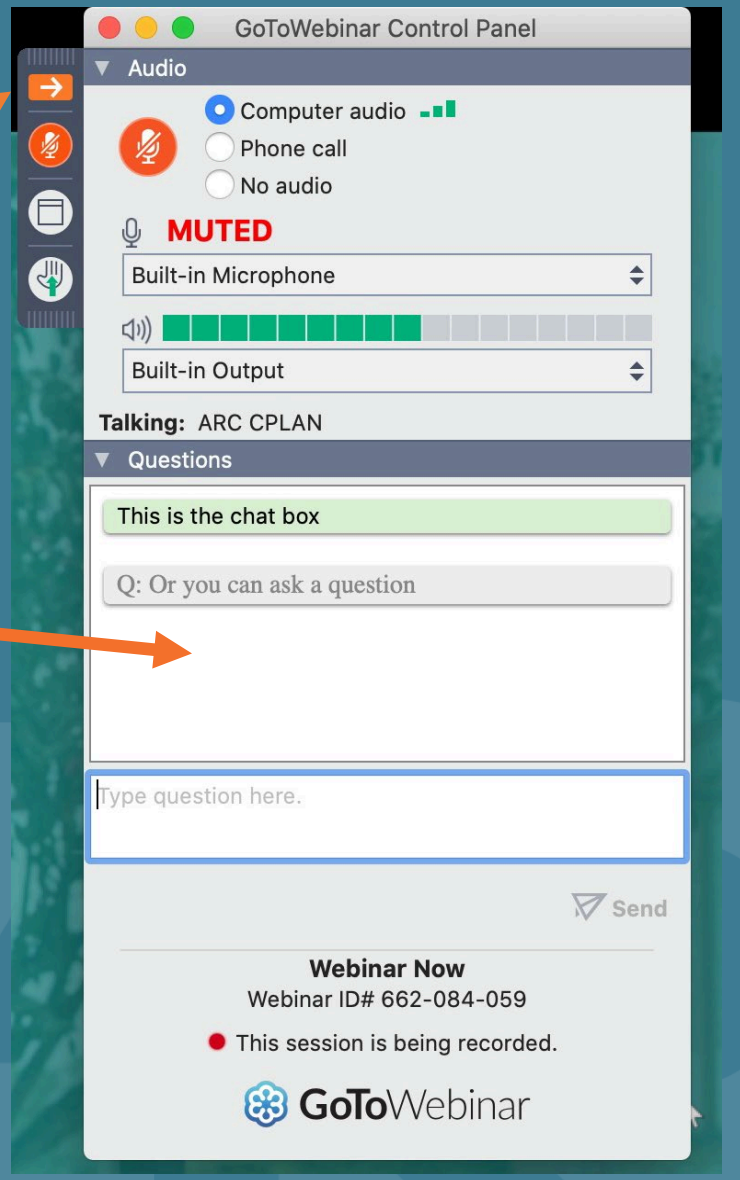
TIP Training – Day 2

May 13, 2021

Go To Webinar Interface

- All attendees are in listen only mode
- Submit questions at any time during the presentations by typing into the Questions Box
- This meeting is being recorded and will be available on the TIP webpage



Day Two Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- TIP Solicitation Process

Break (10 minutes)

- Study Programs
  - Regional Transportation Study Program
  - LCI Studies
  - Freight Cluster Plans
  - CTP Program

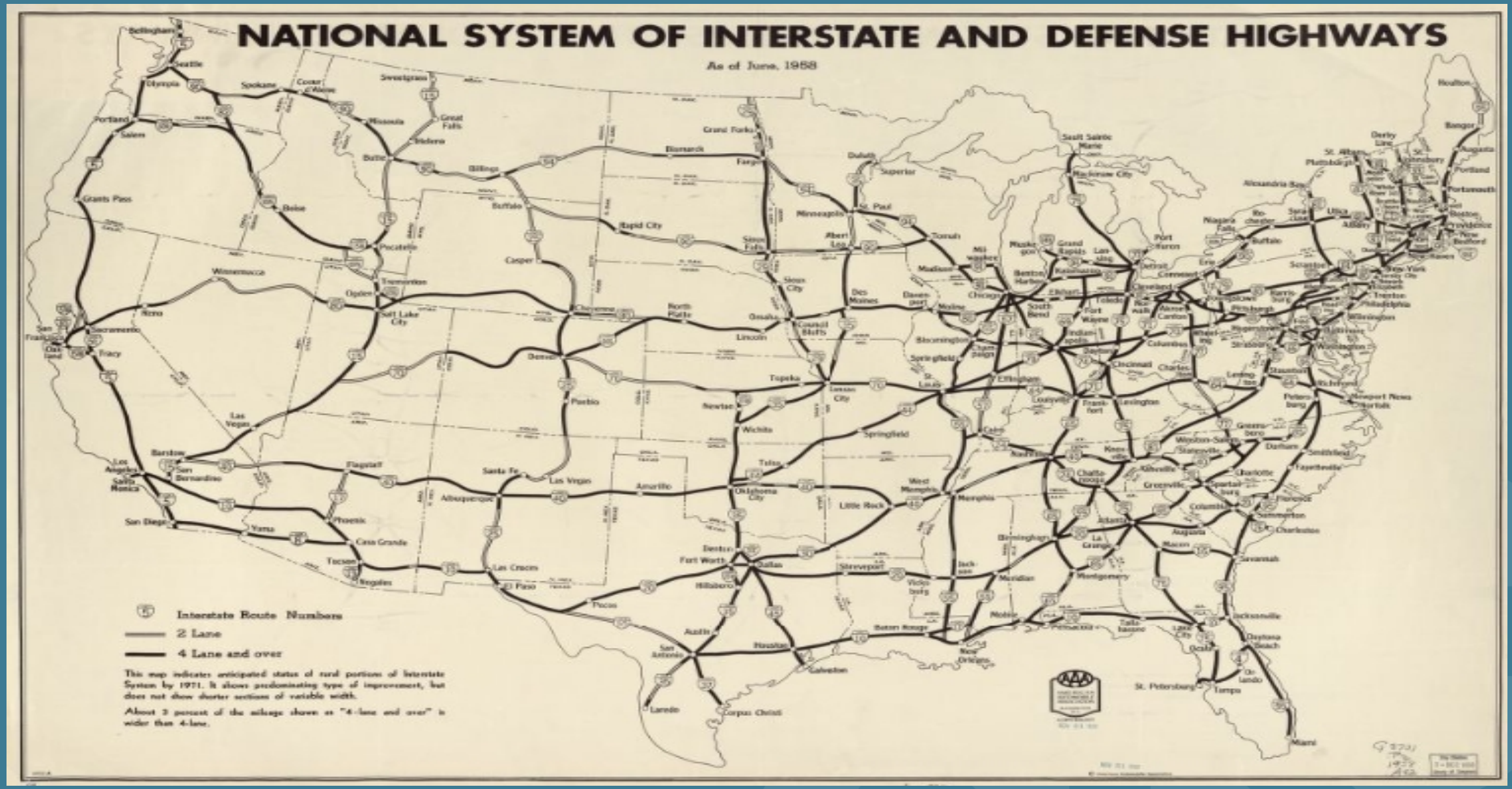
Break (5 minutes)

