



Atlanta Regional Commission

# ARC 2023 ANNUAL REPORT DOUGLAS COUNTY

November 2023

**Our Vision**

ONE **great** REGION

[atlantaregional.org](http://atlantaregional.org)

# ARC's Mission

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



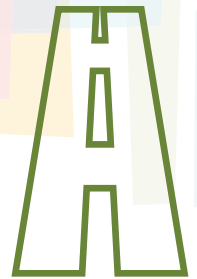
## Goal

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

## Improving Mobility in Douglas

**\$50 million** in federal and state funds allocated by ARC through 2028 to improve transportation across Douglas County. Key projects include:

- 🎯 **Lee Road/South Sweetwater Road Widening** – Lee Road/South Sweetwater Road will be widened between Vulcan Road and Skyview Road to add two lanes, with a multi-use trail on the shoulder.
- 🎯 **Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional Greenway Trail** – Funding is provided for the final design of the Douglas County portion of the Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional Greenway Trail System. This project will connect the county's pilot trail system segment in Boundary Waters Park to Sweetwater Creek State Park.
- 🎯 **Dallas Highway Corridor Improvements** – A one-mile shared use path and a new median island will run from Brown Street to the proposed McCarley Street railroad crossing, serving to slow vehicular traffic and improve safety for pedestrians.



**559,217** fewer miles traveled by the **146 Douglas residents** who participated in the **Georgia Commute Options** program, saving them **\$349,511** 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

**\$1.4 million** in federal and state funds to **Douglas Senior Services** for direct services provided exclusively to Douglas residents, including:

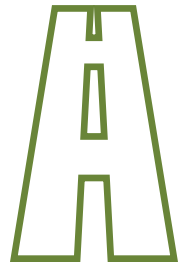
-  Congregate and home-delivered meals
-  In-home support services
-  Transportation
-  Case management



### Making Douglas an Even Better Place to Live, Work, and Play

## \$120,000 Livable Centers Initiative Grant

to **Douglas County** for the **Highway 92 LCI Update**, which will study the Highway 92 corridor between I-20 and Lee Road to reflect the area's growth and development. The update will target mobility, livability, placemaking, smart technology, and housing goals informed by community outreach.



## Dallas Highway Corridor Improvements

ARC has allocated funding to the **City of Douglasville** for a multi-use path and safety improvements on a 1-mile stretch of Dallas Highway, between Brown Street and McCarley Street railroad crossing. The project, funded through ARC's **Livable Centers Initiative**, features median islands for safer pedestrian crossings and reduced lane widths and a roundabout at the Upshaw Mill Road intersection to reduce traffic speeds.



### Percent of Population 65+

**13%**

in the 11-county region

**12%**

in Douglas

### Housing

**38%**

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

**30%**

of residents rent their homes

## Values

Excellence | Integrity | Equity



## Goal

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

### Workforce Solutions: Connecting talent with opportunity

- 2 Douglas companies** received four new employees and wage subsidies through WorkSource Atlanta Regional's **On-the-Job Training (OJT) program**.
- 70 Douglas county residents** received training through WorkSource Atlanta Regional's **On-the-Job Training (OJT) program**.
- 12 Douglas County youth** preceived training through WorkSource Atlanta Regional's youth providers and in the **Work Experience Program**.



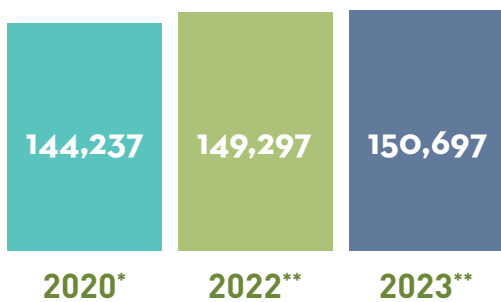
### Securing a Competitive Economic Future

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



#### Douglas Population



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

#### Douglas Building Permits

