

## PROPOSED AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Buzz Ahrens, Chair*

**Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Buzz Ahrens, Chair*
2. Public Comment Period
3. Approve November 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Buzz Ahrens, Chair*

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. Review Plan 2040 documents *Dan Reuter, ARC*
  - Local Performance Measures
  - Five Year Work Program
  - “Big picture”

#### DATA ITEMS

5. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

None

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

None

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE January 13, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>
BJ Mathis, Vice Chair	Buzz Aherns, Chair
Kip Berry	Kerry Armstrong
Dennis Burnette	Ray Christman
Gene Hatfield	Dan Davis
Bucky Johnson	Todd Ernst
Ralph Moore	Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio
Dave Sjoquist	Danny Lindsey
	Mark Mathews
	Richard Oden
	Dan Post
	Narender Reddy
	Mickey Thompson
	H. Lamar Willis
	Chick Krautler

### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Dave Sjoquist, Member*
2. Public Comment Period *Dave Sjoquist, Member*

There was no public comment.
3. Approve November 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Dave Sjoquist, Member*

No action on meeting summary (No quorum)

## PLAN UPDATES

### 4. Review PLAN 2040 documents

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

- Local Performance Measures
- 5-Yr Work Program
- “Big Picture”

Dan Reuter gave a presentation on PLAN 2040 documents. He stated that a lot of interaction with local governments and others has occurred during the plan development process. The timeline for PLAN 2040 adoption includes a public hearing at ELUC in March, Board to transmit the plan to DCA in March; DCA will then review and comment; ARC to adopt PLAN 2040 documents in July. Dr. Sjoquist asked when does the Commission receive the plan for review/action. Reuter replied that DCA items related to the plan will be transmitted from ELUC to the Commission in March. ELUC received draft documents last meeting and they are in the packet today as well.

Reuter stated that some of the big picture items for PLAN 2040 are: more consistency between various ARC activities; more specifics for how PLAN 2040 impacts local governments; and good local government support for the plan.

Reuter mentioned that the PLAN 2040 process is long and complicated; the PowerPoint slides show the interaction between different requirements, documents, and processes. Progress to date includes the Community Assessment being adopted in 2009. ARC adopted the Regional Resource Plan and Vision, Goals, and Objectives in 2010. ARC staff prepared scenarios that informed the official forecast and relate to the Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM). Local land use policy has been considered in forecast work.

Mr. Burnett raised a question about the UGPM and forecast: does it depict that growth is happening where we don't want it to happen? Reuter replied that some development will occur in the rural areas, but more is occurring in the developed/developing areas as anticipated. Mayor Moore asked for the definition of suburb and rural as used in the UGPM. Reuter mentioned that definitions and more detailed descriptions of the UGPM categories are contained in the Regional Development Guide. A range of densities is included in this guide, along with other details. Mayor Moore asked if density is the only descriptor. He would like to see varying criteria, consistent with details of local comp plans. This also relates to one of the criteria MARTA uses for service considerations, so more details are important.

Reuter stated that staff has prepared a draft of the Local Performance Standards. Dr. Sjoquist asked what the Performance Standards relate to. Reuter replied that they relate to PLAN 2040. Per DCA regional planning rules, local governments have three years to address the standards that will help implement PLAN 2040. The Local Performance Standards are based on input from Fifty Forward, Green Communities, Envision6, Water District, and TCC/LUCC work sessions. Reuter mentioned that local governments under 5,000 population must meet a “required” level of standards, while those over 5,000 must meet the required standards and at least 50% of the advanced standards as well. Dr. Sjoquist asked how many cities are under 5,000 population. Reuter stated that a list of jurisdictions by

population is on page 5 of the document; there are about 18 cities under 5,000. Reuter said that many of the local governments are interested in the Excellence Standards; they think they meet the minimum currently and want to achieve the next level. Staff will continue to work on incentives for this level. Dr. Sjoquist asked if the performance standards will include carrots and sticks to encourage compliance. Reuter said yes. Dr. Hatfield stated that if the reason for the 5,000 population is the likelihood of these communities not having planning staff then this may not be an appropriate rationale. He stated why not give them more time instead of fewer requirements. Some differential should be applied, but the outcome should be the same. If they have resources but no staff, they can hire consultants to assist them.

Reuter mentioned that staff also created a document identifying non-profit organizations and activities they undertake that help implement PLAN 2040. The RTP/TIP development is well underway and will continue as part of PLAN 2040. The ARC Five Year Work Program is the next major document included in the plan process. This document will describe the activities ARC will undertake to further PLAN 2040. All of these documents are draft until formal adoption in July 2011. ELUC and the ARC Board can add items over the next few months.

Dr. Hatfield questioned about the maps on page 12 and 13 related to household growth and location. It looks like significant growth may occur in ways that do not seem optimum. Reuter replied that there is some growth in non-optimum areas; but much more growth will occur where infrastructure exists. Mr. Burnette stated that it appears Cobb does not experience much growth, where Cherokee and Forsyth do. What has Cobb done to discourage growth? Alexander explained that North Fulton is one of the most restrictively zoned areas in the region. Cobb is oriented to focusing growth to potential future transit areas and restricting growth in western Cobb. The maps are built in concert with what local governments expect to occur and have developed policies to support their expectations. Information from local governments is built into the forecast model. Most of the “dots” are in the yellow area (suburban) and not in green areas (rural). Reuter stated that east Cobb is mostly built out, and it is not easy to get more development in this area. The map is a work in progress and will be updated annually. Dr. Hatfield stated that if PLAN 2040 should be successful because it limits sprawl to smaller areas then that point needs to be made more clearly. Dr. Sjoquist stated that the dots on the map are based on three forces: market, local policy, ARC priorities. Dots are not clear as to the weight of each of these forces. ARC should create more of a map reflecting regional priorities and local governments can make needed policy changes to support that direction.

Dr. Hatfield said it would be interesting to see an analysis of what we call public involvement and how it has evolved. Public involvement appears to be much more productive over recent years.

## **DATA ITEMS**

### **5. Regional Snapshot – *Fresh Food Versus Fast Food***

*Mike Carnathan, ARC*

Mike Carnathan provided an overview of the January Regional Snapshot which focuses on access to fresh food. This is a topic of importance, especially in public health circles. The Snapshot finds that some areas for a variety of reasons have better access to fresh food than others. A detailed and technical methodology was used to develop the findings, including locations of grocery stores and fast food locations, and compared to types of areas (e.g.

density, race, etc) around the region. Various findings are reported in the Snapshot. The primary point is highlighted in Map 1 on the back, which shows areas with greater access to fast food vs. fresh food. The relationship of access to fresh food and location is not a cause and effect change; the map is just identifying patterns.

Dr. Hatfield said this was a great report and it could be a feature story rounded out with anecdotes. Julie Ralston said feature stories are good. She also suggested the use of op-ed pieces; example is Aging Division community gardening program. This is an area local governments could explore more. Mayor Moore said it would be interesting to show an association with major transportation corridors. Carnathan replied that the report includes a data related to food access and traffic volumes.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

None

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

6. Update on the LCI Project Construction Status *Amy Goodwin, ARC*

Amy Goodwin provided an update on the status of LCI transportation projects. She mentioned the handout included in the committee packet provides details of progress to date. There are 43 active projects underway, including 13 projects selected in 2010 that were recently included in the TIP. Four additional projects are pending to be included in the TIP shortly. A Breaking Ground Report will be completed by the end of January. This report provides updated details on the status of each LCI funded transportation project. Dr. Sjoquist noted that projects currently under construction appear more expensive than older ones. Goodwin replied that many of the older ones were smaller projects. She also said that staff recently set a minimum amount of \$500,000 for LCI funded transportation projects that did not exist previously.

7. Update on state of region's housing and foreclosures *Beth Hawes, ARC*

Postponed to a future meeting.

## **MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

None

## **OTHER**

None

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Buzz Ahrens, Chair*

**Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Public Comment Period
3. Approve January 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. Review final Plan 2040 DCA documents and Transmittal Resolution (First read) *Dan Reuter, ARC*
  - **Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM)** – Consolidated local and regional land use policy.  
[http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu\\_ugpm\\_nov\\_2010.pdf](http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu_ugpm_nov_2010.pdf)
  - **Development Guide** - Description of UGPM areas and implementation measures.  
[http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/LCI/lu\\_plan2040\\_developmentguide\\_10-28-2010.pdf](http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/LCI/lu_plan2040_developmentguide_10-28-2010.pdf)
  - **Local Performance Standards** - Minimum and Excellence performance thresholds for local governments to implement PLAN 2040.  
[http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu\\_plan2040\\_local\\_govt\\_implementation\\_012011.pdf](http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu_plan2040_local_govt_implementation_012011.pdf)
  - **Regional Partner Strategies** - Identified activities that non-governmental organizations and others will undertake.  
[http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu\\_plan2040\\_regional\\_implementation\\_partners\\_012011.pdf](http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu_plan2040_regional_implementation_partners_012011.pdf)
  - **Five Year Work Program** - Activities ARC will seek to undertake to implement PLAN 2040 in the upcoming five year period.  
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**DATA ITEMS**

5. Regional Snapshot

*Mike Carnathan, ARC*

**REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

None

**PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

6. Update on Implementation Task Force

Ralph Moore, Mayor  
Union City

**MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

None

**OTHER**

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE February 10, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Buzz Ahrens, Chair	Kerry Armstrong
BJ Mathis, Vice Chair	Kip Berry
Dennis Burnette	Ray Christman
Todd Ernst	Dan Davis
Gene Hatfield	Danny Lindsey
Bucky Johnson	Mark Mathews
Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio	Richard Oden
Ralph Moore	Dan Post
Narender Reddy	Mickey Thompson
Dave Sjoquist	
H. Lamar Willis	
Chick Krautler	

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Buzz Ahrens, Chair*

Chairman Ahrens noted that this was his last meeting as Chairman and that Rockdale County Chairman Richard Oden would be taking over as Chair next month.

2. Public Comment Period *Buzz Ahrens, Chair*

There was no public comment.

3. Approve January 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summaries *Buzz Ahrens, Chair*

Approved.

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. Review final PLAN 2040 DCA documents (First Read) *Dan Reuter, ARC*

- **Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM)** – Consolidated local and regional land use policy.  
[http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu\\_ugpm\\_nov\\_2010.pdf](http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu_ugpm_nov_2010.pdf)
- **Development Guide** - Description of UGPM areas and implementation measures.  
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- **Five Year Work Program** - Activities ARC will seek to undertake to implement PLAN 2040 in the upcoming five year period.  
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Dan Reuter provided an update on PLAN 2040 adoption process and provided the PLAN 2040 final documents to ELUC. Next month ARC will hold a public hearing and ELUC will transmit the Plan to the Commission and the Commission will transmit to DCA for approval. The Plan will stay draft until it is adopted by the Commission in July, and therefore tweaks and edits can still be made.

Judy Dovers in the Transportation Planning Division (TPD) provided an update on the public outreach effort to date for PLAN 2040, including the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Outreach has been conducted to three target groups – local government officials, stakeholders, and the general public. In 2010, the PLAN 2040 website had 10,300 hits, ARC held 220 separate stakeholder/local official and public meetings, and there were 1400 visits to the online public meetings with 200 participants completing surveys. In 2011, TPD staff met with local planners from every county, and will be reporting back to the stakeholders groups in March and holding an online public meeting. The final draft RTP and project lists will be reviewed in May and June prior to Commission adoption in July.

