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DATE: December 9, 2022

ISSUE SUMMARY: **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment #6
and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Update**

FROM: Mike Mason, Transportation & Air Quality Committee

IMPORTANCE:

This RTP Amendment #6 and TIP Update was developed to:

1. Include the 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.

For additional information on the amendment: www.atlantaregional.org/amendment

Regarding the required conformity determination for the RTP Amendment #6/TIP Update:

1. The changes required a new technical evaluation for conformity,
2. ARC coordinated the technical evaluation process with the adjacent Cartersville-Bartow MPO and Gainesville Hall MPO, and
3. Prior to the formal public comment period, ARC received concurrence on modeling assumptions through the Interagency Consultation process.

Pursuant to the ARC Community Engagement Plan, a 15-day public comment period was conducted from November 4, 2022 to November 18, 2022. Comments received, and responses to those comments, were provided to TCC, TAQC and the ARC Board prior to action being taken.

ACTION REQUIRED: ARC approval

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A RESOLUTION ADOPTING:

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment #6 and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning in Atlanta Metropolitan Transportation Planning Area which includes all or parts of twenty counties; and

WHEREAS, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST Act) and the Clean Air Act (CAA) Amendments of 1990 require the MPO to develop and adopt a long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and short-range Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that conforms with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality; and

WHEREAS, a conformity determination was made on The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP Update/FY 2020-2025 TIP on February 18, 2020, by the US Department of Transportation in consultation with the US Environmental Protection Agency, which determined based on The Atlanta Region's Plan Conformity Determination Report, that The Atlanta Region's Plan RTP Update and FY 2020-2025 TIP conform to the requirements of the Clean Air Act under 40 CFR Part 93 for the 8 hour ozone 2015 standard (7 county nonattainment area), 2008 standard (15 county maintenance area) and 1997 standard (20 county partial maintenance area); and

WHEREAS, ARC conducted a technical evaluation to reflect changes to the scopes and schedules of certain non-exempt status projects as part of this amendment process; and

WHEREAS, ARC did notify the Cartersville-Bartow MPO and Gainesville Hall MPO, that such a technical evaluation would be performed for the entire maintenance area and would include necessary changes in that region as well; and

WHEREAS, prior to releasing the amendment for a formal public comment period, ARC received concurrence through the Interagency Consultation process that the RTP Amendment #6/TIP Update consists of changes that required a new technical evaluation for conformity, and

WHEREAS, the RTP Amendment #6/TIP Update was developed consistently with the requirements of 23 CFR 450.316 and in adherence with the participation processes and guidelines outlined in the ARC Community Engagement Plan as follows:

- Notice of such an amendment was published in a legal organ for a 15-day public comment period from November 4, 2022 to November 18, 2022.
- Interested parties were provided the opportunity to comment on the amendment through the ARC website; and

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- Results of this public comment period were provided to the Transportation Coordinating Committee, the Transportation & Air Quality Committee and the ARC Board for consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission adopts the RTP Amendment #6/TIP Update, as defined above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission authorizes staff, with approval of the Chair of the Atlanta Regional Commission, to make non-substantive technical corrections to the final documents as necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission directs the staff to continue the regular reporting on The Atlanta Region's Plan management and implementation.