



DATE: July 13, 2022

ISSUE SUMMARY: **ARC Dues Increase**

FROM: Anna Roach, Executive Director

IMPORTANCE:

- The City of Atlanta and each of the 11 counties in the ARC provide an annual regional appropriation (dues) totaling \$ 1.10 per capita to fund the Commission's work.
- ARC's last dues increase was implemented in 2017 (from \$ 1.00 to \$ 1.10 per capita)
- Legislation specifies that increases after 2003, which was set at \$ 1.00, shall be based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and may be approved by the Commission.
- When the CPI exceeds the latest base year (2017) by 10%, the board may approve an additional \$ 0.10 increase in dues.
- Since the last dues increase in 2017, the CPI has increased by over 20%.
- The primary uses of ARC dues appropriations are:
 - Required match for federal funds
 - Cost of essential programs not federally funded (Natural Resources planning, etc.)
 - Board activities and board directed projects (LINK, RLI, etc.)
 - Legislative support activities
- ARC continues to see increases in federal funds allocated to major programs requiring additional regional appropriations to provide required matching funds.
- Other funding opportunities may periodically become available, but we are unable to pursue them if they require matching funds

ACTION REQUIRED:

Approval of the resolution increasing the rate of dues.



**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN
INCREASED RATE FOR CALCULATING
OPERATING FUNDS DUE TO THE COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the designated Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission (MAPDC) for the 11 County Atlanta Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale Counties and the City of Atlanta provide operating funds for the Atlanta Regional Commission in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 50-8-101; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 50-8-101 provides for the Commission to approve incremental 10¢ increases in the rate to calculate these operating funds when the Average Annual Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) exceeds 10% of the last base year; and

WHEREAS, the CPI-U has exceeded this threshold five times since 2003 and the Commission has only previously increased the rate once in that time; and

WHEREAS, the rate was last increased from \$ 1.00 to \$ 1.10 in 2017 making that the base year for current calculations; and

WHEREAS, the CPI-U has increased by over 20% since 2017; and

WHEREAS, approving an incremental rate increase allows the Commission the opportunity to approve only the second rate increase of five eligible increases authorized by the current version of O.C.G.A. § 50-8-101 to provide ARC necessary operating funds, and

WHEREAS, balancing the 2022 ARC budget required using a portion of the Fund Balance; and

WHEREAS, additional unrestricted operating funds are needed to provide matching funds for available federal, state, and other funding and to fund essential regional programs that have no federal or state funding source, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission adopts an additional incremental increase of 10¢ to the rate in which operating expenses due to the Commission are calculated which shall be effective January 1, 2023, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each county which has no portion of the City of Atlanta within its boundary shall provide an amount determined by multiplying the number of persons residing in that county by \$ 1.20, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each county which has some portion of the City of Atlanta within its boundary shall provide an amount determined by multiplying the number of persons residing in the county but outside the city limits by \$ 1.20 and shall also provide an amount determined by multiplying the number of persons residing in the county inside the city limits by \$ 0.48, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Atlanta shall provide an amount determined by multiplying the number of persons residing in the municipality by \$ 0.72, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, whenever the CPI-U shall exceed 10% of the base year calculation in the future, the Board shall consider whether a corresponding incremental increase as authorized by O.C.G.A. § 50-8-101 shall be made.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Atlanta Regional Commission on July 13, 2022.

Charissa White-Fulks, ARC Executive Assistant/Board Secretary