Chairman Ahrens asked if any comments from these stakeholder meetings were incorporated into PLAN 2040. Ms. Dovers responded that the key themes and major comments were incorporated, such as that the plan should focus on optimizing the existing infrastructure, rather than further expansion.

Mr. Reuter presented the proposed 5-year work program for the Land Use, Aging, Government Services, and Environmental Divisions. Jane Hayse presented the 5-year work program for Transportation and Mary Margaret Garrett for Workforce Development. (Draft 5-Yr Work Program and PowerPoint Presentation is included in the ELUC packets, and at the link above).

Mayor Johnson asked Ms. Hayse about the proposed freight planning and implementation program. Mayor Johnson said that a lot of truckers use GPS now and often end up off the truck route and in the middle of a downtown crossing railroad tracks, etc. Can this program help to address that problem? Ms. Hayse responded yes, through this program, local governments could adopt the truck route plan, communicate it to the industry possibly through dispatchers, install signage, etc. Mayor Johnson thought that the signage would not help much now that everyone uses GPS devices, but use of technology and dispatchers to communicate where trucks are supposed to go would help.

Dr. Hatfield asked Ms. Hayse what types of projects would be included in the proposed traffic operations and safety program? Ms. Hayse replied primarily low cost spot safety improvements, examples include guardrails, expanded shoulders, minor intersection realignments, pavement striping, etc. Dr. Hatfield asked if Ms. Hayse knew who monitors/oversees construction work sites, because they are often not well demarcated or signed which can be very dangerous for workers. Ms. Hayse responded that GDOT oversees construction on state or federal highways, and local government does for local roads.

Mr. Reuter presented the Local Government Performance Measures document. Local governments would need to meet the minimum standards within 3 years of adoption. ARC staff will provide technical assistance to the local governments to help them achieve the measures.

Chairman Ahrens asked what are consequences of not meeting the standards? Mr. Reuter stated that ARC will actively work with the local governments to ensure they meet the standards, however, if a local government does not meet the minimum (or advanced, if applicable) standard in three years, then the case will be presented to the ARC Commission which may then recommend to DCA the suspension of Qualified Local Government (QLG) status. Losing QLG status has implications for eligibility for state and local funds.

Mayor Moore commented on the use of an arbitrary population threshold as the criteria for determining if a local government had to meet the minimum or advanced standards. He explained that many rural towns with more than 5000 residents may have a difficult time meeting the standards, while some cities under 5000 population may be well staffed and have urban characteristics warranting the advanced measures. Mr. Reuter explained that it seems like a logical cut-off when looking at the towns that have staff and those that don't, but that 5,000 is arbitrary and any thoughts on how to deal with that are welcome. Dr. Hatfield noted that since small local governments will have access to ARC and County support and technical assistance, and given that the cumulative effects of these small cities could be quite impactful, that perhaps there shouldn't be such an exemption allowed. Mayor Johnson suggested that rather than an arbitrary threshold of 5000 population, that it would be left up to the community to submit a request to the ARC to opt down to the lower standard. Mr. Reuter said that the most important thing is the dialogue between ARC and the local governments and working with them to help them meet the standards.

Dr. Sjoquist raised the question of the future of the LCI program in PLAN 2040. It seems that the program has run its course (in its current form) and are there other ways to spend the money that are more transit-supportive, and/or to use the funds more broadly, and that we are running out of areas in the region that are appropriate for LCI. Mr. Reuter responded that we currently have 107 LCI areas, and there are approximately \$1 million per year available in planning funds. There continues to be a need for supplemental planning work to help implement the LCI plans – for example funds to draft overlay district zoning, 10-Yr updates, TOD studies, etc. The number of applications submitted for new LCI areas have been decreasing because there are few areas left that qualify (gone from 20+ applications to only 5 this year). On the construction side – there is still a tremendous need and benefit to LCI areas for sidewalks and other transportation improvements. Chick Krautler agreed that the current concept of LCI has pretty much run its course and recognizes that the program needs to change, ARC is now looking at targeting new/proposed transit sites, different criteria, also ARC may determine future centers for the LCI program rather than solicit applications. Dr. Sjoquist added that there are an abundance of struggling shopping centers throughout region, maybe there's a way to link those, create synergy through LCI.

Mayor Johnson asked about the funding for LCI, Mr. Reuter responded that there is approximately \$1 million per year for studies and \$20 million per year transportation projects through 2040 (\$500 million was set aside for LCI in Mobility 2030 – being extended to PLAN 2040) – currently about \$170 million has been programmed on transportation projects since 2003. Mayor Johnson stated that he supports the program and thinks the LCI plans are important to have in place to guide the infrastructure spending, but that some tweaks are needed.

## **DATA ITEMS**

### 5. Regional Snapshot –*Small Area Regional Forecast*

*Mike Alexander, ARC*

Mike Alexander provided an overview of the February Regional Snapshot which focuses on the small area county level regional forecast (population, employment, traffic, etc). Chairman Leithead commended Mr. Alexander on his help providing data for a presentation that Chairman Leithead conducted in Henry County. He added that local governments find this information critical for their planning efforts. Mayor Moore asked if this information could be made available for the regional roundtable meetings. Mr. Alexander responded that these forecasts are the basis for the project list being considered by the roundtable. Dr. Hatfield noted that the projections for Clayton County are bleak – what can we do to turn this around? Mr. Reuter replied that he recently met with Clayton County Chairman Bell regarding using Clayton County as a pilot for programs addressing foreclosures and vacant properties. Narender Reddy added that while Gwinnett County has more foreclosures than Clayton, those properties haven't lost as much value – in Clayton County foreclosed houses are selling for as little as \$25,000. Chairman Ahrens commended Mike Carnathan for coming up to Cherokee County to present information from the regional snapshot.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

6. 2010 Recap of DRIs: This item was postponed to a later meeting in the interest of time.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

### 7. Update on Implementation Task Force

*Ralph Moore, Mayor, Union City*

Mayor Moore summarized the efforts of the Implementation Task Force. They met three times and determined the primary activities that should be undertaken to implement Plan 2040:

- Develop regional performance measures for Plan 2040.
- Develop and maintain a “dashboard” and other communication tools (e.g. website, presentations, etc) to track project delivery.
- Evaluate annual work program and its outcomes, consider the use of logic models.

## **MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

None

## **OTHER**

None

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Dan Post, Vice-Chair*

**Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Dan Post, Vice- Chair*
2. Public Hearing – PLAN 2040 *Judith Dovers, ARC*
3. Approve February 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Dan Post, Vice-Chair*

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. Review final draft Plan 2040 documents and Transmittal Resolution (Action Item) *Dan Reuter, ARC*
5. Overview of Economic Development Strategy *Kellie Brownlow, ARC*

#### DATA ITEMS

6. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

7. Equitable Target Areas Analysis (EJ) *Alia Awwad, ARC*

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

8. Overview of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Activities *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE March 10, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Dan Post, Vice Chair	Richard Oden, Chair
Kip Berry	Kerry Armstrong
Brian Bowling	Dan Davis
Dennis Burnette	Danny Lindsey
Ray Christman	John O'Callaghan
Todd Ernst	Mickey Thompson
Gene Hatfield	Lamar Willis
Allie Kelly	
Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio	
Mark Matthews	
BJ Mathis	
Ralph Moore	
Narender Reddy	
Dave Sjoquist	

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome

*Richard Oden, Chair*

2. Public Hearing – PLAN 2040

*Judith Dovers, ARC*

Dan Reuter with ARC opened the public hearing by explaining that on July 27, 2011 ARC will adopt PLAN 2040, and as part of the overall process the Commission is accepting comments and suggestions by the public. Mr. Reuter then gave an overview of the public hearing rules.

Bradley Phillips from Duluth, Georgia introduced himself to the committee. A full copy of his comments is included at the end of the meeting summary.

Vice Chairman Post recognized that Chairman Oden was absent and that there were several new members present. He then asked the committee to introduce themselves.

3. Approve February 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary

*Richard Oden, Chair*

Approved.

## PLAN UPDATES

4. Review final draft PLAN 2040 DCA documents and Transmittal Resolution (Action Item)

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Mr. Reuter discussed several documents included in the committee's packet including a chart that outlines new sub-committees that Chairman Oden has proposed. Reuter stated that the PLAN 2040 Regional Agenda includes the following documents:

- **Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM)** – Consolidated local and regional land use policy.  
[http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu\\_ugpm\\_nov\\_2010.pdf](http://www.atlantaregional.com/File%20Library/Land%20Use/Plan2040/lu_ugpm_nov_2010.pdf)
- **Development Guide** - Description of UGPM areas and implementation measures.  
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Dan Reuter provided an update on the PLAN 2040 adoption process and reminded the committee that they were only transmitting these draft documents to DCA for their review, and there is still time for edits and changes between now and July, when the plan is scheduled to be adopted. There will also be annual updates that will allow the document and implementation process to be dynamic. Mr. Reuter also explained that PLAN 2040 is a joint Transportation and Land Use plan to meet state and federal requirements.

Mr. Reuter then gave an overview of the vision and goals of PLAN 2040, as well as each of the documents that will be transmitted to DCA. Links to each document are provided above. Mr. Reuter explained that these documents were developed with assistance and input from local elected officials and staff. Mr. Reuter informed the Committee of concerns some jurisdictions had regarding the local performance standards. Mr. Reuter told the committee that ARC staff selected three jurisdictions to test the local standards and gauge how close these were to achieving the standards. All three test cases were very close to achieving the required minimum standards, and with discussion and assistance from ARC, all should be able to achieve the minimum standard.

Mr. Reuter then gave an overview of previous plans and programs including the Regional Resource Plan, the LCI program and implementation to date, other local plans, the Concept3 regional transit plan and other TOD work, and Lifelong Communities.

Mr. Reuter directed the Committee's attention to the transmittal resolution in their packet and explained changes made since the last reading, including one change that states ARC will delay some implementation until more was known about Senate Bill 86 (SB 86) and potential changes to Department of Community Affairs (DCA) rules affecting ARC's work.

The Committee discussed PLAN 2040 and the resolution and made the following comments.

The process has been exceptional and has been one of the best things that has happened regarding regional planning in a long time. This is a revolutionary document. It suggests a very different way for the region to grow for the next 30 years, as compared to the last 30 years. The implementation program as developed thus far is a great first step, but actual implementation will be critical. The regional round table projects list, being developed as part of the requirements of the Transportation Investment Act (TIA), will need to reflect the goals contained in PLAN 2040 which include guiding growth to centers and corridors and aligning land use and transportation needs.

SB 86 is discouraging in that it sets regional planning back. ARC will need to work with local governments to ensure implementation.

LCI in its current form is coming to the end of its useful life. Most communities that could take advantage this program have done so. ARC should develop LCI 2.0 to encourage further local implementation.

A committee member asked whether or not the three jurisdictions used as test cases for the local performance standards were close to achieving the minimums. Mr. Reuter stated that all three communities were within a few points of meeting the standards. The interaction of ARC staff and local staff will be good and will make the process easier than some may have thought. Mr. Reuter then suggested that a subcommittee of ELUC take a closer look at the standards.

