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Moving I-20 Forward: Comprehensive Transportation Planning in Newton and Rockdale Counties

Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference
October 9, 2025

Atlanta Regional Commission

Atlanta Regional Commission

Comprehensive Transportation Plan Program Overview

Michael Kray
CTP Program Manager

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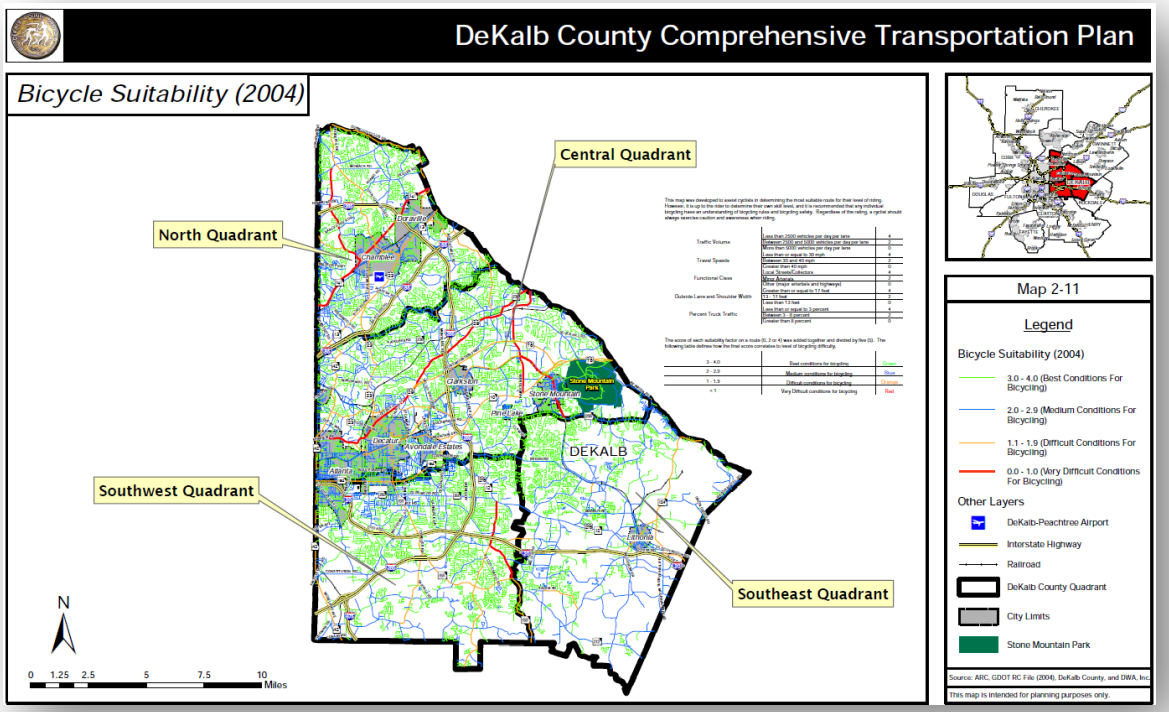
CTP Background

- Formally established as a program in 2005
  - First ARC funded Comprehensive Transportation Plan: DeKalb County (2003)
    - $2 million
    - Not adopted
- Since 2005, more than **50 plans** have been completed (and adopted!)
- Three phases of Scope of Work
  - Pre-programmatic (2003)
  - Initial program rollout (2005 – 2012)
  - Second generation program scope (2013 – 2024)



CTP Overview

Program Goals

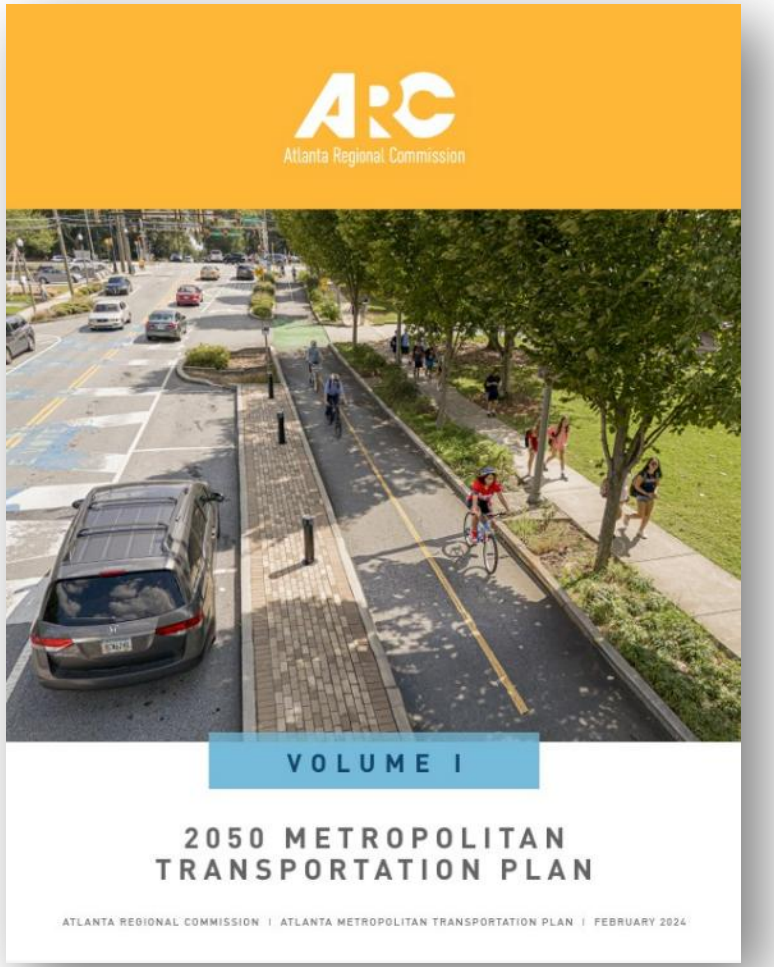
- Help local jurisdictions identify a **durable local transportation vision**
- Alignment of **Federal, State, Regional**, and Local policy
- CTPs are the **building blocks of the MTP**
- **Comprehensive assessment** of the transportation system
- Support **local comprehensive plans**
- Encourage **communication** and **collaboration** between jurisdictions and implementation partners

Expected Outcomes

- **Document** the **current transportation** system, conditions, and trends
- Identify transportation **needs**
- Recommend transportation **improvements**
- Develop **prioritized list** of transportation investments
- Provide a **five to ten year** fiscally constrained **action plan**
- Ensure **opportunities** for regional, state, and federal funding

