings of on-site and statistical monitoring of contracted services.
- Innovative programs, including use of other resources, to expand and enhance opportunities for both at-risk and well older adults.
- Special outreach initiatives to provide education on the Medicare Prescription Drug Program and assist low-income beneficiaries in enrolling for assistance with associated costs.
- Network training and publications.
- Detailed monthly reports outlining information regarding services delivered.
- Agewise Connection expanded to serve persons with developmental disabilities.
- Health & Wellness Programs implemented in senior centers
- An educational program to combat fraud in the Medicare/Medicaid programs.
- Support services for caregivers and grandparents raising grandchildren.
- An employment training program for low-income persons 55 years and older.

PARTNERSHIPS

ARC staff work closely with community based subcontractors, local governments, DHR Division of Aging, DCH/MA, DFCS, health related organizations, MARTA, senior enrichment programs, faith based organizations and other community service providers to insure maximum benefit from available funds and avoid duplication of effort. Internal coordination with Support Services, Transportation, Community Services, and Socio-Economic Analysis continues to benefit the aging programs region wide.

COST CENTERS

- 608/708AA1 ARC Title III Parts B, C1, and C2 Admin
- 608/708AP1 ARC Title III Program Development
- 608/708AP2 ARC Title IIIB Program Coordination
- 608/708AD I ARC Title IIIB Info & Assistance
- 608/708AX1 ARC Title IIIB Advocacy
- 608/708AR1 ARC Title IIIB Health Promotion/Wellness
- 608/708AR2 ARC Title IIID Medication Management
- 608/708ARS Title IIID Health Promotion Subcontractors
- 608/708AR3 ARC Title IIID Health Promotion/Exercise/Physical Fitness
- 608/708AR5 ARC Title IIID Health Promotion/Nutrition Education
- 608/708AS1 Title IIIB Subcontractors
- 608/708AU1 USDA/Nutrition Services Incentive Program
- 608/708AV1 ARC Title V Admin
- 608/708AE1 Title V Subcontractors
- 608/708AS2 Social Services Block Grant Subcontractors
- 608/708AS5 LTCO – Ombudsman Services Social Services Block Grant
- 608/708AM1 Administration on Aging Senior Medicare Fraud Patrol (SMFP)
- 608/708AM2 Administration on Aging State Senior Medicare Fraud Patrol (SMFP)
- 608/708AMS Administration on Aging (SMFP) Subcontractors
- 608/708AHI Georgia Cares CMS
- 608/708AEP Title VII Elder Abuse Prevention
- 608/708AO1 Title VII Ombudsman Services
- 608/708AO2 Title IIB Ombudsman Services
- 608/708ACR Title IIIE Caregiver Info & Assistance
- 608/708AS3 Title IIIE Subcontractors
- 608/708AS4 Title IIIC Subcontractors
- 608/708ADD Administration on Aging - Aging and Disabilities Resource Center
- 608/708ANC Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services - Aging and Disabilities Resource Center
- 508APA Environmental Protection Agency – Aging in Place Grant

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

8B - STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS

PURPOSE

State-funded programs support health insurance and drug prescriptions counseling (Georgia Cares) services; technical support for both the aging information and referral software (ESP) and the Community Care Services Program screening and assessment software;(CHAT) specialized services including services to individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's Disease, caregiver services, Longlife planning, health and wellness, Longterm Care Ombudsman Services, Elderly Legal Assistance; expanded home-delivered meals and transportation from Georgia's Income Tax Check-off program; and fee-for-service components to address long waiting lists from Home and Community Based Services (CBS) monies.

DELIVERABLES

- Health insurance and prescription drug counseling, with emphasis on the Medicare Prescription Drug Program
- Day care, respite services, homemaker services and home modification for older adults with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.
- Expanded home-delivered meals and transportation using income tax check-off funds.
- Expanded fee-for-service and sliding scale payment components through the state funded Non Medicaid Community Based Services Program.
- Trained volunteer Georgia Cares counselors and Medicare/Medicaid Senior Patrol Volunteers.
- Technical assistance, coordination and compliance monitoring.
- USDA reimbursement for contractors.
- Technical assistance to fee-for-service projects using CBS funds.
- Monthly and year-to-date reports.
- Data for needs assessment, planning and advocacy purposes.
- Cooperative training ventures.
- Printed materials on health care, prescription drug programs and other benefits.
- Technical assistance to operate ESP and CHAT.

PARTNERSHIPS

This work program is accomplished through partnerships with consultants, subcontractors, DHR Division of Aging, social service and faith-based organizations, and health related organizations.

COST CENTERS

- 608/708BA1 Alzheimer's Subcontractors
- 608/708BA2 Georgia Caregiver Resource Center Subcontractor
- 608/708BB1 Community Based Services Admin.
- 608/708BB2 Community Based Services Caregiver/Kinship Care
- 608/708BB3 Community Based Services Lifelong Planning
- 608/708BB5 Community Based Services Wellness Take Charge of Your Health
- 608/708BC1 Community Based Services Subcontractor
- 608/708BC2 Community Based Services Alzheimer Services Subcontractor
- 608/708BC3 Community Based Services Caregiver/Kinship Care Subcontractor
- 608/708BC4 Community Based Services Elderly Legal Assistance Provider Subcontractor
- 608/708BC5 Community Based Services Long Term Care Ombudsman Program Subcontractor
- 608/708BHP Community Based Services Health Promotion
- 608/708BO1 LTCO State Supplemental
- 608/708BT1 Income Tax Check Off
- 608/708BH1 Community Based Services GA Cares
- 608/708BH1 GA Cares Rx Assistance State
- 608BCE Senior Employment Caregiver Support

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

8C - COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The Community Care Services Program provides community-based services as an alternative to nursing home care for persons who are functionally impaired and meet the medical and financial eligibility requirements of the Georgia Medicaid Program.

