Atlanta Regional Commission Invites Public Comment on the Amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan and the Update to the Transportation Improvement Program

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) will open a public review and comment period on November 4, 2022 for a Planning Amendment to be made to the Atlanta Region's Plan Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and an update to the 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 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) addition of new non-exempt TIP solicitation projects impacting air quality conformity, 2) incorporate changes to project limits and financing from 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) extend the period of time covered by the TIP from FY 2020-2025 to FY 2023-2028.

All amendments require a conformity determination from the US DOT, in consultation with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This RTP Amendment #6/TIP Update is expected to receive an updated conformity determination by the US DOT and US EPA by January 2023. The most recent conformity determination was issued by US DOT and US EPA on June 14, 2022.

The public involvement process used to satisfy Federal Transit Administration (FTA) public participation requirements for FTA Section 5307 suballocated funds for all transit providers in the 20-county Transportation Management Area (TMA) is managed by the Atlanta-Region Transit Link (ATL) Authority which is the Designated Recipient for the Atlanta urbanized area. No changes to the current Program of Projects 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 November 4 to November 18, 2022. ARC must receive comments prior to midnight on this date 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 (TCC) meeting held at ARC Conference Center on November 4, 2022 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 <u>www.atlantaregional.org/amendment</u> or by calling Morgan Bray, (470) 378-1439.
- To comment verbally, call (470) 378-1439 to speak to staff or leave a voice message or send by fax to (470) 423-3581.
- If special assistance in understanding the contents of this amendment is needed, please call ARC at (470) 378-1439.
- To comment in writing, please send to:

John Orr Manager, Transportation Access and Mobility Group Atlanta Regional Commission 229 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 100 Atlanta, GA 30303 Fax: (470) 423-3548 E-Mail: <u>transportation@atlantaregional.org</u>

• All other inquiries related to the regional transportation planning process should be sent to <u>transportation@atlantaregional.org</u> or (470) 378-1439.

*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).