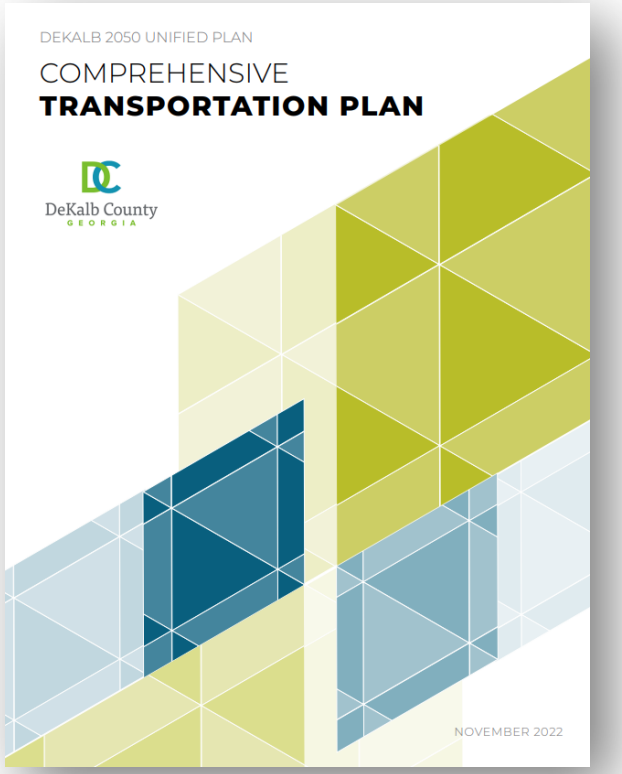
CTP Overview

- CTP/MTP Nexus
  - While focused on local issues and needs, CTPs serve as the foundation for ARC regional planning efforts
  - Identified priorities will form the basis for future funding requests in updates to the short-range **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** and long-range **Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)**
  - No MTP can be successfully implemented without local support for plan goals, programs, and projects



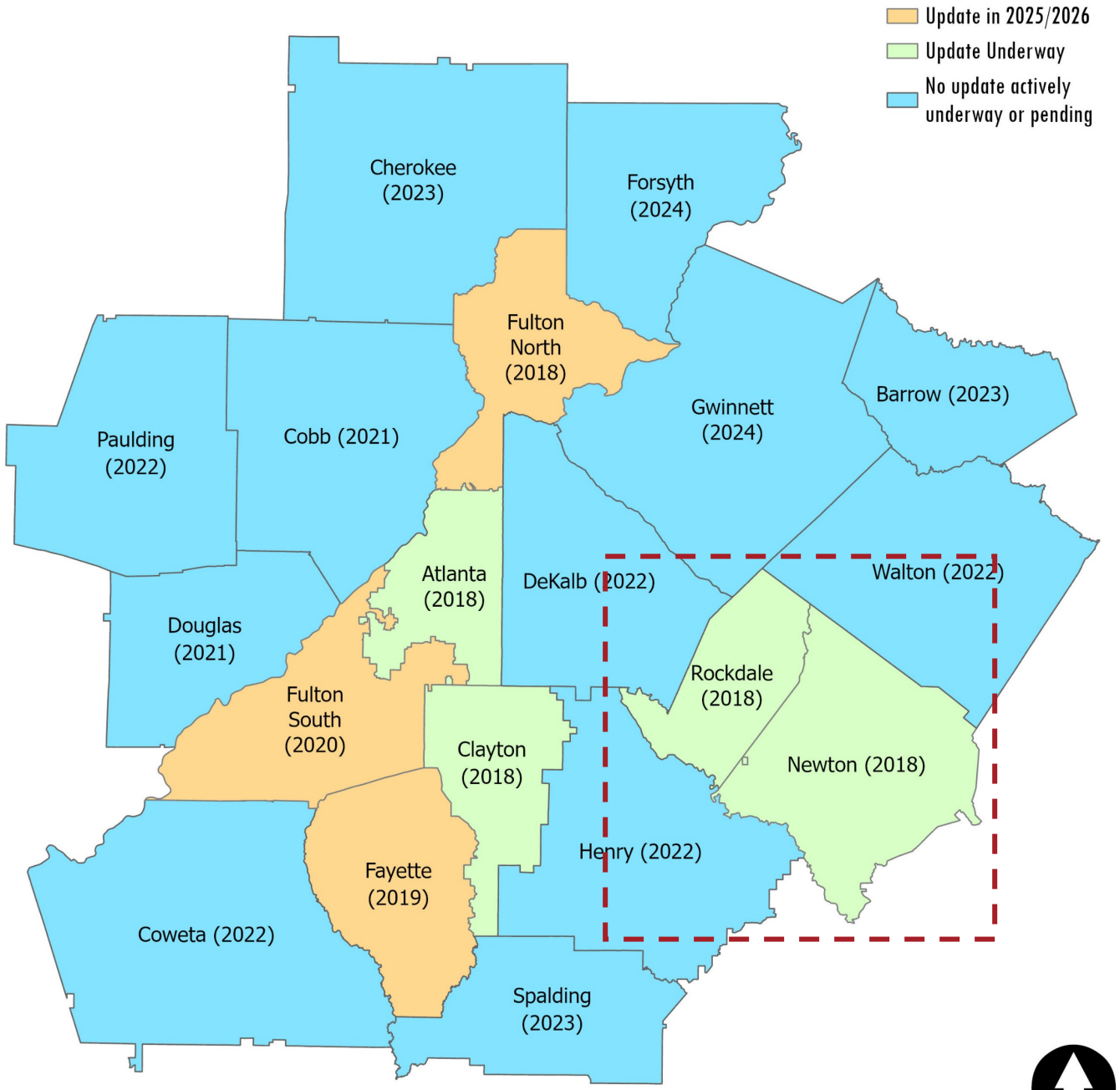
CTP Overview

- Available Funding
  - Funds are programmed in the region's six-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) based on the most recent population estimate of the recipient jurisdiction
  - Federal amounts per jurisdiction range from minimum of $250,000 to maximum of $1,000,000
- Local Match Requirement
  - Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) requires a minimum **20% participation** level based on the total project cost
  - The required minimum local match for a $250,000 federal award is $62,500 and the match for a $1,000,000 award is $250,000