DELIVERABLES

- Intake and screening service for CCSP.
- Management of CCSP waiting list
- Care Coordination services to CCSP clients via contract.
- CCSP service benefit dollars paying for approved services.
- Coordinated service functions of the various agencies and vendors involved in CCSP.
- Updated CCSP provider listing.
- Information materials describing CCSP.
- Outreach presentations to hospitals, residential facilities and other referral sources.
- Monthly performance and service benefit expenditure reports.
- Quarterly meeting of the CCSP Advisory Group.
- Quarterly CCSP Network Meetings

PARTNERSHIPS

The CCSP intake functions are closely coordinated with the Aging Information and Referral Services. The Care Coordination contractor coordinates activities with case management services provided by the County-Based Aging Programs and other service providers in the community. The program is carried out in partnership with DHR Division of Aging Services, the Department of Community Health, the Visiting Nurse Health Systems Care Coordination Unit and all approved CCSP vendors.

COST CENTERS

- 608/708CA1 CCSP Admin and Subgrantee

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

8D - ENTERPRISE PROJECTS

PURPOSE

These services are designed to provide the ESP Aging and Long-term care database to businesses and community organizations to improve the quality of services to their older customers and to provide employees of national and local corporation's information, consultation and education on aging resources and issues;

Complimenting this effort is the Metropolitan Partnership in Aging (MPIA), a consortium of the 10 county-based aging agencies and ARC, which works regionally to develop partnerships with businesses to support services for the elderly. Recognition and support of older workers and the annual Business and Aging Award are included in this work program.

DELIVERABLES

- The ESP Aging and Long-term Care Database available to businesses and community organizations.
- ESP Web Application available for AAAs outside Georgia.
- Consultation, education and referral service to national eldercare network service enrollees and local businesses.
- Expanded information service with other AAAs in the state including the publication of Georgia Generations.
- Increased membership in MPIA to heighten awareness and develop more funding for senior services.
- Training Session on critical issues.
- An annual open-house event to promote ARC/AAA programs and the ESP Database.
- Coordinated marketing materials, weekly Information Alerts, and announcements for individual training events.

PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination takes place with the business community including companies enrolled with the national service networks, aging service providers, and various funding sources. All marketing materials are coordinated with the Department of Communications.

COST CENTERS

- 508DD1 Database Project
- 608DM1 Metropolitan Partnership In Aging (MPIA)

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

8E - SPECIAL PROJECTS

PURPOSE

This work program also includes various projects and initiatives that are designed to enhance the quality of life for older adults and their families including the RWJ funded Aging Atlanta Project, the Best Buy Drugs Program, and the Georgia Generations Magazine.

DELIVERABLES

- Special projects which increase services for older adults and their families such as the Natural Occurring Retirement Communities, transportation voucher program, Health Strategies Project and the GLTB outreach project.
- Seminars for employees and retirees under a contractual agreement with Ceridian.
- Quarterly publications of Georgia Generations.
- Special outreach initiatives to educate beneficiaries regarding in the Medicare Prescription Drug Program.
- Model projects implemented under the Aging Atlanta Work plan.

PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination is maintained with corporate service companies, the RWJ Foundation, RWJ collaborative partners, appropriate federal, state and local governments, various community agencies and the business community.

COST CENTERS

- 608EWI Work Family Activities/Ceridian
- 608EGG Georgia Generations
- 408ERW Aging Atlanta
- 508EBC ABC Coalition
- 508ECR Best Buy Drugs

ELEMENT 8 - AGING SERVICES

8D - ENTERPRISE PROJECTS

PURPOSE

These services are designed to provide the ESP Aging and Long-term care database to businesses and community organizations to improve the quality of services to their older customers and to provide employees of national and local corporation's information, consultation and education on aging resources and issues;

Complimenting this effort is the Metropolitan Partnership in Aging (MPIA), a consortium of the 10 county-based aging agencies and ARC, which works regionally to develop partnerships with businesses to support services for the elderly. Recognition and support of older workers and the annual Business and Aging Award are included in this work program.

DELIVERABLES

- The ESP Aging and Long-term Care Database available to businesses and community organizations.
- ESP Web Application available for AAAs outside Georgia.
- Consultation, education and referral service to national eldercare network service enrollees and local businesses.
- Expanded information service with other AAAs in the state including the publication of Georgia Generations.
- Increased membership in MPIA to heighten awareness and develop more funding for senior services.
- Training Session on critical issues.
- An annual open-house event to promote ARC/AAA programs and the ESP Database.
- Coordinated marketing materials, weekly Information Alerts, and announcements for individual training events.

PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination takes place with the business community including companies enrolled with the national service networks, aging service providers, and various funding sources. All marketing materials are coordinated with the Department of Communications.