One committee member questioned the inclusion of the last whereas of the transmittal resolution. The committee member stated that by the time we adopt, we will know what has happened with SB 86, so why do we need this statement? Chick Krautler with ARC stated that the reason we are including this statement is to show that we are cognizant of local concerns related to the SB 86 and potential changes to DCA. If the legislation is passed, and DCA creates new regional rules, then we can come back to the committee and the board and discuss what changes need to happen.

Another committee member added that ARC must understand that a lot of these issues are in a state of flux, but this language gets us where we need to be by referencing this issue.

The committee passed the resolution unanimously.

## 5. Overview of Economic Development Strategy

*Kellie Brownlow, ARC*

Kellie Brownlow discussed ARC's work involving economic development. ARC is the Economic Development District (EDD) for the Atlanta region. EDDs are charged with the creation and maintenance of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The creation of this plan allows participating local governments to apply for related funding set-aside for EDDs. ARC developed a CEDS in 2002, updated it in 2007, and will update again in 2012. ARC has submitted an application for funding to develop a new CEDS for the Atlanta region.

Mrs. Brownlow then explained that the CEDS coordinates various economic development strategies by various organizations in the region. It is intended to be a tool for economic developers, not a mandate and is not intended to make ARC an economic development organization. This strategy matches with our goal to be a regional convener.

Mrs. Brownlow then went on to say that this is not a new process. Portland, Tampa, Orlando, Seattle all have economic development strategies. She asked the committee, how do we communicate and coordinate, and yet not be perceived as heavy handed. After speaking with an economic development expert, Mrs. Brownlow was told that the region is too large to not have a CEDS and there is no coordination between the various economic development groups in the region. This lack of coordination and communication often puts the region in a poor position when it comes to business recruitment. The CEDS will coordinate local and regional plans, policies, and economic development efforts.

Mrs. Brownlow then informed the committee of the Governor's Competitiveness Initiative which has charged the Georgia Chamber of Commerce with holding meetings around the state in order to develop a statewide economic development strategy that will help different regions implement their economic development strategies.

Mrs. Brownlow closed her presentation by letting the Committee know that ARC is waiting to hear whether or not the Commission is awarded funds for the CEDS, then staff will convene stakeholders. She asked the Committee, what do you all think the make-up of the stakeholders should be and how outreach should occur?

The Committee discussed the CEDS and had the following comments and questions.

What does the chamber think? Mrs. Brownlow answered that ARC staff briefed them on this concept and the Chamber was very much in support. Chick Krautler, reminded the committee of a presentation by Mike Alexander which discussed wages in the region as compared to our competitors and how important this was to our region's success. This issue is important to the Chamber and will be addressed in the CEDS.

Another element to think about is not just the key issues, but also innovative approaches such as Community Development Financing Initiatives (CDFIs) and other new tools that are being used around the country. Internal and external stakeholder groups should be used as a sounding board.

Some of these organizations may wonder whether or not ARC threatening to "get in their business." In order to disarm that concern, the advisory board should be representative of those groups, including chambers and other economic development organizations. ARC could show what we bring to the table such as new strategies or additional funds.

There are two parts to this question, identify problems, such as not creating higher paying jobs. Then we need to include people that can bring creative thinking to those issues. The state does not have many options except for increasing the credit, we need to help come up with creative solutions.

The real business of economic development is development of our infrastructure. These economic development organizations may not be well informed on these issues and what roles ARC plays. These advisory boards can serve as a way to inform these groups and create a dialogue.

What is the timeframe for this plan? The plan must be finished by December 2012.

The committee was asked whether or not ARC should be involved in the Governor's and the Chamber's efforts statewide efforts. Absolutely, especially if they are reaching out to us. And we need our relevant staff to be included or even chair the groups that are formed from those efforts.

ARC needs to be clear and not just invite the local chambers, but seek their participation otherwise they may feel that we are a threat.

It's wonderful that Governor is embarking on this issue; the number one goal should be to pass the regional transportation sales tax. ARC could coordinate the Governors process with the efforts to pass the regional sales tax.

Are we actually partnering with the Chamber? Yes on our one regional piece, but all regional pieces will inform the statewide plan.

How closely do the governors districts align with the 12 special tax districts? Gives an opportunity to expand outreach efforts and stress the importance of connectivity between the regions. It was not clear how closely they align, although it was confirmed that there are also 12 regions in the statewide economic development plan.

## **DATA ITEMS**

### **6. Regional Snapshot**

*Mike Carnathan, ARC*

Mike Carnathan provided an overview of the most recent snapshot on educational attainment, which is based on the most recent census data. The Atlanta region is an educated place; we are the 9<sup>th</sup> highest in terms of college graduates, 9<sup>th</sup> lowest in terms of those without high school diploma. This snapshot also looks at types of degrees in the region. The Atlanta region is 2<sup>nd</sup> in the country in business degrees behind Dallas, but 16<sup>th</sup> out of 20 with science and engineering degrees. In terms of county level educational attainment, every county has increased its share of population with a college degree and decreased share of population without high school diploma. The snapshot also included a map displaying educational attainment in the region.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

### **7. Equitable Target Areas (EJ)**

*Alia Awwad, ARC*

Alia Awwad presented an analysis of Environmental Justice (EJ) areas in the Atlanta region. ARC developed its own index based on that of other MPOs and using the American Community Survey as an input. Mrs. Awwad then explained each of the parameters of the index which include age, race, education, housing value, poverty, and race. She discussed several maps which showed where high concentrations of each parameter were located within the region. Using this data, staff developed a map of Equitable Target Areas (ETA), which display EJ areas within the Atlanta region, based on our context.

Mrs. Awwad explained that in this analysis, ARC staff used the ETA map to gauge the impact of PLAN 2040. Staff found that most of the ETA areas are located in southern part of the region. When the ETA map was compared to the UGPM, it was found that 33% of the ETA areas are located in regional and local centers, which implies that there may be a higher degree of services offered locally. Also when compared to the LCI program, 81% of ETA areas are located within LCI studies. Staff then compared ETAs to the PLAN 2040 constrained transportation project list, and finally they were compared jobs/housing balance in ETA and non-ETA locations.

Mrs. Awwad informed the Committee that based on staff's, analysis PLAN 2040 does not pose a disproportionate impact to ETA areas as compared to non-ETA areas. However project specific analysis needs to be conducted on projects within ETA areas.

The comment was made that ARC has done this type of analysis for many years, but this is one of the best efforts.

**PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

- 8. Overview of Transit Oriented Development

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

This item was not covered.

**MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

None

**OTHER**

None

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Approve March 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*
3. Discussion of proposed ELUC – “Team” Framework *Richard Oden, Chair*

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. Update on Water Issues and MNGWPD *Pat Stevens, ARC*
5. Brief status on PLAN 2040 *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### DATA ITEMS

6. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

None

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

7. Update on LCI and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) *Rob LeBeau and Amy Goodwin, ARC*

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

April 14, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Richard Oden, Chair	Dan Post, Vice Chair
Kerry Armstrong	Kip Berry
Dennis Burnette	Brian Bowling
Ray Christman	Mark Mathews
Todd Ernst	John O'Callaghan
Gene Hatfield	Mickey Thompson
Allie Kelly	H. Lamar Willis
Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio	
Danny Lindsey	
BJ Mathis	
Ralph Moore	
Narender Reddy	
Dave Sjoquist	

### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Approve March 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summaries *Richard Oden, Chair*  

Approved.
3. Discussion of Proposed ELUC "Team" Framework *Richard Oden, Chair*

The proposed team framework was included in the ELUC packet. There would be six (6) teams comprised of 3-4 members of ELUC, and ELUC members are welcome to participate in any team and multiple teams if they so wish. The teams are: Land Use (Ralph Moore lead), Water (Kerry Armstrong lead), Housing (John O'Callaghan lead), Energy (Ray

Christman, lead), Government Services (Lamar Willis, lead) and Resources (Allie Kelly, lead).

The Divisions of Land Use, Environmental Planning and Government Services would support the teams. Teams can meet in person, by phone, conduct work by e-mail, etc. ARC will create a place on its website where team members can exchange files. Teams would report back to ELUC as a whole. The purpose of these teams is to become more familiar with the work of the divisions, to provide guidance to staff on the planning and implementation strategies being undertaken, to keep ELUC more informed and have more productive ELUC meetings. For example, the Land Use team would like the opportunity to review the LCI application and eligibility criteria prior to the next funding round.

Discussion:

- Mr. Moore and Mr. Burnette commented that they liked the idea for the opportunity to be more active in implementation and monitoring of the work program and developing innovative alternatives. Mr. Burnette asked when the initiative would begin and added that there should be a kick-off meeting with the Divisions. Mr. Oden responded that the teams could start meeting immediately if the proposal is approved by ELUC today.
- Mr. Hatfield commented that these teams could significantly increase the workload for the committee members as well as staff. He also expressed the concern that these areas don't get "siloed", that they somehow get aggregated for ELUC and the Commission as a whole to consider. Mr. Oden noted that members could be involved in multiple teams to make sure there is some "cross germination" and they are not creating silos.
- Mr. Christman added that these committees will provide a forum to become more engaged in implementation, not just planning, but that it would be a lot more work for committee members and staff and we need to acknowledge and be aware of possible implications. Mr. Leithead said that he had vetted the concept with staff and they were supportive. Mr. Reuter noted that the Land Use Division will have a lead role in at least four of the teams and that he welcomes ELUC having more interaction with the Division's work and will do whatever possible to be cooperative and productive.
- Dr. Sjoquist cautioned that the committees should guide staff, but shouldn't meddle too much in staff affairs. Mr. Oden agreed and said they would rely on staff to make sure the planning teams aren't counterproductive or meddling too much.

Mr. Leithead made a motion to approve the formation of the planning teams, Mr. Hatfield seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **PLAN UPDATES**

### 4. Regional Economic Development Strategy (Action Item)

*Richard Oden, Chair*

Mr. Oden recapped Kellie Brownlow's presentation from last month on the Region's Economic Development Strategy. ARC has been charged with hosting an Economic

Development Strategy Summit in July. ARC met with local governments to see who should attend, what is an economic development strategy and how does it relate to the state's economic development strategy, as well as logistics such as time and staff commitments needed and establishing a committee structure. The committee teams were established as follows:

Business Team (Kellie Brownlow, lead)

Local Government (Crystal Jackson, lead)

Quality of Life (Stephen Cosby, lead)

Education and Workforce Development (Kellie Brownlow, lead)

As the federally designated economic development district, ARC is responsible for adopting an economic strategy by 2012. ARC will work with Chambers of Commerce, local governments and non-profit partners to complete a major update of the strategy. ARC will also partner with the Governor's Office and the Department of Economic Development to host a regional summit on economic strategy. ELUC needs action from this committee before presenting to the Executive Committee for approval. A resolution was included in the packet and reviewed by ELUC members.

Dr. Sjoquist asked if organizations not specifically mentioned in the resolution would be precluded from participating. Mr. Oden responded that it does not, but that additional organizations could be added to the resolution if ELUC prefers.

