

# Atlanta Regional Commission

# Action

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## ARC Adopts Historic TIP

**A**t its October Board meeting, ARC took a proactive step in addressing the region's transportation needs by adopting an historic three-year **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** of high priority projects. At \$4.6 billion, the FY 2002 - FY 2004 TIP is the largest in the region's history and more than double the previous spending program.

"This is dramatic step in meeting the challenges facing this region head-on," said Jane Hayse, Chief of ARC's Transportation Planning Division. "It's a great start to carrying out the mission of the long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) - giving the region real alternatives to driving alone in the car."

The TIP incorporates portions of Governor's Transportation Choices Initiative (GTCI), mostly providing funds for engineering feasibility studies. The TIP also includes:

- ⊙ Construction of the 17th Street Bridge as part of the Atlantic Station project
- ⊙ More than \$108 million for bicycle and pedestrian projects
- ⊙ \$32 million for Transportation Demand Management projects and programs, including almost \$2 million in start-up funds for Transportation Management Associations (TMAs)



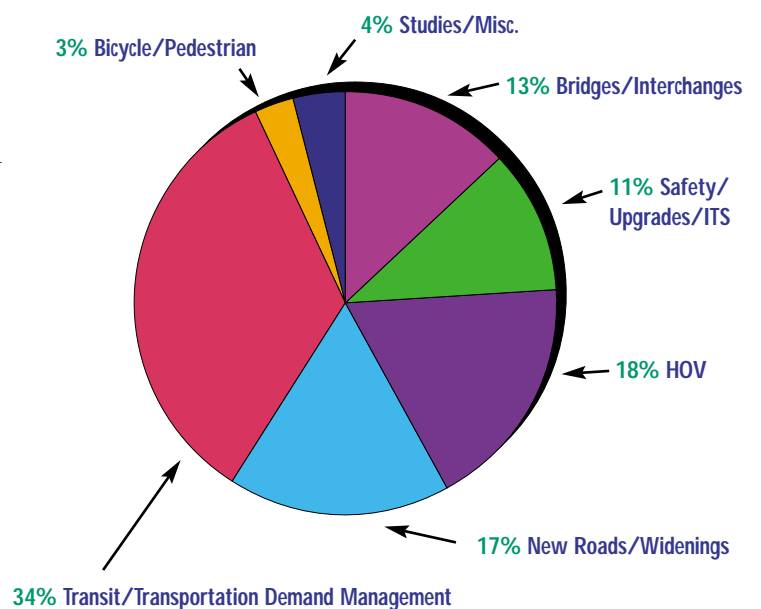
"It was a tremendous challenge in developing consensus among the 10 counties and the 63 municipalities in deciding what the region's priorities should be," said Ms. Hayse. "This plan reflects that incredible cooperation."

The TIP is a three-year spending program of transportation projects such as bridges, bicycle paths, intersection improvements, transit services, roadway and safety upgrades. For more information about the FY 2002 - 2004 TIP, please call Chris Chovan at (404) 463-3282, email him at [cchovan@atlantaregional.com](mailto:cchovan@atlantaregional.com) or check ARC's Web site at [www.atlantaregional.com/transportation/download\\_02-04tip.html](http://www.atlantaregional.com/transportation/download_02-04tip.html)

## Highlights of the Transportation Improvement Program FY 2002 - 2004

- ⊙ 34 percent of total investment is slated for transit and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) projects
- ⊙ 18 percent of total investment accelerates the completion of a regional HOV network
- ⊙ 30 projects already included the 2025 RTP were advanced to allow for preliminary engineering, including:
  - ✓ 15 HOV projects
  - ✓ 12 transit projects
  - ✓ 2 interstate widening projects
- ⊙ 13 projects were added and are sponsored by GRTA, most dealing with initiation of express bus service
- ⊙ More than \$36 million in implementation funds for **Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)** projects

The TIP by Project Type



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# New ARC Regional Issues Quarterly Poll Released



## Livable Centers Initiative Pays Early Dividend

Though only two years into the program, ARC's **Livable Centers Initiative** is already helping the region reap the benefits from this popular grant program. Chamblee, one of the first-round recipients of LCI funding, recently learned that a European firm – Köllmann (USA), Inc. – will invest \$20 million in a mixed-use development to be located on a previously abandoned parcel near its MARTA station. The developer was attracted because of Chamblee's LCI study.

LCI is a grant program that promotes greater livability within the region's activity and employment centers. ARC has awarded 22 planning grants totaling \$2 million in the first two years of this program, and 12 communities already have completed their studies. Including this third round, ARC will have \$3 million available for additional smart growth studies. Beginning in FY2003, ARC will have \$350 million available for project and plan implementation.

For more information, please contact Dan Reuter at 404 463-3305 or consult ARC's Web site at [www.atlantaregional.com/landuse](http://www.atlantaregional.com/landuse).



## Public Involvement Activities Input Sought

To further enhance ongoing outreach efforts, ARC is soliciting input to evaluate how effective the agency's public involvement activities were in disseminating information about the agency's transportation initiatives during the year 2001. A survey will be available on ARC's Web site, [www.atlantaregional.com](http://www.atlantaregional.com), and will be mailed to those who expressed an interest in transportation issues during the last year.