COST CENTERS

- 508DD1 Database Project
- 608DM1 Metropolitan Partnership In Aging (MPIA)

Community Services

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENT 9
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Direct Federal Grants	-	0.0%
State and Locally Administered Federal & Other Grants	12,500	2.8%
State and Local Match	-	0.0%
ARC Required Match	12,500	2.8%
ARC Supplemental Funding	370,763	82.9%
Private Sector Funding	-	0.0%
Enterprise Fund Income	51,733	11.6%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$447,496	100.0%
Expenses by Work Program Titles		
09A Local Government Outreach	359,696	80.4%
09B Community Planning Academy	62,798	14.0%
09C Appalachian Regional Commission	25,002	5.6%
Total Expenses	\$447,496	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	200,799	44.9%
Contracts	55,000	12.3%
Equipment	8,100	1.8%
Misc. Operating	54,255	12.1%
Travel	4,596	1.0%
Rent & Related	26,662	6.0%
Computer Services	21,732	4.9%
Indirects	76,352	17.1%
Subgrants and Participants	-	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$447,496	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 9 - COMMUNITY SERVICES

MISSION

Community is more than bricks and mortar. It includes all aspects of a place, physical, social, political, health, education and economic. The Community Services Department provides management, operation and technical assistance to local governments, businesses, nonprofit and community leaders to enhance the ability to create and sustain successful communities with healthy environments and economies. The Division is also responsible for management of the Appalachian Regional Commission program, which provides financing assistance to local governments with infrastructure needs and economic and community development.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

Faced with increasing population growth, communities across the nation must address the challenges and opportunities of planning for and managing growth. Local communities are balancing the need for sustainable economic growth with the need to maintain a quality of life, deliver key services, and confront fiscal constraints. Each community has its own growth-related challenges and unique circumstances that affect its response to the pressures of growth. These pressures are forcing decision makers to improve development decisions and find better ways of delivering services and assisting communities.

The challenges that local governments face as a result of rapid growth are not only external, but internal. These challenges include adequately staffing a local government to meet to the growing service delivery needs, planning for future workforce needs and ensuring expertise in an increasingly complex environment.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Provide technical assistance to local governments including executive recruitment, human resource management, community and leadership development, quality growth management and implementation.
- Provide training and leadership development to local government officials and staff.
- Conduct two Training for Planning Officials Community Planning Academy classes.
- Develop and implement an expanded Community Planning academy menu including classes that address quality growth tools and economic development issues.
- Expand local government services technical assistance menu through an enhanced marketing approach.
- Assist the Counties in the region that also comprise the Appalachian Regional Commission with community capacity building and economic and leadership development.

- Provide various opportunities for local government officials and staff to interact with and learn from one another's experiences through local government manager luncheons and other forums.
- Manage logistics and promotion of the Management Development Program.
- Produce monthly newsletters for local government managers.
- Host quarterly local government manager luncheons to promote communication and sharing of information across boundaries.

2005 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 9A Local Government Outreach
- 9B Community Planning Academy
- 9C Appalachian Regional Commission

ELEMENT 9 - COMMUNITY SERVICES

9A - LOCAL GOVERNMENT OUTREACH

PURPOSE

To provide operational support and management consulting services to local governments within the Atlanta region. Provide formal and informal mechanisms for reaching out to City and County managers; serve as liaison to county and municipal associations; assist with community development, human resource and facilitation needs. The division further assists local governments by providing opportunities for leadership and development training through the Management Development Program and planning training through the Community Planning Academy.

DELIVERABLES

- Facilitate communication and learning experiences between ARC and city and county managers through quarterly luncheons and monthly manager memos.
- Host a breakfast at both the GMA and ACCG annual meetings to facilitate communication and information sharing between ARC and elected officials who do not serve on the ARC board.
- Manage logistics and promotion of the Management Development Program.
- Serve as editor and develop and produce the Georgia City County Manager Newsletter and ex-officio board member
- Regularly attend the Municipal Association Meetings, Georgia Municipal Association and Association County Commission Georgia annual meetings and the Georgia City and County Managers Association bi-annual meetings.
- Enhance the menu of consulting services to local governments
- Provide operations and management assistance as requested by member local governments

PARTNERSHIPS

Effective provision of local governmental that serve as valuable contributions to ARC local governments require partnerships with the institutions and associations whose primary responsibilities are to service local governments on a daily basis. This includes GMA, ACCG, DCA, GCCMA and CVIOG.

COST CENTERS

- 609AG Local Government Management Consulting
- 609AM Management Development Program
- 609AE Local Government Enterprise

ELEMENT 9 - GOVERNMENT SERVICES

9B - COMMUNITY PLANNING ACADEMY

PURPOSE

The Community Planning Academy (CPA) provides training to citizen planners and local government staff and officials on various planning topics. The goal is to ensure that citizen and staff planners have the skills, knowledge and resource necessary to successfully plan communities. Training is focused on significant regional and local issues specific to this region.

DELIVERABLES

- Two Planning Official training classes.
- Three special topic classes.
- Training catered to specific local governments, as requested.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal partnerships with the Land Use, Environment and Transportation divisions are particularly significant to this sub-element. In addition, external partners include DCA, CVIOG, the GA Conservancy, GPA, GMA and ACCG.

COST CENTERS

- 609BO Community Planning Academy Enterprise

ELEMENT 9 – COMMUNITY SERVICES

9C - APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

PURPOSE

The Atlanta Regional Commission serves three counties that are part of the Appalachian Regional Commission area; Cherokee, Douglas and Gwinnett counties. Because the Appalachian region traditionally faces significant economic and social challenges, the Governmental Services Division leverages administrative grant funds from the Commission to ensure these counties have the resources and support needed to thrive along with their neighbors. The division reaches out to these counties in ways consistent with the Appalachian Regional Commission's strategy for Georgia: ensuring economic viability for the community and its people.

DELIVERABLES

- Respond to requests for local governments for assistance with management, human resource, community development and quality growth assistance.
- Create a portal through which communities can access the resources needed to create positive community change and sustainability

PARTNERSHIPS

The Appalachian Regional Commission and the Department of Community Affairs are essential partners in serving the needs of Cherokee, Gwinnett and Douglas Counties.

