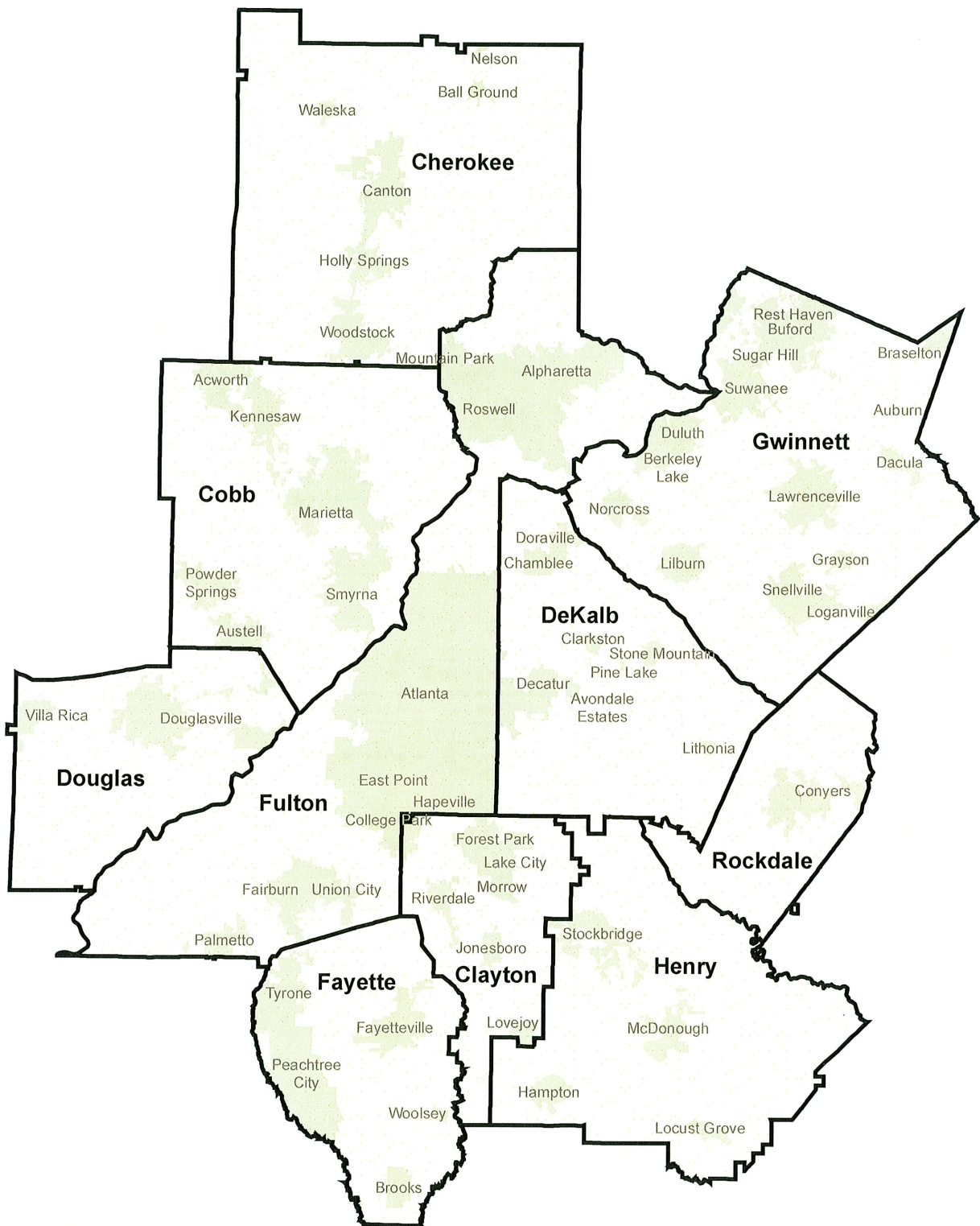


Strategy 2006
Atlanta Regional Commission
Annual Work Program and Budget

February 22, 2006

The Atlanta Region



The Atlanta Regional Commission created in 1971 by local governments of the Atlanta Region, includes Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties and 63 municipalities including the City of Atlanta. ARC is the regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency for the Region. It is also the forum where the Region's leaders come together to solve mutual problems and decide issues of regionwide consequence. ARC is supported by local, state and federal funds. Board membership on the ARC is held by 23 local elected officials, 15 private citizens and one non-voting member appointed by the Board of the Georgia Department of Community affairs.

