2015 Transportation & Transit Legislation Highlights

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Regional Transit Committee

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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)

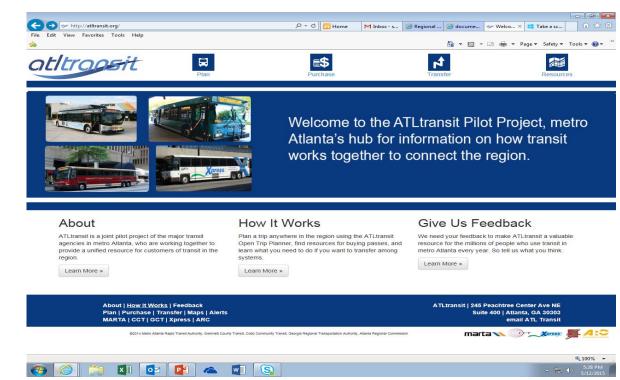


Other Legislation

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



Moving Forward: Governance Questions



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



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Questions?

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