COST CENTERS

- 609CA Appalachian Regional Commission

Administration, Support Services and Communication

**2006 BUDGET SUMMARY
ELEMENTS 21-23, 31 & 41
ADMINISTRATION, SUPPORT SERVICES, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Revenues		Percent of Total
Agency Indirect Recovery	3,048,362	48.5%
Departmental Indirect Recovery	1,590,068	25.3%
Internal Service Fund Charges	1,642,486	26.2%
Other Revenue	-	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$6,280,916	100.0%
Expenses by Element		
21 Administration & Coordination	986,942	14.2%
22 Support Services	1,830,357	26.3%
23 Communications	1,205,594	17.4%
31 Departmental Cost Pools	1,283,184	18.5%
41 Information Systems Internal Service Fund	1,640,537	23.6%
Total Expenses	\$6,946,614	100.0%
Expenses by Type		
Salary and Benefits	4,275,498	61.5%
Contracts	383,660	5.5%
Equipment	354,090	5.1%
Misc. Operating	538,304	7.7%
Travel	78,850	1.1%
Rent & Related	303,055	4.4%
Computer Services	415,801	6.0%
Indirects	597,356	8.6%
Subgrants and Participants	-	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$6,946,614	100.0%

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 21 – ADMINISTRATION & COORDINATION

MISSION

The business of the Atlanta Regional Commission is comprehensive planning. Administrative and coordination functions support the staff and ARC Board to ensure successful management and planning operations, community outreach and civic partnerships. The Office of the Director, Commission activities, legal counsel, strategic planning, governmental affairs coordination, Environmental Justice/Public Involvement, training and development, and agency capacity building are the central components of this work program. Most of the costs associated with ARC administration and coordination are recovered from the programs of the agency through a cost allocation process. A shared cost allocation process is also used to create administrative budgets for each department derived from their specific work programs.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

The Atlanta Region's citizens are asking ARC to take on more responsibility and use the comprehensive planning process as a tool for engaging stakeholders to forge a consensus around visions, strategies and solutions to the Region's challenges. This means positioning the organization as an agency of regional influence by: continuing to more fully involve citizens and ARC's partners in the planning and decision process; partnering with other organizations; coordinating efforts to build relationships with state and federal elected officials and their staffs; learning new ideas from local governments, the community and other cities; integrating the organization's planning efforts and talents; planning for the unanticipated; sharing ARC's best practices with others; and training regional leaders.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Continue to work with Board Legislative Affairs Committee to articulate a legislative agenda that is ratified by the Commission.
- Develop the 2006 Work Program and Budget.
- Provide support to the ARC Board: Plan and conduct Commission meetings; Board Retreats and Working Sessions; facilitate membership on board of national organizations and leadership development.
- Develop Board resources that will assist the Commission in making regional decisions.
- Strengthen ARC's role in water supply planning
- Continue the Agency's work in Environmental Justice.
- Plan and implement activities connecting minority community leaders and local government officials to discuss key community issues from the perspective of the region's diversity.
- Explore options to address health concerns of the environmental justice community related to ARC's plans and projects in a collaborative effort with wide network of stakeholder groups, organizations and institutions.
- Implement a strategic process and plan to formally engage African-American business and community leaders in ARC's planning processes, projects and activities.

- Expand the scope of the Hispanic/Latino Advisory Council and the Asian-American Advisory Council through: targeted partnership initiatives with the faith-based community, civic, business and community organizations; supporting and participating in activities sponsored by the groups represented on the councils; providing ongoing opportunities for ARC staff to receive feedback on planning, projects and activities through the councils.
- Continue the Agency's work in engaging underserved communities and others citizens in the planning process.
- Continue to update ARC's databases for the Regional Transportation Plan and Regional Development Plan updates.
- Strengthen ARC's relationships with "partner" organizations; GRTA, GDOT, RLF, ACCG, GMA, Chambers of Commerce.

2005 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 21A Strategic Management/Policy Coordination
- 21P Environmental Justice and Public Involvement

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Adopted the 2005-07 Transportation Improvement Plan
- Developed and adopted the 2005 Work Program and Budget.
- Developed, and implemented the ARC Board retreat and working session in February.
- Developed, coordinated and implemented the ARC/GRTA/GDOT retreat in October.
- Enhanced efforts towards relationship building between ARC and state legislators and congressional delegation.
- Enhanced the Agency's public involvement processes and expanded community outreach activities in the in the African-American, Asian American and Hispanic communities.

ELEMENT 21 – ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION

21A - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT/POLICY COORDINATION

PURPOSE

The Office of the Director is responsible for the overall management of the Atlanta Regional Commission through administrative operations. In addition, the Office is responsible for ARC Board policy coordination and Commission support; intergovernmental cooperation; and the building of civic partnerships. Strategic management employs tactical and operational decisions that will enable ARC to achieve objectives set by the Board and Director or the staff management team. In addition, ARC uses strategic planning as a management tool to examine issues, allocate resources, and to assist managers and staff in their efforts to position the agency to respond to a changing social and political environment; and expanded public expectations.