The Atlanta Regional Commission is committed to the principle of affirmative action and shall not discriminate against otherwise qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, or disability in its recruitment, employment, facility and program accessibility or service.



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION 40 COURTLAND STREET, NE ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2006

TO: Members of the Atlanta Regional Commission and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Charles Krautler, Director

SUBJECT: 2006 Work Program and Budget

Enclosed is *Strategy 2006*, ARC's Work Program and Budget for calendar year 2006, as adopted by the Commission on December 7, 2005.

The 2006 Work Program and Budget is the Commission's proposed official policy regarding allocation of the Commission's financial and staff resources during 2006. During its development, it was submitted for review by proposed funding agencies to secure their agreement to finance appropriate parts of the program. The adopted Work Program and Budget represents only those funding agreements presently in place or anticipated during the year.

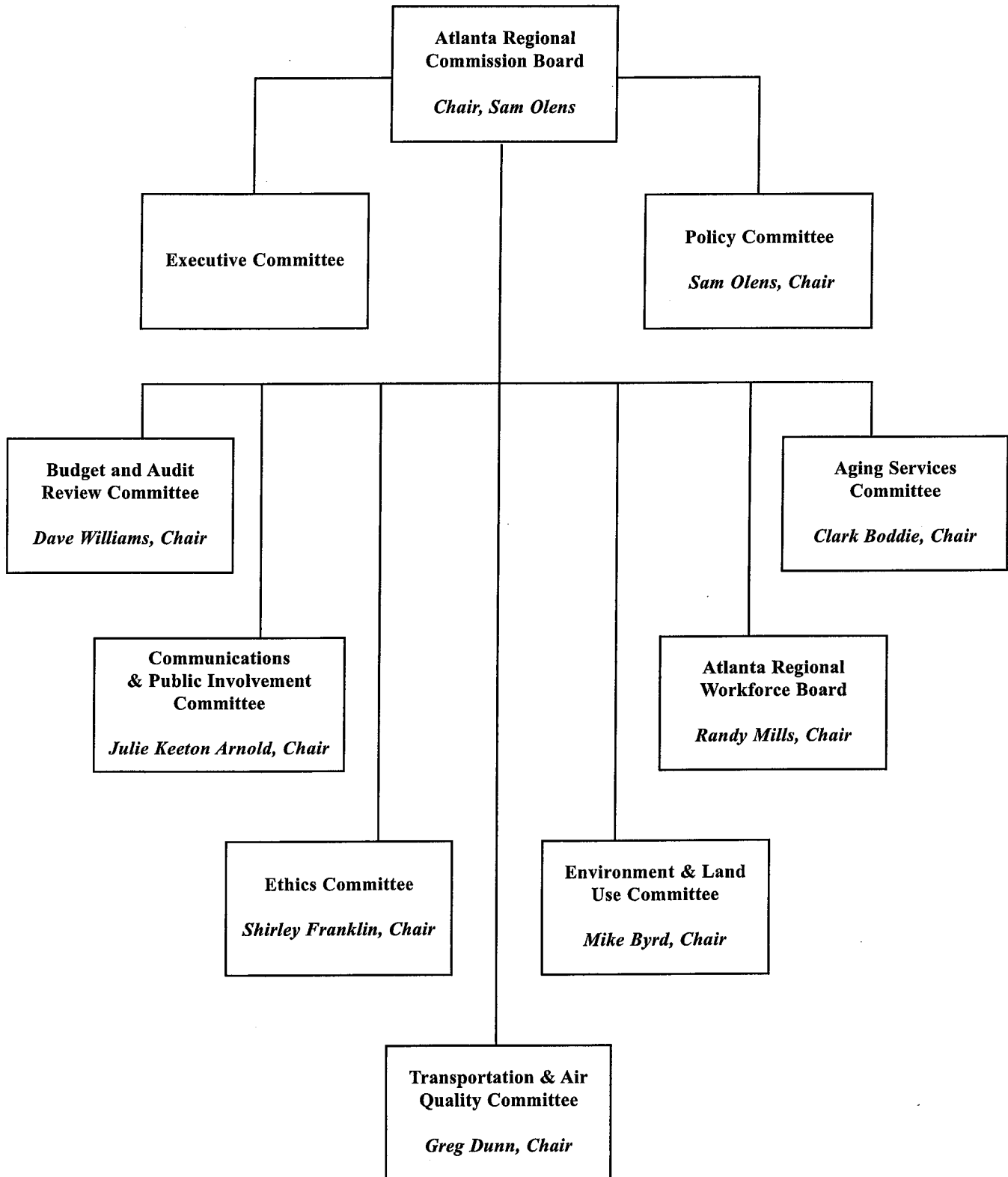
If you have comments or questions, please send them to me in writing via mail, fax (404 463-3205) or e-mail (ckrautler@atlantaregional.com).