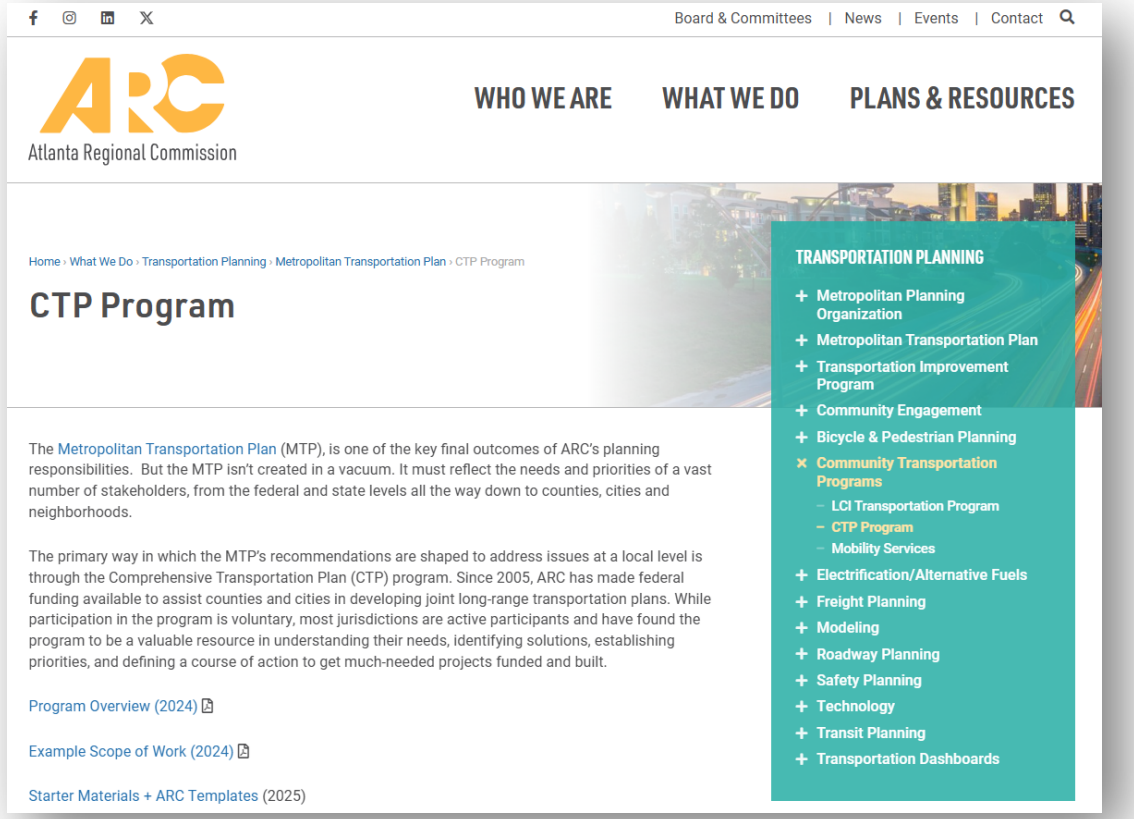
Status of CTPs in Atlanta MPO Area

- Jurisdictions eligible to receive federal funds are those within ARC's Metropolitan Planning Area and are not represented in the regional plan development process by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).
- Funding agreements are generally between ARC and the county, with the county being responsible for coordinating with its constituent municipalities and leading the consultant procurement and management process.