The motion to approve co-hosting the Economic Development Strategy Summit with the state was seconded and approved.

#### 5. Update on Water Issues and MNGWPD

*Pat Stevens, ARC*

Ms. Stevens gave a powerpoint presentation which is included in the ELUC packet. Some highlights included: Per capita water usage for the Atlanta region is trending downward, and overall water usage is down. Ms. Stevens thought that the recession was likely the major contributing factor in these reductions. Ranked up against other major metropolitan regions, Atlanta is among the lowest in per capita water usage. Ms. Stevens explained that it can be unfair to compare regions to other regions because there are so many factors that play into water usage, such as the economy, climate, type of industry, density of housing, etc. A better benchmark or evaluation method would be to compare your own community's water usage over time, rather than comparing it to places like Las Vegas and Phoenix that are built in a desert. Even within a region it's difficult to compare one county to another – Paulding County for example has the highest per capita water usage, but they have a brewery (which uses a lot of water) and not a lot of people.

Discussion:

- Committee members asked if ARC have a goal of a particular number or rate that we are striving for and what metric should be used if not comparison to other regions? Ms. Stevens replied that we don't have a specific number that we are striving for, instead the goal is to identify the most practical conservation measures for a given community, implement them, and then measure water use to see if it worked. A good

example of this is the toilet rebate program implemented by almost every jurisdiction in the 15 county area.

- What is the total amount of water returned to basins? Answer on page 34 of report. Only 11 out of 90 wastewaters treatment facilities have capacity challenges. Water quality in the Atlanta Region has improved despite adding 3 million people to region.
- Is the Water District collecting data for “serious” planning? Other Water Districts have complained that there is very little data to do planning. Ms. Stevens replied that the districts report to the state, and ARC obtains data from the state. She thinks there is ample data to conduct planning.
- How can we show that we are getting better? We need a standard or yard stick to measure against. What are other regions around the country doing? Ms. Stevens replied that there are national measurements that we could consider implementing here.
- How do we deal with the situation of encouraging conservation, but when it works, and water system revenue goes down, we penalize those conserving by increasing the water/sewer rates? Ms. Stevens agreed that this occurred through the metro area during the drought when water conservation measures were in place, and nearly all local governments had a rate hike. She added that we don’t “market” wwater conservation as “save water, save money” anymore.
- Why has the water usage in Rockdale County gone up every year? Chariman Oden replied that the county went from 40,000 people to 80,000 people with an aging system that has leaks.
- Ms. Stevens recommended that when you are looking at usage, look as 2006 as the last “normal” year, and look at the trends up until 2006. From 2007 – 2009 was an anomaly due to record high and low rainfalls and the economy.
- Is there any information on the number of wells? Ms. Stevens responded that they are estimates, but there aren’t very good records of this.

#### 6. Brief Status on Plan 2040

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Dan Reuter provided a brief update on the status of Plan 2040. It was transmitted to DCA, DCA has informed them that the submission was complete. DCA sent the plan to local governments and the adjacent Regional Commissions for comments, and the deadline to submit comments to DCA is May 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **DATA ITEMS**

#### 7. Regional Snapshot – Census Data

*Mike Alexander, ARC*

Mike Alexander provided an overview of the April Regional Snapshot which focuses on the 2010 Census data. The big news is that the ARC overestimated the City of Atlanta’s population by 68,000 people (Census – 420,000, ARC estimate – 488,000). Mr. Alexander attributed this to ARC’s methods of counting housing units, but undercounting how many of those were vacant due to the foreclosure/housing market crisis. He does believe that the Census numbers are accurate and that they are not simply under-reporting.

Beyond the City of Atlanta estimates, ARC’s overall estimate was quite good – only off by 6,000 people for the entire region. The Atlanta region is 3<sup>rd</sup> in the U.S. for population

growth, adding about 1,000,000 people in 10 years (about 60% of Georgia's growth is in the Atlanta Region). The suburbs have also become much more diverse – Gwinnett County is the most diverse county in the Southeast. Johns Creek is now 23% Asian. ARC's estimates were great in some counties, but overshot City of Atlanta and Fulton County.

Mr. Christman remarked that it seems that across the countries city populations have come in lower than expected despite the pervasive view that people are returning to the cities. Does the Census undercount in cities? Mr. Alexander said he did not think so. There have been increases in the white population moving to the city, but it is offset by black migration to the suburbs – between 2000 and 2010, 29,000 more whites moved to Atlanta, but the City lost 22,000 black residents in that time. The City of Atlanta also added 35,000 new housing units in the last 10 years, but that was offset by vacancy rates on the south side. Mr. Alexander added that the Census data is all on the ARC's website, and that he has already received data requests from cities and counties looking to redistrict.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

None

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

### **8. Update on LCI**

*Rob LeBeau, ARC*

Mr. Reuter made an announcements that the Community Planning Academy (CPA) will be conducting a workshop on foreclosures on May 24<sup>th</sup>, and that ARC is also working on the HUD *Piece by Piece* initiative. The HUD Secretary will be at the CPA event on 5/24. Mr. Reuter introduced Rob LeBeau and noted that next month Amy Goodwin would present and update on the LCI construction program.

Mr. LeBeau gave a Powerpoint presentation on the LCI program, including an overview of the history, funding, and studies. He explained that there was a steep drop-off in LCI Study applications beginning in 2008 because that is when ARC began restricting applications to areas consistent with the UGPM. This is a topic to be examined by the ELUC Land Use team -- are we too restrictive, or conversely, have we spread too far and need to focus on implementation, etc.

## **MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

- 9.** Mr. Hatfield requested that the committee consider reducing paper handouts and distribute information electronically whenever possible.

## **OTHER**

None

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Approve April 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*
3. Updates from ELUC Team Leaders *Richard Oden, Chair*

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. Update on Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### DATA ITEMS

5. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

6. Draft Implementation Task Force Final Report *Mayor Moore, ARC*

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

7. Update on LCI Transportation Projects *Amy Goodwin, ARC*

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

May 12, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Dan Post, Vice Chair	Richard Oden, Chair
Kerry Armstrong	Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio
Brian Bowling	Brian Bowling
Ray Christman	Mark Mathews
Todd Ernst	John O'Callaghan
Gene Hatfield	Mickey Thompson
Allie Kelly	Dennis Burnette
H. Lamar Willis	Danny Lindsey
Kip Berry	
BJ Mathis	
Ralph Moore	
Narender Reddy	
Dave Sjoquist	

### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Dan Post, Vice Chair*
2. Approve April 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Dan Post, Vice Chair*  

Approved.
3. Updates from ELUC Team Leaders *Dan Post, Vice Chair*

Dan Post asked each of the team leaders to provide an update of their ELUC Team activities this past month.

Kip Berry provided information on the Piece by Piece Initiative, which is a foreclosure prevention program. Members of the Piece by Piece Initiative work with individual counties

to develop a process for each county to reduce foreclosures and to encourage reductions in the current foreclosure inventory. Dan Reuter of the ARC Land Use Division also provided information on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and this week Piece by Piece event with HUD Secretary Donovan.

Narender Reddy asked Dan Reuter to provide the update for the Land Use Team. Dan stated that the team held a conference call to discuss meeting and information sharing. The first task of the Land Use Team is to review the PLAN 2040 Local Government Plan Implementation Standards.

H. Lamar Willis provided an update of the Government Services Team. The Team had a conference call, and will be working with staff to develop a work program.

Kerry Armstrong provided the update on the Water Team. The first assignment of the Water Team is to study and learn more about the water issue.

Allie Kelly stated that the Resource Team is developing comments on the work program that ARC staff has provided.

Ray Christman stated the Energy Team is seeking to further define its role and to collaborate with experts located within the region.

## **PLAN UPDATES**

### **4. Update on Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities *Rob LeBeau, ARC***

Rob LeBeau of the Land Use Division provided an update of the Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities and ARC current involvement in the Partnership. In 2010, ARC applied for a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant, however ARC was not successful in the application. ARC did receive Preferred Sustainability Status which allows ARC and other applicants to achieve extra points in applications to HUD if it meets the intent of the original application. ARC assembled a partnership of many different organizations in the Atlanta Region. Staff of these organizations are working together in implementing the partnership even though there is limited funding currently.

Dan Reuter stated that unlike the LCI program or Community Choices, this partnership provides direct services to communities.

Comments from ELUC Members include, How can AC improve the application and what were some trend of successful applicants. Dr Hatfield suggested that a subcommittee of ELUC and staff review successful applicants to improve the ARC application for future funds.

## **DATA ITEMS**

### **5. Regional Snapshot – Retail Trade**

*Mike Alexander, ARC*

Mike Alexander provided an overview of the May Regional Snapshot which focuses on the Retail Trends in the Atlanta Region. The retail sector employs approximately 240,000 people within the Atlanta region making it the largest employment sector. Since, 2007 the region has seen a 13 percent decline in jobs in the retail sector. This decline in jobs has also drove vacancy rates for retail trade to 10.3 percent which is among the highest rates this decade.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

### **6. Implementation Task Force Final Report**

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Dan Reuter announced to the ELUC that Mayor Moore has finished the Implementation Task Force Report, and that a copy has been provided to each ELUC member. The Task Force was charged to assist ARC with the implementation of a strategic plan. The document provides guidance to ARC and its role in implementation of plans in the future.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

### **7. Update on LCI Transportation Projects**

*Amy Goodwin, ARC*

Amy Goodwin of the ARC Land Use Division provided an update of the current status of the LCI Transportation Program. The LCI Transportation Program provides dedicated transportation funds for the construction of transportation projects that implement a LCI plan. Currently ARC has programmed 20 million per year for LCI projects within the TIP from FY12-FY17. Amy then provided ELUC with examples of the current completed projects and potential options that ARC may move forward with implementing LCI Transportation Projects

Ray Christman asked if in the context of the pending Transportation Investment Act project list, that there is a set of projects that are related to Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements. Are those types of projects primarily funded through LCI or another program?

Dan Reuter replied that there are other funding options but LCI is a model that allows for projects to be evaluated on their livability outcomes and they are not compared to other larger projects. Kerry Armstrong stated that private funds are also used to develop Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements as a part of zoning conditions.

## **MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

### **8. Dr. Hatfield requested the ELUC team be larger to provide better synergy and to bring more ideas to each team.**

## **OTHER**

None

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Approve May 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*
3. ELUC Team Discussion *Richard Oden, Chair*
4. Update on SB 86 and DCA Task Force *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### PLAN UPDATES

5. PLAN 2040 – Review of Georgia DCA comments  
First read of adopting resolution *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### DATA ITEMS

6. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

7. Update on Regional Resource Plan implementation *Allison Duncan, ARC*

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

None

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

June 9, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Richard Oden, Chair	Kerry Armstrong
Dan Post, Vice Chair	Todd Ernst
Kip Berry	Allie Kelly
Brian Bowling	Danny Lindsey
Dennis Burnette	John O'Callaghan
Ray Christman	Mickey Thompson
Dan Davis	H. Lamar Willis
Gene Hatfield	
Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio	
Mark Mathews	
BJ Mathis	
Ralph Moore	
Narender Reddy	
Dave Sjoquist	

### GENERAL

1. Welcome

*Richard Oden, Chair*

Chairman Oden stated that the ELUC committee structure was well received by the Executive Committee and Board at the retreat. In the future each team may have a 15 minute working lunch meeting prior to the start of ELUC and then provide a brief report at the beginning of ELUC.

