



**DATE:** November 8, 2023

**ISSUE SUMMARY:      2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM  
AND APPLICATION FOR 5303 FUNDS**

**FROM:**            Mike Mason, Chair, Transportation & Air Quality Committee

**IMPORTANCE:**

Federal regulations require ARC, as a Metropolitan Planning Organization, to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that discusses the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describes all metropolitan transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities anticipated within the area regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities. The UPWP must be developed cooperatively with the State, public transit operators and other planning partners.

The 2024 UPWP is structured as follows:

- ARC Adoption Resolution and FHWA Approval Letter
- Narrative overview of the purpose and organization of the UPWP, information on ARC's planning boundaries and organization structure, and the regulatory framework for metropolitan transportation planning
- Appendix 1 – MPO Work Program (from the ARC Annual Work Program and Budget (2024) that describe ARC's transportation-related work activities for 2024 and which is also scheduled for ARC adoption on November 8, 2023)
- Appendix 2 – Relation of ARC Work Activities and Cost Centers to Federally Required Metropolitan Planning Factors
- Appendix 3 – 2024 MPO Work Program Budget Details
- Appendix 4 – Partner Agency Transportation Planning Activities & Studies
- Appendix 5 – Supplemental Information - ARC Organizational Structure and Planning Process

The draft 2024 UPWP was provided to planning partners and the public for review from September 29, 2023, to October 27, 2023. Relevant and appropriate comments received were incorporated into the final document prior to approval.

Per the GDOT grant administrative procedures, this resolution also authorizes ARC to submit an application for Section 5303 metropolitan planning funds appropriated to the MPO.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Adoption of the 2023 UPWP and authorization of the submittal 5303 application is recommended.



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING:  
THE 2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM  
and  
AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION TO THE  
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR A GRANT  
UNDER TITLE 49 U.S.C. SECTION 5303**

**WHEREAS**, the Atlanta Regional Commission is a Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission created pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-8-80, et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, O.C.G.A. § 50-8-93 designates such a commission to be the planning agency for comprehensive transportation planning under the administrative requirements of the United States Department of Transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Atlanta Regional Commission is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning within the Atlanta Metropolitan Area Boundary which includes all or portions of 20 counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 require the MPO to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that discusses the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area and describes all metropolitan transportation and transportation-related air quality planning activities anticipated within the area regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the **2024 Unified Planning Work Program** (UPWP) was developed pursuant to federal requirements in a cooperative manner with the State, public transit operators and other planning partners; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2024 UPWP includes the following:

- Excerpts from the ARC's Annual Work Program and Budget (2024) to be adopted by ARC on November 8, 2023, that describe ARC's transportation-related work activities for calendar 2024;
- Transportation-related accomplishments from the previous year (2023) and transportation-related objectives for the upcoming year (2024), reflecting input from each of the counties within the planning area as well as the City of Atlanta, public transit operators, and state planning partners; and

- Applicable studies programmed in the current FY 2020-2025 TIP and/or proposed for the new FY 2024-2027 TIP scheduled for adoption in January 2024.

**WHEREAS**, as the MPO, ARC is eligible for certain grant funding to support planning priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Department of Transportation requires a UPWP to apply for eligible funding pursuant to Section 5303 of the Federal Transit Act to implement specific items of the UPWP.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Atlanta Regional Commission adopts the attached 2024 Unified Planning Work Program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the ARC authorizes staff to take all necessary administrative actions to administer and implement the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Anna Roach, ARC Executive Director and CEO, is authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Atlanta Regional Commission with the Georgia Department of Transportation, to aid in the financing of a technical study grant pursuant to Section 5303 of the Federal Transit Act, and in accordance with all state and federal requirements associated with use of those funds, to implement specific items of the FY 2024 ARC Unified Planning Work Program.

**I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Atlanta Regional Commission on November 8, 2023.**

---

Charissa White-Fulks, ARC Executive Assistant/Assistant Board Secretary