DELIVERABLES

- Development and Implement the Commission's 2006 Work Program
- Provide support to the ARC Board: Plan and conduct Commission meetings; Board Retreats and Working Sessions; facilitate membership on board of national organizations and leadership development.
- Serve as liaison to the Georgia General Assembly and Congressional delegation: Meet with individual legislators and committees; introduce and work for passage of ARC legislation; conduct briefings and legislative meetings on issues of particular importance to the Commission and with select groups of legislators.
- Continue all activities to support relationship building with strategic organizations and governmental units.
- Plan and implement activities connecting minority community leaders and local government officials to discuss key community issues from the perspective of the region's diversity.
- Explore options to address health concerns of the environmental justice community related to ARC's plans and projects in a collaborative effort with wide network of stakeholder groups, organizations and institutions.
- Implement a strategic process and plan to formally engage African-American business and community leaders in ARC's planning processes, projects and activities.
- Expand the scope of the Hispanic/Latino Advisory Council and the Asian-American Advisory Council through: targeted partnership initiatives with the faith-based community, civic, business and community organizations; supporting and participating in activities sponsored by the groups represented on the councils; providing ongoing opportunities for ARC staff to receive feedback on planning, projects and activities through the councils.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Atlanta Regional Commission works closely with many federal and state grantor agencies, non-profit organizations, local government, state and federal elected officials and their staff, business and civic interest groups, regional planning agencies and the general public to develop, implement and fund regional planning initiatives and programs.

COST CENTERS

- 021AD Office of the Director
- 021AC Commission Expenses
- 021AN Non grant related Expenses

ELEMENT 21– COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

21P – ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PURPOSE

Public involvement and environmental justice are integral considerations in all of ARC's plans and programs. ARC staff will address public involvement and environmental justice in a targeted and comprehensive manner. Engagement will be directed to many audiences including members of the ARC Board, Committee members, local government officials, the staffs of local, state and federal governments, citizen and advocacy groups, the general public and the media. The purpose of the engagement is to provide early and continuous opportunities for the above publics to participate in the various planning processes of the Agency.

ARC will conduct specific public engagement activities as required by the Transportation Efficiency Act (TEA-21) and asserted by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Executive Order 12898 in the area of regional planning and environmental justice. A framework for ARC's transportation-related public involvement activities is outlined in the *Atlanta Region Transportation Public Involvement Plan (TPIP)*. ARC will also assume a proactive posture to ensure a comprehensive approach to achieving and addressing environmental justice. Considerable attention will be given to increasing community partnerships within low-income communities, minority communities and the traditionally underserved as well as organizations that represent their interests. Such partnerships are crucial to the development and implementation of equitable comprehensive plans and programs. As such, ARC continues to provide resources for the Hispanic Advisory Council and the Asian American Advisory Council. These councils were established in November 2002 to facilitate the involvement of the Hispanic/Latino and Asian American populations in ARC's planning processes, projects and activities. ARC also continues to explore and implement strategies to inform and involve other groups.

DELIVERABLES

- Implement a series of "Community Conversations on Diversity" to enhance linkages between local government officials and minority communities around shared community concerns and issues (implemented as part of the Global Atlanta Works project).
- Develop and implement research to examine the effects of planning initiatives in minority and underserved communities, with emphasis on the changes in environmental justice communities.
- Continue to manage the activities of ARC's Latino/Hispanic Advisory Council and the Asian American Advisory Council.
- Continue to build relationships and enhance ARC's presence with key leaders and organizations in minority and traditionally underrepresented communities through: participation on local advisory and planning committees; presentations and speaking engagements; providing resource information; attending community networking events, workshops and conferences.
- Manage and facilitate meetings and related activities of the Environmental Justice Planning Team for the RDP update.
- Implement access to jobs transportation program to improve linkages to jobs in low-income and minority communities. Contingent on funding.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination with ARC staff is crucial to a comprehensive outreach and public engagement program. Additionally, coordination will be required with the Communications and Public Involvement Committee, Transportation and Air Quality Committee, Transportation Coordinating Committee, Environment and Land Use Committee, Community Services Committee and the ARC Board regarding outreach, public involvement and environmental justice activities. Externally, the staff will collaborate with special interest groups and commissions, civic and community organizations, businesses, non-profit organizations, local government, state and federal officials and other community relations and communication professionals to facilitate their involvement in ARC's planning processes and programs.

COST CENTERS

- 021PI Public Involvement
- 107CI EJ Community Involvement

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT 22 - SUPPORT SERVICES

MISSION

The Department of Support Services provides the agency's information systems and financial support services, including accounting, budgeting, grants administration, purchasing and facilities management. The Department also manages the agency's computer network and provides related technical support services, including user training, applications support, network management and internet services. In addition, the Department directs the agency's Geographic Information Systems and Human Resources and provides administrative support to the Area 7 All Hazard's Council.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

The Financial Services Division will coordinate the audit of 2005 financial activities; produce the 2005 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR); prepare the agency budget and financial forecast; and improve financial management reporting. Facilities Management will focus on the agency's physical infrastructure and fixed assets management. The Information Technology (IT) Division will provide technical support and training for all ARC staff and manage ARC's computer network, Internet infrastructure, and all standard desktop and client/server software. Human Resources will focus on staff development, employee benefits and recruitment; and GIS will support internal planning functions and provide technical assistance to local governments.

2006 WORK PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Manage the comprehensive financial management system and related activities.
- Manage agency facilities and related day-to-day operations of the agency.
- Maintain operational computer systems to support ARC's network and enterprise database.
- Provide production support, GIS and advanced client/server applications.
- Manage the employee recruitment process and benefits program.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

- 22A Financial Services
- 22B Facilities Management
- 22C Human Resources
- 22D Homeland Security
- 41I Information Technology
- 01G Geographic Information Systems (GIS) – (Work program description is located and coordinated with activities in Element 1, Base Data for Planning).