Over the next two months ARC will be asking for input from the public, planning partners and other organizations as it prepares a formal report to the ARC Board. The report will highlight what public involvement activities took place during the year, evaluate the results of those activities and provide recommendations for the coming year. We would really like to hear from you.

For more information, contact Judith Dovers at 404-463-3272 or [jdovers@atlantaregional.com](mailto:jdovers@atlantaregional.com).



## ARC Annual Report Wins National Award

The American Society of Professional Communicators awarded ARC's 2000 Annual Report CD-ROM with **Best Online Annual Report** in its category.

The American Society of Professional Communicators has established and maintains a platform for education, innovation and the recognition of excellence among professional communicators.

The ASPC Annual Report Awards Competition honors the outstanding work done by communications professional each year.

For the third time this year, the public has spoken out on a host of issues as part of an ongoing effort to gauge public opinion. Results of the **ARC Regional Issues Summer Poll** show that most respondents are aware of the challenges facing the region, however there is no clear consensus on the best course of action to provide solutions to these challenges. Investing in transit, though, continued to receive high marks.

The poll shows that although most respondents know that Georgia's motor fuel tax is among the lowest in the nation (it is in fact *the* lowest in the nation), most do not see a need to increase this tax to provide additional roads. By a slight majority, however, respondents did favor changing the way the current tax is used to support transit and other transportation options, even if it means less money for roads.

Additionally, when asked how much of the \$36 billion in ARC's 25-year **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)** should go to the construction of roads, 56 percent said less than half compared to 34 percent who wanted the majority of the investment to go to new roads. The RTP will in fact invest only 12 percent of the total for new roadways and expanded capacity on existing roadways, while 55 percent will go for new transit facilities.

As for the region's water challenges, again, the majority is aware of water quality problems, with 72 percent indicating that the region's water is polluted to some degree. As for paying to fix these problems, 72 percent said they would *not* be willing to spend more than \$50 per year in taxes dedicated to improving water quality.

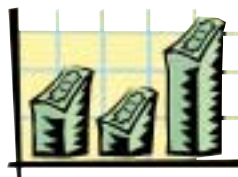
The ARC Regional Issues Poll is conducted quarterly by the **Applied Research Center at Georgia State University**. It is a scientific survey of randomly selected adult residents in the 13-county air quality, non-attainment area.

For more information about this poll, contact Mike Carnathan at (404) 463-3101.

### Question: The 10-county Atlanta region proposes to spend \$36 billion for transportation improvements.

How much should be spent on the construction of roads?

- 56% said less than 1/2
- 34% said more than 1/2
- 9% didn't know/didn't answer



The current 25-year, \$36 billion Regional Transportation Plan will invest 55 percent of the total in transit facilities, compared with 12 percent for new roadways and expanded capacity on existing roadways.

### Question: As compared to other states, where do you think Georgia's gasoline tax ranks?

- 8% Highest
- 5% Among the highest
- 30% Average
- 32% Among the lowest
- 18% Lowest
- 7% didn't know/didn't answer



Georgia's motor fuel tax, at 7.5 percent, is the lowest in the nation. Connecticut has the nation's highest at 32 percent.

### Question: Would you support an increase in the gas tax to provide additional roads?

- 28% Yes
- 69% No
- 3% didn't answer/didn't know



Even though most of those polled knew that Georgia's gas tax was either the lowest or among the lowest in the nation, a majority does not want to raise that tax to provide for additional roads.

### Question: Would you favor a change in the gas tax so it supports transit or other transportation alternatives, even if it means less money for new roadways?

- 51% Yes
- 41% No
- 8% didn't answer/didn't know



A slight majority, when asked if the gas tax should be changed to also support transit, responded favorably. Notice the difference between this question and the previous one, though.

### Question: Did you change the way you get to work as a result of a smog alert day?

- 9% Yes
- 80% No
- 10% Don't work
- 1% Didn't know/didn't answer



Prior to this question, respondents were asked if they knew how many smog alert days had occurred during the past month. Although the responses varied tremendously, a vast majority knew of at least some. This question was asked only to those who knew of at least one smog alert day. As we see, simply knowing about smog alert days does not do a lot to change behavior.

### Question: What is your opinion of the quality of metropolitan Atlanta's water? Is it...

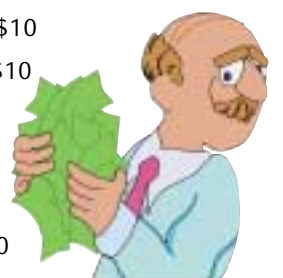
- Excellent – few problems 17%
- Moderately polluted 45%
- Poor – In need of repair 19%
- Heavily polluted 8%
- (12% didn't answer/didn't know)



This shows that the majority of respondents think that metropolitan Atlanta has a problem with water quality. In all, 72 percent think the region's water is polluted to some degree.

### Question: How much more would you pay a year in additional taxes dedicated to improve metropolitan Atlanta's water quality?

- 45% said less than \$10
- 27% said between \$10 and \$50
- 11% said between \$50 and \$100
- 4% said between \$100 and \$250
- 3% said more than \$250
- 11% didn't know or didn't answer



Although most of the respondents indicated that the region's water quality was at least moderately polluted, 72 percent are not willing to pay more than \$50 per year in additional taxes to improve water quality.

