Regional Significance/Local Relevance

Agenda

- ARC and metropolitan transportation planning
- Population and employment trends
- Planned transportation investments
- Activity center travelshed analysis
- Findings from Metro Atlanta Speaks survey
- Questions
The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is Atlanta’s federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

MPO implements comprehensive, coordinated, and continuous transportation planning at the regional level

MPO is designated in urban areas with 50,000+ people, to carry out the federally required metropolitan transportation planning process
How Ideas and Funds are Shared

Federal Government

$ $$

$ $$$

MPO

$ $$

$ $$$

Cities, Counties, CID’s, etc.

$ $

State

$ $

$ $$
Primary MPO Deliverables

- Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTP – ARC Only)
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

RTP is a 20+ year long range plan that is updated every 4 years.

World Class Infrastructure
- Ensuring a comprehensive transportation network

Healthy Livable Communities
- Developing walkable, vibrant communities

Competitive Economy
- Building the region as a global hub of innovation and prosperity
Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTP)

CTP PROGRAM GOALS

- Assist local governments with local transportation plans
- Help local jurisdictions identify local priorities and community vision
- Establish relationships between local transportation expectations with regional expectations
- Help support Comprehensive Plans
The TIP is a **short term** (6 Year) plan that is fiscally constrained.

The TIP is a **subset** of the RTP

State + County + City submit projects to ARC

ARC prioritizes and selects projects based on established regional goals & evaluation criteria
Selected RTP/TIP Projects

- MARTA rail expansion to Holcomb Bridge Road
- GA 400 managed lanes from I-285 to McFarland Road
- “Revive 285” I-285 managed lanes from I-75N to I-85N
- I-285 interchange and collector/distributor system
- GA 9/Atlanta Street reversible lane removal and retrofit
- Johnson Ferry Road/Mount Vernon Highway one-way pair improvements
- Sandy Springs Circle complete street upgrade
In the next 25 years, ARC forecasts the Atlanta region will add 2.5 million people.
Population and Employment Trends

Atlanta Region Population and Employment

- Population: 5,509,877 in 2015, 7,935,581 in 2040, 44% increase
- Employment: 2,923,940 in 2015, 3,965,194 in 2040, 36% increase

Chart showing population and employment trends from 2015 to 2040 with 44% and 36% increases respectively.
For **2040**, Sandy Springs Share of:
- Regional population: 1%
- Regional employment: 4%
- North Fulton population: 28%
- North Fulton employment: 42%
- Closely follows same values for 2015

Sandy Springs is forecast to attract people and jobs at a higher rate than the rest of North Fulton

Somewhat unique housing to jobs ratio creates challenges and opportunities
Travelshed Analysis

- Travelshed – Geography over which travel time is consistent
- Derived from travel demand model data (AM Peak Period)
- Four Activity Nodes Analyzed:
  - Powers Ferry Landing
  - City Center
  - Perimeter Center
  - Northridge Road
• Base Network (2015)
  • 1,815,952 people are within a 45 minute drive
• 2040 No-Build Network
  • 1,512,621 (-17%)
• 2040 Build Network
  • 1,680,002 (-7%)
City Center Travelshed

- **Base Network (2015)**
  - 1,713,662 people are within a 45 minute drive
- **2040 No-Build Network**
  - 1,373,959 (-20%)
- **2040 Build Network**
  - 1,557,545 (-9%)
Perimeter Center Travelshed

- **Base Network (2015)**
  - 1,554,420 people are within a 45 minute drive
- **2040 No-Build Network**
  - 1,195,909 (-23%)
- **2040 Build Network**
  - 1,407,443 (-9%)
Northridge Road Travelshed

- **Base Network (2015)**
  - 1,396,943 people are within a 45 minute drive

- **2040 No-Build Network**
  - 1,167,454 (-16%)

- **2040 Build Network**
  - 1,263,010 (-10%)
Travelshed Analysis Summary

- Population increases result in smaller travelsheds in 2040
- Major investments in roadway network help but do not “solve” problem
- Investment in alternate transportation modes AND addressing jobs/housing balance ratio could help
Metro Atlanta Speaks Survey findings

- Modeled after Kinder Survey in Houston
- Meant to provide assess opinions, inform policy and track trends
- Random sample survey; statistically significant at the county level
  - Sandy Springs ZIP codes are reported for informational purposes; sample size not statistically valid
- Began in 2015; will be delivered annually

www.atlantaregional.com/metroatlantaspeaks
Question: What is the Biggest Problem Facing Residents of Metro Atlanta?

Sandy Springs (ZIPS 30350 & 30328)
Question: What is the Best Long-Term Solution to Traffic Problems in Metro Area?

Sandy Springs (ZIPS 30350 & 30328)

- Expand public transit
- Improve roads and highways
- Develop communities in which people can live very close to where they work
- Do nothing
- Don't Know

Sandy Springs (2015) and Sandy Springs (2016)
Question: What is the Importance of Improved Public Transportation for Atlanta's Future?

Sandy Springs (ZIPS 30350 & 30328)

- Very important: Sandy Springs (2015) - 70%, Sandy Springs (2016) - 80%
- Somewhat important: Sandy Springs (2015) - 20%, Sandy Springs (2016) - 10%
- Not important at all for Atlanta's future: Sandy Springs (2015) - 10%, Sandy Springs (2016) - 0%
- Don't Know: Sandy Springs (2015) - 0%, Sandy Springs (2016) - 10%
Question: If you could, would you move to a different neighborhood in the Metro Atlanta area, stay where you are now, or move away from metro Atlanta?

Sandy Springs (ZIPS 30350 & 30328)
In Summary...

- Strong population, employment growth forecast for CoSS

- Significant roadway network investments slow (but do not reverse) shrinking CoSS activity center travelsheds

- Unofficial polling suggests:
  - Transportation is a primary concern
  - Support for roadway and transit improvement
  - Great satisfaction in living in CoSS

- “Known unknowns” on the horizon
Questions and Contact

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