

## **GDOT Statewide Transit Plan Update**

Intermodal Committee December 11, 2019



### **GDOT Statewide Transit Plan**

### What:

- Identify needs and opportunities
- Incorporate local and MPO plans
- Recommend implementation strategies to address unmet needs

### Why:

- Support GDOT's multimodal SWTP/SSTP
- Ensure an efficient and effective Transit Program
- Ensure all Georgians have access to public transit
- Optimize Georgia's multimodal network

### **Focus Areas:**





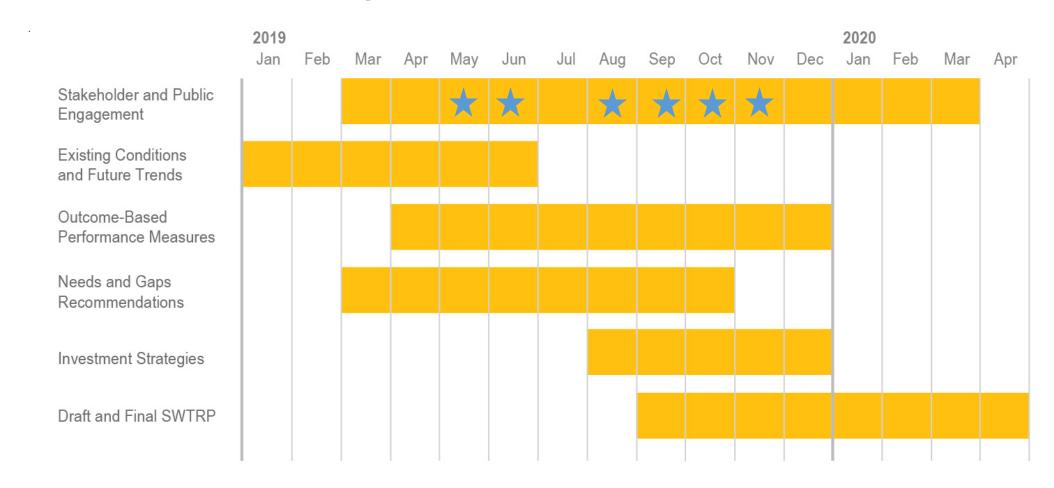
Quantify Unmet Needs



Intercity Transit



### **Project Schedule**



C = Completed stakeholder engagement meeting



## **Vision Statement**

"Improve the quality of life and economic opportunities for all Georgians by supporting an innovative, connected, reliable, and accessible multimodal public transportation network."



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Connect rural transit to regional and urban centers

Leverage technology and innovation to support public transit ridership and performance measures



## **Outreach Activities to Date**



### Statewide Steering Committee (SSC)

✓ Kick-Off and Visioning Session: May ✓ Project Update and Investment Scenarios Work Session: October



### **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

- ✓ Virtual Meeting and Follow-up: June
  ✓ Provider Questionnaire: July
- ✓ Interviews: August October
- ✓ Project Update and Investment Scenarios Work Session: November

### **Other Activities**

Public Survey

Project Website and Social Media

ATL/ARC Transit Operators Group

GTA 2018 – Project Introduction

GPA 2019 – Project Update

GAMPO 2018 & 2019 - Project Update

GARC 2019 – Project Update

### Upcoming

GTA 2019 – Draft Recommendations

Public Meetings, early 2020



### **Public Survey Responses**

### Survey Highlights: 2,900 Reponses from 126 Counties





Respondents listed the **top two challenges to using transit as:** 

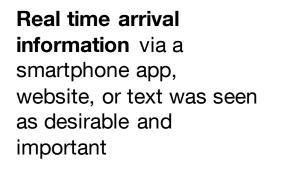
- Transit does not go
  where I need to go
- The distance to transit service is too far

#### If transit were not available:

- 44% of paper survey (rural) respondents would get a ride from family/friend or not take the trip
- 16% were unsure

The overall most important identified reason for providing transit is to reduce traffic and improve air quality

 Rural transit respondents identified improving mobility as the most important reason for transit





### **Transit Provider Questionnaire Highlights**



# Service **Needs** Route Bus Funded Pm Increas Provide Due

**Operational Needs** 'opulatio Cut OS ehic le

"Recruiting personnel with transit expertise is difficult due to limits on ability to pay market wages needed to attract qualified candidates." "We simply need the political support to move forward with adding more routes, buses and coverage area."

