



Joint ARC Board and Transportation & Air Quality Meeting

Meeting Summary

February 14, 2024

Joint Discussion/Information Items

City of Atlanta E-Bike Rebate Program and Future Regional Opportunities

Bennett Foster, Innovation and Partnerships Director with Mobility Services, presented on an e-bike rebate program that ARC is administering on behalf of the City of Atlanta. The program, funded by the City of Atlanta, is designed to provide affordable transportation options for City of Atlanta residents. To ensure the program benefits moderate and low-income residents, 75% of the \$1 million in rebate funds are reserved for people earning up to 80% of the average median income. The program, which is scheduled to launch in Q2 2024, provides rebates of \$500 to \$2,000, depending on bicycle type and income qualification.

- ARC Presentation: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/arc-e-bike-rebate-arc-board-finalv2.pdf>

Fostering Climate Action: ARC's Proposals for EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Crystal Jackson, Planning Manager, Climate & Sustainability, and Bennett Foster presented on ARC's climate pollution reduction grant proposals. The federal EPA is making \$4.6 billion in competitive funding available to local governments, with coalitions encouraged. Applications for the 5-year grants are due on April 1, 2024, with about 115 awards expected. ARC is applying for two grants

The **Enhanced Green Communities Program** would build upon the existing successful Green Communities program to focus on climate mitigation and offer expanded availability to provide technical assistance to local governments. ARC has requested \$2 million to \$10 million, which would fund four full-time staff, three-to-five fellows, an expanded education and outreach campaign, and seed funding to support participating communities to take action.

The **Regional E-Bike and Transportation Incentives Program** would expand the City of Atlanta e-bike rebate program to the Atlanta region and potentially to statewide partners. Like the City of Atlanta program, 75% of rebate funds would be reserved for low-income and disadvantaged communities. ARC has requested \$10 million to \$50 million that would potentially support up to 10,000 e-bike riders in metro Atlanta.

- ARC Presentation: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/cprg-implementation-grants-proposal-021424-bg.pdf>

Building Georgia Update

Rob LeBeau, Director of Workforce Solutions, provided an update on ARC's Building Georgia program, which launched in March 2023 in coordination with the Technical College System of Georgia. Building Georgia's purpose is to foster collaboration across the state between government agencies, the private sector, and the workforce training community to close the gap between the current levels of employment in the infrastructure construction sector and what will be needed for Georgia to successfully take advantage of funding provided in the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act. ARC's analysis shows a gap of about 136,000 job openings during the five-year lifespan of IIJA.

ARC is looking to launch an inaugural training cohort by Nov. 1, 2024. Next steps include:

- Establishing the Building Georgia Advisory Council
- Preparing a Building Georgia website & making outreach
- Securing training providers for pilot training cohorts
- Flexing transportation funds for workforce purposes

More information:

- ARC Presentation: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/arc-board-presentation-building-georgia-2-1.pdf>

[Joint meeting recess]

[TAQC convene]

TAQC Action Item

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update and Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

The TAQC voted to approve the long-range MTP and the short-range TIP, which covers the first four years of the MTP. The MTP allocates about \$168 billion through 2050, with the following breakdown:

- Maintenance & modernization: \$104.6 billion
- Major system expansion: \$36 billion
- City, county, and state operations: \$18 billion

- Air quality improvement programs: \$9.7 billion

Ongoing work to inform the next MTP update include the regional freight and goods movement plan, a regional transportation electrification plan, regional human services transportation plan, and a transportation carbon reduction plan.

The MPT must be updated at least every four years. The previous update was approved in February 2020.

- ARC Presentation: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/20240214-taqc-mtp-presentation-slides-final.pdf>
- Issue summary and resolution: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/draft-resolution-2050-mtp-and-fy-2024-2027-tip-002.pdf>
- Executive Summary: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/ex-summary-mtp-final.pdf>
- ARC News Release: <https://atlantaregional.org/news/transportation-mobility/arc-board-approves-major-update-to-metropolitan-transportation-plan/>

[TAQC adjourn]

[ARC Board convene]

Consent Agenda:

- Jan 10, 2024 ARC Board meeting summary
- Open Records Officer

ARC Board Action Items

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Area Plan on Aging

The ARC Board approved the FY 2025-28 Area Plan on Aging. The action enables ARC, as the designated Area Agency on Aging for 10 counties in metro Atlanta, to accept \$27.6 million in grant funding for state fiscal year 2025 to contract with counties and non-profits for in-home and community-based services for older persons.

- ARC Presentation: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/board-area-plan-on-aging-presentation-1302024.pdf>
- Issue summary & resolution: <https://cdn.atlantaregional.org/wp-content/uploads/fy25-aging-area-plan-resolution.pdf>

ARC Board Discussion/Information Items

Stakeholders affiliated with the recent announcement that U.S. Soccer has selected a site in Fayette County as its future national training center reflected on the success and what it took to drive the selection. The panel included:

- John Soper, Assistant Director for Statewide Projects, Department of Economic Development
- Niki Vanderslice, CEO of the Fayette Development Authority
- Katie Kirkpatrick, CEO, Metro Atlanta Chamber