TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

December 10, 2021 Meeting Notes Online Meeting

ARC	John Orr	Forsyth	John Cunard
ATL		Fulton	
Atlanta		GDOT	Charles Robinson
Barrow		GRTA/SRTA	Jamie Fischer
Cherokee	Jim Wilgus	Gwinnett	
Clayton	Keith Rohling	Henry	Sam Baker
Cobb	Laura Beall	MARTA	
Coweta		Newton	
DeKalb	Sylvia Smith	Paulding	
Douglas	Miguel Valentin	Rockdale	Brian Allen
EPD	Gil Grodzinsky	Spalding	
Fayette	Phil Mallon	Walton	Joe Walter
MD-1		MD-4	
MD-2		<i>MD-5</i>	
<i>MD-3</i>		<i>MD-6</i>	
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Advisors (Non-voting):

CBMPO --GHMPO --GDOT I'modal --FHWA --FTA ---

Meeting Summary

John Orr, Chair

1. Welcome

John Orr, ARC, opened the meeting at 9:30 am with an introduction and requests for comments or edits to the meeting summary. Hearing none, the meeting summary was accepted as submitted.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Solicitation

Jean Hee Barrett and Patrick Bradshaw, ARC, provided a summary of the closed TIP application period including an overview of received applications, the upcoming schedule, and the next steps.

Barrett summarized the applications received by type, sponsor, submittal category and total funding requested. The application types were grouped by Study and Infrastructure applications.

- Study Applications 27 were received, requesting a combined total of \$14,960,000. Most of these applications fell into the Project Feasibility/Scoping/Concept Development category.
- Infrastructure Applications 144 were received requesting a combined total of \$999,161,830. Most of these were within the Roadway category followed by Multiuse Trails, Bike/Ped and Transit.

A more detailed breakdown of the applications received will happen in January once all the applications have been reviewed by ARC staff.

Barrett transitioned to the next immediate steps in the review process which will start with KDP 1, followed meetings with GDOT/ ATL Authority & GRTA and the KDP 2 Technical Evaluation. Meeting participants were encouraged to refer to the ARC TIP Project Evaluation Framework / "The Project Evaluation Cookbook" for more details. Prior to starting KDP 2, ARC jurisdiction reps will be reaching out to applicants for any additional data needs. Jurisdictional letters of support for the applications are needed by December 31.

Bradshaw reminded participants that the almost \$1 billion in requested funds is expected to exceed the \$750 million in funds that is typically available. Barrett added that the actual amount of available funds will be announced in January.

3. Summary of the New Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

John Orr and David Haynes, ARC, provided a summary of the IIJA Bill and its potential impacts on the regional planning process. Orr kicked-off the presentation by noting that ARC staff are still learning more details and he thanked AMPO for providing the background information shared in the presentation.

Haynes provided an overview of the guaranteed funding increases compared to the current baseline and guaranteed funding by agency/mode. Haynes noted how rare it is to see a proposed doubling of general funds for transportation. The next phase of the presentation covered some of the key policy changes that the IIJA will bring to MPOs including sanctioned coordination between transportation and housing. He noted that ARC has already started this level of coordination and can now continue in an official capacity. Some other policy changes included:

- Assuring equitable designated and official MPO representation.
- Changes to cross-jurisdictional MPO data sharing requirements
- MPOs are now required to use 2.5% of PL funds to carry out Complete Streets activities.
- Expanded eligibility under CMAQ for shared mobility projects.
- Increased highway miles eligibly for critical urban freight corridor designation.

Haynes also shared some of the details of funding changes and some of the new formula programs across different modes and agencies. Some of the proposed funding increases are also subject to the annual congressional appropriation process and could change over time. Orr added that a significant amount of the funding will be through the Transportation Secretary's office making it critical that regional planning is correctly managed and implemented.

4. Announcements

- John Orr announced that the ARC Board voted to start contract negotiations Anna Roach to serve as ARC's new Executive Director.
- John Orr also announced that ARC will start to increase the number of in-person meetings.
- Gil Grodzinsky announced a December 28 public hearing for amendments to the GA State Implementation Plan for the Atlanta Maintenance Area Ozone administration.
- Jerry Oberholtzer was introduced as Gwinnett County's new Manager of Transportation Planning.

5. Adjournment