2. Approve May 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary

*Richard Oden, Chair*

Approved.

### 3. ELUC Team Discussion

*Richard Oden, Chair*

Mayor Moore stated the Land Use team is developing a framework for continued involvement. LCI will become the focus on how ARC disseminates land use philosophy throughout the region. Education is also very important and will be key, particularly encouraging local government to be receptive to new ideas. ARC staff will create models and update existing tools, then prepare a strategy for distributing.

Ray Christman provided the Energy team update. They will first review energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives already being undertaken in the region. The team then will consider whether ARC can add value to regional efforts. The team has identified other NGO and groups and will convene a meeting to discuss potential initiatives. Chairman Bell asked if energy work is internal or external focus and stated that Clayton County has started a review of county internal issues.

For the Housing team, Kip Berry stated the Piece by Piece initiative is being broadened to each county with a focus to keep people in their homes and make foreclosed homes available. Douglas County is implementing Piece by Piece already locally and their program director would be willing to come to other counties to discuss the process and help implement in other areas.

Gene Hatfield provided the Resource team update. He stated the team discussed items they will be working on talked of how the team may function more efficiently. They are considering adding more people to the team to provide technical expertise. The Resource team will bring an agenda to the committee shortly.

Mayor Matthews provided the Government Services team update. They are working towards a summit in July to bring economic development representatives together to discuss a regional economic development plan. All are invited to attend this summit. ARC is not getting into the economic development business, but will support coordination of economic development partners in this effort to make the region more competitive.

The Water team update was provided by Dan Davis. They are gaining an understanding of how much ARC is involved in water issues. These activities include: Tri-State conflict, Chattahoochee corridor reviews (MRPA), ACF stakeholder committee, Lake Lanier water supply issues, Volume 3 of the stormwater management manual, TMDL issues, green communities, clean water campaign, and water district support. The team discussed three areas to focus on – Tri-State litigation, work plan, and long term 50-year horizon issues.

Dan Reuter mentioned that some teams want to add “outside advisors” as additional team members. ELUC agreed with this approach and approved adding content specialists to support the teams as needed, understanding that they are not members of ELUC.

Chairman Oden suggested the teams pick one item to focus on at a time and move forward with that item to maximize time and efforts.

### 4. Update on SB 86 and DCA Task Force

Dan Reuter provided an update on SB 86. He discussed the proposed provisions of the bill and its evolution through the legislature. SB 86 was eventually vetoed by the Governor. Some of the provisions that were in the bill are being considered by DCA staff in a potential re-write of local planning rules and DRI rules. A task force has been established to lead the review effort, which will take approximately six months. ARC staff will review our role the DRI process, especially its relationship to PLAN 2040, traffic studies and related issues, and how we communicate with local governments on DRIs.

ELUC discussed issues including how ARC will educate local staff, both counties and cities, and ensure all are on the same level for planning concepts and principles. DRI reviews have played an important role instructing developers and local planners on the development process. What is motivation for changes - making the process more efficient or changing standards? ELUC has seen fewer negative DRIs, but this is primarily due to the lack of development and significant drop in DRI reviews submitted to ARC.

## **PLAN UPDATES**

5. PLAN 2040 – Review of Georgia DCA comments *Dan Reuter, ARC*  
First read of adoption resolution

Dan Reuter stated that DCA approved the PLAN 2040 submittal and was very complimentary of the document and overall effort. The final recommendation for adoption will go to the full Board in July. Today is a first read of the PLAN 2040 adoption resolution, which contains two components: Section One is the Regional Agenda for the 10-county area prepared under state requirements; Section Two is the TIP/RTP for the 18-county transportation planning area prepared under federal requirements. ELUC asked for clarification on which documents were to be adopted as part of PLAN 2040 – will be all previously seen documents plus the RTP. It was noted that ELUC has not reviewed the RTP, but will be asked to approve it as part of the overall PLAN 2040 adoption. Committee requests that staff provide a copy of the RTP to ELUC before the next meeting. An edit was suggested to the resolution related to “the above actions” language.

## **DATA ITEMS**

6. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

Mike Carnathan provided an overview of the June Regional Snapshot on travel patterns and behavior. About 40% of all travel occurs outside our home county. The report highlights “daytime population” that shows four counties have higher daytime than nighttime population. All trips by time of day show that pm peak (3:00 to 7:00) is when more travel occurs than any other time of day. Mid-day is the second most popular time to travel. Data reported incorporates all trips, including truck traffic. ELUC asked if data can be provided at the city level – some data is available but not all; data is typically based on TAZ which does not follow exact city boundaries. Committee asked if Snapshots are distributed to local media, particularly county/city based newspapers. Local media is included in the typical distribution list of the Snapshots.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

### **7. Update on Regional Resource Plan Implementation**

Allison Duncan provided an update on the recent efforts ARC staff has undertaken to implement the Regional Resource Plan since its adoption last year. One issue noted in a recent report stated that few MPOs integrate GIS with cultural resources mapping. ARC worked on this issue and Ashley Cissel (ARC intern) discussed her efforts to improve use of historic resource data. Many times historic surveys and data are duplicated due to lack of coordination, which can affect other areas such as federally funded transportation projects. Efforts can be made to be more efficient with this data and support local government efforts with historic preservation funding and other resources. Allison also discussed areas that may be included in future updates of the Regional Resource Plan including corridors, cemeteries, and gardens. ELUC asked about the relationship of Main Street programs to regional resources; many have historically significant properties. Many other uses can be found for this data and it is important to make connections to these other uses. Enhanced coordination can result in savings in time and money. Another benefit is economic development by supporting tourism.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

None

## **MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

None

## **OTHER**

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:30 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

### ELUC TEAM MEETINGS – 12:00 NOON

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Approve June 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*
3. Update on Water Litigation *Pat Stevens, ARC*

#### PLAN UPDATES

4. PLAN 2040 – Adoption Resolution - Section 1 *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### DATA ITEMS

5. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

6. Review DRI Policy and Procedures *Jon Tuley, ARC*

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

None

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE July 14, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>
Richard Oden, Chair	H. Lamar Willis
Dennis Burnette	Mickey Thompson
Dan Davis	Allie Kelly
Todd Ernst	Narender Reddy
Gene Hatfield	Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio
Ralph Moore	Dan Davis
BJ Mathis	Ray Christman
Dan Post	
Dave Sjoquist	
Mark Mathews	
Kip Berry	
Brian Bowling	
John O'Callaghan	
Kerry Armstrong	

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Approve May 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*

Approved.

Chairman Oden asked Dan Reuter about the progress of the ELUC teams. Dan stated that each team does have a summary that can be provided to ELUC members if they request.

Mayor Moore provided a brief update about the Land Use team. The Land Use team will be involved in updating the LCI program and staff will work with the team to develop education encouraging local government to be receptive to new ideas regarding land use planning

Kerry Armstrong stated that the majority of the water report will be given later by Pat Stevens.

John O'Callaghan provided an update of the Housing team. The team met earlier this week and examined ARC's housing work program. This includes an update to ARC's Development of Excellence Program. With the limited development, the team discussed ways that the program can be changed. John O'Callaghan that stated that the team discussed working with Senator Isakson to facilitate national discussion about the housing issues that are facing the Atlanta region. John asked Chairman Oden if the team should continue. Chairman Oden stated that the request will be moved to the end of the agenda.

Mayor Matthews provided the Government Services team update. They are working towards a summit in next Monday to bring economic development representatives together to discuss a regional economic development plan. All are invited to attend.

### 3. Update on Water Litigation

*Pat Stevens, ARC*

Pat Stevens of ARC provided an update of the current status of the Tri-States Water Rights Litigation.

- **No “final agency action”:** The Court held that the district court lacked jurisdiction to hear the claims in the Alabama, SeFPC, and Apalachicola cases because the Corps had not “consummated its decisionmaking process” regarding storage allocations at Lake Lanier and because the Corps’ actions did not determine the “rights or obligations” of the parties. The Court recognized that the Corps had made “sincere efforts” to finalize an allocation, but that it “ha[d] been thwarted by the litigation process.” As a result, Alabama, Florida, and SeFPC’s Phase 1 claims are dismissed.
- **The district court’s “overarching” fact-finding error:** The Court held that even if there were final actions subject to review, the Court would still be required to vacate the district court’s decision and remand to the Corps “because of the numerous errors of the district court.” Although the Court declined to “enumerate each error,” it highlighted the district court’s “overarching error in conducting de novo factfinding of issues that must be considered by the Corps in the first instance” and “undert[aking] on its own to perform calculations to determine the percentage of Lake Lanier’s storage space currently being allocated to water supply.” Thus, the Court concluded that “the district court’s overarching error in engaging in de novo fact-finding would have required remand even if there had been final agency actions.”
- **Water supply is a fully authorized purpose under the RHA:** The Court held that the “text of the 1946 Rivers and Harbors Act – specifically, the Newman Report, whose language is incorporated into the statute – clearly indicates Congress’ intent to include water supply as an authorized purpose in the Buford Project.” The Court explained that Congress clearly understood that water supply releases “would be at the expense of ‘maximum power value’” and that “the original authorizing legislation expressly contemplated a very substantial increase in the operation of the Buford Project to satisfy the water needs of the Atlanta area.” The Court made clear that “the water supply use is not subordinate to the power use.”

- **The Corps must reconsider Georgia’s water supply request:** The Court rejected the Corps’ argument that it should defer to the Corps’ conclusion that water supply is an incidental benefit, finding this to be both inconsistent “with the plain language of the [RHA]” and untenable given the Corps’ refusal to explain its prior inconsistent determinations in its Definite Project Report, federal regulations, and 1994 report to Congress. The Court also rejected the Corps’ “alternative” conclusion that the request must be denied even if water supply were an authorized purpose because the Corps failed to recognize that (1) the WSA provides additional, supplemental authority and (2) the RHA “not only included water supply as an authorized purpose” but also “explicitly contemplated that the Corps was authorized to increase water supply usage over time as the Atlanta area grew.” Thus, the Corps “never considered its authority under the RHA to substantially increase its provision of water supply” and to “reallocate storage” for that purpose. (emphasis added) Therefore, the Corps must reevaluate the Georgia water supply request.
- **The 1956 Act remains valid:** The Court agreed with Gwinnett County that the 1956 Act continues to authorize the Corps to enter into a storage contract to provide 10 mgd. The Court also explained that any contract entered into pursuant to this statute “would not be a reallocation of storage under the WSA or the RHA because it is directly authorized by Congress.”
- **The Corps’ water supply authority is cumulative:** The Court held that the RHA, WSA and 1956 Act provide the Corps with separate and cumulative water supply authority. Thus, the Corps on remand should first determine the extent of its authority under the RHA. It should then determine its authority pursuant to the WSA, which is “in addition to the Corps’ authority under the RHA and the 1956 Act.”
- **Impact to hydropower (and other purposes) will determine the extent of the Corps’ RHA authority:** Congress clearly recognized that water supply is an authorized purpose and that Atlanta’s demands would increase over time. Congress also contemplated, however, that meeting Atlanta’s needs could be done with a “slight decrease in system power value.” In analyzing its authority under the RHA, the Corps must determine “precisely what this balance should be.” This will involve, at a minimum, an analysis of the amount of “free water,” a determination of whether (or how much) storage should be reallocated for river withdrawals, a decision as to how power impacts should be evaluated (e.g., percentage reallocation of conservation and/or other storage, measurements of decreases in systemwide power, and compensation to power customers), and consideration of credit for return flows.
- **The Corps should provide a final answer on Georgia’s water supply request:** If the Corps ultimately concludes that it does not have the authority to grant the full amount of the Georgia water supply request, it nevertheless should indicate the scope of the authority it believes it has under the RHA, the WSA, and the 1956 Act. This way, the parties will have some certainty as to what the Corps considers to be the limitations on its power.
- **The effect of the D.C. Circuit decision is very limited:** The Court dramatically limited the effect of the D.C. Circuit’s 2008 decision in several important ways.
  - The D.C. Circuit decision involved only the Corps’ authority under the WSA. At the least, this means that the 22% limitation applies only to the Corps’ WSA authority; it does not apply to reallocations under the RHA or the 1956 Act.
  - The Court left open the possibility that the 22% limitation does not apply at all because water supply is a specifically authorized purpose of the project.