- Study Contracts/Procurement

TIP Solicitation Process

Introduction

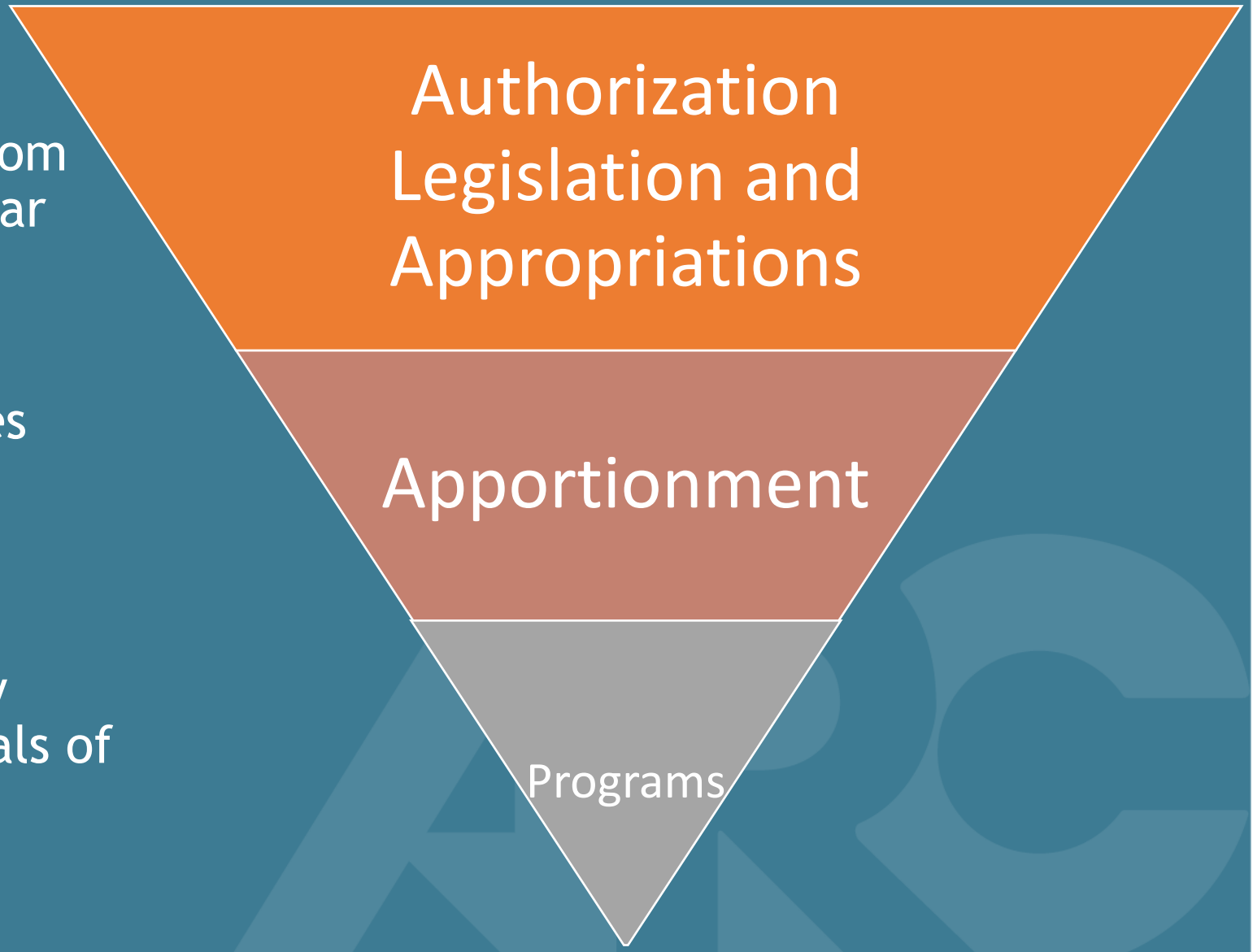
1956 Federal Aid Highway Act



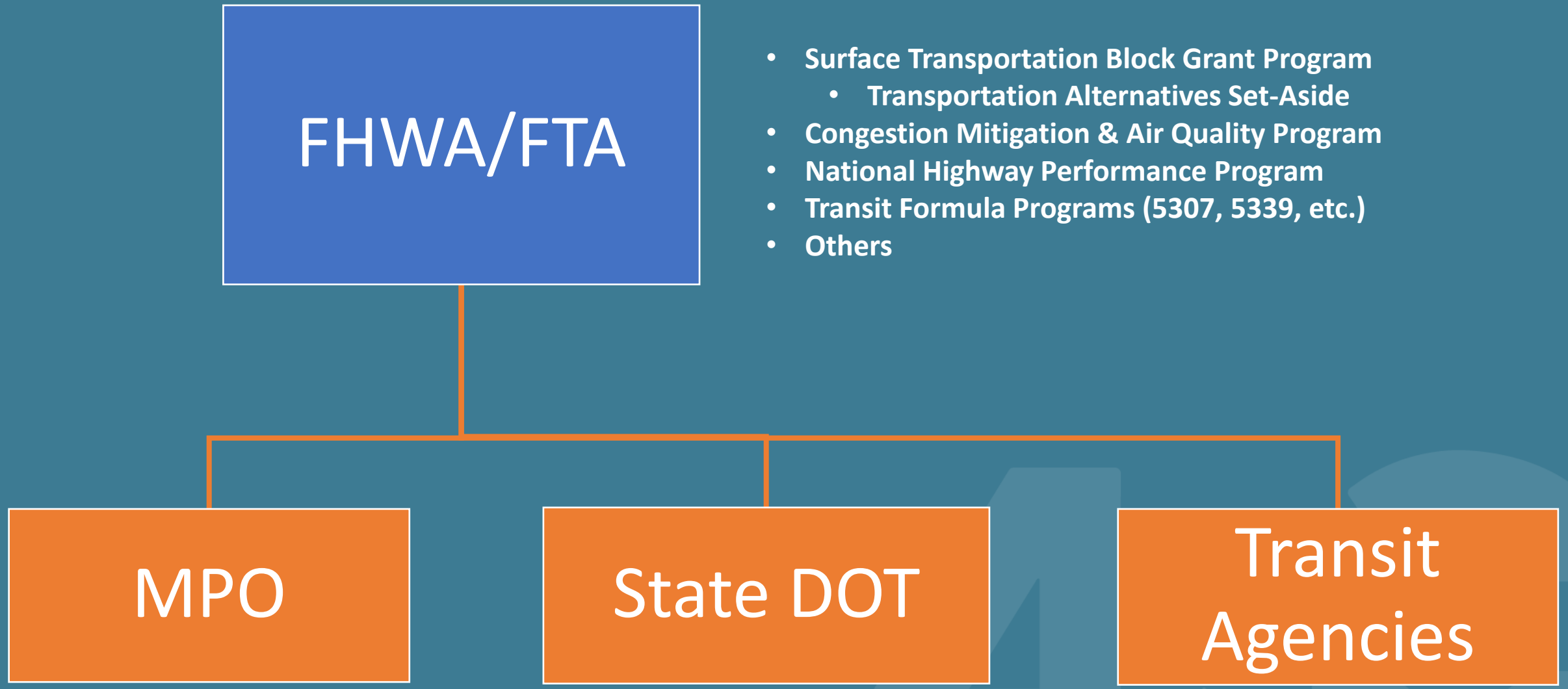
Highway Trust Fund

Federal Transportation Funding Process

- Congress passes a multi-year spending bill for Trust Fund proceeds; authorizes funding from bill to federal agencies each year through appropriations
- Federal agency (DOT) authorizes annual spending amounts for individual states, MPOs, etc.
- Apportioned funds dispensed by programs which support the goals of the multi-year spending bill



FHWA/FTA Program Dispersal



- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program
  - Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside
- Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program
- National Highway Performance Program
- Transit Formula Programs (5307, 5339, etc.)
- Others

What is a TIP Solicitation?

- TIP Solicitation – An open call for transportation project proposals to be funded from one of the FHWA programs that ARC has programming authority over
- Open to eligible state agencies, counties, cities, community improvement districts (CIDs), etc.
- Applications evaluated by staff and approved by MPO policy body (TAQC)
- Competitive evaluation process; allows staff to identify and support projects which are consistent with and directly implement the policy goals of the Atlanta Region's Plan
  - 23 U.S.C. § 134(j)