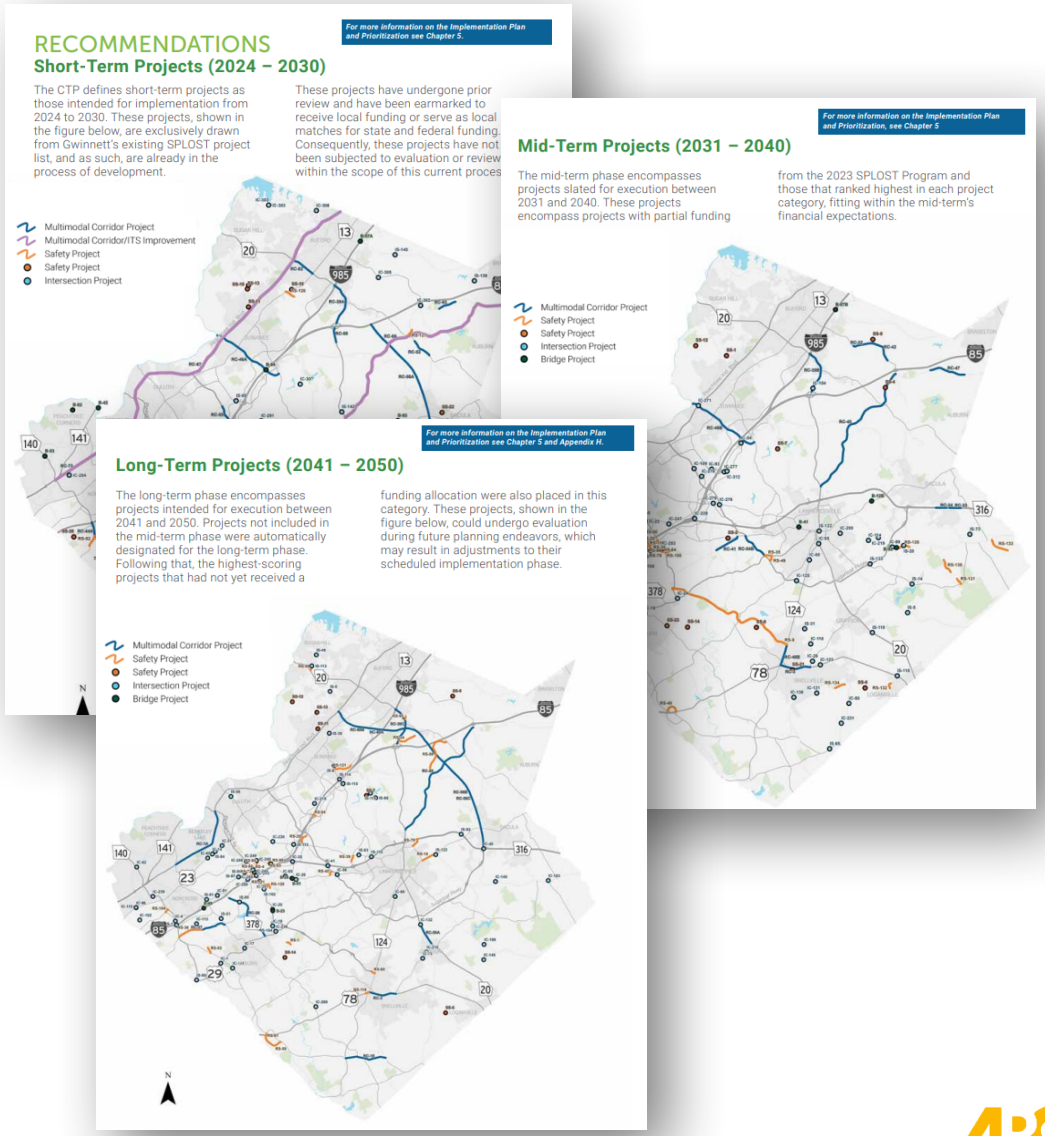
Role of ARC

- ARC manages finances and direction of overall CTP program
- ARC works with local governments to develop contract work scopes that achieve local goals and objectives
- ARC participates in Project Management Team Meetings; however, ARC's oversight role varies depending on County needs
- ARC provides comments on draft deliverables, especially as they relate to Region-wide planning efforts



Role of Local Government (Subgrantee)

- Responsible for all aspects of the CTP development process
  - Procuring a consultant(s)
  - Engaging stakeholders
  - Defining county-wide goals, needs, and priorities
  - Project evaluation framework
  - Documenting outcomes
- Local government retains all final decision-making authority related to the plan's recommendations



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ARC

New to CTP Program

- Required Templates
  - Engagement and Project List
  - Report of Accomplishments
- Examples and Resources
  - Budget Tracker
  - Closeout Checklist
  - Community Engagement Guidance
  - Example Scope of Work
  - Invoice/Progress Report Template
  - Regional Policy Guidance
- ARC Data Resources
  - 33°n Data Visuals and Dashboards
  - Activity-Based Model (ABM) Data Downloads
  - Neighborhoood Nexus
    - DataNexus Explorer
    - Profiles and Fact Sheets
  - OpenData and Mapping Hub
    - Active Transportation Facility Inventory
    - MTP Projects
    - Programmed Bike, Ped, Trail Facilities
    - Regional High-Injury Network
    - Statewide ACS/Decennial Census Data
  - Population and Employment Forecasts

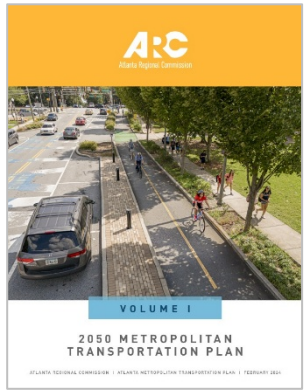
New to CTP Program

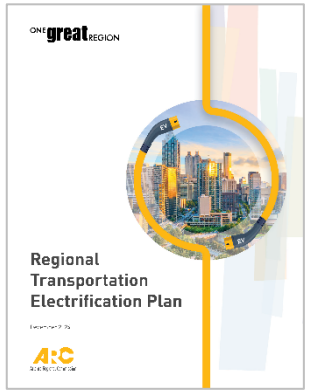
- Report of Accomplishments
  - Project ID: TIP/GDOT ID or Previous CTP #
  - Description, Project Category
  - PE/Construction Years (If Known)
  - Previous CTP Project Status (Completed, Underway, Not Started, Not Relevant)
  - Notes

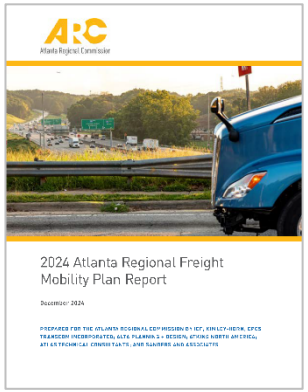
2017 CTP SHORT RANGE PROJECTS							STATUS				
Project Name	Project ID	Description	Project Category	Project Subcategory	PE Year	Construction Year	Complete	Underway	Not Started	Not Relevant	Notes
Salem Road Widening	NE-004/RO-206	From Flat Shoals Rd (Rockdale) to Brown Bridge Road	Roadway	General Purpose Capacity	2019	2025		X			FY 2024-2027 TIP; GDOT PI 231210-; 2028 completion