- The Corps is free to consider whether percentage of conservation storage (or some other metric such as impact to hydropower or percentage of total storage) is the appropriate measure of operational change based on its own expertise.
  - The D.C. Circuit’s 9% limit is not preclusive.
  - Compensation to power customers can be considered in evaluating the magnitude of the detriment to hydropower.
  - The “baseline” for measuring “major operational change” under the WSA is not “zero” because the Corps must now consider its RHA authority.
- **The Corps has one year to complete its analysis:** The Court found that one year is sufficient for the Corps to complete its analysis of its water supply authority and release its conclusions. The panel will retain jurisdiction to monitor compliance with the one-year deadline.

Pat Stevens then stated that Alabama and Florida could appeal the case to the full 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court, however, if the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court, decline to hear the appeal the litigation could end within a year. If appeals are agreed to be heard, it could continue for another five years.

Kerry Armstrong stated the bottom line is that this is far from over and water should be a topic and a concern for the state long term. Mayor Moore asked that return flows below Buford Dam could be considered. Pat Stevens replied that the court instructed the Army Corps of Engineers to examine all return flows.

Dr Sjoquist asked on how the ruling affects the Metropolitan North Georgia Water District. Pat Stevens stated that the most recent plan of the District assumes the State’s water supply request; however with the completion of the analysis by the Army Corps of Engineers, there may be some minor corrections.

## PLAN UPDATES

### 4. PLAN 2040 – Adoption Resolution - Section 1

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Dan Reuter of the distributed the LCI report. PLAN 2040 is a sustainable and transformative plan that was inclusive of the all ARC staff. Today was the second reading of the PLAN 2040 adoption resolution, which contains two components: Section One is the Regional Agenda for the 10-county area prepared under state requirements.

Mayor Moore complimented the staff for doing a yeoman’s job in creating the vision. It’s readable by the local citizen and technical by the local governments.

Mayor Mathews presented the resolution for adoption and passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **DATA ITEMS**

### **5. Regional Snapshot**

*Mike Carnathan, ARC*

Mike Carnathan provided an overview of the July Regional Snapshot on Regional Foreclosures. Foreclosures remain one of the primary impediments to a housing recovery. Although data suggest that foreclosures are waning when compared to previous years, levels still remain and near historic highs. There are still several thousands of mortgages in the foreclosure pipeline and as long as foreclosures continue to flood the market with shadow inventory, new home construction will stay muted.

Mayor Moore asked since Las Vegas is continually mentioned as a high foreclosure area, why isn't listed. Mike Carnathan stated that the list was the 20 top cities in terms of population.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

### **6. Review DRI Policy and Procedures**

*Jon Tuley, ARC*

Jon Tuley reviewed current ARC Policy and Procedures. ARC and ELUC policies go back to 1984 when ARC created the review of large scale developments program, which later became the basis of the DRI program. Jon Tuley then provided some programmatic ideas on the next focus areas within the DRI review that ARC is considering. These include how to account for economic development of the project; Measuring Congestion; and the incorporation of sustainable site design. ARC staff will be working with the ARC committees in the upcoming months on the development of these new policies.

Chairman Mathis stated that she is glad to see that ARC is reexamining guidance on DRIs, and she is curious how ARC measure the economic benefits of a DRI.

Dan Reuter stated that ARC staff will be developing that measurement in the near future but it is currently undefined.

Mayor Moore stated that DRIs could be classified as subregional and regional, and there could be two types of review based on these classifications.

Todd Ernst asked if there could be different reviews based on the location of a development and intensity of existing development in that location.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

None

## **MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

John O'Callaghan asked if ELUC would approve the Housing Team to start communicating with Senator Isakson's office. The ELUC members respond affirmatively.

**OTHER**

None

## DRAFT AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:30 p.m. est. - following TIA Roundtable**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Public Comment Period
3. Approve July 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*

#### PLAN UPDATES

None

#### DATA ITEMS

4. 2009 Population Report Resolution (Action Item) *Mike Alexander, ARC*
5. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

6. Overview of 2012 HUD Regional Sustainability Planning Grant *Rob LeBeau, ARC*

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

7. Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport Report *Jon Tuley, ARC*

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

August 11, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Richard Oden, Chair	Dan Davis
Kerry Armstrong	Todd Ernst
Kip Berry	Allie Kelly
Brian Bowling	Mickey Thompson
Dennis Burnette	Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio
Ray Christman	
Gene Hatfield	
Katie Kirkpatrick	
Ralph Moore	
BJ Mathis	
Mark Mathews	
John O'Callaghan	
Dan Post	
Narender Reddy	
Dave Sjoquist	
H. Lamar Willis	

### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
  
2. Public Comment Period *Richard Oden, Chair*  
 No Public Comments
  
3. Approve July 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*  
 Approved.

## PLAN UPDATES

None

## DATA ITEMS

4. 2011 Population Report Resolution (Action Item) *Mike Alexander, ARC*

Mike Alexander presented the 2011 population estimate. This needs to be approved every year because ARC dues are based on this estimate. Based on the new estimates, Gwinnett County's due will increase and the City of Atlanta's will decrease. Overall, ARC will be collecting \$13,000 less than last year.

The estimates for this year are based on the census, plus looked at building permit issuances, and births/deaths. ARC anticipated that growth would be slower than last decade. The net increase of people was 34,000 between April 2010 and April 2011. This population estimate is also the subject of this month's Regional Snapshot.

Mr. Willis asked if a jurisdiction challenges the census figures, is that accounted for in ARC's estimate? Mr. Alexander answered that they will adjust the estimates if the census if census numbers are adjusted.

Ms. Kirkpatrick asked if the water planning district uses this same estimate. Mr. Alexander answered yes.

Mr. O'Callaghan asked if the estimates accounted for migrant or undocumented workers. Mr. Alexander said that they assumed a lower migration rate based on the employment numbers.

Chairman Oden called for a motion to approve the estimate, it was seconded and motion carried unanimously.

5. Regional Snapshot *Mike Alexander, ARC*

The subject of the Regional Snapshot was the 2011 population estimate, which Mr. Alexander presented together with the Population Report Resolution above.

## REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

6. Overview of 2012 HUD Regional Sustainability Planning Grant *Rob LeBeau, ARC*

Mr. LeBeau provided an overview of ARC's approach to the 2012 HUD Regional Sustainability Grant application announced two weeks ago (a 2-page summary was included in the members' packets). ARC was not successful last year, but will be reapplying this year. The pre-application deadline 8/25/11 and the applications are due on 9/26/11. ARC will be making changes to its application from last year based on the debriefing they received from HUD. The proposal will focus on

5 – 10 demonstration projects around the region similar to last time. ARC released a mini-application to local governments to apply to be one of the demonstration sites which are due on 8/22. Notification was sent to LUCC. The planning grant proposal will also include enabling PLAN 2040 implementation by providing assistance to all local governments with implement of the local standards, and the third component deals with evaluation.

Dr. Sjoquist asked about the size of the grant. Mr. LeBeau responded that staff is still putting together a cost estimate, but likely \$3 - \$4 Million, plus a 20% local match.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

### **7. Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport Report**

*Jon Tuley, ARC*

Mr. Tuley provided an update on the Airport Report (which was included in the packets). The Fifty-Forward effort identified the airport as the single most important economic driver in the region. The Airport Investment Area is included in the PLAN 2040 Development Guide and the Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM). Yet there is no coordinated planning or vision for the area. ARC staff met with planning staff from each jurisdiction that borders the airport and researched what peer regions are doing in terms of development and policies surrounding their airports. The airport was the subject of last month's LUCC meeting, which met near airport and went on tours of the airport grounds, Skytrain, and new international terminal. The draft report (provided to ELUC) includes the background and history of the airport and its economic impact, including a synopsis of what peer regions are doing, a summary of airport planning efforts as well as those in the surrounding areas, summary of issues and comments gleaned from meetings with local government staff, airport planning staff and LUCC, and recommendations on how ARC could better support the airport investment area.

Dr. Sjoquist as which jurisdictions did ARC staff meet with? Mr. Tuley replied all the jurisdictions that are within the Airport Investment Area on the UGPM, and a few nearby jurisdictions as well, such as Union City.

Mr. Willis asked if the 6<sup>th</sup> runway was a topic of discussion. Mr. Tuley most of the discussion centered around the areas outside of the airport, but there was some concern expressed that a 6<sup>th</sup> runway would have massive impacts. The airport is about to begin their master plan update, which will no doubt evaluate the possibility of a 6<sup>th</sup> runway.

Mr. Christman asked for clarification on the goal of this planning initiative -- was it to determine a strategy related to commercial and other development in the surrounding airport area, and to identify development opportunities and the roles of public and private investment? He added that Dallas-Fort Worth and other places have been successful in attracting development near its airport. Mr. Tuley responded that yes, that is the goal of the initiative, and that he looked at 6 peer regions, including Dallas-Fort Worth, Louisville, Memphis and Detroit. Currently there is no unified vision between all the affected jurisdictions. There are some local plans, but nothing coordinated.

## MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

### 8. Committee Member Team Updates:

Chairman Oden requested updates from each team leader on their planning team assignments.

#### Resources Team:

Dr. Hatfield introduced a motion to bring before ELUC to allow this team to study reducing the use of paper by ARC staff and committees, and to bring this issue up to the full Board. Staff has already reduced paper use substantially by emailing agendas and through recycling efforts, but we still print thousands of pages for our collective meetings.

Chairman Oden announced the motion on floor to study how ARC can reduce paper usage. Motion Seconded. Mr. Burnette asked what other jurisdictions do for their meetings. Mr. Matthes stated that they use laptops, ipads, blackberries, etc, not paper. Ms. Mathis and Mr. Willis both stated that their meetings are moving in that direction as well. Dr. Hatfield said that he would like a team on ELUC and the Board to look into the issue. Motion to study reduction in paper use approved. Chairman Oden asked Dr. Hatfield to come back next month with a written motion to vote on regarding forming a team.