"A way to hire fill in drivers. We simply don't have the budget to hire more than current drivers, when one calls in [sick] we go into panic."



### **TAC - Focus Groups**

#### August - September

Rural Providers Urban Providers Regional Transit Planning Transit Technology Counties Not Served by Public Transit Transit Equity & Community Advisory







## Community and Stakeholder Feedback

Opportunities exist to improve service delivery and rider experience for disabled and transit dependent populations Service hours and schedules do not support all job roles; impacting workforce access and economic development

Rider experience and information improvements, such as transit availability, trip planning, and shared fare structure are desired

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Ride-hailing companies do not currently service all geographies





## **Needs Assessment**

**Provider Indicated Challenges** 

### Attracting & Retaining Talent

"Recruiting personnel with transit expertise is difficult due to limits on ability to pay market wages needed to attract qualified candidates."

#### Providing More Frequent, Extended, or Higher Capacity Service

"Increasing demand, frequency, coverage or service area expansion, will require dedicated operating funds at a level to cover cost of providing any additional service."



#### Manage & Adjust Fleets

"We need to right-size our vehicles. Currently, we use just two models of cut-a-way vehicles. We need to incorporate a few larger buses, trolleys and some smaller vehicles..."

#### Public Awareness and Local Support for Transit Investment

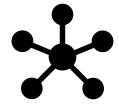
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### **Locally Identified Needs**

Common needs and themes found in **statewide plans, transit development plans, MPO long range transportation plans, regional commission plans,** and **county comprehensive plans** throughout Georgia:





Connecting to jobs and healthcare

Coordinating regionally for greater connectivity



Enhancing awareness of existing transit service



Improving access and mobility for elderly and underserved populations



Exploring new sources to meet funding needs



Coordinating land use, future development, and transportation



Exploring opportunities to partner with private companies (e.g. ridehailing services)



Supporting commuter or intercity transit service to meet demand



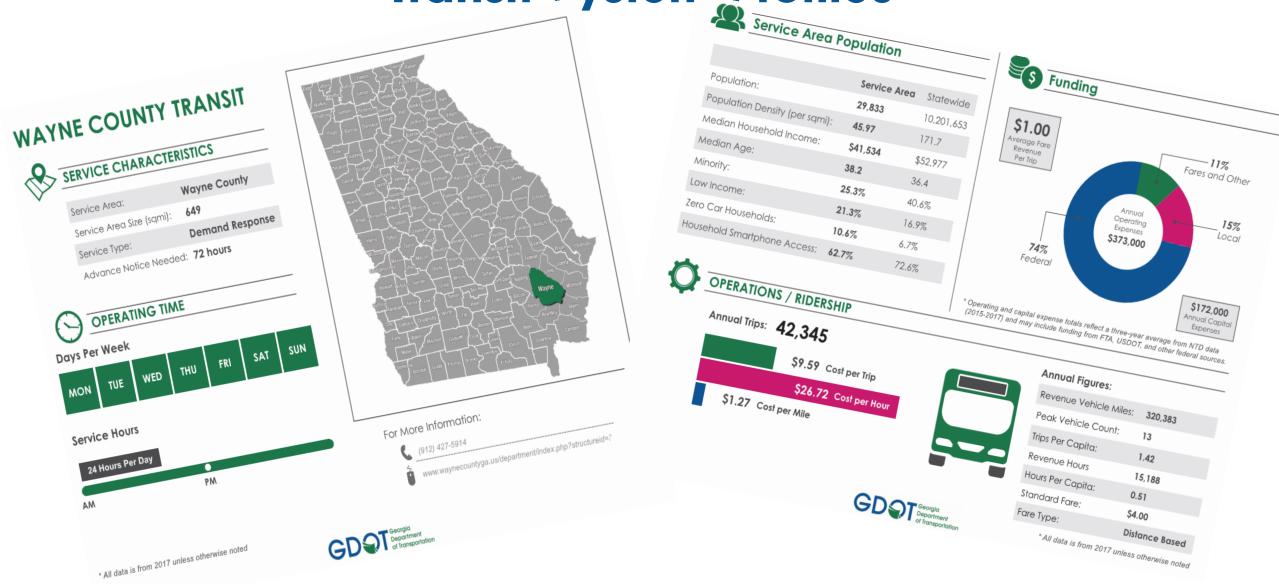
Expanding local bus or rail service to meet demand



