

## **Atlanta Regional Commission Invites Public Comment on the Amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan and the FY 2018-2023 Transportation Improvement Program**

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) will open a public review and comment period on April 4, 2019 for a Planning Amendment to be made to the Atlanta Region's Plan Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and to the FY 2018-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The TIP is the mechanism by which federal, state and local funds are approved for all significant transportation projects and programs in the region. The FY 2018-2023 TIP comprises the first six years of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for the Atlanta region. As the federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for a 20-county\* region, ARC is responsible for developing and amending/updating the TIP and RTP to meet federal planning requirements and address local needs.

The purpose of this amendment is to: 1) include the programming of new projects that impact air quality conformity, 2) update programming and financial details for projects in the Major Mobility Investment Program (MMIP), 3) address project cost estimate and programmatic changes that are of a time sensitive nature or cannot be handled administratively, and 4) incorporate changes to the travel demand model coding.

All amendments require a conformity determination from the US DOT, in consultation with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This amendment will involve a new air quality conformity determination by the USDOT and is expected in June 2019. The most recent conformity determination was issued by FHWA and EPA on December 4, 2018.

The ARC TIP public involvement process is also used to satisfy Federal Transit Administration (FTA) public participation requirements for FTA Section 5307 suballocated funds in the Atlanta Urbanized Area (to ARC, MARTA, Xpress, CATS, CCT, Douglas Rideshare, GCT, Henry County Transit, and Spalding County), for development of a transit Program of Projects (POP) proposed for funding. No changes to the current POPs are being made in the Atlanta TIP at this time.

To comment or for additional information:

- The public review and comment period will run from April 4 through April 18, 2019. ARC must receive comments prior to midnight on this date in order to be considered in the official record of comments. There will be an opportunity to present comments verbally at a public hearing taking place during the Transportation Coordinating Committee held at ARC Conference Center on April 5, 2019 at 9:30 am. A summary of all comments received during the period and responses to those comments will be presented to ARC's

technical and policy committees and the ARC Board for their consideration before taking action on the Planning Amendment.

- Complete details of the proposed changes and opportunities for review and comment are available on the ARC website at [www.atlantaregional.org/amendment](http://www.atlantaregional.org/amendment) or by calling Melissa Roberts, (470) 378-1563.
- To comment verbally, call (470) 378-1563 or send by fax to (470) 423-3548.
- If special assistance in understanding the contents of this amendment is needed, please call ARC at (470) 378-1563.
- To comment in writing, please send to:

John Orr  
Manager, Transportation Access and Mobility Group  
Atlanta Regional Commission  
International Tower  
229 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 100  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Fax: (470) 423-3548  
E-Mail: [transportation@atlantaregional.org](mailto:transportation@atlantaregional.org)

- All other inquiries related to the regional transportation planning process should be addressed to Melissa Roberts, ARC, [transportation@atlantaregional.org](mailto:transportation@atlantaregional.org) or (470) 378-1563.

\*Barrow (partial), Carroll (partial), Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson (partial), DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton (partial), Paulding, Pike (partial), Rockdale, Spalding (partial), and Walton (partial).