#### Government Services Team:

Mr. Burnette said that his team would be creating a scope of work for a consultant to develop a regional economic strategy. Chairman Oden mentioned that he had talked with Barry Johnson from the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and assured him that the ARC is not getting into the economic development business, but we are trying to support economic development and the Chamber's efforts.

#### Energy Team:

Mr. Christman reported that his team had prepared a letter to a group of non-profit organizations that are engaged in energy efficiency (such as Southface) to invite them to a meeting to occur in September. The purpose of the meeting is learn what various organizations around the region are already doing related to energy efficiency so that the Energy Team can identify where the gaps are, where ARC should target its limited resources, and what potential partnerships can be formed.

#### Housing Team:

Mr. O'Callaghan reported that his team, with the help of Catherine Brulet, is working with Senator Isaakson's staff to set up a meeting to discuss the foreclosure crisis. The meeting is likely to occur in the fall. ARC is also convening coordination meetings with HUD and jurisdictions involved in the HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). The team would like to be able to provide a "snapshot" or "digest" of all the foreclosure related data and the efforts of all the jurisdictions involved in NSP and Piece by Piece. The team would like to create a survey to send out to local governments to learn about how each jurisdiction is dealing with the crisis, and this information would be included in the "snapshot". HUD

liked the idea. Chairman Oden recognized Clayton County for their efforts which can be a model for the region.

Water Team:

Mr. Armstrong said that his team was unable to have a call this month, but that previous discussions had focused on how the team can play more of an advocacy role and be more proactive with the Army Corps of Engineers, legislative issues, etc.

Land Use Team:

Mr. Moore reported that his team had not talked last month due to TIA. However, the group had agreed that LCI should be an integral part of PLAN 2040 implementation, and that the team should also provide assistance to local government planners and zoning administrators to better communicate the Plan's importance to elected officials and the public. Such assistance could include educational materials to help bring local government policies closer to those laid out in PLAN 2040. ARC staff will have a more defined approach in next month or two.

Chairman Oden introduced new ELUC member Katie Kirkpatrick and asked her which team she would like to join. Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that she would join the water team.

**OTHER**

None

Meeting Adjourned at 12:47 pm.

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Public Comment Period
3. Approve August 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*
4. ELUC Teams *Team Chairs*
5. 2012 Work Program *Emerson Bryan, ARC*

#### PLAN UPDATES

6. Brief Update on PLAN 2040 Next Steps *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### DATA ITEMS

7. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*
8. Cities & Towns publication *Darlene Daly, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

9. ELUC input to Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program in 2012 *Rob LeBeau, ARC*

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

None

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

September 15, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Richard Oden, Chair	Dan Post
Kerry Armstrong	Brian Bowling
Kip Berry	Dennis Burnette
Dan Davis	Ray Christman
Allie Kelly	Todd Enrst
Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio	Gene Hatfield
Mark Mathews	Katie Kirkpatrick
Narender Reddy	Danny Lindsey
Dave Sjoquist	BJ Mathis
	Ralph Moore
	John O'Callaghan
	Mickey Thompson
	H. Lamar Willis

### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*

2. Public Comment Period *Richard Oden, Chair*

No Public Comments

3. Approve August 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*

Approved.

4. ELUC Teams Update

Chairman Oden requested updates from each team leader on their planning team assignments.

#### Land Use Team:

Dan Reuter reported that the Land Use team met with staff in the past week to discuss next steps related to airport area work. Mr. Reuter stated that the Land Use team supported staff's suggestion to convene a working group and suggested that this group be comprised of staff from the jurisdictions immediately surrounding the airport. The team also recommended that this working group first focus on defining the geography of the airport area and then move on to other issues including better coordination, needed improvements, and potential governance.

#### Water:

Kerry Armstrong provided the group with an update on the water team. Mr. Armstrong informed the group that Florida, Alabama, and Southeast Power customers have filed motions for reconsideration of the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals panel decision, as expected. Mr. Armstrong then told the committee that the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court decision impacts the ACT basin and the judge in that case has asked the parties to submit motions to dismiss by September 14<sup>th</sup>. Related to this issue, Mr. Armstrong told the committee about the ACF Stakeholders which is working on issues related to the basin and ongoing water litigation. Finally, Mr. Armstrong informed the group of two public meetings regarding potential rule changes that could affect the Atlanta region and its basins.

#### Housing:

Dan Reuter gave the committee an update on the housing team, which held its monthly meeting via conference call. He discussed the HUD Sustainable Communities grant for which ARC is applying. There have been 188 pre-applications submitted for this year's grant. Mr. Reuter then updated the group on the initiative to invite Jonny Isakson to come to the region and discuss the foreclosure issue. Finally Mr. Reuter gave a brief update on the continuing Piece By Piece work that ARC is involved in that is already trying to implement portions of the HUD grant proposal.

#### Energy:

Pat Stevens gave ELUC an update on the Energy Teams current efforts. The team is attempting to convene a group of outside parties with the purpose of starting the discussing on whether or not regional policy on energy is needed.

#### Local Government:

Mayor Matthews updated the committee on the Local Government team and current work by the Government Services division. The Local Government Training Institute is offering four fall classes. The Community Planning Academy's fall course offerings are out and include one-day workshops as well as advanced level courses, free webinars, and peer-to-peer lunches. Mayor Matthews then updated the group on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS working group is meeting on September 22. The goal is to issue an RFP in October and get consultants on by the first part of 2012.

#### Resource Team:

Allie Kelly updated the committee on four activities the Resource Team is undertaking. First, the Resource Team is interested in adding advisory team members and has developed a list of potential contacts. To clarify the responsibilities of these new members, the team has

identified Roles and Responsibilities for Advisory Team Members. This information will be provided to ELUC. Secondly, the team is working on paper reduction policies in regard to paper reduction for ELUC meetings. This information will be provided to the committee as well. Thirdly, the nomination request for the 2011 Resource Plan was released in August with nominations due by Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. And finally, ARC is working to develop a Conservation index for greenspace properties based on the regional Greenspace Inventory. ARC staff is working collaboratively with others to track conservation data for the state.

5. 2012 Work Program

*Emerson Bryan, ARC*

Emerson Bryan gave an update on the 2011-2012 ARC work program. Mr. Bryan explained how the work program has four themes of Regional Sustainability, Innovation, Regional Impact/Local Relevance, and Implementation/Action. He also discussed how the work program relates to the ARC Strategic Plan and its five objectives. Mr. Bryan closed his remarks by letting the committee know that they will hear more on the work program at next month's meeting.

## **PLAN UPDATES**

6. Brief Update on PLAN 2040 Next Steps

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Dan Reuter gave the committee an update on PLAN 2040 implementation. In August, a letter was sent to every Mayor and County Chairman in the region with the other elected officials copied, that offered to have staff come and present on PLAN 2040.

The committee requested that staff to invite ARC citizen members to PLAN 2040 presentations within the jurisdictions those members represent. Staff will notify the appropriate members of the meeting dates, times, and locations.

## **DATA ITEMS**

7. Regional Snapshot

*Jim Skinner, ARC*

Jim Skinner discussed the most recent ARC Regional Snapshot which provides a detailed look at age related data from the 2010 census. Mr. Skinner stated that the main headlines from this snapshot are that Atlanta is a rapidly aging region and the older age groups, which include 45-65 and 65 and older ranges, are the only ones that added population in Atlanta from 2000 to 2010. He stated that no jurisdiction in the region reported a decline in this age group, while several jurisdictions saw a decline in the school aged population.

8. Cities and Towns Publication

*Darlene Daly, ARC*

Darlene Daly presented on the recently released Cities and Towns Report, which each committee member received in their packet. Ms. Daly stated that this report is based on recently released census data. The report includes a lot of data, so Ms. Daly focused on two observations, exceptional growth away from the core and an increase in diversity. She explained that whether due to annexations or the establishment of new cities, there are a number of cities that have seen incredible growth. The report shows that several have doubled their population over the past two years. Ms. Daly pointed out the City of Braselton, which saw an increase of 500%, though it is a

smaller city. There are similar examples in Cherokee and Henry Counties. At the other end of the spectrum, Ms. Daly commented that there were some cities, closer to the core of the region, that saw a population decrease which includes Marietta, College Park, and Lithonia.

Ms. Daly then discussed a second observation related to an increase in diversity. Overall growth of white residents in the region is being outpaced by non-white residents. White residents seem to be moving further out into mostly white areas on the edge of the region and are also moving into previously non-white areas. At the same time, several cities moved from majority white to majority black and Hispanic. Ms. Daly pointed out several maps that graphically represent these demographic shifts.

Ms. Daly closed by telling the committee that staff will continue to analyze data as it is released by the census bureau. The Cities and Towns report is available in the at ARC offices in the information library on the C level, or digitally on the ARC website.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

### **9. ELUC input to Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program in 2012 *Rob LeBeau, ARC***

Rob LeBeau updated the committee on the Livable Centers Initiative program and discussed potential program changes for 2011. The LCI program was created in 1999 and PLAN 2040 continues the program until at least 2017, with a total of \$18 million for studies and \$500 million for transportation projects. As of 2011, there have been 111 LCI studies throughout the 20 county region. Mr. LeBeau stated that this program seeks a mix of compact housing, retail, and jobs; seeks to encourage all transportation modes; and encourages robust stakeholder involvement.

Mr. LeBeau then discussed the main priorities for the LCI program, as stated in PLAN 2040. These priorities included continuing the program on the foundation of supporting mixed land uses, transportation options, and public involvement; a focus on existing LCI communities and plan implementation; and an emphasis on optimizing existing station areas and supporting future transit investment areas.

The committee provided two comments one related to focusing the LCI program on the aging population, and the second related to “lessons learned” from Blueprints program conducted by the Georgia Conservancy.

Mr. LeBeau then asked the committee for comments and suggestions related to LCI program changes. Proposed new study areas may include regionally important town centers, activity centers, and corridors; redevelopment areas with existing infrastructure; and areas with a confluence of opportunity.

Mr. LeBeau then presented additional concepts for the committee to consider including support to ongoing stakeholder involvement and public education within LCI areas; rural area planning support; or a focus on smaller centers.

Mr. LeBeau concluded by telling the committee that staff will bring this issue before them again in the coming months, with the application ready for release by the end of the year.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned.