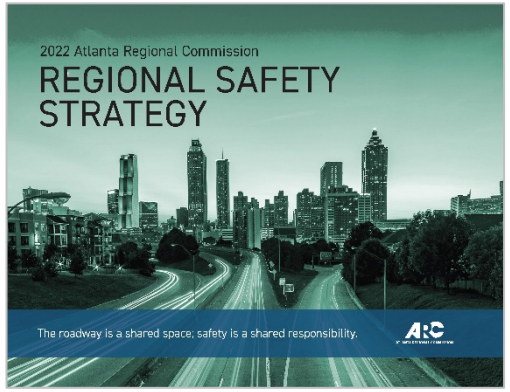
New to CTP Program

Regional Policy Guidance

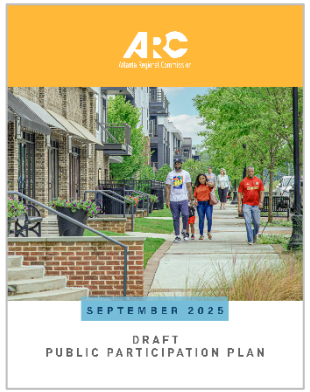


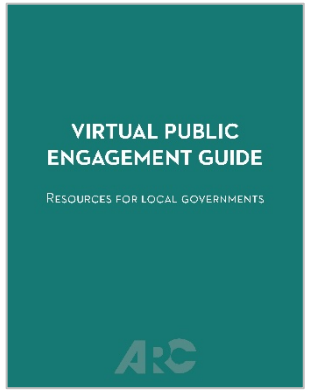


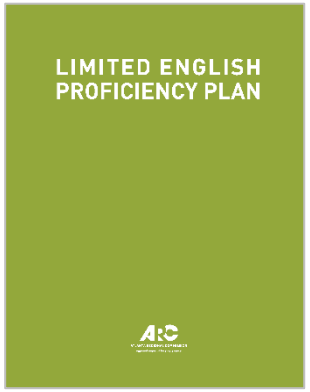


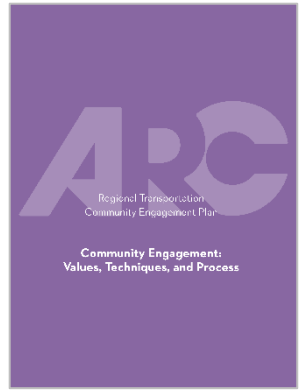


Community Engagement Guidance









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ARC

Newton County
Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update

Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference

October 9, 2025

Moving Newton

Project Team

Chester Clegg – Transportation Director

- Toney Wright
- Cassie Kerrick

Ansley Goddard, AICP – ARC Project Liaison

- Michael Kray

Project Management/Prime Consultant

Engagement

TDM Model

Traffic Analysis

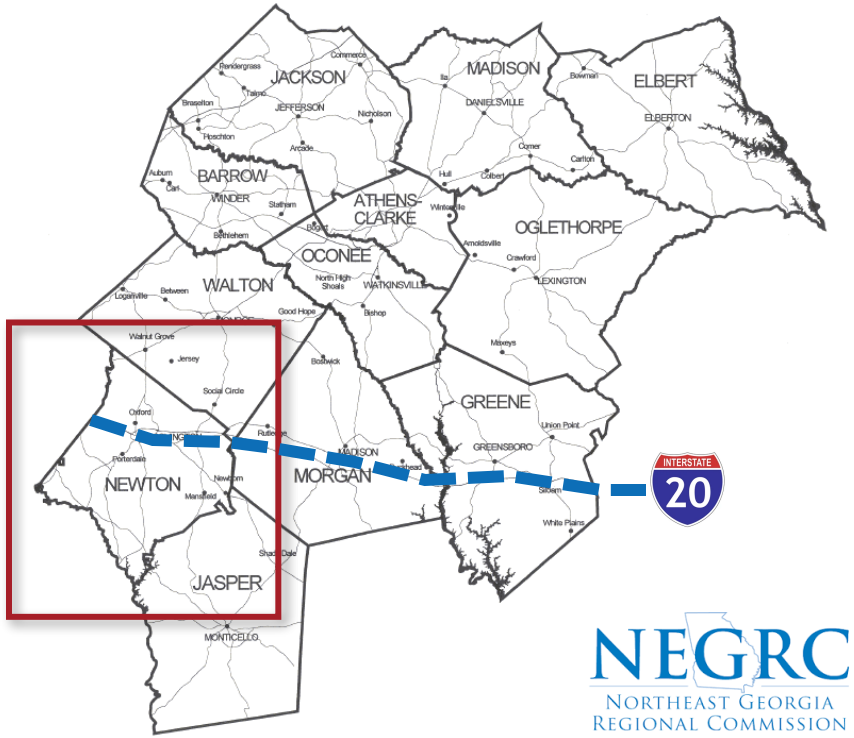
Bicycle and Pedestrian

Newton County Context

ARC Metropolitan Planning Area

Atlanta Regional Commission

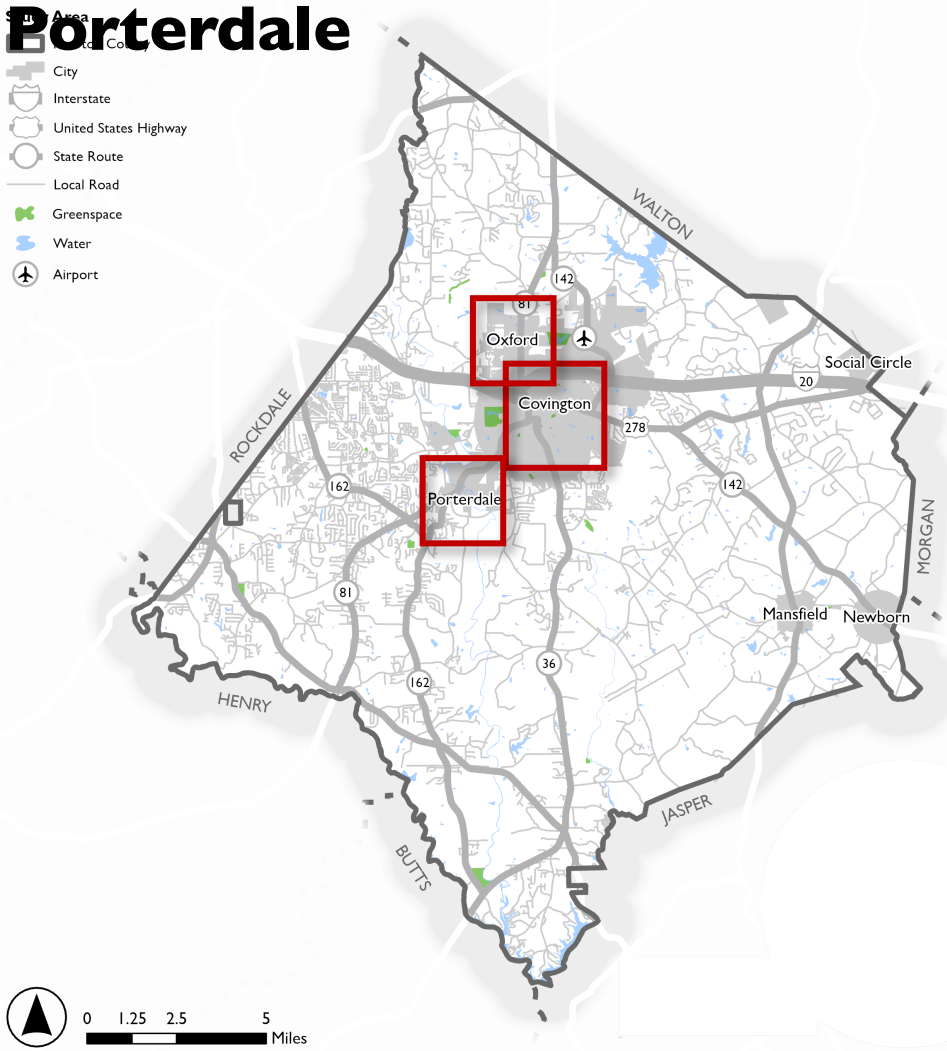
NEGRC Planning and Service Area

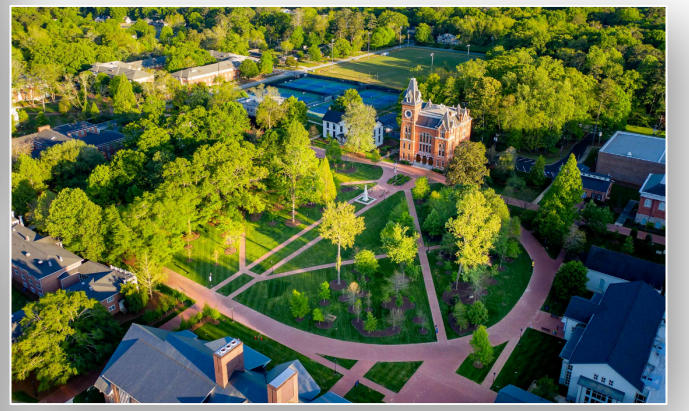


NEGRC
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission

Newton County Context

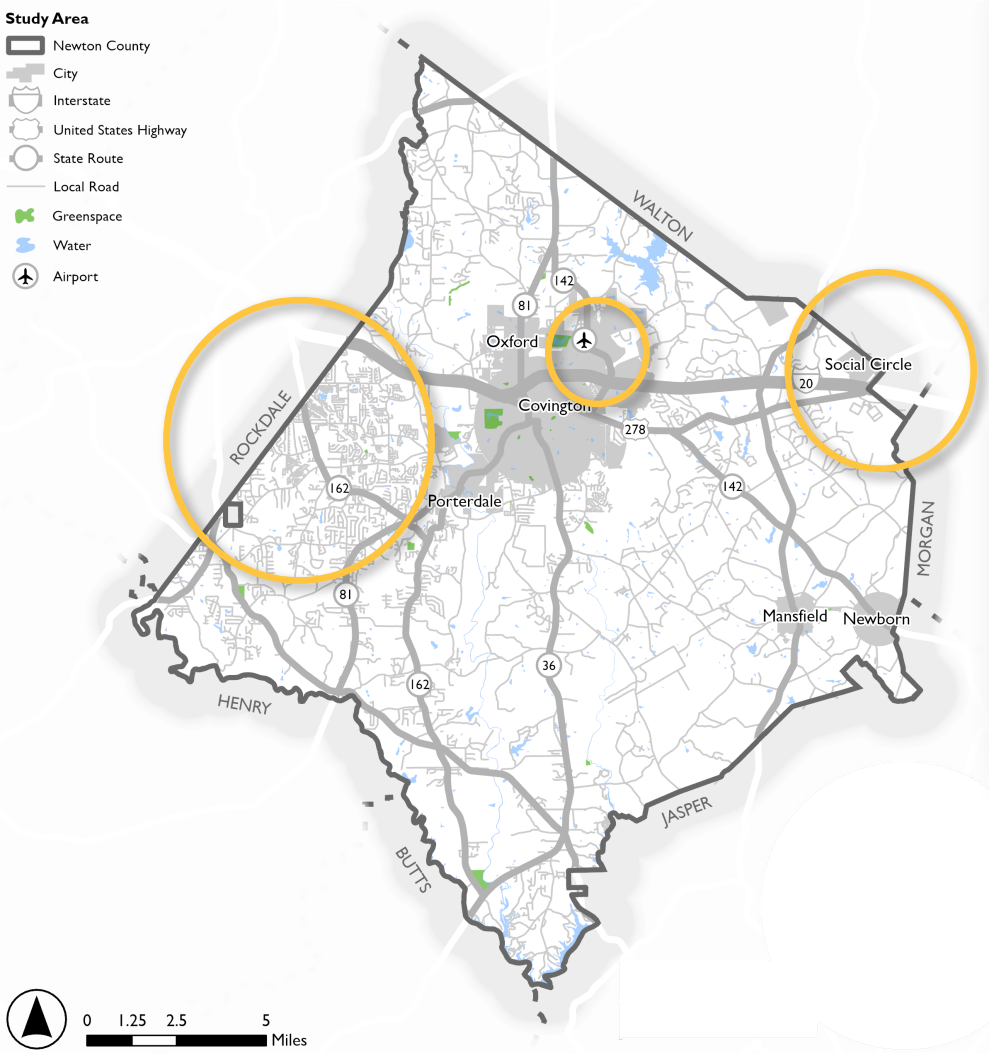
Covington, Oxford, and Porterdale





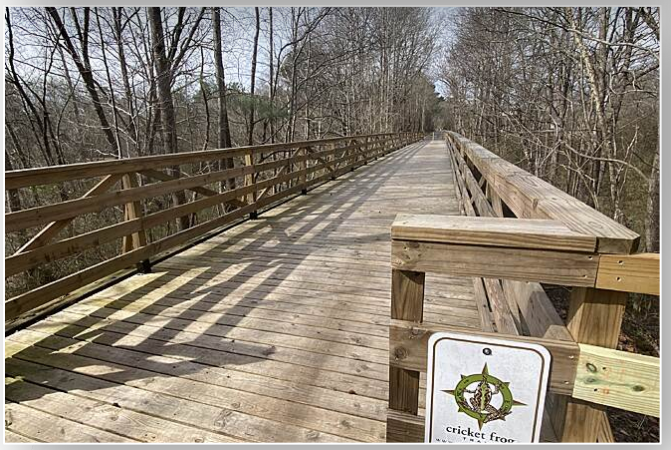
Newton County Context

Areas of Development



Newton County Context

Cricket Frog Trail

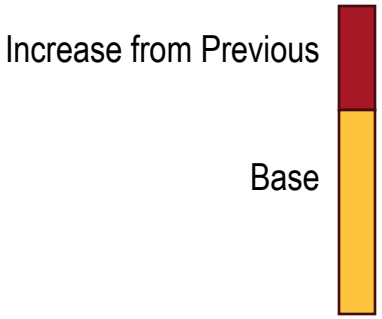


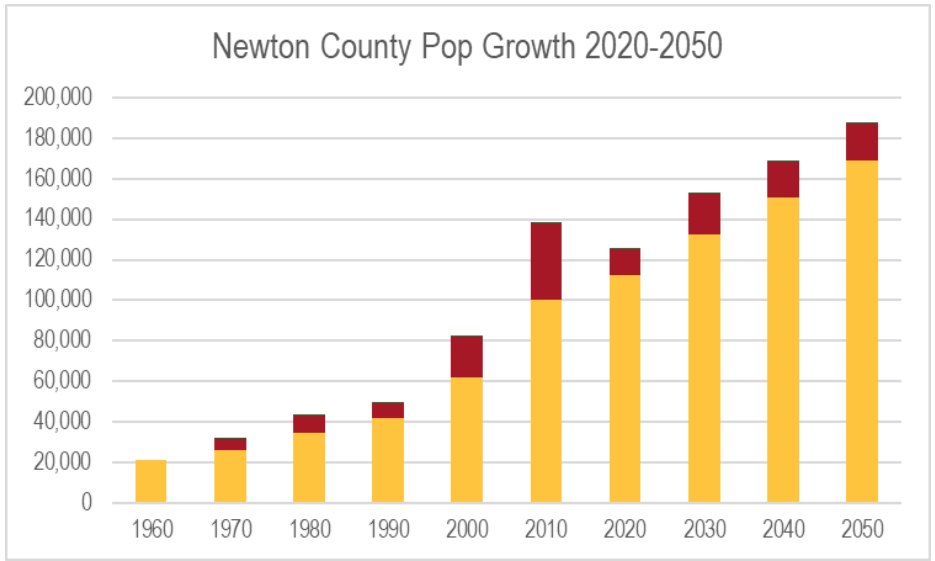
cricket frog
TRAIL

Project Background

Shifting Conditions

- Post-pandemic population and employment trends
- 2020 Census and urban area changes
- ARC MPA boundary change
- ATL Redefine the Ride system redesign
- Consistency with county goals
  - 2023 Newton County Comp Plan
  - New county leadership





- Significant population projections and a focus on new roads and capacity projects
- Prioritized operational and safety improvements and mobility and bridge projects
