



## **THE ATLANTA-REGION TRANSIT LINK AUTHORITY**

Christopher Tomlinson  
Interim Executive Director  
12/12/18

# An Overview of the ATL

HB 930 passed the General Assembly on March 29 and Governor Deal signed it into law on May 3, 2018, creating a new regional governance and funding structure called...



**THE ATLANTA-REGION TRANSIT LINK AUTHORITY**

A unifying entity for the Atlanta region that ensures coordinated transit planning and funding, and increased transparency



# Benefits of the ATL:

- *Connected network of mobility options*
- *Innovative partnerships with existing transit agencies and private sector*
- *Increase seamless experience for customers*
- *Enhance economic development opportunities*



# Why Transit Matters:



Mercedes-Benz

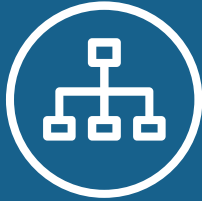


WestRock





# The ATL in Five Parts



Regional  
Governance



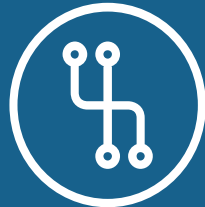
Regional  
Transit Plan



Transit  
Funding



Regional  
Unified Branding



Interaction with Existing  
Transit Operators



# ATL: Governance Structure

## Board Overview

- ATL is governed by a 16-member board of appointed and elected representatives
- Five members appointed by state officials plus GDOT commissioner
- 10 members elected by local delegations to represent transit districts across a 13-county region
- Board is comprised of a mix of local business and community leaders and elected officials
- First Board Meeting Friday December 14th

See Board Members Below:



Charlie Sutlive, Chairman



Teddy Russell



Mark Toro



Howard A. Mosby, CPA



Earl Ehrhart



Russell R. McMurry, P.E.



Charlotte Nash



Steve Dickerson, Sc. D.



Todd Ver Steeg



Chuck Warbington



Marsha Anderson Bomar



Felicia Franklin Warner



Michael L. Thurmond



Keisha Lance Bottoms



Andy Macke

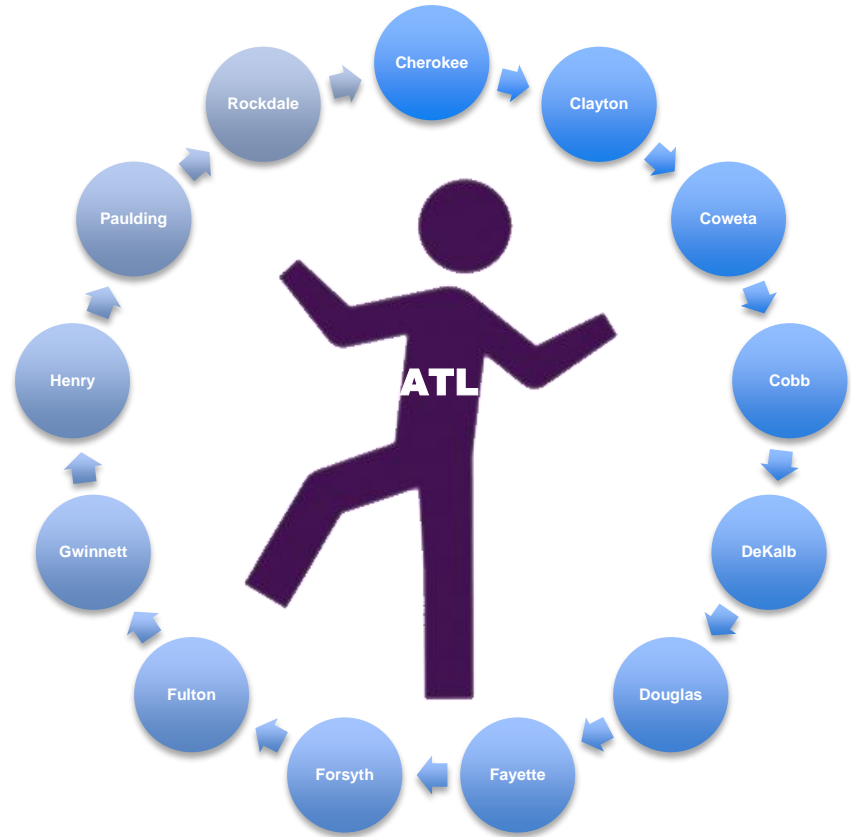


Tom Weyandt



# Regional Transit Plan

- 6-year and 20-year time horizons
- Developed in consultation with the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): ARC
- Coordinate existing and future transit service
- After 1/1/2019, referendum transit projects must be in RTP & approved by the ATL





