



UNDERSTANDING THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

What is a Transportation Improvement Program?

The **Transportation Improvement Program** is a list of priority transportation projects the region will build over a six-year period. The TIP supports the vision of the long-range **Regional Transportation Plan***, which articulates metro Atlanta's future transportation needs and opportunities. The TIP prioritizes highway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian, emission reduction and alternative commuting projects throughout the region. The current TIP can be found at [ARC's Web site](#).

Why is the TIP important?

The **TIP process** prioritizes and allocates funding for transportation investments to match the Atlanta region's vision for mobility. The TIP provides a blueprint to metro residents and taxpayers of how federal and state dollars are spent on transportation needs.

How is the TIP created?

The **Atlanta Regional Commission** and its planning partners develop the federally-required TIP through a multi-step process.

1. Transportation agencies, the public and affected stakeholders identify and study transportation needs and potential solutions.
2. Local, regional and state sponsoring agencies send their priority project lists (including locations, funding sources and justification) to ARC in response to a "Call for Projects."
3. ARC scores the projects and prioritizes them according to regional goals.
4. Projects also are tested for financial feasibility and, as needed, air quality impacts.
5. The public and decision-makers review and comment on the resulting project list.
6. The TIP is approved by the State of Georgia and included in the **state's transportation improvement program**.

*WHAT IS PLAN 2040?

PLAN 2040 is metro Atlanta's long-range plan for land development and transportation needs. It will guide growth through the year 2040 by addressing not only land use and transportation issues, but economic, environmental, housing and human services challenges, as well.



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How are TIP projects funded?

TIP projects are funded through a mix of **local, state and federal** transportation funding sources.

Can the TIP be amended?

Yes. Emerging transportation needs in the region may require changes to projects that could affect regional travel demand, air quality or funding. These must undergo review and approval by ARC and the **Georgia Regional Transportation Authority** on behalf of the Governor. The review includes opportunities for comment by the public and affected stakeholders. Small changes to the TIP which do not affect travel demand, air quality or funding may be made by ARC staff. The TIP amendment process is found in the **Transportation Participation Plan**.

How is the TIP monitored to ensure it is completed as planned?

ARC periodically evaluates the TIP in terms of how projects advance from planning through completion and shares those results in its **Breaking Ground report**.

How can someone participate in developing the TIP?

Metro Atlanta residents can participate in ARC's Plan 2040 activities in several ways:

- Regularly visit the Plan 2040 Web site at www.atlantaregional.com/plan2040 for the latest information about the planning process.
- Check the "Get Involved" section of the site for discussions, meetings and other ways to share thoughts and ideas.
- Email comments to ARC at plan2040@atlantaregional.com.
- Share ideas at ARC's group page on LENS on Atlanta at www.lensonatlanta.org.
- Call ARC with comments or questions: 404.463.3272; TTY number is 404.463.3272.

Helpful links for more information

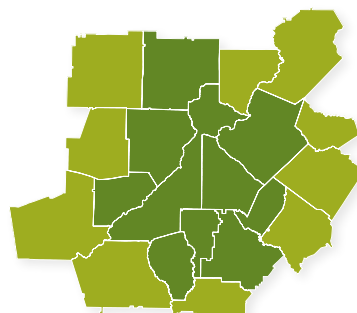
- [ARC's activities and planning initiatives](#)
- [ARC's transportation plans](#)
- [Status of TIP projects](#)
- [How projects are funded](#)

This document can be found on ARC's Web site at www.atlantaregional.com/plan2040. For assistance in viewing this document, contact plan2040@atlantaregional.com or 404.463.3272.



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40 COURTLAND STREET, NE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
ATLANTAREGIONAL.COM



WHAT IS THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION?

ARC is the regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency for the **10-county** metropolitan area. For transportation planning, ARC's area of responsibility includes all or parts of **20 counties** and the City of Atlanta.