- What changes will we see?

Project Background

Past Plans

- 2008 CTP
- 2017 CTP (adopted 2018)
- 2022 Transit Master Plan (not adopted)

Moving Newton

- Branding established for previous plans
- Appeals to County's need for mobility options and Covington's identity as a filming destination

Moving Newton
Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Moving Newton
Transit Master Plan

Moving Newton
Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Scope of Work

Task 1 – Project Management

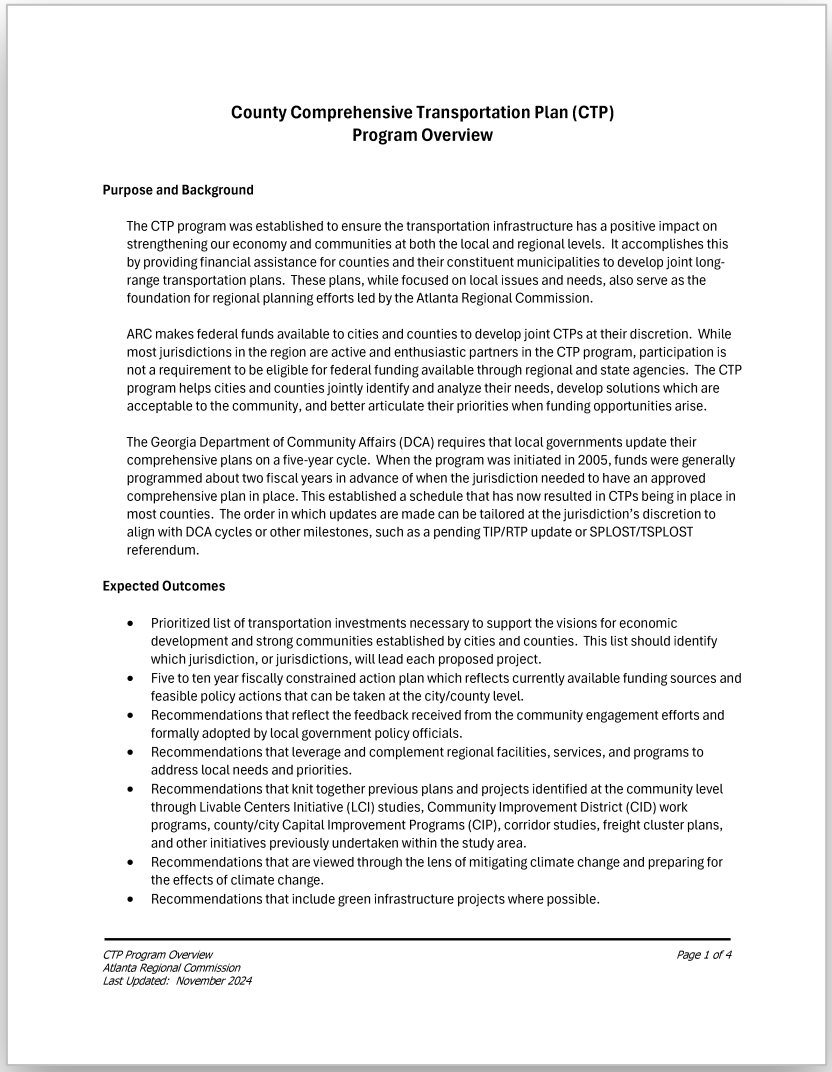
Task 2 – Engagement

Task 3 – Inventory of Existing Conditions

Task 4 – Assessment

Task 5 – Recommendations

Task 6 – Documentation



County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)
Program Overview

Purpose and Background

The CTP program was established to ensure the transportation infrastructure has a positive impact on strengthening our economy and communities at both the local and regional levels. It accomplishes this by providing financial assistance for counties and their constituent municipalities to develop joint long-range transportation plans. These plans, while focused on local issues and needs, also serve as the foundation for regional planning efforts led by the Atlanta Regional Commission.

ARC makes federal funds available to cities and counties to develop joint CTPs at their discretion. While most jurisdictions in the region are active and enthusiastic partners in the CTP program, participation is not a requirement to be eligible for federal funding available through regional and state agencies. The CTP program helps cities and counties jointly identify and analyze their needs, develop solutions which are acceptable to the community, and better articulate their priorities when funding opportunities arise.