# Regional Transit Funding

- Up to 30 year, Up to 1% transit-specific SPLOST
- Projects must be in Regional Transit Plan & approved by the ATL
- Counties outside of 13-county region can pair together to use new T-SPLOST authority













- Designated Recipient Role
- ATL's Scope: All Federal & State Transit Funds in region
- ATL can issue its own bonds and work with other state agencies to issue bonds



# (R) Regional Unified Branding

- Regional Transit Plan must include plan for the creation of a unified brand to encompass all transit service providers in 13-county region
- **As of Jan. 1, 2019**, any new MARTA asset worth more than \$250,000 must display The ATL logo and brand, prominently featuring the acronym “ATL”
- **As of Jan. 1, 2023**, the ATL logo and brand must be used on any and all MARTA property
- ATL awarded contract for branding and communications consulting services

## At Least 10 Public Transit Agency/Operators

- Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority 
- Cobb County Department of Transportation 
- Douglas County Rideshare 
- State Road & Tollway Authority 
- Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners 
- Cherokee County Board of Commissioners 
- Henry County Transit 
- Forsyth County Public Transportation Dial A Ride 
- Coweta County Dial A Ride 
- Enterprise Rideshare 



# Interaction with Existing Partners



- MARTA has exclusive authority for operating region's heavy rail system, including any new heavy rail project
- MARTA retains control over its current local funding



- The ATL is administratively attached to GRTA
- GRTA and SRTA's roles in regional transit transitions to ATL by 2020/2021
- SRTA's tolling, GTIB, and transportation financing roles remain intact



- ARC & ATL work together to revise current regional transit process, and to ensure that Regional Transit Plan aligns and integrates with TIP and STP processes and funding





# Interaction with Existing Operators



COWETA COUNTY TRANSIT



# \$100M for SR 400 Transit Project

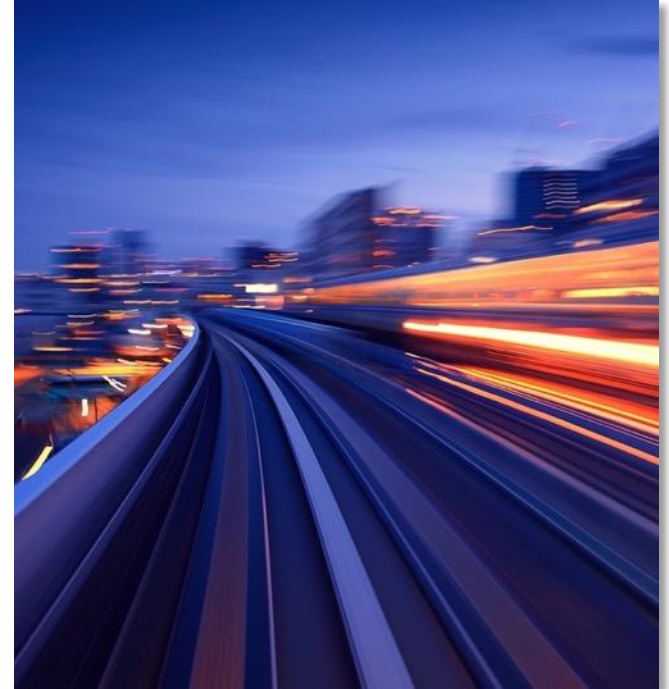
- SR 400 Express Lanes project will widen the highway, reduce congestion and accommodate the new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) interchanges
- Gov. Nathan Deal announced \$100 million in General Obligation bonds for BRT infrastructure as part of the SR 400 Express Lanes project
- Made possible by the passage of HB 930
- Dedicated State Funding since GO! Transit Funds



**GEORGIA**  
*Express Lanes*  
**SR 400**

# Forecasting the Future: What's Next for the ATL

- First ATL Board Meeting December 14 (Swearing-In, Adoption of Bylaws and Agency Updates)
- Revise and strengthen regional transit planning process
- Discussion, development, and application of regional unified logo and branding
- Identify areas of commonalities for regional transit issues and lead the conversation on a consistent approach to solutions
- Identifying transit planning talent to staff the agency
- Serve as a source of information for the new administration related to transit, transit policy and transit funding
- Work with existing transit operators to identify early target areas for quick wins in taking a regional approach







***Thank You!***