# ARC Assists in Rapid Response Efforts to Area Layoffs



**August 22, 2001**

As layoff and plant closings continue to handicap employment in the nation, state and the Atlanta Region, ARC's Workforce Development Division and its partners are working hard to provide information and opportunities to those in the metro area who have lost jobs. As the grantee for Dislocated Worker funds for the seven county Atlanta Regional Workforce Board area, ARC's Workforce Development Division is responsible for providing "rapid response" to employer closings or employee layoffs.

ARC, in partnership with the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL), has been establishing employer meetings throughout the region to discuss services available through Unemployment Insurance, Trade Adjustment Assistance, North American Free Trade Agreement Transitional Adjustment Assistance and the Workforce Investment Act. In addition, they have been conducting employee orientations to services available, including job matching, instruction in "English as a Second Language," interviewing skills and resume writing assistance, computer literacy and career planning for additional training. ARC has partnered with the Latin American Association to translate services descriptions into Spanish. The area's Career Resource Centers (CRC) have also been serving a record number of displaced employees seeking career services and training.

The unemployment rate in Georgia is currently 4.9%, the highest since 1997. Metro Atlanta area layoffs for the third quarter of 2001 exceeded 7,000 jobs and unemployment insurance claims have risen more than 75 percent from the same time last year. Recent major layoffs at *Delta Air Lines*, *Scientific Atlanta*, *BellSouth*, *Worldspan*, *Solectron*, *Motorola Corporation*, *Pace Acquisition Company*, *Heraus Quartz Tech*, *Maxell Corporation*, and *Lucent Technologies* continue to increase the number of the region's displaced workers.

A plaque of appreciation was presented to *Mr. Bill Venema* who recently resigned from the Commission as representative of Citizen District 3.... The Board was briefed on ARC's new *GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping system* which categorizes and displays land use designations through coded maps....As required by law, ARC adopted a set of *population estimates* to serve as the basis for computing each jurisdiction's contribution in support of regional planning during 2002....A presentation was given on the new *Clean Water Campaign*....An update was given on the *Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)* first-year studies.... ARC's recently published "*Atlanta Regional Outlook*" was distributed to the Commission....A resolution was adopted amending the Commission's 2001 Work Program and Budget.... It was announced that the Georgia Department of Labor has awarded ARC additional funding of \$1,369 to continue helping people who need job training or job placement assistance as a result of recent workforce reductions.

## RLI Participants Discuss the Big Picture

The 2001 **Regional Leadership Institute (RLI)** was held on Saint Simons Island, Georgia with 56 of the region's leaders participating in this week-long program to study the dynamic forces shaping the region. Since 1991, nearly 600 leaders from the business, government and non-profit sectors have completed RLI's curriculum that presents the issues facing the Atlanta Region - ranging from transportation and air quality to community revitalization and economic development. Upon completion, participants are invited to join the Regional Leadership Foundation that provides a continuing forum for community leadership and action in the region.



From left to right: *Barbara Noon, Sheila Bissonette, Joni Booker, Jim Lyle and Mike Anderson*

**September 26, 2001**

Ms. Alicia Philipp, President of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta made a presentation to the ARC Board on the *Grassroots Leadership Development Program*, which seeks to expand grassroots leadership development in low-income, minority and refugee and immigrant communities.... An overview of the upcoming adoption process for the Commission's 2002 *Work Program and Budget* was given the members....The Board approved a resolution to *amend its current work program and budget*....The Commission passed a resolution requesting the upcoming 2001-2002 *Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC)* Communications Committee explore the development of a presentation and formal communications plan to increase the Region's awareness of the MARC program....The Board considered a resolution regarding the *James Parkway Development of Regional Impact (DRI)*. Several problems with the development were noted in the resolution and the Commission found the development, as proposed, is *not* in the best interest of the State.... A presentation was made on a Southface Energy Institute CD just released entitled "*The Walkable Community Design Guideline CD*.".... The Commission was updated on *public involvement in the transportation planning process*. A motion passed to extend to October 8 the public comment period for the *draft Transportation Improvements Program*.



## TAKE NOTE

### Two New CDs Available

In its continuing effort to offer products in different formats, ARC now has available two CDs with information about the new **Community Choices** initiative and the **Job Access Transportation Plan**.

Community Choices provides a range of tools, services and resources to help communities grapple with the challenges of the region's dramatic growth. It includes:

- ✓ A **Quality Growth Toolkit** that provides solutions to growth challenges and ways to visualize these solutions.
- ✓ A **Community Planning Academy** for citizens and government officials.
- ✓ Quality growth seed funding through the **Livable Centers Initiative**.
- ✓ **Resource Teams** that provide customized, on-site assistance for communities.

The CD contains the six tools created by ARC and offers tips and information about a multitude of visualization techniques that help citizens and planners envision more livable communities.

The **Job Access Transportation Plan (JATP)** was developed over the last year by ARC and several community and government partners to address the mismatch between suburban job locations and inner-city low-income residents. Through Federal Transit Authority funding, the JATP identifies the gaps between job locations and low-income residents by county and provides a foundation for the Atlanta Region to continue planning for this critical need.