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP 2006

As of 02/01/06

OFFICERS	Sam Olens Chair	Shirley Franklin Secretary	Judy Waters Parliamentarian
	Randy Mills Vice Chair	David Williams Treasurer	
PUBLIC MEMBERS	City of Atlanta	Shirley Franklin Mayor	Clair Muller Councilmember
	Cherokee County	Mike Byrd Commission Chairman	Rick Roberts Mayor, City of Ballground
	Clayton County	Eldrin Bell Commission Chairman	Willie Oswalt Mayor, City of Lake City
	Cobb County	Sam Olens Commission Chairman	Leonard Church Mayor, City of Kennesaw
	DeKalb County	Vernon Jones Chief Executive Officer	Gary Peet Mayor, City of Stone Mountain
	Douglas County	Tom Worthan Commission Chairman	Mickey Thompson Mayor, City of Douglasville
	Fayette County	Greg Dunn Commission Chairman	Ken Steele Mayor, City of Fayetteville
	Fulton County	Karen Handel Commission Chairman	Arthur Letchas Mayor, City of Alpharetta and Clark Boddie Mayor, City of Palmetto
	Gwinnett County	Charles Bannister Commission Chairman	Phillip Beard Chairman, City of Buford
	Henry County	Jason Harper Commission Chairman	Lorene Lindsey Mayor, City of Locust Grove
	Rockdale County	Roy Middlebrooks Commission Chairman	Randy Mills Mayor, City of Conyers
MEMBERS AT LARGE	Todd Ernst District 1	C.J. Bland District 6	Tad Leithead District 11
	Gene Hatfield District 2	Davis Fox District 7	Roger Santi District 12
	Kip Berry District 3	Judy Waters District 8	Rob Garcia District 13
	Aaron Turpeau District 4	Dave Williams District 9	Dan Post, Jr. District 14
	Dave Sjoquist District 5	Julie Arnold District 10	Gene Hobgood District 15
NON-VOTING MEMBER (Appointed by Georgia Department of Community Affairs)			Tread Davis, Jr.
DIRECTOR			Charles Krautler

Atlanta Regional Commission Committee Structure



2006 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

INTRODUCTION

As the official regional planning agency for the 10-county metropolitan Atlanta region, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) has experienced significant growth and change throughout its 58-year history. During the past few decades, in particular, as the Atlanta region has experienced explosive growth, ARC has faced both opportunities and challenges in preparing for the continued progress of this dynamic area.

ARC has predicted the Atlanta region will grow from 3.7 million people in the year 2000 to 6 million people in the year 2030. The Region will become home to 2.3 million new residents by 2030. As the region works to build the systems, infrastructure and programs to handle this growth, ARC will face challenges as never before. But, with those challenges comes even greater opportunities to lead the region and attain greater quality, progress and prosperity. The time is right for ARC to become a stronger leader in the region and to affect positive change for today and tomorrow. (Excerpt – Communications Assessment).

SHAPING THE FUTURE

For the next three years ARC's strategic directions will shape a work program that serves the citizens of the Atlanta Region. The agency will continue 1) serving as a convener for regional solutions; 2) developing a network of regional leaders; 3) excelling at comprehensive regional planning; 4) engaging the public in the regional planning progress; 5) sharing regional information resources and 6) employing cutting edge communication technology.

To help create a better quality of life for tomorrow, ARC will use its influence and resources to:

- Reduce congestion, increase mobility, clean the air, and investigate and advocate for transportation implementation funding;
- Assist elderly citizens to remain independent in their homes and communities for as long as possible and create a seamless coordinated system of services to support the effort;
- Maintain a skilled workforce through an array of skill development programs covering re-training for unemployed workers, job training for low income citizens and targeted training in areas where businesses have a labor skill shortage;
- Protect the region's river corridors; plan, promote, and advocate for water conservation and clean water;
- Build a regional vision and articulate the "big picture";
- Assist local governments in improving their services to constituents by offering training and technical assistance to staff, citizen volunteers, and elected officials;

- Promote the development of “livable communities” by creating tools to link land use practices with transportation investments and evaluate growth management principles;
- Provide opportunities for citizens to participate in the regional policy development process and interact with decision makers.
- Broaden the involvement of public and private stakeholders in regional initiatives.

