



Atlanta Regional Commission

# ARC 2023 ANNUAL REPORT **FORSYTH 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.*



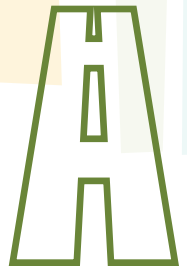
## Goal

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

## Improving Mobility in Forsyth

**\$281 million** in federal and state funds allocated by ARC through 2028 to improve transportation across Forsyth County. Key projects include:

- 🎯 **Post Road Widening** – Post Road will be expanded from two to four lanes for 3.8 miles between Atlanta Highway and Kelly Mill Road to meet growing demand in the South Forsyth area.
- 🎯 **SR 9-Punch Road Intersection Improvement** – The intersection of SR 9 and Punch Road in North Forsyth will be realigned and improved to handle expected growth in the North Forsyth area and as part of long-range plans to widen SR 9 to SR 306.

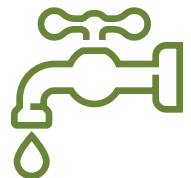


**961,589** fewer miles traveled by the **206 Forsyth residents** who participated in the **Georgia Commute Options** program, saving them **\$600,993** in fuel and vehicle maintenance costs.



## 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

ARC has developed a range of programs and initiatives designed to make the Atlanta region an even better place to live, work and play – for people of all ages and abilities. These efforts will help the region maintain a high quality of life, even as our population continues to grow and change.

#### Livable Centers Initiative

ARC’s **Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)** is a grant program that incentivizes local jurisdictions to re-envision their communities as vibrant, walkable places that offer increased mobility options, encourage healthy lifestyles and provide improved access to jobs and services.

Forsyth County has received assistance from the LCI program to study an extension of a planned Bus Rapid Transit line along Georgia 400 into the county and explore the feasibility and concept of a BRT station at McFarland Road.



#### Community Development Assistance Program

The **Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP)** provides planning and technical support to metro Atlanta communities that want to improve their quality of life.

#### Comprehensive Planning

ARC collaborates with cities and counties in metro Atlanta to develop and update comprehensive plans to help them prepare for growth and development. This includes natural resources, housing, transportation, economic development, and historical and cultural resources.

#### Percent of Population 65+

13%

in the 11-county region

13%

in Forsyth

#### Housing

35%

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

13%

of residents rent their homes

## Values

Excellence | Integrity | Equity



## Goal

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

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

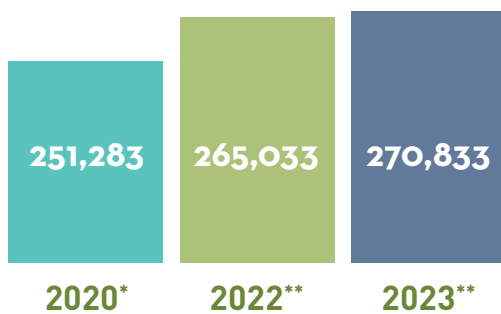


## The CEDS plan detailed several action steps, including:

- 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

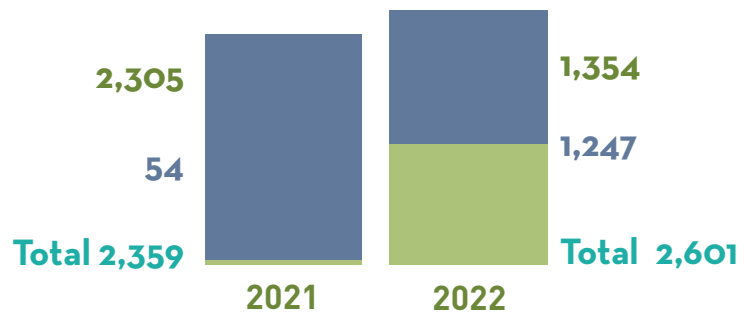


### Forsyth Population



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

### Forsyth Building Permits



Multi-Family Single Family

