# Atlanta-region Transit Link Authority 245 Peachtree Center Ave., Suite 2300 Atlanta, GA 30303

## **Specially Called May Regional Planning Meeting Minutes**

May 12, 2025

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Brock
Dan Buyers
Ricky Clark
Lorraine Cochran-Johnson
Marlene Fosque
Andy Macke
Russell McMurry
Howard Mosby
Marcia Collier Overstreet
Robb Pitts
Paul Radford
Teddy Russell
Todd Ver Steeg
Alex Wan

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Steve Brock called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

#### PROPOSAL FOR AWARD OF REMAINING FY24 TRANSIT TRUST FUND

Ms. Abby Marinelli provided an update on the remaining FY24 transit trust fund balance and outlined two proposed projects for board consideration, with formal action expected in June. The first proposal is an automated vehicle (AV) pilot led by the Atlanta Beltline and operated by BEEP, intended to connect the Beltline Westside Trail to MARTA West End Station and the Atlanta University Center during the 2026 World Cup. The one-year pilot is estimated to cost \$3 million, with ATL recommending \$1.75 million in transit trust funds to cover approximately 58 percent of the total, and the Beltline funding the remainder. Due to timing constraints, federal funding is not feasible, necessitating reliance on state-level resources. As ATL's first AV initiative, the project will incorporate new performance metrics focused on safety, including monitoring of incidents and human interventions. The Beltline request was supported by Beltline representatives, including Principal Engineer Shaun Green and BEEP CEO Joe Moye.

The second proposed project is the first phase of the Xpress In-Person Employment Centers (IPECs) study. Phase one will involve identifying IPEC locations, analyzing customer and transit service data, and conducting a supply-and-demand assessment. Phase one is projected to cost \$800,000, with \$463,000 requested from the Transit Trust Fund and the remainder funded through existing federal sources. The study will follow standard planning metrics with semi-annual progress reporting. If approved, the study would begin in summer 2025 and conclude by year-end, with findings reported to the board in early 2026. Together, the AV pilot and IPECs study would fully allocate the remaining FY24 transit trust funds. With statutory deadlines and World Cup timelines driving urgency, ATL emphasizes the need for timely board approval and plans to launch a new competitive funding approach for FY25.

#### ARTP UPDATES

Ms. Abby Marinelli provided a detailed briefing on the ATL Regional Transit Plan (ARTP). The ARTP includes both six-year and twenty-year project horizons and is modeled after long-range planning documents like the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Since its initial adoption in 2019 and reaffirmation in 2020, the ARTP has been amended multiple times to reflect changes in project priorities and to enable transit SPLOST referenda.

ATL is now preparing to launch a significant update to the plan, marking a shift to a fiscally constrained model that prioritizes realistic funding alignment, post-pandemic travel behavior, and integration of regional and local goals. Informed by ATL's Strategic Blueprint, the updated ARTP will focus on regional competitiveness, customer-centric service, and enhanced cross-county connectivity. It will include both a visionary long-term outlook and a short-term, actionable project list.

The planning process is set to begin in summer 2025, with a draft expected by mid-to-late 2026 and final adoption anticipated in winter 2026.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

APPROVED:

Steve Brock, Chair

ATTEST:

--- Signed by:

Chris Brunson ---74C696D25D7042F...

**Chris Brunson, Board Secretary** 

August 7, 2025 | 6:26:44 PM EDT

**DATE MINUTES APPROVED:**