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ARC was awarded the Government Finance Officers Association Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its 2004 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and has submitted the 2005 CAFR for the same award.
- Refined the space allocation plan. Constructed new cubicles in the Aging Services Divisions.
- Implemented of the 3-year Information Technology Plan, which included the upgrading of database applications and the Agency's computer hardware.
- ARC has expanded the use of Geographic Information System applications to enhance and support public outreach, planning projects, and local government public safety efforts.

ELEMENT 22 - SUPPORT SERVICES

22A - FINANCE

PURPOSE

ARC's centralized financial services division provides comprehensive financial management for the agency. The work program includes general ledger, payroll, and accounts receivable, accounts payable, purchasing, contracting and fixed assets. All facets of the work program are focused on providing integrated project accounting. Central to this focus is the operation of the Costpoint financial management software that provides ARC with strong project accounting. Beyond meeting the requirements of grantors and internal procedures, the primary goal of this work program is to provide efficient business processes that produce accurate and timely information.

DELIVERABLES

- Operation of the comprehensive financial management system integrated with accounting, purchasing, and payroll and human resources functions.
- Management of the audit of 2005 financial activities.
- Production of the 2005 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) in compliance with the GASB 34 reporting requirements.
- Production of a CAFR which meets the requirements of the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting.
- Production of monthly and quarterly grant financial reports and reimbursement requests.
- Preparation of the agency wide budget and financial forecast and assistance to project staff in the preparation and management of project level budgets.
- Implementation of the Enterprise Planner to enhance budgeting and forecasting at the project level.
- Improved agency-wide financial management reporting with consideration of practicality and suitability of making reports available on the intranet and/or internet.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Key internal partners are Human Resources, Information Technology and project budget managers. Externally, Financial Services works closely with the ARC independent auditor.

COST CENTERS

- 022AA

ELEMENT 22 – SUPPORT SERVICES

22B - FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

PURPOSE

Facilities Management provides day-to-day management of ARC office space and agency office equipment. The activity centers on ensuring that office space is well maintained, reporting problems to building management, and coordinating improvements. Facilities Management is also responsible for acquiring and ensuring the efficient operation and maintenance of agency equipment, to include automobiles, telephones, copiers, postage machine and fax machines. Additionally, Facilities Management ensures that adequate office supplies are stocked and available for ARC staff.

DELIVERABLES

- Manage facilities and related day-to-day operations of the agency.
- Identify problem areas and coordinate corrections related to ARC's office space.
- Refine the operation of the telephone system.
- Maintain an effective automobile pool system.
- Maintain the parking/transit program and research ways to encourage carpooling and mass transit.
- Coordinate security of ARC office space and safety of ARC staff with building management.
- Finalize, implement and incorporate the teleworking program into the parking/transit program.
- Review the disaster recovery program and work with IT to begin document scanning.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Agency-wide users, vendors, building management, contractors, The United Way, Georgia Department of Administrative Services, and the Georgia Technology Authority.

COST CENTERS

- 022BF Facilities Management

ELEMENT 22 – SUPPORT SERVICES

22C - HUMAN RESOURCES

PURPOSE

Human Resources operates as a strategic partner with all other Agency departments to develop and implement human resources strategies to effectively link human resources activities with the overall work program and objectives of the Agency. This strategic partnership contributes to the Agency's efforts to improve employee recruitment and retention by improving the quality of the work environment, ensuring that employees have the necessary skills and knowledge with which to successfully carry out the work program, offering competitive salaries and benefits to attract and reward a highly skilled workforce, and ensuring that management practices and decisions are in compliance with employment laws and regulations.

DELIVERABLES

- Implement an agencywide training strategy based upon a needs assessment conducted in 2005
- Manage the performance management program
- Manage ARC's recruitment process
- Manage the employee benefits program

PARTNERSHIPS

All levels of ARC staff; benefits providers and consultants; outside trainers and speakers; labor attorney; local government HR staff; and recruiting sources.

COST CENTERS

- 022CH Human Resources

ELEMENT 22 – SUPPORT SERVICES

22D – HOMELAND SECURITY

PURPOSE

The Department of Support Services will provide administrative support to the Area Seven All Hazards Council and involve local elected officials in the homeland security process. In addition to administrative support, ARC will identify funding sources for possible future projects. The role of ARC will continue to evolve as tasks are identified and defined.

DELIVERABLES

- Provide administrative support to the Area Seven All Hazards Council.
- Coordinate bi-monthly meetings of the Council.
- Coordinate sub-committee meetings, develop a schedule of the meetings and support the meetings.
- Facilitate the election of Council Officers.
- Seek funding for future projects.
- Identify and define the role of local elected officials in the homeland security process.
- Begin the process of establishing a communications plan for local elected officials.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Area Seven All Hazards Council, GEMA, FEMA, local emergency officials and local elected officials

COST CENTERS

- 022HS Homeland Security

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 2006 WORK PROGRAM

ELEMENT – 23 COMMUNICATIONS

MISSION

The Communications Department coordinates the development and implementation of a comprehensive communications program that supports agency strategic directions and promotes the internal and external understanding of key programs and projects. The primary mission of this element is to enhance the understanding of regional planning issues and initiatives and to help create opportunities for public involvement in the planning process. Additionally, ARC's Information Center functions as a central clearinghouse for distribution of the Commission's publications, basic data, maps and related materials. Major components of the communications program include strategic communications counseling and services, editorial services, media relations, special event planning, Web site management, marketing and graphic design and production.

ISSUES/CHALLENGES

The Communications Department focuses on increasing visibility and understanding of ARC's plans and programs among media, key leaders and citizens. With an on-site Information Center, publications and an expanded Web site presence at www.atlantaregional.com, massive information resources are made available to the public. It is central to our agency's success and credibility, that these efforts be as professional and accurate as possible. We must remain flexible to handle changing demands related to important regional issues. Our ability to gather accurate information, and communicate it quickly and clearly, is vital to our organization and to the public.