REGIONAL RESOUCE

The Atlanta Regional Commission has multiple legal designations that are a resource to local governments and the community. Those designations are: 1) Georgia Regional Development Center, 2) Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission, 3) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Transportation Planning, 4) Area Agency on Aging (AAA), 5) Administrative and Fiscal Agent for the Atlanta Region Workforce Board (Area 7), 6) Planning and Staff Support for the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, 7) Appalachian Regional Commission – Local Development District (LDD), 8) State of Georgia Region 3 Advisory Council (RAC), 9) U.S. Bureau of Census – State Data Center Affiliate, 10) Federal Programs Intergovernmental Review Clearinghouse, and 11) U.S. Department of Commerce - Economic Development District.

The multiple designations allow ARC to serve as a forum for deliberation, information, and action. (The following map defines ARC’s geographical planning regions).

CONCLUSION

The Atlanta Region is proud of the social and economic advances that earned it a reputation as one of America’s best places to live, work, and play. The Region’s future successes will depend upon regional leadership; creative and practical problem solving, and compromise where there is a disagreement over goals, ideas, and solutions. The Atlanta Regional Commission is diligently working with citizens; local governments; business and community leaders, and public and private planning partners to create a civic will for regional stewardship and regional community building.

A work program overview follows.

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WORK PROGRAM OVERVIEW

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING DEPARTMENT FY2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY

RESEARCH – BASE DATA FOR PLANNING

- For the 10 Atlanta Region counties, produce and publish year 2006 estimates of population.
- For the 10 Atlanta Region counties, produce and publish year 2005 estimates of employment.
- Produce and publish *2006 Atlanta Region Outlook*.
- Complete and publish population and employment estimates for 10 non-member counties to support small-area forecasting for an expanded 20-county study area.
- Produce 2030 forecasts for 20 county planning area in support of new Regional Development Plan using output from Envision 6 process.
- Review Developments of Regional Impact (DRI).
- Respond to public information requests
- Advise other divisions regarding statistical techniques and data resources.
- Maximize the visibility and public value of ARC's data resources. This includes working with the Community Foundation, the Regional Housing Partnership and other organizations to share data.
- Produce Regional Snapshots and Regional Briefings and expand Global Atlanta Snapshots as resources permit.
- Develop "off-the shelf" PowerPoint slides of socioeconomic data about the region that can be readily inserted into the Agency's varied presentations.

LAND USE

- Complete initial Envision 6 and use planning process and local government forecast coordination activities for 2030 RTP update and RDP update.
- Review comprehensive plans developed under new planning standards.
- Review Developments of Regional Impact (DRI).
- Implement Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program.
- Provide planning assistance to local governments.
- Regional greenspace planning coordination.
- Organize Regional Housing Forums and facilitate regional housing issues.
- Assist implementation of new plans and programs from 2030 RTP.

- Coordinate historic preservation and solid waste planning issues.
- Coordinate as appropriate division activities with non-profit organizations, academic institutions and foundations on regional planning issues.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- Support for water managers group addressing tri-State water litigation and related water rights issues. Management of legal and technical assistance.
- Chattahoochee Corridor Plan
 - technical assistance and reviews
 - violation follow-up
 - public education
- Manage the Chattahoochee River/Lake Management System to include SeFPC lawsuit settlement requirements.
- Support Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Activities
 - Board support
 - Provide technical support to committees
 - Manage plan implementation activities as directed by the Board
 - Watershed/Stormwater Regional Plan
 - Long-term Wastewater Treatment Facilities Plan
 - Water Supply/Water Conservation Plan
 - Public information education activities (includes Clean Water Campaign and Water Use It Wisely activities)
- Participate in Envision 6 process.
- Chattahoochee River Water Quality Project continue WQ model runs as needed, involvement with trout stream issues and study.
- Maintenance of Regional Stormwater Design Manual
 - Promotion, training, response to questions
 - Coordination of Meetings, Research topics/issues
- Participate in regional/local watershed studies and follow-up management
 - Big Haynes, Big Creek, Alcovy