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) requires that local governments update their comprehensive plans on a five-year cycle. When the program was initiated in 2005, funds were generally programmed about two fiscal years in advance of when the jurisdiction needed to have an approved comprehensive plan in place. This established a schedule that has now resulted in CTPs being in place in most counties. The order in which updates are made can be tailored at the jurisdiction's discretion to align with DCA cycles or other milestones, such as a pending TIP/RTP update or SPLOST/TSPLOST referendum.

Expected Outcomes

- Prioritized list of transportation investments necessary to support the visions for economic development and strong communities established by cities and counties. This list should identify which jurisdiction, or jurisdictions, will lead each proposed project.
- Five to ten year fiscally constrained action plan which reflects currently available funding sources and feasible policy actions that can be taken at the city/county level.
- Recommendations that reflect the feedback received from the community engagement efforts and formally adopted by local government policy officials.
- Recommendations that leverage and complement regional facilities, services, and programs to address local needs and priorities.
- Recommendations that knit together previous plans and projects identified at the community level through Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) studies, Community Improvement District (CID) work programs, county/city Capital Improvement Programs (CIP), corridor studies, freight cluster plans, and other initiatives previously undertaken within the study area.
- Recommendations that are viewed through the lens of mitigating climate change and preparing for the effects of climate change.
- Recommendations that include green infrastructure projects where possible.