DELIVERABLES

- Provide communications and issues management counseling to the ARC Director, Board and senior management.
- Coordinate implementation of Strategic Communications Plan.
- Produce quarterly television program, "Shape of Things to Come," and manage distribution and promotion.
- Coordinate annual ARC "State of the Region" breakfast.

- Provide speechwriting and presentation assistance to ARC staff and Board leadership.
- Manage and enhance new ARC Web site and allied Web sites.
- Provide communications, editorial and marketing support to all ARC initiatives, plans and programs.
- Coordinate media relations efforts on behalf of the agency.
- Produce six issues of ACTION, ARC's newsletter, with a circulation of 6,500.
- Produce 12 issues of ARC Bark, ARC's employee newsletter.
- Develop, write, produce and design the 2005 ARC annual report.
- Coordinate the MARC Youth Leadership program in partnership with the State Y of Georgia.
- Provide graphic design and production services to all ARC plans, programs and special projects.
- Coordinate ARC information outreach and data product distribution to the public and key audiences through ARC's Resource Center, external relations and digital and Web site strategies.

2006 WORK PROGRAM TITLES

Communications/Marketing	23A
Information Center	23C
Graphic Services	23B

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Produced the first two half-hour television shows, "The Shape of Things to Come," to better inform regional citizens about issues and opportunities facing the Atlanta region in the future.
- Completed a major redevelopment of the main ARC Web site, www.atlantaregional.com.
- Coordinated ARC's annual "State of the Region" breakfast with nearly 1,000 in attendance.
- Provided editorial, marketing and media relations support to all ARC departments and divisions.
- Provided graphic design support to all ARC departments and divisions.
- Produced 2004 ARC Annual Report, six issues of ACTION newsletter and 12 issues of ARC Bark employee newsletter.
- Produced 12 issues of ARC's e-newsletter – *Regional Briefings*.
- Coordinated the 8th annual Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC) youth leadership program in conjunction with the Y-Clubs of Georgia.
- Produced a new exhibit in conjunction with the Atlanta History Center, detailing the history of ARC and regional planning milestones.

- Negotiated and coordinated the relocation of ARC's archives to the Atlanta History Center.
- Established quarterly meetings of regional communications and public information staff from local governments, chambers, state agencies and other planning partners.
- Worked to digitize more of ARC's information products for offering on the Web and in CD form.

ELEMENT - 23 COMMUNICATIONS

23A - COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING

PURPOSE

ARC coordinates the development and implementation of a comprehensive communications program that supports the goals of the agency and develops an internal and external understanding of its programs and projects. The primary mission of this program is to enhance the understanding of regional planning issues and initiatives and to help create opportunities for public involvement in the planning process. Components of the communications program include public affairs, editorial services, media relations, special event planning, public involvement, marketing and issue positioning.

DELIVERABLES

- Provide communications and issues management counseling to the ARC Director, Board and senior management.
- Produce four television programs, “The Shape of Things to Come,” and coordinate distribution and promotion.
- Coordinate ARC annual “State of the Region” Breakfast
- Coordinate implementation of Strategic Communications Plan for ARC.
- Provide speechwriting and presentation assistance to ARC staff and Board leadership.
- Manage new ARC primary Web site and support to allied site.
- Provide communications, editorial and marketing support to all ARC initiatives, plans and programs.
- Provide general public awareness and outreach to Atlanta regional citizens.
- Coordinate media relations efforts on behalf of the agency.
- Produce six issues of ACTION, ARC’s newsletter, with a circulation of 6,500.
- Produce 12 issues of ARC Bark, ARC’s employee newsletter.
- Develop, write, produce and design the 2005 ARC annual report.
- Coordinate the MARC Youth Leadership program in partnership with the State Y of Georgia.

PARTNERSHIPS

Internal coordination with all ARC staff is crucial to a comprehensive communications plan. The Communications staff will work to assist all ARC program areas through the course of the year. Additionally, the Communications Department will work with planning partners, local media, local government staff and other professionals within the communications field to further ARC’s strategic directions.

COST CENTERS

- 023AM Communications/Marketing

ELEMENT 23 - COMMUNICATIONS

23B - GRAPHIC SERVICES

PURPOSE

The Graphic Services area of the Communications Department supports the agency in the areas of design, printing, high speed duplication, photography and audio visual services. The mission of this sub element is to visually communicate information effectively to ARC's various publics and to maintain a standard of published work that is highly professional and cutting-edge.

DELIVERABLES

- Design and produce individual agency printed pieces including brochures, flyers, posters, reports, announcements, newsletters and all other printed collateral for various departments/divisions.
- Design and produce ARC Annual Report.
- Design of and help with implementation graphics elements for ARC's Web site.
- Design collateral and assist with production of display materials for MARC Program.
- Design CPA (Community Planning Academy) collateral and production of other support materials.
- Design/update Platforms for Progress reports
- Design/update Community Choices collateral and production of other support materials.
- Design/update LCI (Livable Centers Initiative) collateral and production of other support materials such as Big Checks for presentation.
- Design/update RLI collateral and production of other support materials.
- Design/update LINK collateral and production of other support materials.
- and production of other support materials
- Design/update as needed ARC Briefing Cards.
- Design and produce ACTION Newsletter six times a year.
- Support ARC's continuing public involvement effort by designing collateral and signage for public meetings.
- Design and update as needed Aging Services collateral including: marketing inserts; Network stationery, calendar and flyer shells; CONNECT packaging and software manual; MPIA, AgeWise Connection, CCSP, AAA, Mayors' Walk and other program-based collateral.
- Coordinate reproduction of reports, such as *Population & Housing*, and *Outlook*, and other documents and collateral through high-speed duplication vendor, offset printing vendor and other graphics-related vendors.
- Assist ARC staff with audio-visual projects such as power point presentations and scheduling photographers.