RTP Policy Framework

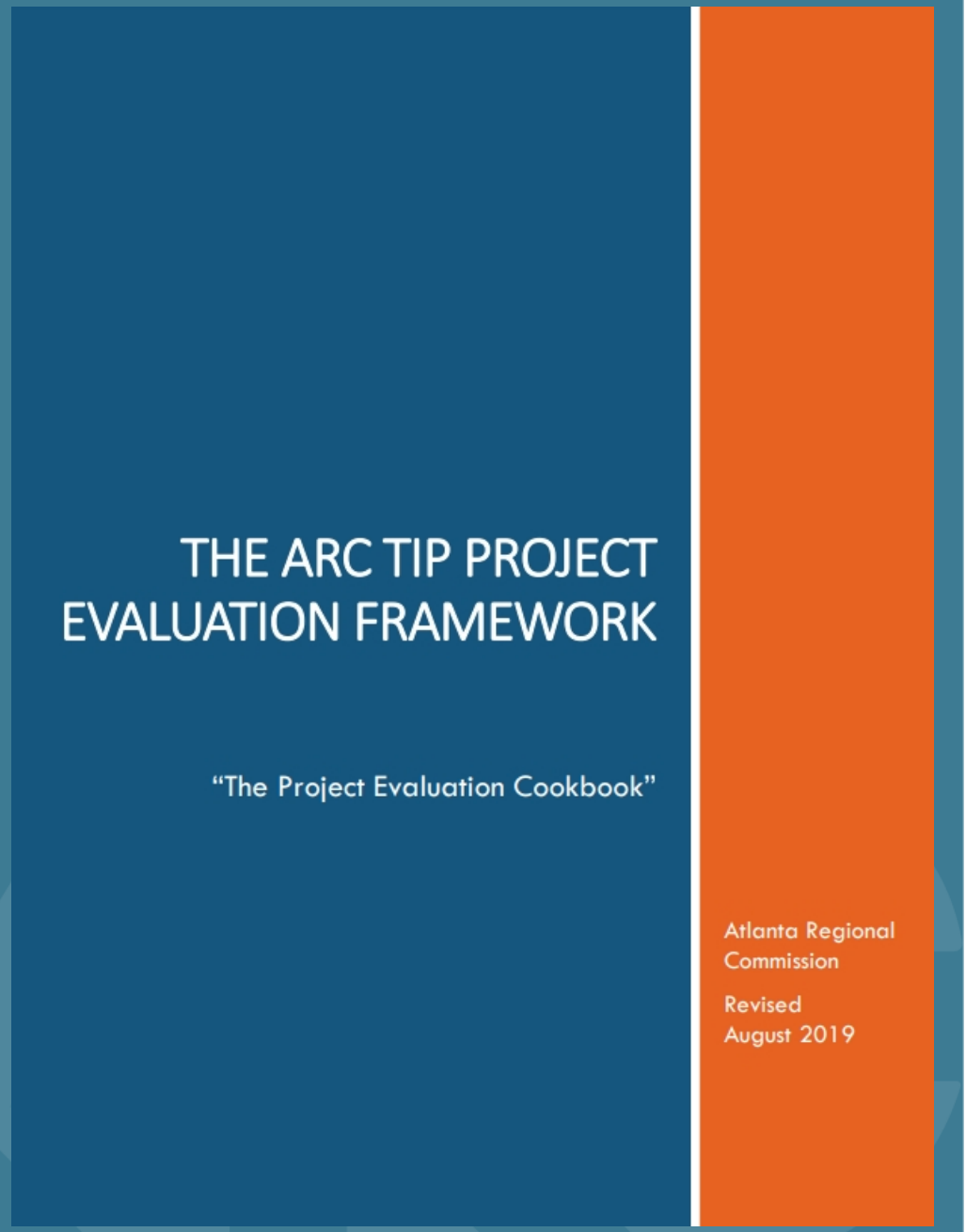
THE ATLANTA REGION'S PLAN

August 2015

ARC
ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

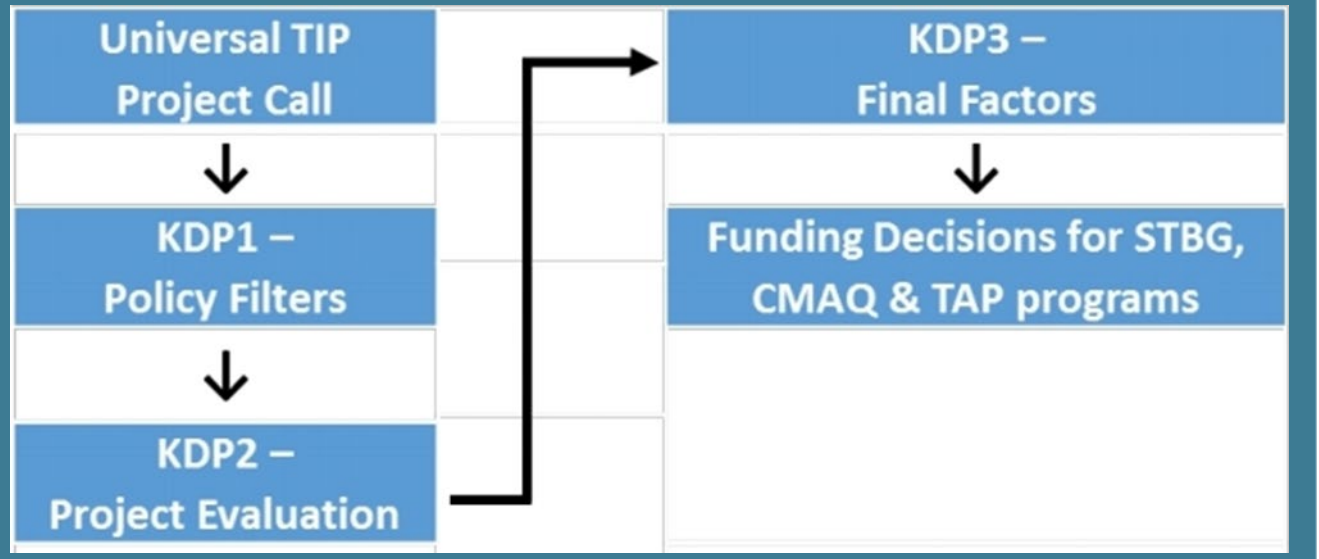
TIP Evaluation Framework

- TIP Evaluation Framework outlines how projects are appraised for their accordance with RTP Policy Framework and comparative performance across applications
- Offers a transparent view of how project proposals are graded by ARC staff
- Organized around a Key Decision Point (KDP) structure
- Available at www.atlantaregional.org/tipsolicitation



TIP Project Evaluation Process

- ARC opens a universal call for project proposals
- Most responses collected through an application
- Applications run through KDPs



- KDP 1 – Filters applications not accordant with RTP Policy Framework
- KDP 2 – Measures performance by criteria aligned with RTP Policy Framework
- KDP 3 – Applies final factors (applicant priority, cost effectiveness, regional equity and project deliverability)

KDP 1 – Policy Filters

	Policy Filter Language
General Filters for Infrastructure Expansion or Maintenance	Project must originate from a locally adopted plan
	Sponsors must have Qualified Local Government (QLG) status current or pending
	New projects must originate from, or be supported by, a government with a demonstrated capacity to implement federal aid projects with on-time delivery of ARC regional program funded phases over the last three fiscal years of at least 60%[1]
	Projects on the state system will not be considered without a letter of support from the sponsor's GDOT District Office and the GDOT Office of Program Delivery
Roadway Capacity Filters	Project must be federal aid eligible
	Project must be located on a regional or national priority transportation network
	Project must include complete street elements that are context sensitive to the existing community and safety measures that reduce risks for all roadway users
	Projects in rural areas, as designated by the UPGM[2], must connect two or more regional places[2]
Transit Capacity Filters	Rail and BRT capacity projects must be a part of the Concept 3 transit vision and the ATL Authority transit plan[3]
	Project must demonstrate a firm financial package
	Project must connect to an existing public transit service or regional center

KDP 2 – Project Evaluation

- KDP 2 applies 12 Policy Framework-referenced performance criterion across 8 distinct application categories
- Based on data sourced by staff and individual applicants
- All criteria specifics outlined in TIP Evaluation Framework

Atlanta Region's Plan Vision	Performance Criteria	Project Types							
		Bicycle and Pedestrian	Trail	Roadway Asset Management & Resiliency	Roadway Expansion	Roadway Transportation Systems Management & Operations	Transit Expansion	Transit Asset Management and System Upgrades	Misc. Emissions Related Projects
World Class Infrastructure	Mobility & Congestion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Reliability				✓	✓	✓		
	Network Connectivity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Multimodalism	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Asset Management & Resiliency	✓[4]	✓[4]	✓	✓[4]	✓[4]	✓[4]	✓	
Healthy Livable Communities	Safety	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Air Quality & Climate Change	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓[5]	✓
	Cultural & Environmental Resources	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Social Equity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Land Use Compatibility	✓	✓				✓		
Competitive Economy	Goods Movement			✓	✓	✓			
	Employment Accessibility	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

KDP 2.1 – LCI Project Evaluation

Projects with at least 50% of project limits within approved LCI districts will be evaluated on LCI criteria in addition to KDP 2 criteria. LCI criteria:

LCI Criterion	Measure	Points
LCI Plan Implement-ation	Affordable housing ordinance	10 pts
	Mixed-use and multi-family zoning permitted	10 pts
	Walkable community design regs, sidewalk ordinance, hist. pres. district	5 pts
Complete Streets	Provides bicycle and pedestrian facilities	0-15 (range based on separation, quality)
	Safety Countermeasures	0-15 (range based on quality and # of features)
Innovation & Quality of Scope	Green stormwater management infrastructure	10 pts
	Smart technology	5 pts
Transit Access or TOD	TOD project or provides bike/ped facilities within 1 mile of bus or rail stop	0-15 pts (range based on distance from transit)
Social Equity	Moderate to Highest concentration of racial/ethnic minorities and low-income populations based on ARC's Equity mapping tool.	0-15 (graduated, based on concentration)
	Not in EJ area, but project serves low-income or subsidized housing as identified on HUD subsidy property database	10 points (in lieu of above criterion, not added to it)

KDP 3 - Final Factors

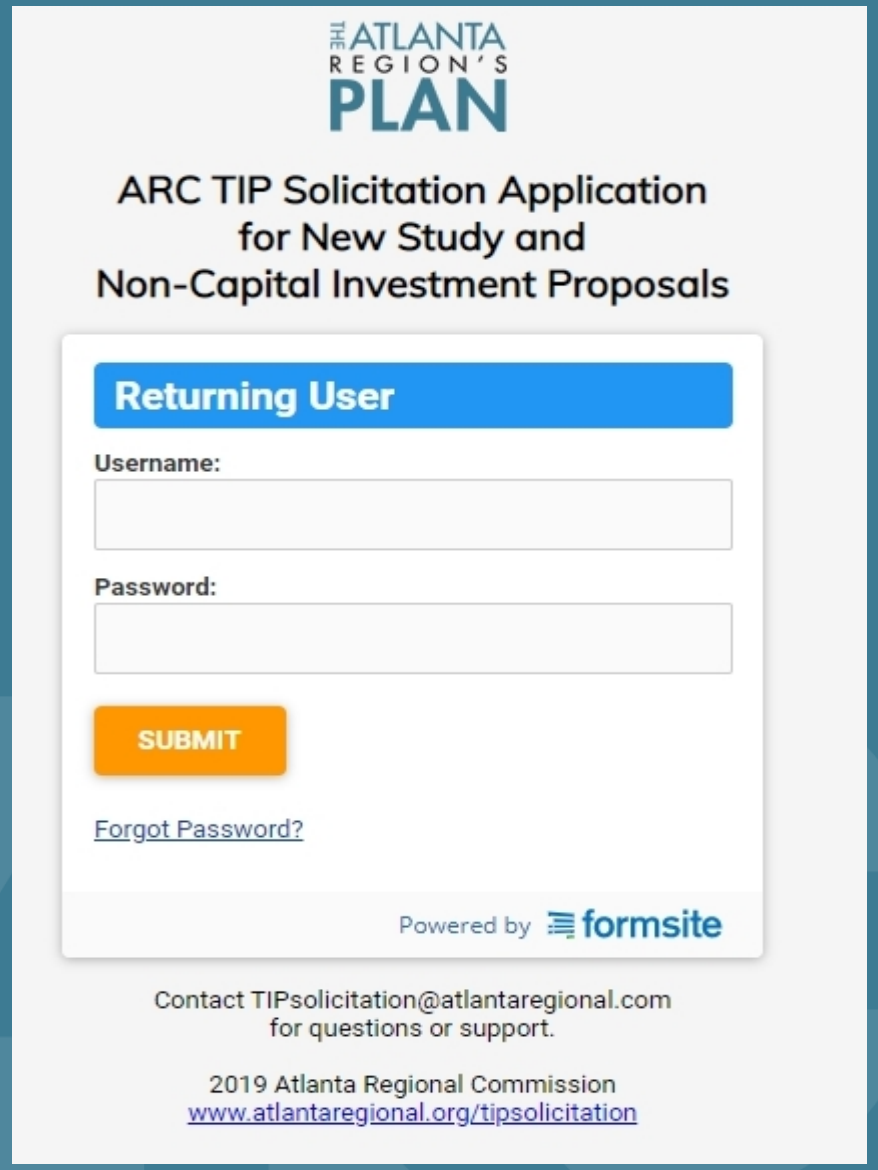
- Project priority as disclosed in project application
- Cost effectiveness derived from KDP 2 performance and project cost estimate
- Project deliverability surmised from application deliverability assessment
- Regional equity informed by geographic distribution

Funding Recommendations

- Staff utilize project evaluation findings to craft a draft set of recommendations
  - Applications may be recommended for full funding as requested, partially funded, converted into a scoping study or passed for funding
- Due diligence with sponsors, elected officials, TCC/TAQC and ARC executive team follow
- Recommendations finalized and published
  - Assigned to various TIP incorporation tracks (Amendment or Administrative Modification)

TIP Solicitation Application Process

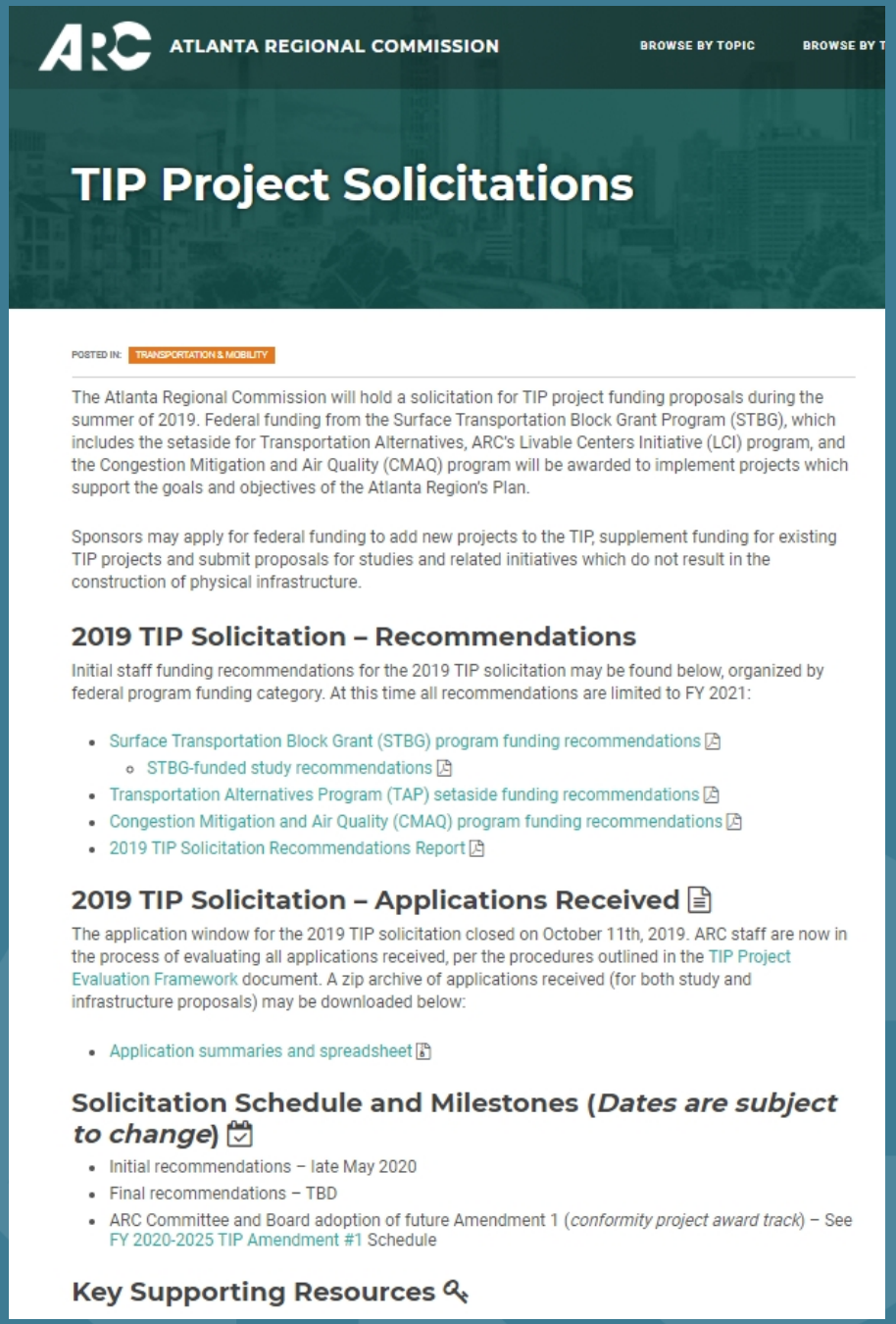
- Application window opens approximately every 2 years
- Application windows typically supported by ARC staff through open house events
- Application is online; allows applicants to save progress and return
  - In select cases a sponsor may participate directly through PLANIT
- Application designed to assist applicants submit a competitive application



TIP Solicitation Page

- All resources pertaining to TIP solicitations are hosted at www.atlantaregional.org/tipsolicitation

- Includes:
  - Application portal login
  - Solicitation dates and milestones
  - Supporting resources to help craft a competitive application
  - Award announcements and previous
  - A summary of received applications
  - Previous solicitation awards



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

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TIP Project Solicitations

POSTED IN: TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

The Atlanta Regional Commission will hold a solicitation for TIP project funding proposals during the summer of 2019. Federal funding from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), which includes the setaside for Transportation Alternatives, ARC's Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) program, and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program will be awarded to implement projects which support the goals and objectives of the Atlanta Region's Plan.

