

PLAN 2040 Online Public Meeting #1 Welcome and Context Setting

Welcome to the first online public meeting for PLAN 2040. We want YOU to help us determine what the outcomes of this plan should be.

Remember that PLAN 2040 is a region-wide plan to guide our future growth and to offer strategies for shaping many critical aspects of life in metro Atlanta. Where will we get our water? Where will we live and work? How will we get around? Will we have enough greenspace for our recreational needs? In short, can the Atlanta region continue to be a place that attracts people, allowing our economy to thrive as it has for the last several decades?

PLAN 2040 will integrate plans created at the local, regional and state levels. It will reinforce current policies while establishing new ones. Equally important, PLAN 2040 will set new measures of success for the region. Over the last year, we have met with local leaders in government, business, non-profits and local communities to assess the region's resources, assets, needs and challenges. There is a link on this page to that regional assessment.

So what now? What will we do with that information? Well, that's where you come in.

We call it PLAN 2040 and we will need decades to implement this initiative. So don't just think about what you want the region to look like in 2040, think about improvements that could be made in your immediate community in the next 10 years, five years or even next year. Take a look at your neighborhood, town, county and the region.

Consider residential and commercial development, transportation, water, the needs of the old and the young, greenspace and anything else you can think is important. What

do you value most in your community? What do you see now and what would you like to see? Those are the values that should be reflected in PLAN 2040.

As you participate in this meeting, we are going to show you some of our thoughts and ask your opinion. We have taken the results from the regional assessment and developed a draft Vision statement and some regional Goals that would accomplish that Vision. When the plan is finalized next year, the vision and goals should have substantial support from the people who live and work here. The only way we can be successful at building the 2040 we want is if we all share common goals for which we can hold our representatives and ourselves accountable.

On this page, you will find some background information about the Regional Assessment, a presentation of the draft Vision and Goals, as well as some resources on regional planning. We ask you to review and consider at your own pace, anytime through the end of May. Once you have reviewed and considered this information, we would like you to answer a few survey questions. Feel free to not only answer the survey questions but to use the open-format box to give us more of your thoughts.

This meeting will continue to be on the website through May 31, 2010. In early June, we will document the results from this first online public meeting and post them on our website for your review. And, we will incorporate your thoughts and the opinions of others, into the planning process as we move forward. We will continue to have these online public meetings throughout this planning process. Meeting number two will begin in June, 2010. Thank you for your participation in this online public meeting and thank you for being a part of PLAN 2040.