- Work with planning staff and GIS on visualization techniques.
- Work with technical staff to continue to improve translation and connection between Mac system and P.C. network within the agency.

PARTNERSHIPS

This subelement requires the involvement of Support Services Department in the area of multimedia products, web page maintenance, coordination of mailing lists and improvement of translation and connection between Mac and PC platforms. The involvement of the purchasing is required in the area of tracking and billing printed media. Internal coordination of individual projects will be maintained with all departments, respectively. Coordination with outside vendors will also be necessary to ensure quality printed, visual and multimedia products.

COST CENTERS

- 023BG Graphic Services

ELEMENT 23 - COMMUNICATIONS

23C - INFORMATION CENTER

PURPOSE

The Atlanta Regional Commission Information Center: provides a central clearinghouse for distribution of agency publications, basic data, maps and related materials; provides a center for research materials, documents, periodicals, and journals related to the agency initiatives; increases the use and availability of ARC publications and data products through outreach and marketing initiatives targeting local governments, key decision-makers and stakeholders, media outlets and the general public; and promotes the Atlanta Regional Commission as the preeminent resource and leader for regional planning through its data products and publications.

DELIVERABLES

- **Digital Information Center** - Transition the Information Center to a more digital environment where 85-95% of all newly published material is made available electronically. Work with Web Coordinator, IT department and others to identify ways in which to leverage the benefits of RedDot to function as an electronic inventory of ARC publications.
- **Relocation of Archives** - Partner with the Atlanta History Center to relocate the ARC archives to a permanent repository where materials will be inventoried, catalogued, cared for appropriately and made available to the public.
- **Information Center Space** - Audit the physical space in the ARC Information Center to assess the current use of space, the type and format of materials available and determine the best way in which to display and arrange the materials.
- **Marketing and Outreach (Internal)** – Develop communications vehicles to promote ARC events, trainings, speaking engagements, publications, etc. to support the outreach efforts of the agency as a whole.
- **Marketing and Outreach (External)** –
 - Foster relationships at the local and regional level by attending various meetings and events within civic, business and educational communities.
 - Establish an “ARC presence” throughout the region through active engagement at the local level. Actively promote ARC publications, materials, data and speakers by participating in a diverse range of regional and local meetings and events.
 - Establish relationships with local media outlets and anticipate their informational needs by disseminating various ARC data products.
- **Reception Area Management** - Coordinate agency switchboard services and reception area functions

PARTNERSHIPS

- Internal coordination is maintained with all functional areas of the organization.
- External coordination is maintained with counterpart federal, state and local governments and agencies as well as chambers of commerce, universities, libraries and other community partners.

- Partner with the Atlanta History Center to relocate the ARC archives to a permanent repository where materials will be inventoried, catalogued, cared for appropriately and made available to the public.
- Partner with Dr. Tim Crimmins, Georgia State University, to develop the Atlanta Metropolitan Growth Project to produce digital recordings of interviews with civic and political leaders who have shaped the growth of the counties of the Atlanta metropolitan region in the past half century.

COST CENTERS

- 023CC Information Center
- 501BD Information Center Resources (Enterprise Fund)

ELEMENT 41– INTERNAL SERVICE FUND

41I - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

PURPOSE

The objectives of this project are to provide, maintain and support effective computer systems for use in unified planning work programs and agency administration; to provide systems staff resources for applications support and development; and to provide technical support and training for all staff.

DELIVERABLES

- An efficient, state-of-the-art, high availability computer network for ARC business including appropriate hardware and software services for network storage management; e-mail; Internet access; security against intrusion, spam, viruses and other threats; web hosting; database; Intranet; backup and disaster recovery plans; file and print services; and others.
- A high availability, enterprise-wide SQL Server database system to support all agency database applications.
- An installed base of standardized, network desktops throughout the agency; replaced on a 3-, 4-or 5-year cycle.
- An installed based of laptop computers throughout the agency for use in making presentations, providing mobile solutions for remote access and supporting specialized applications in the field.
- State-of-the-art web presence to support agency business and planning initiatives in a safe and effective environment; distributed content management; and agency Intranet.
- Annually updated Acceptable Use Policies and 3-year Technology Plan; refine to include new technology areas, status information and detailed plans and charts.
- An effective, fully staffed, customer-service oriented HelpDesk to provide technical support and training for all standard technologies.
- A well-equipped inhouse training lab for training in technical and application areas.
- A coordinated agency end-user training program in standard desktop applications as well as the network and the internet.
- A skilled IT staff for the administration and troubleshooting of ARC's network and servers; application integration, development and support; and consulting with end-users on business use technology solutions. Technical training for IT staff to maintain expertise and skills and to stay abreast of current technology in use and planned for use at ARC and in the use of industry-standard techniques and best practices.
- Applications integration, development, implementation and support of client, server and web-based applications across the agency in support of business uses of technology in planning programs and agency administration using industry-standard development techniques and best practices.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Internal coordination occurs with all users of technology throughout the agency and in all elements of the work program. Outsourcing of training, support and development will be contracted to supplement staff resources as needed.

COST CENTERS

- 041IS Information Technology Internal Service Fund