Sponsors may apply for federal funding to add new projects to the TIP, supplement funding for existing TIP projects and submit proposals for studies and related initiatives which do not result in the construction of physical infrastructure.

2019 TIP Solicitation – Recommendations

Initial staff funding recommendations for the 2019 TIP solicitation may be found below, organized by federal program funding category. At this time all recommendations are limited to FY 2021:

- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funding recommendations
  - STBG-funded study recommendations
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) setaside funding recommendations
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funding recommendations
- 2019 TIP Solicitation Recommendations Report

2019 TIP Solicitation – Applications Received

The application window for the 2019 TIP solicitation closed on October 11th, 2019. ARC staff are now in the process of evaluating all applications received, per the procedures outlined in the TIP Project Evaluation Framework document. A zip archive of applications received (for both study and infrastructure proposals) may be downloaded below:

- Application summaries and spreadsheet

Solicitation Schedule and Milestones (*Dates are subject to change*)

- Initial recommendations – late May 2020
- Final recommendations – TBD
- ARC Committee and Board adoption of future Amendment 1 (*conformity project award track*) – See FY 2020-2025 TIP Amendment #1 Schedule

Key Supporting Resources

Important Closing Items

- Funds programmed by ARC through the TIP solicitation process are made to a specific project, project activity and fiscal year – NOT a project sponsor
- MPO funding is a partnership between the sponsor and MPO
- Keeping a project on schedule is critical as MPO funding availability in future TIP years fluctuates each quarter
- Drastic changes in project scope/schedule/budget can impact ARC support

Questions?

Break - 10-minutes

Studies and Contracts

Day Two Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- TIP Solicitation Process
- Study Programs
  - Regional Transportation Study Program
  - LCI Studies
  - Freight Cluster Plans
  - CTP Program
- Study Contracts/Procurement

Study Programs

- Regional Transportation Study Program
- LCI Studies
- Freight Cluster Plans
- Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Program

Regional Transportation Study Plan (RTSP)

The Regional Transportation Planning Study (RTPS) program provides local governments and Community Improvement Districts funds for transportation plans, corridor studies and feasibility studies that support the goals and objectives of the Atlanta Region's Plan. The purpose of these is to develop project concepts that improve safety, mobility and access to all roadway users, while also preparing them for advancement to Scoping and/or PE phases (in future TIP project solicitations).

Regional Transportation Study Plan (RTSP)

Funding for transportation studies helps to determine viable TIP projects. Typical study types include:

- Planning study identifies transportation issues and provides improvement options
- Feasibility are used to determine if a recommended approach to a transportation issues is feasible.
- Scoping study identifies and explores the initial parameters of a transportation project. Required before funding is awarded for expansion project.

Regional Transportation Study Plan (RTSP)

Fiscal Year	Sponsor	Study Name	ARC/Federal Award	Local Match	Total
2020	Barrow County	SR316 Access Management Plan Study	$280,000	$70,000	$350,000
2020	ADID/Central Atlanta Progress	Atlanta Central Business District Curb Management Plan	$ 240,000	$60,000	$300,000
2020	Cobb County	Cobb Parkway (US 41/SR3) at Windy Hill Road Grade Separation	$320,000	$80,000	$400,000
2020	Coweta County	Southwest Bypass (Phase 1) Scoping Study	$320,000	$80,000	$400,000
2020	DeKalb County	North Druid Hills Scoping Study	$320,000	$80,000	$400,000
2020	City of Sandy Springs	SR 9/Roswell Road Access Management Study	$320,000	$80,000	$400,000
2020	Paulding County	SR 6 Planning / Scoping study	$200,000	$50,000	$250,000
2020	City of Loganville	Loganville Traffic Circulation Study	$240,000	$60,000	$300,000
2021	City of Atlanta	Atlanta Vision Zero Plan	$400,000	$100,000	$500,000
2021	Cobb County	Austell-Powder Springs Trail Study	$240,000	$60,000	$300,000
2021	Cobb County	Noonday Creek Trail Extension Scoping Study	$240,000	$60,000	$300,000
2021	DeKalb County	South River Multiuse Trail Extension Scoping Study	$200,000	$50,000	$250,000
2021	City of Doraville	Shallowford Road Project Scoping Study	$80,000	$20,000	$100,000
2021	City of Fayetteville	People to Parks Connectivity study	$200,000	$50,000	$250,000
2021	Gwinnett County	Piedmont Pathway Trail Study	$240,000	$60,000	$300,000
2021	City of Stockbridge	Stockbridge Downtown Ped. and Bicycle Connectivity Study	$100,000	$25,000	$125,000
2021	DeKalb County	Redan Road Scoping Study	$320,000	$80,000	$400,000
2021	City of Dallas	Dallas Trail, Phase 3 - Silver Comet Connection	$80,000	$20,000	$100,000

RTSP- ARC's Role

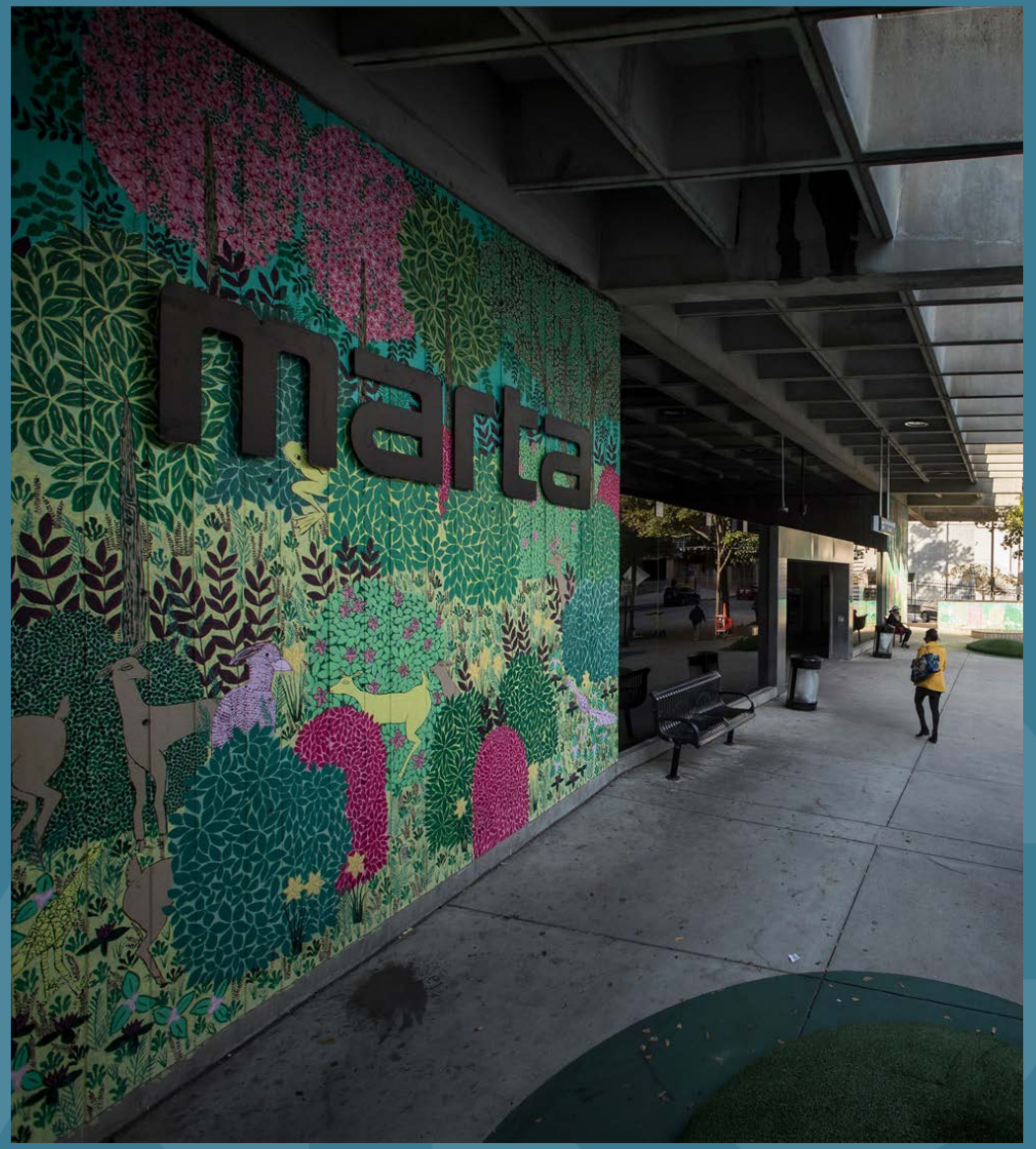
- Main Point of Contact between the Study Process and ARC
- Requests and information should flow through them once you begin the study.
- Receives Invoices and Monthly Progress Reports
- Attend Project Management Team Meetings and other public meetings
- Ensures study is meeting milestones and meets ARC needs