Promoting safe pedestrian and bike access at bus stops and facilities



### **Transit System Profiles**





### **Performance Measures**

- Percent of GA's Population & Counties Served
- Number transit providers crossing county boundaries
- Number of multimodal stations
- Number of intercity bus stations with local transit access
- Percent of transit fleet using no-emission or renewable fuel technology
- Percent of transit providers with websites, apps, real-time travel information, and google map data
- Number of injuries & fatalities per revenue miles
- Percent of transit vehicles exceeding their useful life



## **Needs Assessment**

### **Objectives:**

- Document local, regional, and statewide public transit needs
- Estimate cost and recommend strategies to meet needs

### Inputs:

- Local plans and TDPs
- Public survey
- Provider questionnaire
- Stakeholder interviews
- TAC focus groups
- Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Report 161: need and demand forecasting methodology (ACS data)

### **Outputs:**

- Locally identified needs
- Areas of highest transit demand
- Identified work, education, health centers
- Quantified regional and statewide needs



## **Investment Strategies**





## **Potential Strategies**



#### **Planning & Policies**

Guidance and support for regional TDPs, fleet right-sizing, etc.

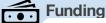


#### Marketing & Coordination

Marketing plan & toolkit, website & social media support, State-level Mobility Management Program

#### Drivers & Mechanics

Training, substitution, apprenticeship programs



Funding reimbursement guidance, grant writing support, funding sources webinar

#### Data

General Transit Feed Specifications (GTFS) data development/support

#### Ś **Transit Technology**

On-Board Unit (OBU) Training for Drivers, Statewide Transit App, General Transit Feed Specifications (GTFS) data development and support

