

Georgia Regional Transportation Authority

OVERVIEW

The Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) was created by law in 1999 as a state authority directed to address transportation mobility and air quality in metropolitan Atlanta.

GRTA focuses on two core businesses: Regional Commuter Transit Services and Transportation Performance Management. These were chosen to leverage GRTA's unique position as a state authority in a regional context and to focus limited transportation resources toward the highest-yielding investments. Regional Commuter Transit Services provide a long distance commute alternative to single-occupant vehicles, thereby improving capacity on the state roadways. Transportation Performance Management supports efforts to move transportation decision-making towards more strategic and results-oriented investments.

GRTA's jurisdiction encompasses 13 counties: Cherokee, Clayton, Coweta, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale.

The Board of Directors is comprised of 15 members, all of whom have been chosen by the Governor from among the ranks of top private and public sector leaders through metro Atlanta. Board members provide strategic guidance and direction to address our state's transportation challenges and to provide the best return to the taxpayers of Georgia on their investment in transportation.

The 13 metro Atlanta counties that comprise GRTA's jurisdiction account for approximately 40% of Georgia's population and generate approximately \$193 billion in economic activity every year.

REGIONAL COMMUTER TRANSIT SERVICES

GRTA operates the *Xpress* regional commuter coach service and administers the Atlanta region's vanpool service. The benefits of regional commuter transit service impact all Georgia residents, not merely the commuters who choose to ride the bus or vanpool. By removing 1.5 million cars from the region's most congested roads, *Xpress* saves regional commuters more than \$140 million in wasted gas and productivity each year. These savings, combined with low operations costs, ensure *Xpress* delivers a more than 4-to-1 return on investment for Georgia taxpayers. GRTA's vanpool program is an affordable and convenient commute option that enables otherwise ride-alone commuters to rideshare, thereby decreasing traffic congestion and improving air quality.

TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

GRTA, as the Governor's designee for approving the Atlanta Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), can ensure that the strategies outlined in the State Strategic Transportation Plan are planned for and implemented in metro Atlanta. In addition, the Governor's Development Council (GDC) is required by law to evaluate the existing conditions of Rural and Human Services Transportation (RHST) coordination throughout the state and report annually on opportunities to streamline the network. Through its review of large, master-planned Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs), GRTA evaluates the proposed development's effect on the surrounding transportation infrastructure and ensures that adverse impacts on mobility are mitigated at the early stages of development in order to preserve the performance of the state's transportation investments.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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