RTSP-Local Sponsor's Role

- Main Point of Contact at the Local Level
- Manages the consultant and serves as the main point of contact for studies project
- Ensures timely Invoicing and Monthly Progress Reports
- Ensures Study meets the community needs; Review final deliverables
- Pays consultants in timely manner
- Ensure coordination with ARC Project Manager

Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)

- LCI originally adopted in 1999 by ARC Board as part of the RTP (Mobility 2030)
- Current funding committed in the RTP (through 2050):
  - $2Million per year for studies
  - $20 Million per year for transportation infrastructure
- To date, LCI has funded ~$250 Million on 120 transportation projects and $18 Million on 278 studies in 122 distinct centers and corridors.

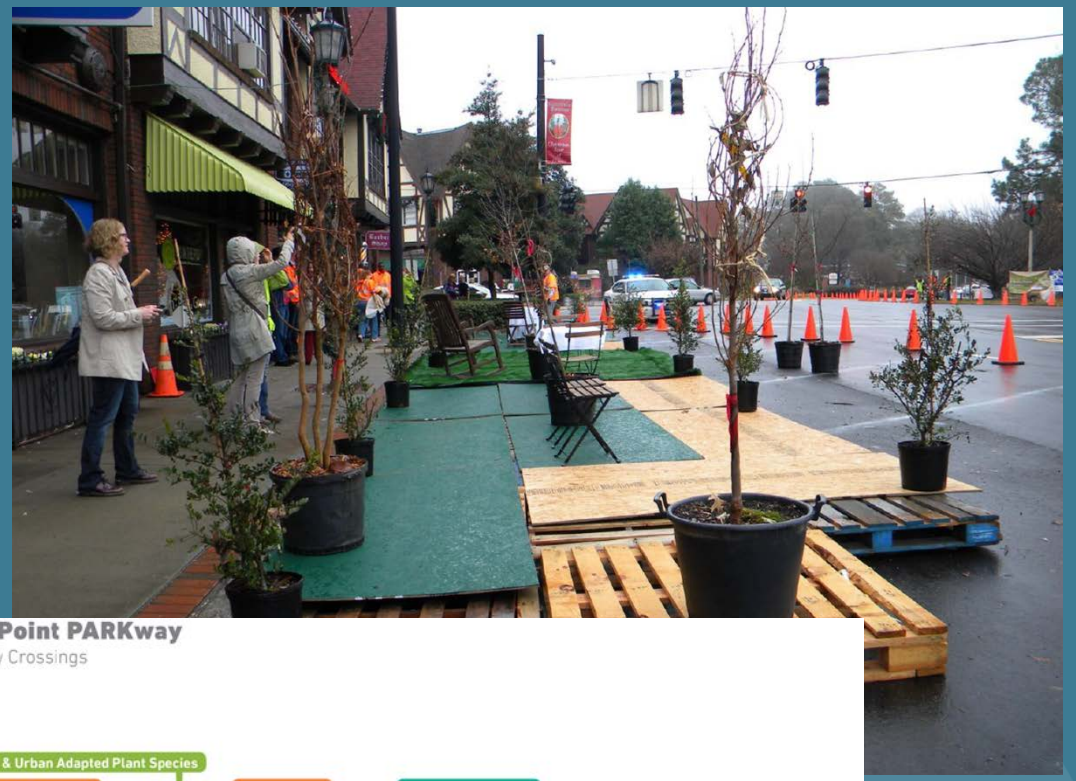


Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Studies

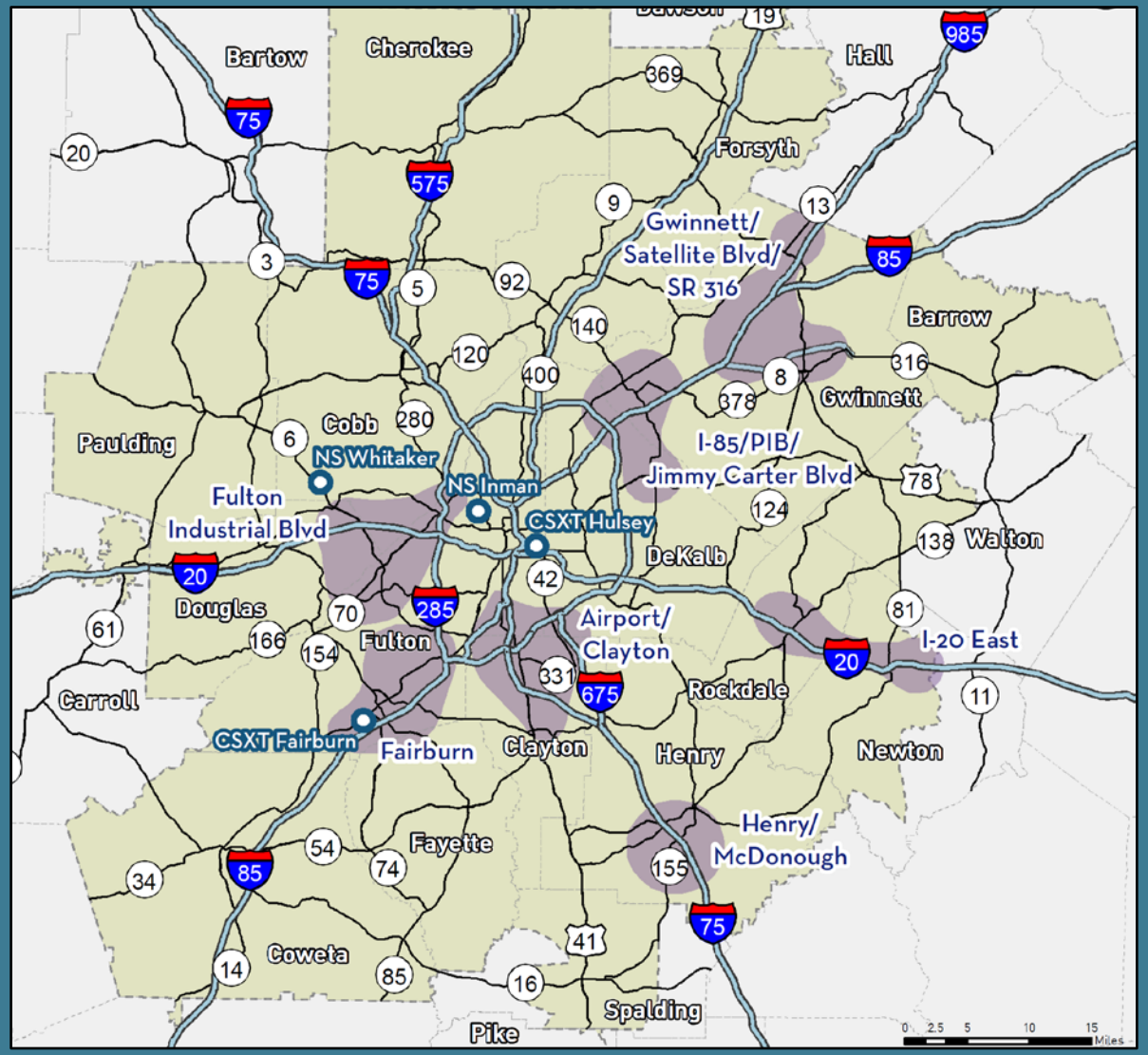
- Program goals: increasing density, mix of uses, mobility options, improved access jobs, services and retail, and affordable housing.
- Eligible areas: **Town Centers** (e.g. County seats, historic town centers) and **districts with high-capacity transit service** (MARTA station areas, bus transfer centers, locations with BRT or multiple bus lines)
- Current focus areas: Affordable housing, Creative Placemaking, Green Infrastructure and Smart Technology.

Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Studies

- Annual grant cycle – general timeline:
  - Application opens in January
  - Applications due in March
  - Awards in April
  - Approx. 18 months for study (including procurement)
- Grants range from $80K-$400K ($150K typical)
- Evaluation Criteria:
  - Study Need and Innovation
  - LCI Program Goals & Priority Issues
  - Commitment and Ability to Implement
  - Geographic Diversity



Freight Cluster Plans



- Freight Clusters were identified as part of the 2016 Regional Freight Plan Update
- Industrial development commonly is located near other industrial development
- Found a lack of local planning in these freight clusters areas
- Applicant study areas must be in a freight cluster or in a location with ongoing industrial growth, i.e. Spalding County

https://atlantaregional.org/transportation-mobility/freight/transportation-mobility-freight-freight-cluster-plans/

Freight Cluster Plans

Regional Transportation Plan

Freight Cluster Plan

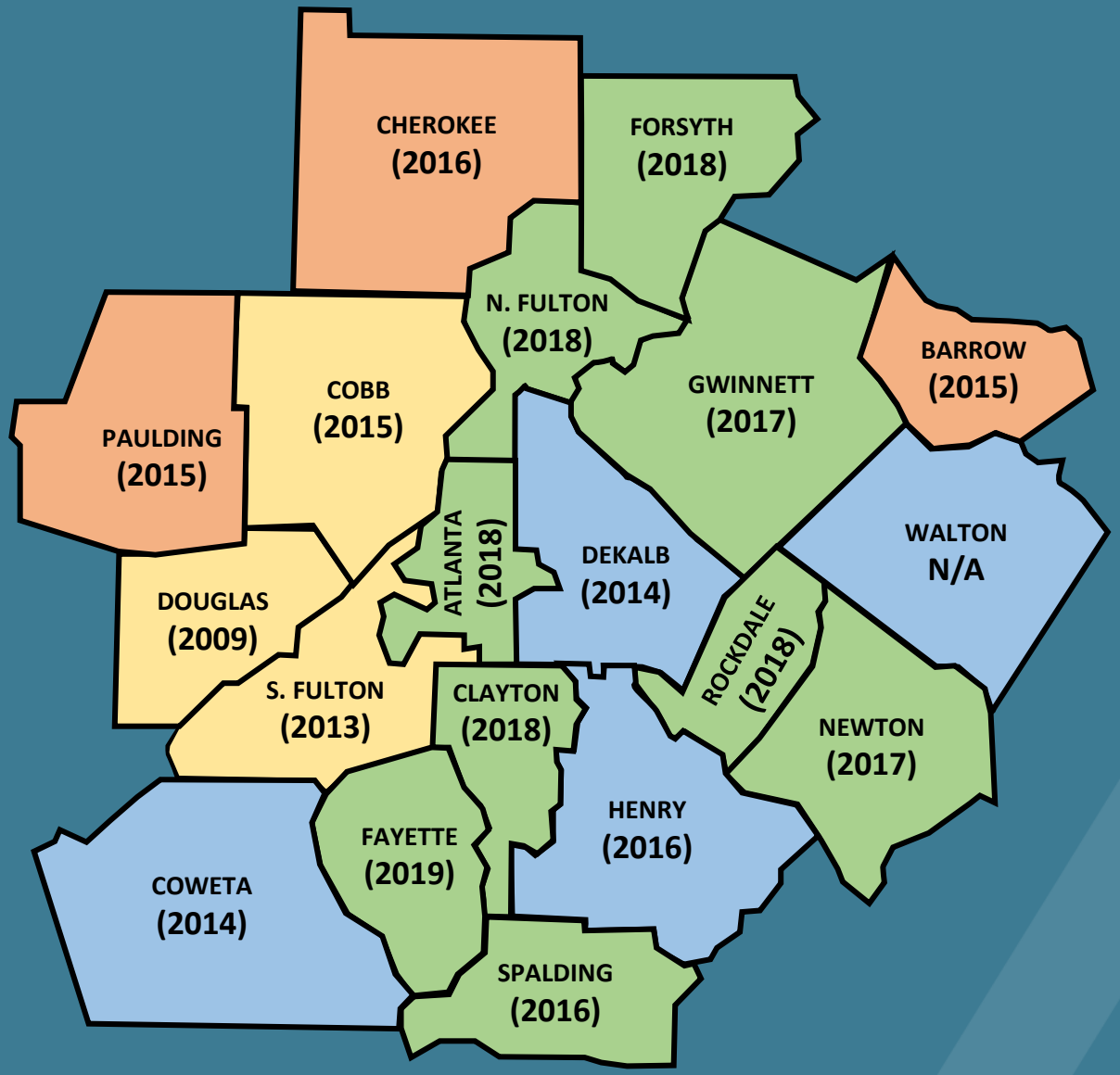
Scope Content

- Roadways/Connectivity
- Safety/Crash Data Review
- Access to Jobs – Bike/Ped/Transit
- Traffic Study – Stand alone task
- Changing freight/logistics industry
- Technology Needs – ITS, CAV, etc.
- Growth potential
- Land use conflicts
- Truck Parking
- Bridges
- Rail Activity
- Alternative fuels
- Signage
- Lighting

CTP Program

- Local long-range planning program established in 2005
- Fundamental building blocks of the Regional Transportation Plan
- Knits together community level plans developed under the Regional Transportation Study Program, LCI Program, Freight Cluster Studies Program and others
- Robust community engagement and local government adoption are required
- Includes a fiscally reasonable short-range component that can serve as a blueprint for SPLOST/TSPLOST votes and funding solicitations

CTP Status



- No current activity
- Update currently underway
- In contracting / procurement
- Update pending in 2021 (tentative)
- (20xx) Completion date of most recent CTP

Study Program Contacts

- **LCI Studies** - Jared Lombard, Jlombard@atlantaregional.org
- **LCI Transportation Projects** - Amy Goodwin, Agoodwin@atlantaregional.org
- **LCI website** - *www.atlantaregional.org/lci*
- **Regional Transportation Study Program** – Marquitrice Mangham, mmangham@atlantaregional.org
- **Freight Cluster Plans** – Daniel Studdard, dstuddard@atlantaregional.org
- **Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Program** – David Haynes, dhaynes@atlantaregional.org

