

MATT WESTMORELAND COUNCILMEMBER POST 2 CITYWIDE ATLANTA CITY HALL 55 TRINITY AVE SW, SUITE 2900 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

March 27, 2024

Atlanta Regional Commission Quarterly Report

- 1. On January 8, the City of Atlanta and the Atlanta Regional Commission announced a partnership to offer an e-bike rebate program designed to provide affordable transportation options for moderate and lower-income individuals, reduce congestion, and improve air quality.
 - The Atlanta City Council approved legislation to invest \$1 million to establish the program, which will be administered by ARC, and reserves 75% of rebates for income-eligible individuals earning below 80% of the Atlanta region's median income. Atlanta became the first city in Georgia to offer e-bike rebates and the third in the Southeast, following Tampa and Raleigh.
- 2. On January 10, Mayor Andre Dickens marked his first meeting at ARC Board Chair after being unanimously elected by fellow Board members in November 2023. He is the first Atlanta Mayor to hold the role in ARC's 53-year history.
- 3. The U.S. Department of Transportation announced on March 12 a \$157 million grant toward phase one of the initiative to cap the Downtown Connector—as well as a \$50 million grant for a multi-use trail through College Park, East Point, Hapeville, and Clayton County to connect the Atlanta BeltLine and the Flint River.
- 4. In February, the ARC released population and employment forecasts projecting the Atlanta region will reach 7.9 million residents by 2050, an increase of 1.8 million over the 2020 U.S. Census baseline. The forecast also calls for the addition of 856,000 jobs by 2050, for a total of 4.6 million. The region is currently 46% White, 34% Black, 12% Hispanic, and 8% Asian or Other. The region in 2050 is projected to be 38% White, 30% Black, 21% Hispanic, and 11% Asian or Other.
- 5. At the February meeting, the Board also adopted updates to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), both of which must be updated every four years. Comprehensive information about each can be found here.
- 6. The window to apply to become a member of the Regional Leadership Class of 2024 closes on March 28. More information can be found here.