## AGENDA

### Environment and Land Use Committee

*Richard Oden, Chair*

**Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Ann Cramer Room, Level C**

#### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Richard Oden, Chair*
2. Public Comment Period
3. Approve September 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Richard Oden, Chair*
4. ELUC Team Updates *Team Chairs*
5. 2012 Work Program *Division Chiefs, ARC*

#### PLAN UPDATES

6. PLAN 2040 – Next Steps *Dan Reuter, ARC*
  - Resource Plan Update
  - Local Implementation Assessments
  - 2012 Update

#### DATA ITEMS

7. Regional Snapshot *Mike Carnathan, ARC*

#### REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES

None

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

8. Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program Update *Rob LeBeau, ARC*
9. LUCC Update *Dan Reuter, ARC*

#### MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS

None

#### OTHER

None

## ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

### ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

November 10, 2011 -- Meeting Notes

Members Present	Members Absent
Dan Post, Vice Chair	Richard Oden
Narender Reddy	Kerry Armstrong
Mark Mathews	Dan Davis
Dave Sjoquist	Allie Kelly
Kip Berry	Brian Bowling
John O'Callaghan	Ray Christman
Dennis Burnette	Todd Ernst
Tad Leithead, Ex-Officio	Gene Hatfield
	Katie Kirkpatrick
	Danny Lindsey
	BJ Mathis
	Ralph Moore
	Mickey Thompson
	H. Lamar Willis

### GENERAL

1. Welcome *Dan Post, Vice Chair*
2. Public Comment Period *Dan Post, Vice Chair*

No Public Comments
3. Approve September 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary *Dan Post , Vice Chair*

Approved
4. ELUC Teams Update
 

Dan Post asked Dan Reuter to provide ELUC Team Updates

Land Use Team:

Dan Reuter reported that the Land Use Team had given feedback on the revised LCI application that was distributed to ELUC via email in October. He provided an update on the ongoing work related to land use around Hartsfield Jackson International Airport, and invited members to participate in a working group that would begin to meet bi-monthly or quarterly in regard to the land use planning in the Airport Investment Area. A written summary was included in the packet for the meeting.

Water:

There were no new activities to report.

Housing:

Dan Reuter reported that the Housing Team continues to be involved in discussions about the work that ARC is doing with ANDP and other regional partners working on foreclosure issues through the Piece by Piece initiative. The Housing Team provided input on the HUD sustainability grant application submitted by ARC, which includes two demonstration sites in Atlanta and DeKalb County, respectively, and one demonstration site in Cobb, Gwinnett and Clayton Counties each. ARC has received letters of support from its legislative delegation and has had conversations with legislative staff members to gain support for the application. ARC should know by the end of the year if funds will be awarded. A written summary is included in the packet for the meeting.

Energy:

Pat Stevens reported that the Energy Team hosted a meeting of a small group of interested stakeholders, including representatives from local governments and non-governmental organizations to brainstorm ideas about regional energy policy. There were several conflicting opinions on the topic, but many comments were made about the need for financing and money. GEFA also provided information on funds they have available to use Regional Commissions as technical resources for disseminating information about energy efficiency efforts. A written summary was included in the packet for the meeting.

Local Government:

No update was given on the activities of the Local Government Team.

Resource Team:

Dan Reuter indicated that the Resource Team had submitted invitations to 30 regional organizations involved in issues related to preservation and conservation initiatives. This meeting will be held at ARC on Tuesday, November 29 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. with the goal of identifying individuals who would be interested in working in an advisory capacity to help inform activities of the ELUC Resource Team and identify projects or cooperative initiatives that ARC should explore. A written summary was included in the packet for the meeting.

Dan Reuter concluded by noting the good progress that has been made with the ELUC Teams over the last year, and suggested that it may be worth discussing any needed changes or modifications to the Team structures in 2012.

5. 2012 Work Program

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Emerson Bryan gave an update at the September meeting regarding the 2011-2012 ARC work program. Dan Reuter followed up on this topic at the November meeting by indicating that the ARC Board would be taking action to approve the agency work program. He identified that the Land Use Division would continue to fill their responsibilities as a Regional Commission and focus on implementation of initiatives related to PLAN 2040. He indicated that we would continue to implement the LCI program and continue to promote transit oriented development and MARTA stations. ARC is one of four communities that are finalists in a grant competition for \$250,000 to create a business plan for development around transit stations.

Mike Carnathan gave reported on Neighborhood Nexus, which is a project undertaken by the Research Division as part of the 2012 Work Program. This is a collaborative project that builds modeling and analysis tools for the vast amount of data that we have at ARC.

Pat Stevens also indicated that she would be glad to answer any questions about the 2012 Work Program relating to the Environmental Planning Division.

Dan Post asked what TIA/ TSPLOST would officially be called in 2012. He expressed concern about media references to a TSPLOST.

Jane Hayes responded that referring to it as a TSPLOST is incorrect, and the formal name should be Regional Transportation Referendum.

Mark Mathews indicated that once the marketing gets underway, hopefully the vocabulary will be more accurate.

Dan Post inquired as to whether ELUC would have any role related to the Regional Transportation Referendum.

Dan Reuter indicated that ARC has been working on a new economic analysis of the project list in support of the marketing effort. He also indicated that there will be a need for land use discussions around new service areas after July.

Jane Hayes indicated that ARC has been putting together factual information about the impact of these projects around the region, and the staff will need input from Board members as to what level of involvement they would like to have.

## **PLAN UPDATES**

### **6. PLAN 2040 – Next Steps**

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Dan Reuter gave the committee an update on PLAN 2040 implementation. He asserted that PLAN 2040 included the best planning process that ARC has ever had. He indicated that staff will focus on keeping the plan updated and relevant because a plan won't be undertaken for another 10 years. In addition to updating the transportation and forecast data, we will also work toward annual updates of the Regional Resource Plan.

Allison Duncan provided a brief overview of the new areas of inclusion for the Resource Plan, including designed landscapes, agri-tourism destinations, and several types of

greenspace linkages. She also referred to the on-going project ARC has undertaken with the Metro Atlanta Arts and Culture Coalition to produce a regional arts and culture master plan.

Jared Lombard provided an update on the PLAN 2040 Local Government Implementation Standards. Since mid-September, Land Use staff has met with 51 local governments to explain the Standards and provide a local self-assessment checklist. This checklist asks local governments to identify Standards which they currently meet, or which they are interested in pursuing, or those they do not plan to pursue. ARC staff will use the self-assessments to tailor our implementation program to provide assistance and promote programs that will be most beneficial to helping communities comply with those Standards. Land Use staff will be providing periodic reports to ELUC and LUC that illustrate the activities that communities are undertaking to meet the standards. The ARC website will also contain information as to how every local government is progressing toward compliance with the Standards. He concluded by noting that several communities have already expressed their desire to be the first to achieve compliance with the Excellence Standards.

Dan Reuter clarified the difference between the Minimum and Excellence Standards and provided examples of each. He also indicated that an incentive package for communities that meet the Excellence Standards would be produced early in 2012.

John O'Callaghan expressed that one of the incentives is sharing information among local governments, which will make them strive for Excellence.

Dan Reuter concluded by mentioning ARC's State of the Region Breakfast, which was held on November 4, and directing ELUC members to review materials on the ARC website if they are interested.

## **DATA ITEMS**

### **7. Regional Snapshot**

*Mike Carnathan, ARC*

Mike Carnathan presented the final Regional Snapshot of 2011. It is a synthesis of all the work that has been done relating to the 2010 Census Data. The Census Bureau began to release data in March 2011. The first data analyzed earlier this year related to race and ethnicity, housing and population data. It confirmed that the Atlanta region is the third fastest growing metro region in the country. The type of growth makes this region very different, as 90% of the population added in the 2000s came from non-white populations. In August the Census Bureau released their last big dataset regarding age, showing that the population of the region is getting older, though the largest age cohort is still the 18-29 age group. In summary, this snapshot tries to convey the story of how the Atlanta region has changed over the last ten years.

Dan Reuter asked what the data suggested as it relates to foreclosures.

Mike Carnathan explained that the data shows that there was a big jump in owner occupied housing in the center city, but the general malaise in the housing market beginning in 2008 contributed to a fractional decline in homeownership overall.

John O'Callaghan pointed out that the growth in owner occupied homes was in the first part of the decade and the decline was in the last half of the decade. If those are merged, they give a static view of homeownership.

Dennis Burnette asked for clarification as to what drives the projections related to growth.

Mike Carnathan indicated they look at the last 30 years of trajectory, plus feedback from local planners. ARC does not project growth where local planners say they don't see future growth. Many areas are already built out, so unless these areas start promoting redevelopment and vertical growth as a policy, there will not be much new development.

Dennis Burnette inquired as to the current population of the region and the total population in 2040.

Mike Carnathan indicated that there are 5.2 million people in the 20 county region today, and it is projected that growth will continue at a rate of about 1 million people per decade, or about 8 million in 2040. Assumptions related to growth projections will be revisited every few years.

Dan Post inquired about the popular assumption that Cobb County will be built out somewhere between 800,000 and 900,000 people.

Mike Carnathan clarified that is based on current zoning, but does not reflect any physical limitation to growth in Cobb County.

Tad Leithead further clarified that Blueprint Cumberland calls for increased density over time which will result from demolition of existing sites and rebuilding of new sites with increased density.

## **REVIEWS OR SPECIAL STUDIES**

None

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

### **8. Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program Update**

*Rob LeBeau, ARC*

Rob LeBeau provided an update on the LCI Program. LCI will continue with funding \$1 million annually. The basic programs relating to new study areas and supplemental study for existing areas will continue. Based on feedback from several sources, including ELUC members, new categories include PLAN 2040 LCI Implementation Program, which focuses on implementation of PLAN 2040 that is consistent with LCI goals and has a clear transportation benefit.

Rob LeBeau indicated that in response to decreasing resources from local governments, the match requirements for supplemental studies will be changed to be 80/20 rather than 50/50 in the interim.

Tad Leithead inquired where the matching funds would come from.

Rob LeBeau clarified that the money will still be federal.

Tad Leithead inquired as to whether there was any consideration for entities that could meet the 50% match requirement.

Rob LeBeau indicated that the ability to leverage greater resources will continue to be considered in awarding funding. He also clarified that at least 50% of LCI dollars will go to support existing LCI study areas.

Tad Leithead asked if there will be money allocated for emerging markets.

Rob LeBeau clarified that there will still be money available for new studies for emerging markets.

Dan Reuter explained that ARC will still prioritize regionally significant markets, but will provide assistance to areas that are emerging centers.

Emerson Bryan added that ARC has undertaken some research as to how to define emerging centers to identify where some may be located.

Rob LeBeau concluded by indicating that ARC is currently accepting applications for LCI funding. The deadline is December 16, 2011, and we anticipate that staff will make funding recommendations to ELUC in March 2012.

Amy Goodwin provided information on the current round of LCI Transportation grants. Thirteen projects were selected for funding through the latest call. ARC received 48 applications requesting \$97 million and are able to fund 13 projects totaling \$34 million in funds. Because of local government financial constraints, right-of-way acquisition was funded in this round of calls. Nearly all applications provide complete streets, half are transit supportive, and almost all include new technologies, such as roundabouts, bio-filtration, etc. Many are great models that could have national significance. Locations and project descriptions will be available on ARC's website.

Dan Reuter inquired as to how many LCI transportation projects are currently built.

Amy Goodwin indicated that 63 projects are built or under construction with another 25 projects under development.

## 9. LUCC Update

*Dan Reuter, ARC*

Dan Reuter provided an update on the monthly meeting of the Land Use Coordinating Committee (LUCC). LUCC meets monthly and includes the Planning Director or designee of each jurisdiction that is on the ARC Board. It includes membership from the entire MPO. There are currently two sub-committees that are meeting to discuss topics related to the Airport Investment Area and topics in urban agriculture, respectively. The next LUCC meeting will be at the new office of Perkins + Will in Midtown Atlanta on December 1. This was the site awarded with the 2011 Development of Excellence Award, and ELUC members are invited to attend that meeting.

**MEMBER INTRODUCED TOPICS**

None

**OTHER**

None

Being no further business the meeting adjourned.