Study Contracts and Procurement

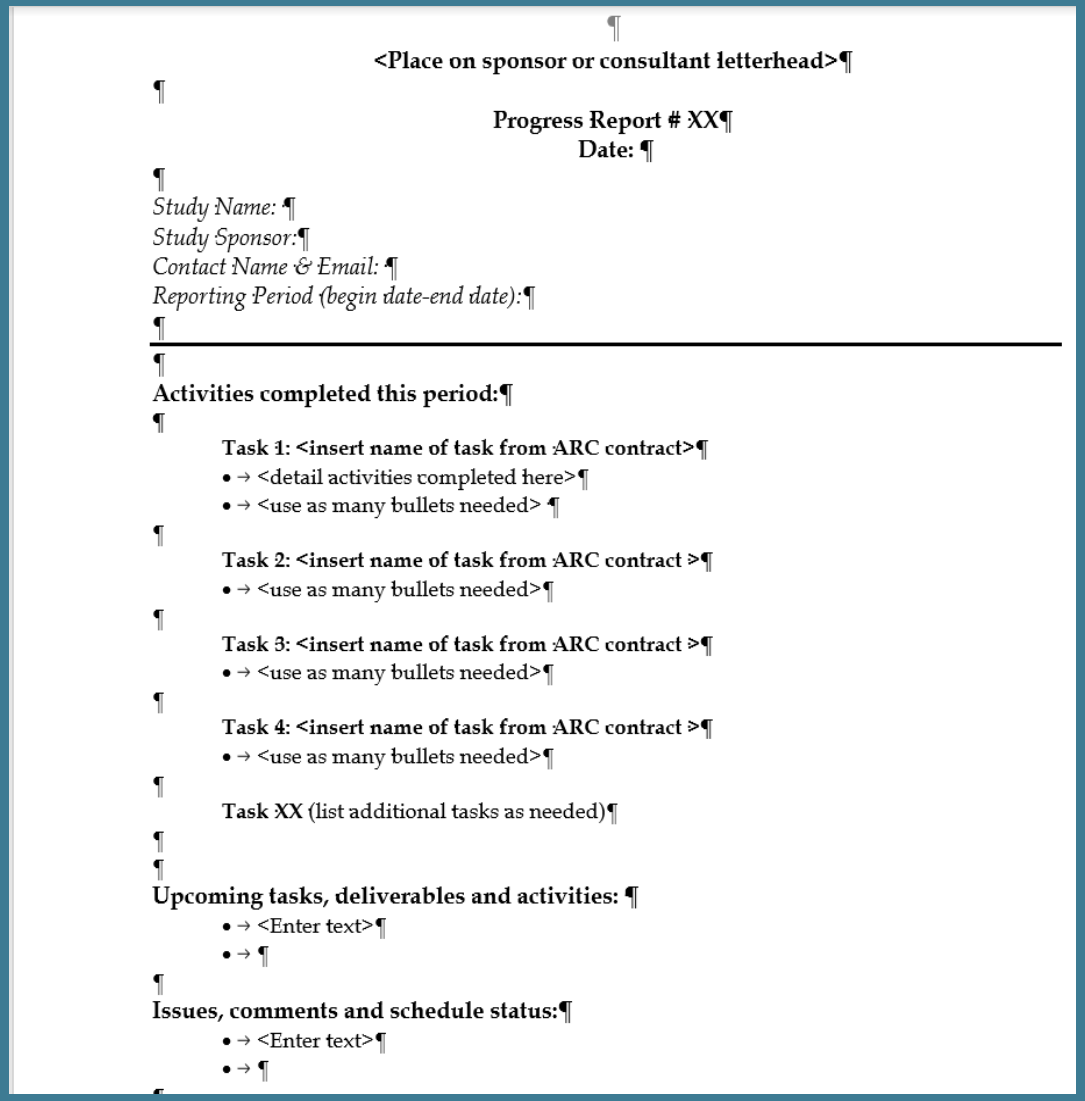
Contracting & Budgeting

- Contracts are between ARC and your Organization (no PFA with GDOT).
- Procurement must be competitive
  - Either RFP or RFQ
  - Include your ARC Project Manager on the procurement process including interviews (except for CTP studies)
- If the final study budget is less than your LCI grant that is OK. If it is more, your organization will have to make up the difference.

Role of Consultant

- Prepares Plan or Study
  - Manages the study to ensure work meets scope requirements and deadlines
  - Manages the process and schedules meetings and presentations in coordination with sponsor and ARC
  - Manages consultant team.

Invoicing & Progress Reports



<Place on sponsor or consultant letterhead>

Progress Report # XX
Date:

Study Name:
Study Sponsor:
Contact Name & Email:
Reporting Period (begin date-end date):

Activities completed this period:

Task 1: <insert name of task from ARC contract>
- <detail activities completed here>
- <use as many bullets needed>

Task 2: <insert name of task from ARC contract >
- <use as many bullets needed>

Task 3: <insert name of task from ARC contract >
- <use as many bullets needed>

Task 4: <insert name of task from ARC contract >
- <use as many bullets needed>

Task XX (list additional tasks as needed)

Upcoming tasks, deliverables and activities:
- <Enter text>
-

Issues, comments and schedule status:
- <Enter text>
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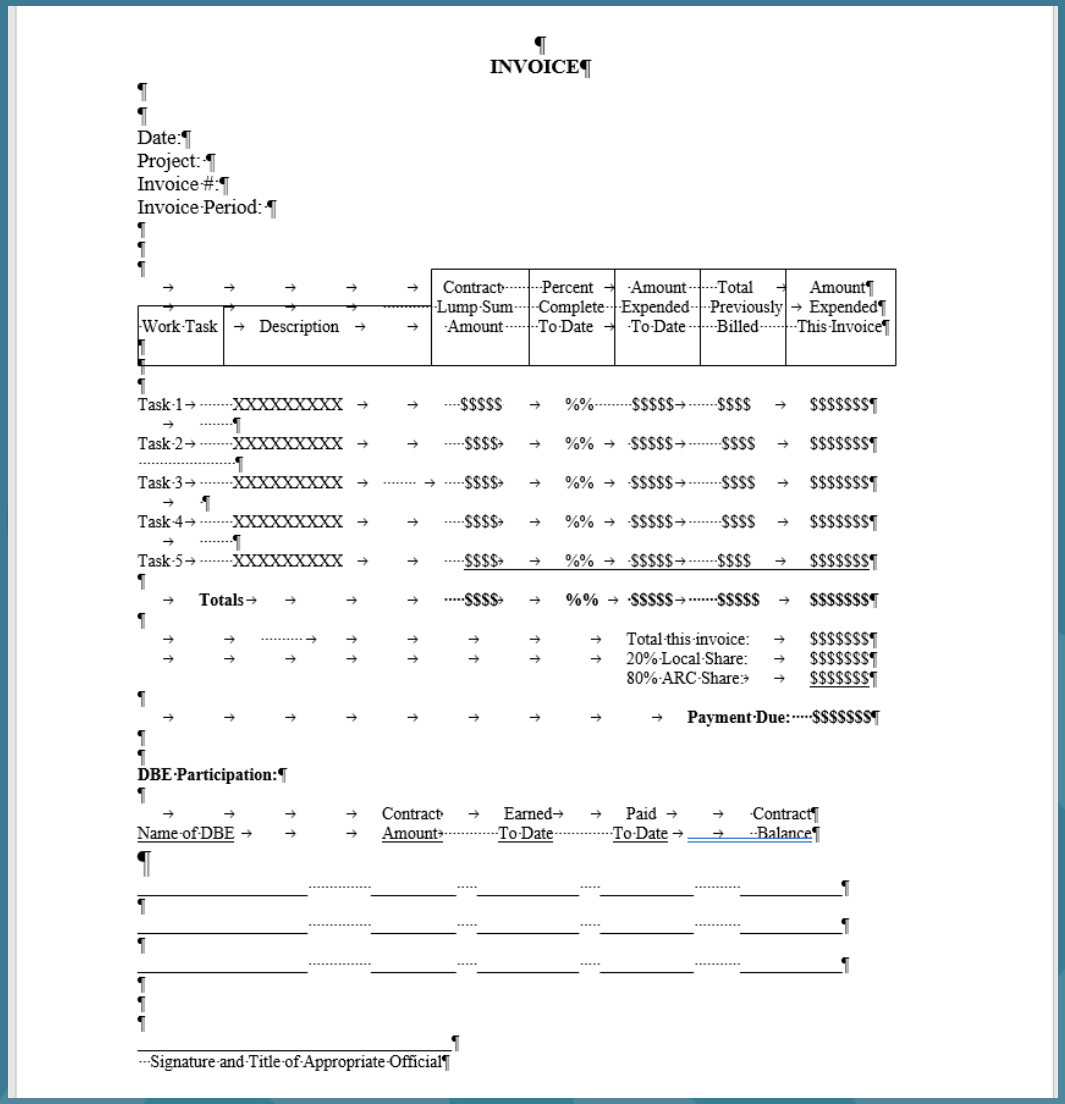

INVOICE

Date:
Project:
Invoice #:
Invoice Period:

Work Task	Description	Contract Lump Sum Amount	Percent Complete To Date	Amount Expended To Date	Total Previously Billed	Amount Expended This Invoice
Task 1	XXXXXXXXX	$$$$	%%	$$$$$	$$$$	$$$$$$$
Task 2	XXXXXXXXX	$$$$	%%	$$$$$	$$$$	$$$$$$$
Task 3	XXXXXXXXX	$$$$	%%	$$$$$	$$$$	$$$$$$$
Task 4	XXXXXXXXX	$$$$	%%	$$$$$	$$$$	$$$$$$$
Task 5	XXXXXXXXX	$$$$	%%	$$$$$	$$$$	$$$$$$$
Totals		**$$$$**	**%%**	**$$$$$**	**$$$$$**	**$$$$$$$**
					Total this invoice:	$$$$$$$
					20% Local Share:	$$$$$$$
					80% ARC Share:	$$$$$$$
					Payment Due:	**$$$$$$$**

DBE Participation:

Name of DBE	Contract Amount	Earned To Date	Paid To Date	Contract Balance

_____
Signature and Title of Appropriate Official

Questions?