



Atlanta Regional Commission

ARC 2023 ANNUAL REPORT **DEKALB COUNTY**

November 2023

Our Vision

ONE **great** REGION

atlantaregional.org

ARC's Mission

Foster thriving communities for all within the Atlanta region through collaborative, data-informed planning and investments.



Goal

Strategic investments in people, infrastructure, mobility, and preserving natural resources.

Improving Mobility in DeKalb

\$727 million in federal and state funds allocated by ARC through 2028 to improve transportation across DeKalb County. Key projects include:

- 🎯 **I-85/North Druid Hills Road Interchange** – Improvements to this busy interchange, including innovative displaced left turn lanes, will increase safety and access to the area, which is home to the new Children's Healthcare of Atlanta campus.
- 🎯 **I-285 Interchange Improvements at I-20** – The busy I-285/I-20 East intersection will be rebuilt to improve safety and traffic flow. The project features reconstructed ramps and new collector-distributor lanes.
- 🎯 **Peachtree Creek Greenway Trail** – The trail will be extended from North Druid Hills Road to the City of Atlanta to connect with the Atlanta Beltline and ultimately Emory University, Atlanta University Center, and the Gwinnett trails system.



\$2.9 million fewer miles traveled by the **2,034 DeKalb residents** who participated in the **Georgia Commute Options** program, saving them **\$1.8 million** in fuel and vehicle maintenance costs.



Securing a Sustainable Future

The **Metropolitan North Georgia Water District**, which is managed by ARC, adopted an update to the Water Resources Management Plan that **improves the Atlanta region's resilience** to droughts by enhancing conservation education efforts and enabling the region's water providers to enforce state-issued drought restrictions. An effective early response could mitigate the need for more stringent watering restrictions during a severe drought.



Goals



Healthy, safe, livable communities in the Atlanta Metro area.



Strategic investments in people, infrastructure, mobility, and preserving natural resources.



Regional services delivered with **operational excellence** and **efficiency**.



Diverse stakeholders engage and take a regional approach to solve local issues.



A competitive economy that is inclusive, innovative, and resilient.







Goal

Healthy, safe, livable communities in the Atlanta Metro area.

Improving Quality of Life for Metro Atlanta Residents of All Ages and Abilities

\$4.4 million in federal and state funds to **DeKalb Senior Services** for direct services provided exclusively to DeKalb residents, including:

-  Congregate and home-delivered meals
-  In-home support services
-  Transportation
-  Case management



Making DeKalb an Even Better Place to Live, Work, and Play

\$200,000 Livable Centers Initiative Grant

to the **City of Stone Mountain** for the **Connecting Parks, PATHs and Public Spaces Project**, which will encourage seamless community connection between the city and Stone Mountain Park through a bicycle and pedestrian loop that links public green space.



\$300,000 grant from ARC's **Community Development Assistance Program** to develop a master plan for an area along the Stone Mountain PATH Trail. This project will bring together cross-jurisdictional stakeholders to align planning goals and regulations to create more affordable housing, multimodal transportation options, and places for the community to work and play.

Percent of Population 65+

13%

in the 11-county region

14%

in DeKalb

Housing

55%

of renters pay 30% or more of their income on housing

40%

of residents rent their homes

Values

Excellence | Integrity | Equity



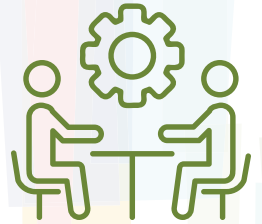
Goal

A competitive economy that is inclusive, innovative, and resilient.

Securing a Competitive Economic Future

ARC has updated the region's **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)**, which aims to foster economic prosperity across metro Atlanta with an emphasis on equity, resiliency, and addressing the needs of the region's underserved communities. CEDS strategies include:

- Positioning equity as the foundation for regional and local economic development initiatives
- Fostering business innovation by supporting the development of small and mid-sized businesses
- Ensuring the global and national competitiveness of metro Atlanta's economy
- Building on previous CEDS success to promote the economic resiliency and prosperity of all residents

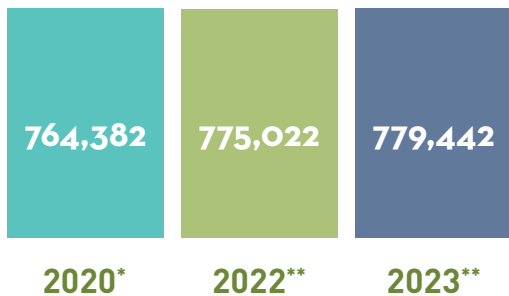


The CEDS plan detailed several action steps, including:

- Supporting the implementation of Aerotropolis Atlanta's Blueprint 2.0, which aims to catalyze the communities around Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport
- Creating an inventory of assets in the region's creative sectors, such as art, music, film, gaming, digital, software, fashion, and sports
- Updating local and state procurement regulations to facilitate access and participation of small and minority businesses
- Streamlining permitting, development, and other regulatory processes at the local level to meet changing business needs



DeKalb Population



*U.S. Census, **ARC Population Estimates

DeKalb Building Permits

