

2015 Transportation & Transit Legislation Highlights

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Regional Transit Committee

May 14, 2015

New Transportation Funding

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSIT:

- Combining existing excise and sales taxes on motor fuel into a single 26¢-per-gallon excise tax (29¢ diesel)
 - Constitutionally restricted to roads and bridges
- \$100 million in FY 16 budget for bridge needs statewide

Potential New Transit Funds

- New \$5 per night hotel/motel fee, exempting extended stays
 - *Expected to generate ~\$150 million annually*
 - *May be used for any transportation purpose, including transit*
- New fee for alternative fuel vehicles
 - *\$200 for passenger vehicles and \$300 for commercial vehicles*
 - *Expected to generate ~\$10-15 million annually*
 - *May be used for any transportation purpose, including transit*

New T-SPLOST Option

- Beginning 7/1/2016 any ARC county may hold a referendum for a T-SPLOST to fund projects for any transportation purpose, incl. transit
- May be any increment of .05 percent, up to 1 percent
- IGA with cities required in order to levy full amount
- May not exceed 5 years
- Statewide Strategic Transportation Plan projects must be 30% of list

New Transit Funds in Budget

- \$75 million bond package for transit needs statewide in FY 16 budget
- *First time ever transit has been a line item in budget*
- Administered by SRTA
- Must be used on capital expenditures

MARTA Legislation

- Permanent elimination of the “50/50” requirement (re: operating and capital expenditures)
- Enhanced penalties for “Ride with Respect” violations
- Restores voting rights to GRTA Director thru 12/31/16
- *Senate passed amendment allowing MARTA counties to hold referenda on increasing tax to 1.5 percent (House disagreed)*

Other Legislation

- Uber/Lyft regulations
- HR 830: Transit Community Improvement Districts
- HB 386: Elimination of Rural and Human Services Transportation Coordinating Council

Moving Forward: Governance Questions

The screenshot shows the ATLtransit website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ATLtransit logo and four main menu items: Plan, Purchase, Transfer, and Resources. Below this is a large blue banner with the text: "Welcome to the ATLtransit Pilot Project, metro Atlanta's hub for information on how transit works together to connect the region." The banner also features four small images of different transit vehicles. Below the banner are three columns of content: "About" (ATLtransit is a joint pilot project...), "How It Works" (Plan a trip anywhere in the region...), and "Give Us Feedback" (We need your feedback to make ATLtransit a valuable resource...). Each column has a "Learn More" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with contact information: "ATLtransit | 245 Peachtree Center Ave NE Suite 400 | Atlanta, GA 30303 email ATL Transit" and logos for partner agencies like MARTA, CCT, GCT, Xpress, and ARC.

- Sen. Brandon Beach – ATLTransit.org
- Gwinnett/Cobb community conversations
- Legislation eliminating RHST Coordinating Council
- Streetcar/Beltline discussions
- Possible future transit bonds in state budget

Questions?

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