#### **TRANSIT SERVICE EXPANSION**



**Extend Service Hours** 





**Enhance Capacity of Existing Services** 



**Create & Enhance Connections** between Transit Providers



**Enhance Coverage to Meet** Workforce Needs

#### TRANSIT SERVICE **ENHANCEMENTS**

**Deploy Rider Amenities** 

Improve Reliability

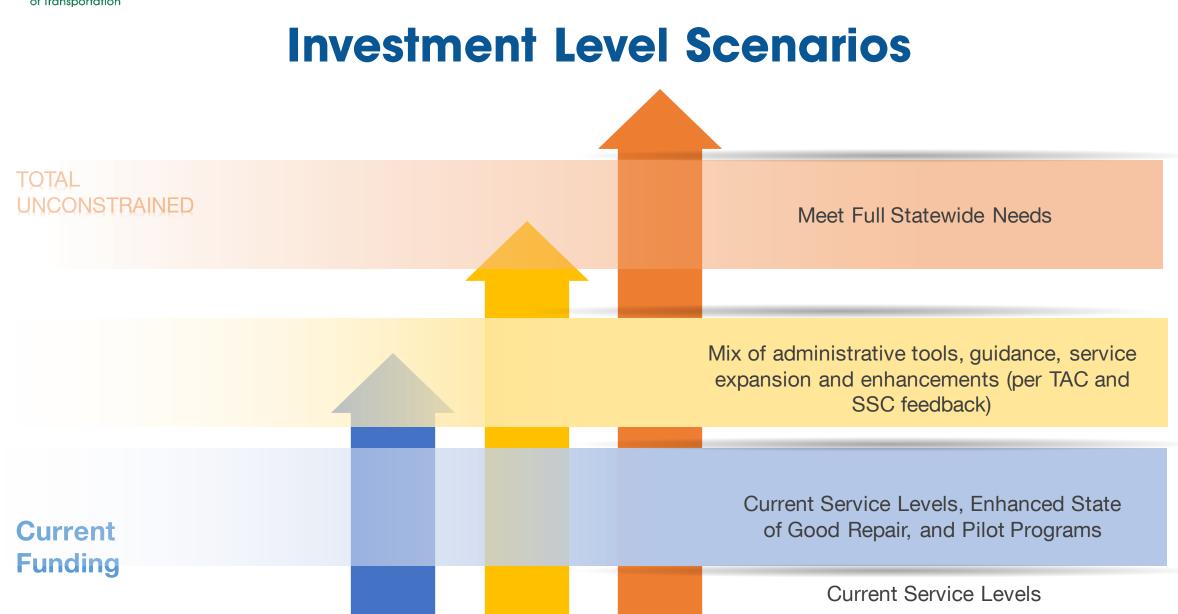
, . Upgrade Infrastructure





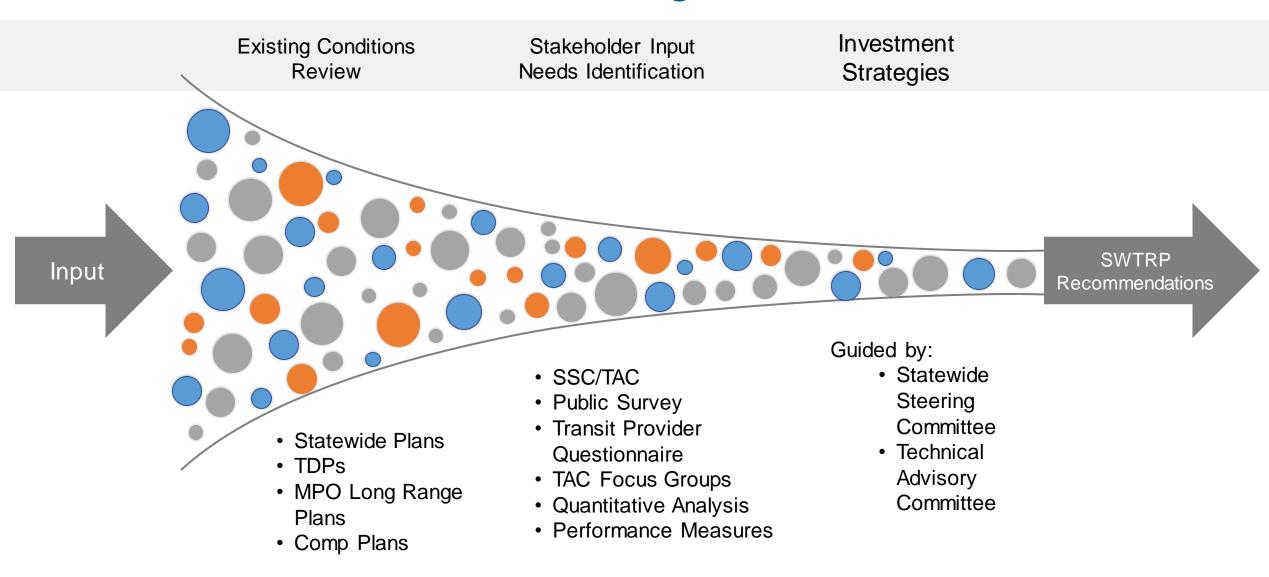
**Create Public Private Partnerships to Fulfill Unmet Transit Needs** 





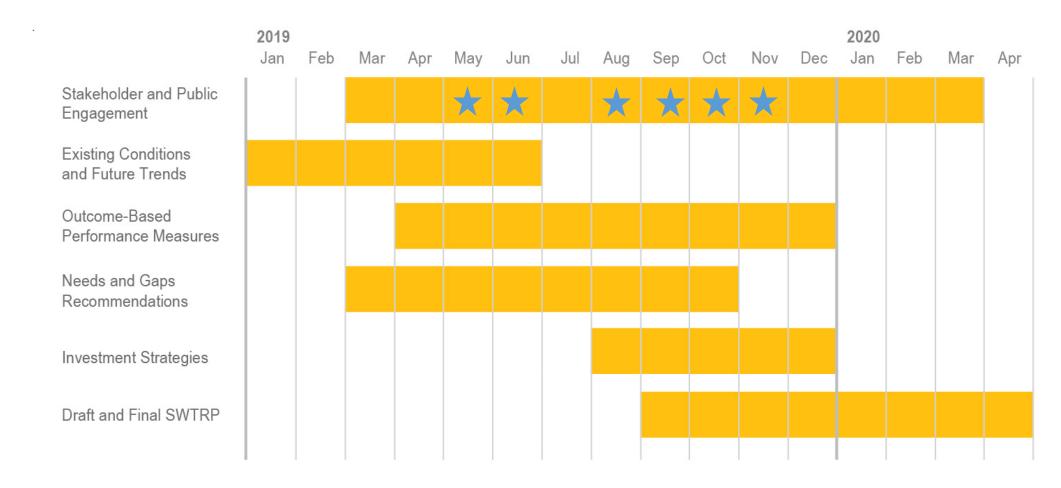


### **Investment Strategies Process**





### **Next Steps**





### Contact

Leigh Ann Trainer Transit Program Manager

Email: <u>ltrainer@dot.ga.gov</u>

Web: http://www.dot.ga.gov/IS/Transit/TransitPlan