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

- Long Range Transportation Plan
 - Monitor the impact of SAFETEA-LU on the current transportation planning process and adjust RTP work efforts accordingly
 - Update RTP in close coordination with RDP efforts
 - Participate in Envision 6 process
 - Organize and receive input from stakeholder involvement structure for plan update
 - Complete PLAN-IT database enhancement efforts and integration with GDOT T-Pro database
 - Enhance the current TIP/RTP ArcIMS website interface and features
 - Integration RTP efforts for expanded MPO planning area
 - Develop updated forecasts of federal funding based on SAFETEA-LU
- Modeling
 - Complete model development for 20-county geographic area
 - Complete commercial vehicle improvements in model
 - Integrate with freight management study
 - Conduct Quarterly Model Users Group Meetings
 - Integrate the mode choice model enhancements into the overall regional model stream
 - Develop tour-based and activity-based modeling techniques, including the early deployment of the population synthesizer, as a parallel track to the 4-step process
- Transportation Improvement Program
 - Complete 2006-2011 TIP
 - Begin work on 2008-2013 TIP
 - Work with the TIP Subcommittee on a regular basis to identify and address issues related to the TIP development process
 - Produce a status report related to implementation of FY 2006 phases of projects, "Breaking Ground".
- Air Quality Planning
 - Complete conformity determination on 8-hour ozone and PM 2.5 by April 2006
 - Continue facilitation of the TransAQ Team
 - Participate in Atlanta Diesel Working Group
 - Outreach and education to new counties affected by nonattainment area designations.
- Public Involvement
 - Public meetings
 - On-going Environmental Justice outreach and public meetings
 - On-going update of transportation activities on website
 - Expand public comment and feedback mechanisms
 - Develop and implement innovative web-based public involvement tools, such as an interactive RTP project prioritization application and enhanced ArcIMS site
- On-going Congestion Management System (CMS) process
 - Begin 2005-2006 CMS Update

- Collect data for CMD database
- Begin monitoring effort per CMS requirements
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning
 - Begin 2006 Bike/Ped plan and web-based bicycle suitability maps
 - Regional Transit Sidewalk Accessibility Study ongoing work
 - Inventory of pedestrian facilities around transit and local government support
- Special Projects
 - Multimodal Corridor Investment Studies – Tara Blvd. and Buford Hwy.
 - Regional Freight, Goods and Service Mobility Strategy Study
 - Southern Regional Transportation Accessibility Study
 - County Comprehensive Transportation Plan Assistance
 - Urban Heat Island
 - Atlanta Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Inventory and Emissions Study
 - Livable Centers Initiative coordination and implementation
- Miscellaneous Work Tasks
 - DRI's – on-going
 - Safety Planning – Online crash analysis tool if grant approved
 - Meet with the Freight Advisory Task Force
 - Management and Operations
 - Co-chair Regional Traffic Operations Task Force
 - Possible Value Pricing study
 - Additional ArcIMS applications and coordination with GDOT T-REX system
 - Bi-monthly Transportation Spotlight newsletters
- Administration
 - Certification – prepare appropriate briefing for and host triennial certification review and respond to any findings
 - MOU/MOA with GRTA and Non-attainment counties on planning, AQ issues and Transit
 - Revisit MPO Boundary to include whole counties

TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT

- Regional Ridesharing
 - Provide Regional Ridematching Services, including
 - application processing/data entry/geocoding
 - validation/database maintenance
 - employer service organization support (activities and data reports)
 - active database newsletter publication and distribution
 - research and measurement initiative reporting
 - Maintain the 1-87-RIDEFIND website

- Fund and administer a Regional Guaranteed Ride Home Program
- TDM Planning and Program Management
 - Work with planning partners to review and revise regional TDM projects in the TIP to increase use of alternatives to SOV travel
 - Advocate for and coordinate regional TDM activities within ARC
 - Provide Transportation Management Association/Local Transportation Management Program support for employer outreach and assistance
 - Participate in CMAQ Special Projects
 - Prepare, process and manage contracts for ARC projects aimed at reducing SOV travel
- Maintain leadership role in regional Transportation Demand Management policy development and implementation
- Play an active role in research, development, and implementation of TDM promotional activities
- Serve on boards and committees of local and national air quality and TDM organizations

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
AGING SERVICES DIVISION
FY 2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY**