For copies of the **Community Choices** and **JATP** CD ROMs, contact ARC's Information Center at 404-463-3102.

# Update On ARC's Aging Services

## ARC Receives Funding for Expanded Caregiver Support

As a result of the newly established National Family Caregiver Support Program, an amendment to the Older Americans Act, ARC, as the Area Agency on Aging, is receiving additional funding for caregiver services. The program calls for all states to work in partnership with area agencies on aging and community service providers to offer services and support for family caregivers.

In keeping with this initiative, ARC has expanded its existing programs and added new services for family caregivers.

**Information & Assistance** – ARC is expanding regional and county-based Information and Assistance (I&A) to effectively serve the needs of family caregivers.

**Family Caregiver Consultation** - Specialized phone consultation with a registered nurse is available for family caregivers who need assistance with making decisions or solving problems related to their caregiving roles.

**Caregiving Advisory Committee** – ARC is convening an advisory group of caregivers and representatives from a number of community organizations to identify additional methods of supporting family caregivers in the Atlanta Region.

**County-Based Activities** – Individual county-based aging programs will offer a variety of additional services including publishing a caregiver newsletter, sponsoring caregiving seminars, establishing caregiver support groups, expanding respite services and initiating a public awareness campaign.

**Voucher Programs** – ARC is contracting with The Alzheimer's Association and Jewish Family & Career Services to expand existing caregiver voucher programs.

**Georgia Generations** – ARC manages the production of *Georgia Generations*, a new quarterly statewide publication addressing issues of interest to family caregivers (see accompanying article).

**Community Education** – Presentations, training and technical assistance on topics related to family caregivers and caregiver support are provided on request.

**Web Site Enhancements** – ARC's Web site will be expanded to include information on key caregiver issues & resources.

For more information on ARC's caregiving services, contact Margaret Anderson at 404-463-3333 or [manderson@atlantaregional.com](mailto:manderson@atlantaregional.com).

## New Statewide Magazine Aimed at Caregivers

The Atlanta Regional Commission, the Area Agency on Aging for the Atlanta Region has initiated a new vehicle for older adults and caregivers of older adults. *Georgia Generations* is a quarterly magazine designed to provide information to the growing numbers of caregivers of older adults and other family members. The magazine is published by Georgia's Area Agencies on Aging as part of a new federal caregiving initiative to provide additional support to caregivers.

In order to reach caregivers who may be unaware of programs and services within the aging network, copies of the magazine are being distributed free of charge to hospitals, doctor's offices, libraries, drug stores, grocery stores and other public places throughout the state of Georgia.

## Aging Division Staff Honored with State Awards

Two ARC Aging Division staff were recently recognized for their significant achievement and contribution to the field of Aging by the Georgia Gerontology Society. Cathie Berger (left) received the Elsie Alvis Award for over 15 years of outstanding work in the field of gerontology. Maureen Kelly was honored with the Louis Newmark Award for over 10 years of service in the field of aging, particularly with the Georgia Gerontology Society.

# 10 Tips for Family Caregivers

Consider yourself a caregiver if you provide assistance to an ill, elderly or disabled family member. The type and amount of assistance usually varies and can include providing emotional support as well as helping with transportation, grocery shopping, managing finances, meal preparation, housecleaning, giving medications or personal care such as bathing and dressing.



Actively seek assistance from a variety of sources (information, training and services) that can effectively help you meet the challenges of your caregiving role. Sources of assistance may include formal services, help from friends and family and information from the local Area Agency on Aging, health care providers and health-related associations.

Realize your limits. Acknowledge that it is important to take care of yourself as you care for others. Set aside regular time for your own interests and activities, avoid social isolation and get plenty of rest.

Educate yourself by attending workshops and classes on caregiving. These classes provide valuable information and guidance to family caregivers seeking to successfully manage the care for their family member. A number of Internet resources for family caregivers are also available: [www.nfcares.org](http://www.nfcares.org); [www.caregiver.org](http://www.caregiver.org); [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov); [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org); [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org); and [www.care-givers.com](http://www.care-givers.com).

Guilt, sadness, anger and fear are emotions frequently experienced by caregivers. It is important to express your feelings with someone who will listen in a non-judgmental manner.

Initiate requests for help rather than waiting for others to offer. Don't be afraid to approach family members, friends, members of your religious congregation, etc. Be specific in asking for what you need. Sometimes friends don't offer because they don't understand how to help.

Value the contribution you are making towards another's well-being. Recognize the rewards inherent in helping to maintain an optimal quality of life for your family member.



Information and Assistance for caregivers in the Atlanta Region is available by calling the Aging Connection (404-463-3333). Trained counselors assess needs of family caregivers, care recipients and other interested individuals and provide referrals from a database of over 10,000 services.

Note any effects of excessive stress from caregiving, such as depression, stress-related illness or "burnout." Evaluation by a health professional may be necessary. In addition, extra support such as respite care may be critical in maintaining your physical and emotional health.

Group support enables you as the caregiver to learn about caregiving challenges and approaches from peers and professionals and reminds caregivers they are not alone. A number of caregiver support groups are available in the Atlanta Region.



