

Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Changes

Upcoming Work Activities

January 11, 2023

2020 Urban Area Information Released by the Census Bureau on December 29th

- Designated by US Census Bureau following each Census
- Based on census housing density, other factors
- Developed using an automated program
- Forms the basis of the multi-county MPO planning area
- Impacts both planning and project funding (population-based)
- Based on the new 2020 census results:
 - 17 Urban Areas over 50,000 population designated in Georgia
 - New Urban Area in the Winder area
 - Atlanta urban area population has increased:
 - 2010: 4,515,419
 - 2020: 4,999,259

Follow-up and Next Steps

- Precise boundary has not been released yet but is expected later in January
- All areas in the MPA must be included in an MPO RTP/TIP by December 2026
- Expanding the MPA creates technical challenges (examples):
 - Travel demand model expansion
 - Population/Employment forecasting tools (REMI, PECAS)
- Potential Impacts to Planning Committees
 - Technical
 - Policy

Questions?