- Complete the FY 2007 Update to the FY 2004-2007 **Area Plan on Aging**
- Administer aging related **federal, state and privately funded grants**.
- Provide, through contract, **a continuum of services to older adults** and their caregivers.
- Implement the Senior Community Services Employment Program providing **subsidized employment training placements** for low-income older adults
- Provide **information and consultation services** to assist older adults and their caregivers in making informed choices.
- Manage and serve as central intake point for the **Community Care Services Program** providing community based alternatives to nursing home care.
- **Implement and expand the Aging and Disabilities Resource Center** as a component of Agewise Connection Information Services
- Provide **health insurance and prescription drug counseling** through the Georgia Cares Program.
- Implement special training and outreach initiatives to inform person on Medicare about the new **Medicare Prescription Drug Program**
- Provide Medicare/Medicaid education to beneficiaries through the **Medicare Senior Patrol Project**.
- Develop and implement the **Mapping your Future and the Long-life Planning** initiatives as a comprehensive program for pre-retirees and retirees.
- Implement the **Kinship Caregiver Support Program** including publication of Georgia Generations and the convening of CareNet, a faith -based coalition.
- Develop the **Kinship Resource Network** through contracts with five community organizations.
- Expand **health and wellness services** to improve quality of life for older adults with a special initiative for transitioning senior centers to becoming wellness centers.
- Develop **transportation voucher programs** through contracts with county based aging programs in six counties of the region.

- Implement ***Aging Atlanta*** funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Project to increase awareness of aging issues, promote the development of age-friendly communities, to address gaps in the long-term care system and to promote the creation of more flexible and affordable services for older adults.
- Implement **Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORC)** in East Point and Toco Hills and develop a NORC Project in the Cheshire Bridge Elderly Highrise.
- Develop and implement a **subsidized employment program** designed to train older adults to serve as navigators in Department of Family and Children offices for caregivers and grand parents raising grand children needing assistance.
- Develop **business partnerships** to implement and expand programs for older adults.
- Develop the **Thanks Mom and Dad Fund** to provide support for aging programs
- Implement **advocacy efforts** with and on behalf of older adults in the region.
- Expand the **ESP/CONNECT Aging and Long-term Care Database** to include resources for persons with brain and/or spinal injuries, health and wellness programs and financial planning.
- Expand the numbers of **ESP/CONNECT subscribers** base through continued marketing of the ESP/CONNECT database.
- Implement the **web enabled intake and screening** component for the Client Health Assessment Instrument (CHAT)
- Develop and implement the case management component of the **Client Health Assessment Instrument (CHAT) Web Edition**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
FY2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY**

- Manage and implement Career Resource Centers throughout the region involved in providing quality job training services, including career advisement, job search and training services to regional citizens under the Workforce Investment Act. A new center in Douglas County will be established during 2005/2006.
- Implement specialized services for displaced workers at companies facing closure or downsizing. Specialized services may include on-site transition centers.
- Serve as the Regional lead in the expansion of the State-wide eligible provider listing, through evaluation of applications, review of performance and staffing of the regional ITA committee.
- Serve as the Regional lead in policy development, health care initiative project development and incumbent worker training.
- Explore the development of a Business Services Strategy and implementation of key services such as professional placement services, entrepreneurial workshops and resources, and selected recruitment services to assist local businesses with specialized needs.
- Partner with Gwinnett Department of Labor and Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce on a Business Advisory Committee to provide gap analysis and service planning for addressing the current and future employment needs of Gwinnett businesses.
- Seek funding for implementation of High Demand Occupational Training expansions in sectors such as Information Technology, Life Sciences and Advanced Manufacturing.
- Implement Healthcare Improvement Strategies and employer Customized Training with continuation of CNA to LPN Bridge Project and possible replication, continuation and extension of Hispanic CNA Project, and the implementation of the School At Work (SAW) Project in six regional hospitals.
- Provide the Atlanta Region with a one-call hotline number for information regarding Workforce Investment Act services.
- Provide comprehensive youth programs and special summer youth programs to the region's youth. Programs include basic skills, work experience and career readiness.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT SERVICES DIVISION
FY2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY**

- Collect indicator data, write and produce the fourth annual Platforms for Progress report.
- Develop and implement the 10th Leadership Involvement Networking Knowledge (LINK) trip.
- Develop and implement the 17th Regional Leadership Institute (RLI) class.
- Partner with four local governments in the region to host four rolling City and County Manager networking lunches.
- Develop and produce four local government economic development professional networking lunches.
- Expand the Community Planning Academy course offering to include special topic courses on specific quality growth trends and concepts that relate planning and economic development.
- Update the Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in compliance with the Federal EDD designation.
- Develop and implement strategy to assist local governments with implementation of Community Choices quality growth tools.
- Assist local governments, as requested, with management and operations consulting issues including pay and class studies, executive recruitment and strategic planning.
- Coordinate the Management Development Program in partnership with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government.
- Expand the services offered to our local governments.