# ARC Welcomes New Citizen Members

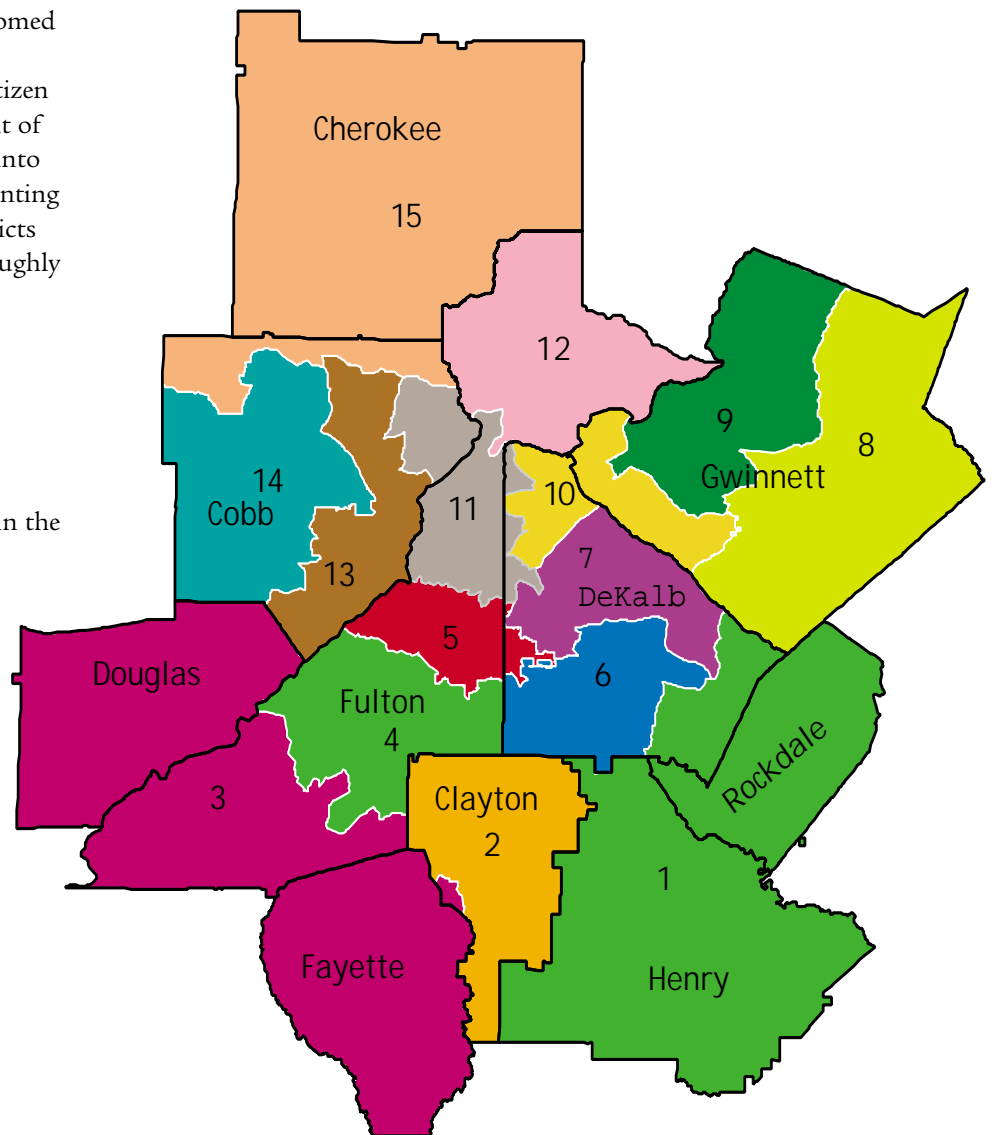
ARC recently selected new Members At Large to serve on its Board for a two or four-year term beginning January 1, 2002 and welcomed back several others.

The ARC Board consists of 23 local elected officials, 15 citizen members and one representative from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The 10-county Atlanta Region is divided into 15 equal population districts with one Member at Large representing each district (see map). ARC must reapportion its citizen districts in accordance to Census findings to ensure each district has roughly the same number of people.

Members at Large must:

- × Live in the district they represent
- × Hold no elective or appointed public office
- × Not be employed by any of the political subdivisions within the 10-county region.

DISTRICT #	MEMBER
1	Homer Lewis, Conyers, GA
2	Gene Hatfield, Morrow, GA
3	Kip Berry, Douglasville, GA
4	Clara Axam, Atlanta, GA
5	Dave Sjoquist, Atlanta, GA
6	Robert Godfrey, Decatur, GA
7	Ed Wall, Atlanta, GA
8	Judy Waters, Lawrenceville, GA
9	Rick Chandler, Buford, GA
10	Julie Keeton, Duluth, GA
11	Tad Leithead, Marietta, GA
12	Ronnie Bates, Roswell, GA
13	Tim Lee, Marietta, GA
14	Dan Post, Marietta, GA
15	Gene Hobgood, Waleska, GA



## Community Minded Employers Recognized at PACE Awards

To reward those who go the extra mile to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality in the region, the **Clean Air Campaign** recently recognized seven employers and one individual for their outstanding efforts and programs to develop employer-based solutions aimed at giving employees more commuting options.