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
FY2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY**

- Develop 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 boards of national organizations and through leadership development.
- Provide additional and targeted services to Commission members by serving as a catalyst and facilitator towards becoming a strategic Board; Assist the Board and its adjunct committees in expanding the way in which the community and ARC's stakeholder organizations and planning partners view the work of the Commission.
- Serve as liaison to the Georgia General Assembly and Congressional delegation: Create a 2006 legislative agenda for the Commission. Meet with individual legislators and committees throughout the year; introduce and work for passage of ARC legislation or legislation that has a clear benefit to ARC and/or the region; conduct briefings and legislative meetings on issues of particular importance to the Commission.
- Carry out activities to support relationship building with strategic organizations and governmental units.
- Serve as a liaison to business and community leaders and organizations in minority and underserved communities to facilitate their involvement in ARC's planning processes, projects and special initiatives.
- Design, plan and implement forums bringing together community and business leaders in minority and underserved communities with public officials for strategic discussions on the influence of diversity on growth, development, education and economic vitality in the region.
- Work with the environmental justice community to incorporate issues of concern in ARC's planning processes: convene meetings of the Environmental Justice Planning Team; collect data, conduct research and produce reports addressing environmental justice issues of significance to the Commission.
- Expand the scope and composition of the Hispanic/Latino Advisory Council and the Asian-American Advisory Council as an ARC resource.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT FY2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY

COMMUNICATIONS

- Produce quarterly public affairs TV show, “The Shape of Things to Come,” about regional issues.
- Shape and develop ARC’s new Web site design and functionality.
- Write and submit ARC Annual Report to the Georgia Legislature, ARC Board and key community partners.
- Implement ARC Strategic Communications Plan.
- Provide media relations, editorial services and communications strategy for all ARC plans, programs, services and events.
- Write, publish and distribute ARC ACTION newsletter and Regional Briefings e-bulletin on a regular basis.
- Plan and coordinate ARC’s annual “State of the Region” breakfast for key regional leaders.
- Plan and coordinate annual Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC) Youth Leadership Program.

GRAPHIC SERVICES

- Provide graphic design services to all ARC departments for program/plan/services/event collateral materials including logos, brochures, flyers, signage, reports, presentations, invitations, displays, etc.

INFORMATION CENTER

- Coordinate dissemination of ARC’s information products and resources to the Atlanta regional community through an onsite Information Center, as well as through a virtual information center at www.atlantaregional.com and via outreach to chambers, development authorities, libraries, universities, businesses and local and state governments.
- Coordinate quarterly meetings of Regional Communicator’s Forum.

SUPPORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT FY2006 WORK PROGRAM SUMMARY

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Implement an agency training strategy based upon a staff development needs assessment.
- Manage employee benefits program, classification and compensation plan, performance management program and the recruitment process.
- Research implementing an automated recruitment process.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Maintain an efficient state-of-the-art computer network for ARC business and planning support including high-speed network; current servers, desktop PCs and printers/plotters; and high-speed Internet access,
- Provide database management services for the agency; support of web operations including the web site, Intranet and other internal web operations.
- Provide technical support through the HelpDesk for all PC & network operations; provide technical support, applications development and integration of database and web applications throughout the agency.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

- Manage facilities and related day-to-day operations of the agency.
- Manage the agency's alternative transportation program for staff, such as carpools and transit ridership, and segway training for public and private entities.
- Coordinate security of ARC office space and safety of ARC staff with building management.

FINANCE

- Perform financial operations for the agency, including budgeting, grant and financial reporting, purchasing, billing and payroll.
- Conduct an annual audit and prepare the agency's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- Provide GIS technical support and training for local government and ARC staff.
- Expand the use of oblique imagery for ARC and local government applications.
- Update and maintain Land Use & Street Base data and make available to local governments and the Georgia Office of Homeland Security.
- Enhance the ability of staff to access and analyze GIS Data through expanded GIS Desktop applications and Web Based applications.