Some of the innovative commute options programs now in use in the region include, but are not limited to, subsidized transit passes, carpooling programs, vanpooling programs, teleworking policies, flextime policies and preferential parking programs for carpoolers and vanpoolers. Programs like these have been shown to offer substantial benefits to employers, including better recruitment and retention efforts, higher employee morale and reduced parking and office space costs.

Seven employers and one individual received awards in five categories:

- ▲ **PACE Awards** for overall employer programs were presented to four employers: **Rosser International, Inc.** for small business; **Pollution Prevention Assistance Division (P2AD)** for small public sector employer; **EarthLink, Inc.** for large business; and the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)**, Region 4, for large public sector employer.
- ▲ **PACE Setter Award** recognized **Melanie Wiggins** of **CH2M Hill** for her extraordinary efforts to create and maintain an employer program.
- ▲ **PACE Starter Award** honored newcomer **Woodruff Arts Center** for its first-year efforts in the employer-based program arena.
- ▲ **PACE Spotlight Award** went to **Blue Circle Aggregates** for excellence in a single program element an outreach program that extends to not only employees, but also the surrounding community.



**And the winner is....:** Captain Herb Emory (left) and Joe Riedel (right), Chairman of the Clean Air Campaign, present Danny Orlando from the US EPA, Region 4, with the Large Public Sector PACE Award.

- ▲ **HOVie Award**, presented in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Transportation, honored **Georgia Power/Southern Company** for its efforts to encourage and facilitate use of the HOV lanes.

Honorable mentions went to Georgia Public Broadcasting and Gwinnett County Public Schools, Facilities and Operations Division.

*The Clean Air Campaign is the region's public information clearinghouse for traffic congestion and air quality issues. The mission of the Clean Air Campaign is to educate the public about the Atlanta Region's air quality problem and encourage solutions to traffic congestion and air pollution.*

# ARC, Local Water Utilities Present Findings of Local Drinking Water Assessments

As part of a national effort, ARC and local water authorities have conducted comprehensive assessments of each drinking water intake in the Atlanta Region.

The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)** has set a national goal that by 2005, the majority of the population is to receive its drinking water from systems with Source Water Protection Plans in place. As a first step, all states are required to perform Source Water Assessments for each drinking water intake. In turn, the **Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD)** contracted ARC to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of Georgia's Source Water Assessment Plan for 28 metro Atlanta public drinking water intakes.

Called the **Source Water Assessment Project**, or SWAP, its goals were to:

- ◆ Delineate the water supply watershed for each drinking water intake
- ◆ Identify and inventory **potential** sources of water contamination in the drainage area or watershed upstream from the intake point
- ◆ Determine the susceptibility of the drinking water sources to these potential contaminants
- ◆ Increase public involvement in and awareness of drinking water watershed concerns.

Drinking water intakes are susceptible to two different types of pollution – point source and non-point source. **Point source pollution** involves actual facilities that have contaminants on site and can pose a potential health risk if humans consume those contaminants. **Non-point source pollution** is caused by development and everyday activities that take place in residential, commercial, and rural areas and is carried by stormwater runoff to streams and lakes.

ARC developed an inventory of potential point sources of pollution such as gas stations, hazardous waste facilities, landfills, airports and electric substations. A ranking of high, medium or low was assigned to each facility based on the potential of contaminant release and potential risk to the surface water intake.

To evaluate non-point source pollution in the watersheds, an estimate of impervious surface area was calculated based on land



use categories. Overall non-point source susceptibility was determined based on percentage of impervious surface in the watershed. For this project, greater than 20 percent impervious surface area was ranked high, between 10-20 percent was ranked medium and less than 10 percent was ranked low susceptibility.

The point source and non-point susceptibility rankings were then combined to determine the overall susceptibility ranking for the water supply intake to potential pollution sources. The following is a list of the water supply watersheds and their rankings.

The final step in the project was to communicate the results of the study to the public to help communities understand the potential threats to their drinking water supplies. This was accomplished through more than 13 public forums held this fall throughout the region.

WATER SUPPLIER/ UTILITY/AUTHORITY	WATER SUPPLY WATERSHED	OVERALL WATERSHED RANK
Atlanta/Fulton County Water Resources Commission	Chattahoochee River	MEDIUM
Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority	Chattahoochee River	HIGH
Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority	Allatoona Lake	MEDIUM
Cherokee County Water and Sewerage Authority	Etowah River	MEDIUM
City of Atlanta Water Department	Chattahoochee River	HIGH
City of Canton Water and Sewer Department	Etowah River	MEDIUM
City of East Point Public Utilities	Sweetwater Creek	MEDIUM
City of McDonough Water Department	Walnut Creek	MEDIUM
City of Palmetto Water Department	Cedar Creek	LOW
City of Roswell Department of Public Works	Big Creek	MEDIUM -HIGH
Clayton County Water Authority	Flint River	HIGH
Clayton County Water Authority	Big Cotton Indian Creek	MEDIUM -HIGH
Clayton County Water Authority	Little Cotton Indian Creek	MEDIUM
Clayton County Water Authority	Shoal Creek	MEDIUM
Clayton County Water Authority	Pates Creek	LOW
Douglasville-Douglas County Water Authority	Bear Creek	MEDIUM
Douglasville-Douglas County Water Authority	Dog River	MEDIUM
DeKalb County Department of Public Works	Chattahoochee River	MEDIUM
Fayette County Water System	Flint River	HIGH
Fayette County Water System	Flat Creek	MEDIUM
Fayette County Water System	Line Creek	MEDIUM
Fayette County Water System	Whitewater Creek	MEDIUM
Fayette County Water System	Horton Creek	LOW
Fayetteville Water Department	Whitewater Creek	MEDIUM
Henry County Water Authority	Indian Creek	MEDIUM -HIGH
Henry County Water Authority	Towaliga River	MEDIUM
Henry County Water Authority	Long Branch Creek	LOW
Rockdale County Department of Water Resources	Big Haynes Creek	LOW

# Clean Water Campaign Sets Its Sights on Stormwater Pollution Prevention



“When it Rains, It Pollutes.” That was the message conveyed recently along the banks of the Chattahoochee River as 20 local governments, the Georgia **Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD)** and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) kicked off the metro **Atlanta Clean Water Campaign**.

The **Clean Water Campaign** is a cooperative, multi-agency public education initiative coordinated by ARC that seeks to build awareness of water quality problems and solutions in the Atlanta Region. Its mission is to educate the public about the common sources of water pollution due to stormwater runoff and the negative effects on our water supply, recreational opportunities, aquatic ecosystems and quality of life.

Each time it rains, the resulting water called **stormwater runoff** picks up pollutants and debris such as litter, yard fertilizers, pesticides, metal, motor oil and sediment as it flows across rooftops and lawns, streets and parking lots. Stormwater collects in storm drains and drainage swales and are eventually deposited – untreated – into our waterways.

Stormwater pollution makes treatment of drinking water more difficult and costly, and it hinders the health of our aquatic ecosystems. If polluted stormwater contaminates our water sources, the result can be the closing of the region’s rivers, lakes and streams from public recreation.



*Governor Roy Barnes addresses the media and key constituents at the Clean Water Campaign Kickoff.*

The **Clean Water Campaign** will promote the protection of water quality by encouraging residents and businesses to take action to reduce those activities that lead to non-point source water pollution in the region. The **Campaign** will have initial funding of \$720,000, primarily from local governments.

“Since 1994 local governments in the Atlanta Region each have actively undertaken stormwater public education activities,” said Wayne Hill, Chair of both the Gwinnett County Commission and ARC. “We hope the **Clean Water Campaign** will be a mechanism through which we can speak with a collective voice to amplify the simple actions citizens can take to reduce stormwater pollution.”

The local governments involved in the initial **Campaign** effort are: **Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton** and **Gwinnett** counties and the cities of **Acworth, Alpharetta, Atlanta, Austell, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Kennesaw, Marietta, Palmetto, Powder Springs, Roswell, Smyrna** and **Union City**.

*For more information on the Clean Water Campaign, contact Kelley O’Brien with ARC or visit the Campaign’s Web site at [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com).*

## Fourth MARC Class Is Largest Yet

Over 50 bright, young sophomores and juniors from high schools throughout the Atlanta Region have been chosen to be a part of 2001-2002 **Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC)**. Now in its fourth year, the six-month program is designed to provide a hands-on learning experience about the issues and challenges facing the region.

In the first three months of the program, which began in September, the MARC participants learned about past, present and future regional issues from both community and ARC leaders. At their first meeting, John Sibley, president of the Georgia Conservancy, charged the class to learn as much as they can about regional issues and to become involved in their communities. Heeding his word, the students already have begun to gain first-hand knowledge of regional challenges.

In an overnight retreat at Simpsonwood Conference Center in October, the MARC class began their journey of knowledge. They learned about water supply and quality in the region from ARC’s Senior Water Resources Engineer Steve Haubner, and got the chance to actually test the oxygen and pH levels of the Chattahoochee River. With Jennifer Fine, Senior Planner in ARC’s Land Use Division, the class learned about the benefits of smart land use planning and got the opportunity to build their own “community.” Chris Chovan, a Senior Planner in the Transportation Planning Division, gave the students an inside look at how to plan for the mobility needs of a city nearing four million persons.

In the next month, students will learn about community building, human services, workforce development and more.

“I love the MARC program,” said Alison Hennessee a junior at North Springs High School in North Fulton County. “I have very definite opinions on the future of my county and the Atlanta area



and the MARC program gives me the opportunity to share those opinions with my peers.”

In the second half of the program, which begins in January, the MARC students will further explore these regional issues by forming committees and developing possible solutions to regional challenges. Their final meeting culminates in a mock ARC Board Meeting in which they present and vote on the resolutions drafted to create a stronger, healthier Atlanta Region. The students will then present the resolutions at an official ARC meeting for consideration.

MARC is co-sponsored by ARC and the Y Clubs of Georgia. For more information, contact Anne Dishman at 404-463-3192 or visit [www.atlantaregional.com/marc](http://www.atlantaregional.com/marc).

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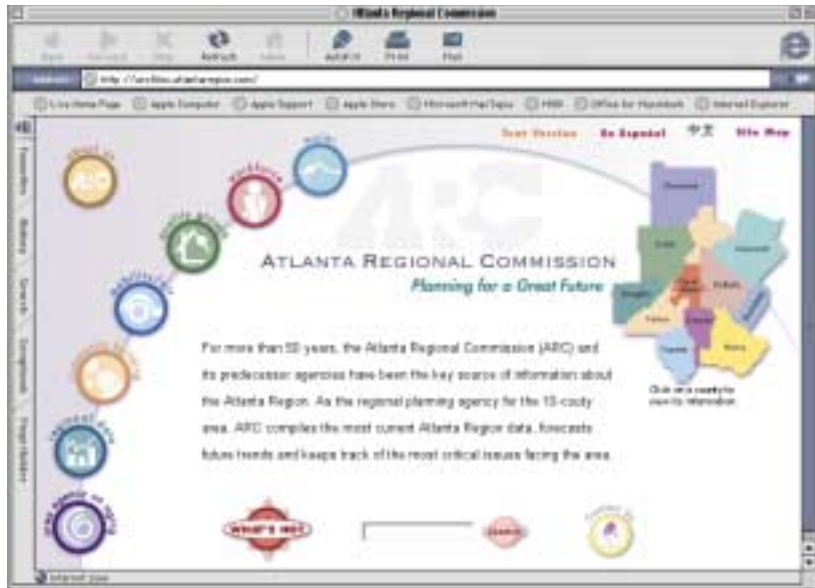


Atlanta Regional Commission  
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 Atlanta GA 30303

The Atlanta Regional Commission is the official planning agency for the 10-county Atlanta Region including Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties, as well as the City of Atlanta and 62 other cities. It is a forum where leaders come together to discuss and act on issues of regionwide consequence.

# COMING SOON!

Coming soon to cyberspace near you is an enhanced, easy-to-navigate ARC Web site. Check out [www.atlantaregional.com](http://www.atlantaregional.com) for the most comprehensive, up-to-date regional and county-level information, statistics, events and more.



# C A L E N D A R

## January 2002

- 3** 9:30 a.m.  
Land Use Coordinating Committee, ARC Offices,  
Contact: Dan Reuter at 404-463-3251
- 5** 9:30 a.m.  
Transportation Coordinating Committee, ARC Offices,  
Contact: Jane Hayse at 404-463-3265
- 8** 1:00 p.m.  
Aging Services Task Force, Location TBA,  
Contact: Maureen Kelly at 404-463-3222
- 9** 10:30 a.m.  
Community Services Committee,  
Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Tony Landers at 404-463-3210
- 10** 9:30 a.m.  
Communications Committee,  
Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Julie Ralston at 404-463-3190
- 10:30 a.m.  
Transportation and Air Quality Committee,  
Amphitheater/ARC Board Room,  
Contact: Jane Hayse at 404-463-3265
- 12:00 p.m.  
Environment and Land Use Committee,  
Harry West Community Room,  
Contact: Pat Stevens at 404-463-3255
- 2:00 p.m.  
Economic Development Committee,  
Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Michael Starling at 404-463-3218
- 18** 9:30 a.m.  
Transportation Coordinating Committee, ARC Offices,  
Contact: Jane Hayse at 404-463-3265
- 23** 12:00 p.m.  
Executive Committee, Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Phyllis Thigpen at 404-463-3102
- 1:30 p.m.  
Board Meeting, Amphitheater/ARC Board Room,  
Contact: Phyllis Thigpen at 404-463-3102
- 24** 9:30 a.m.  
Atlanta Regional Workforce Board Meeting,  
Level B, Amphitheater B,  
Contact: Mary Margaret Garrett at 404-463-3325

## February 2002

- 5** 1:00 p.m.  
Aging Services Task Force, Location TBA,  
Contact: Maureen Kelly at 404-463-3222
- 7** 9:30 a.m.  
Land Use Coordinating Committee, ARC Offices,  
Contact: Dan Reuter at 404-463-3251
- 8** 9:30 a.m.  
Transportation Coordinating Committee, ARC Offices,  
Contact: Jane Hayse at 404-463-3265
- 13** 10:30 a.m.  
Community Services Committee,  
Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Tony Landers at 404-463-3210
- 14** 9:30 a.m.  
Communications Committee,  
Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Julie Ralston at 404-463-3190
- 10:30 a.m.  
Transportation and Air Quality Committee,  
Amphitheater/ARC Board Room,  
Contact: Jane Hayse at 404-463-3265
- 12:00 p.m.  
Environment and Land Use Committee,  
Harry West Community Room,  
Contact: Pat Stevens at 404-463-3255
- 2:00 p.m.  
Economic Development Committee,  
Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Michael Starling at 404-463-3218
- 22** 9:30 a.m.  
Transportation Coordinating Committee, ARC Offices,  
Contact: Jane Hayse at 404-463-3265
- 27** 12:00 p.m.  
Executive Committee, Executive Conference Room,  
Contact: Phyllis Thigpen at 404-463-3102
- 1:30 p.m.  
Board Meeting, Amphitheater/ARC Board Room,  
Contact: Phyllis Thigpen at 404-463-3102