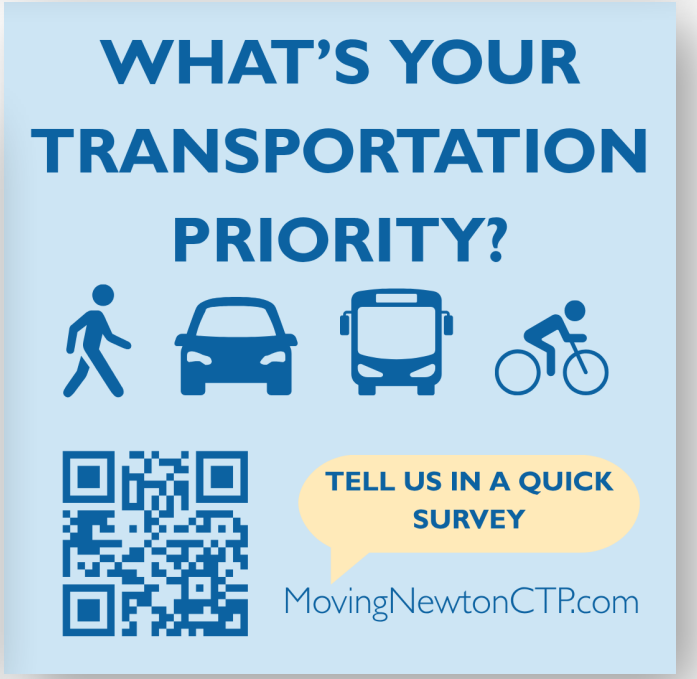
Stakeholder and Public Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement

- Stakeholder Interviews
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meetings (3)

Public Engagement

- Public Meetings (2)
- Pop-Up Events (2)
- Project Website
- Public Surveys (2)

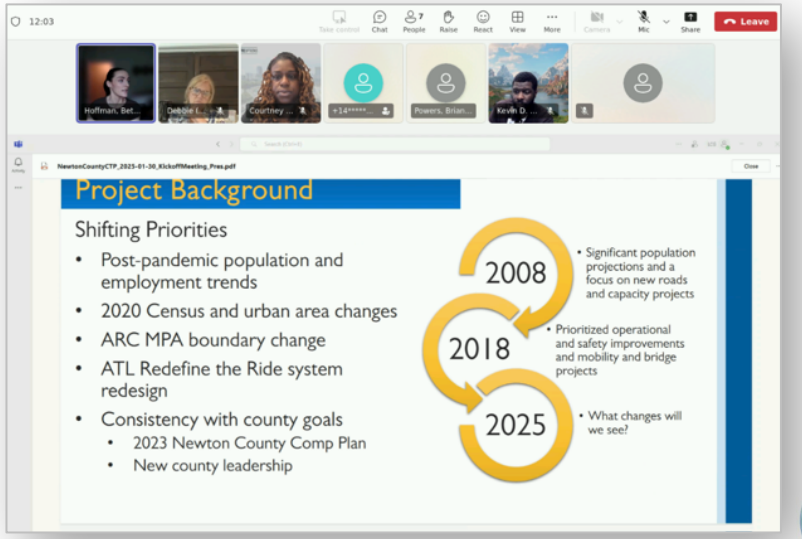


Stakeholder Focus Groups

7 Focus Meetings Held:

- Adjacent Counties
- Cities and Infrastructure
- Economic Development
- Freight and Logistics
- Schools
- Special Populations
- Transit and Mobility

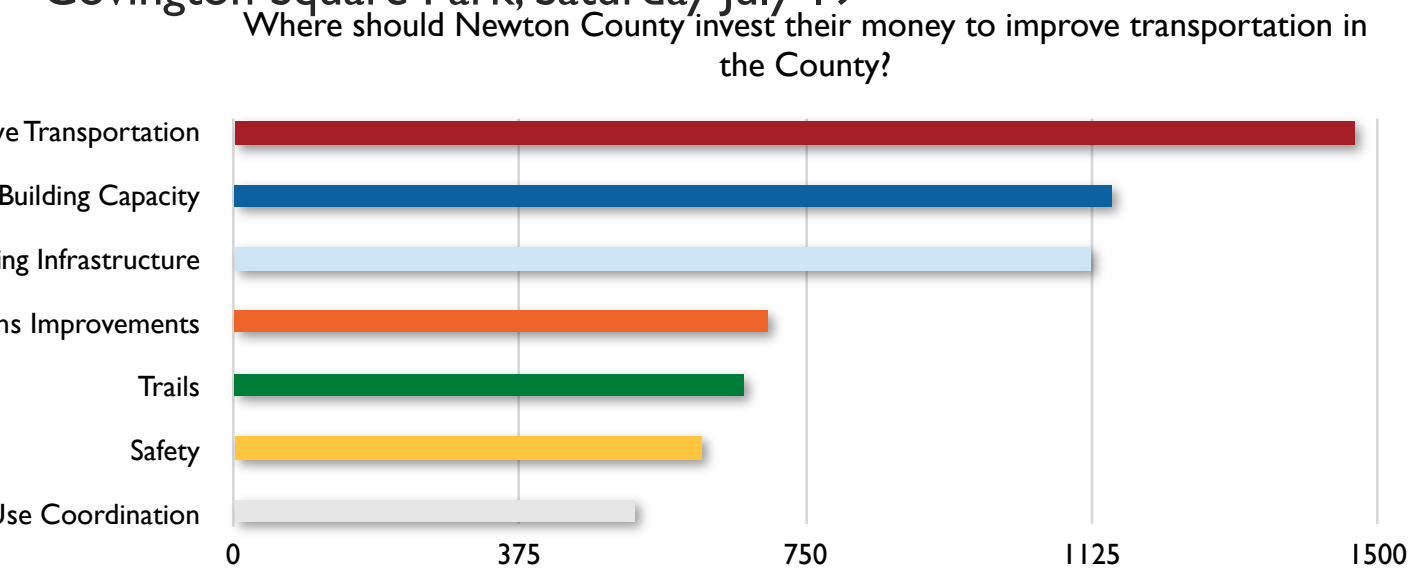
34 Participants, 23 Organizations



Pop-Up Event

Christmas in July Event

Covington Square Park, Saturday July 19



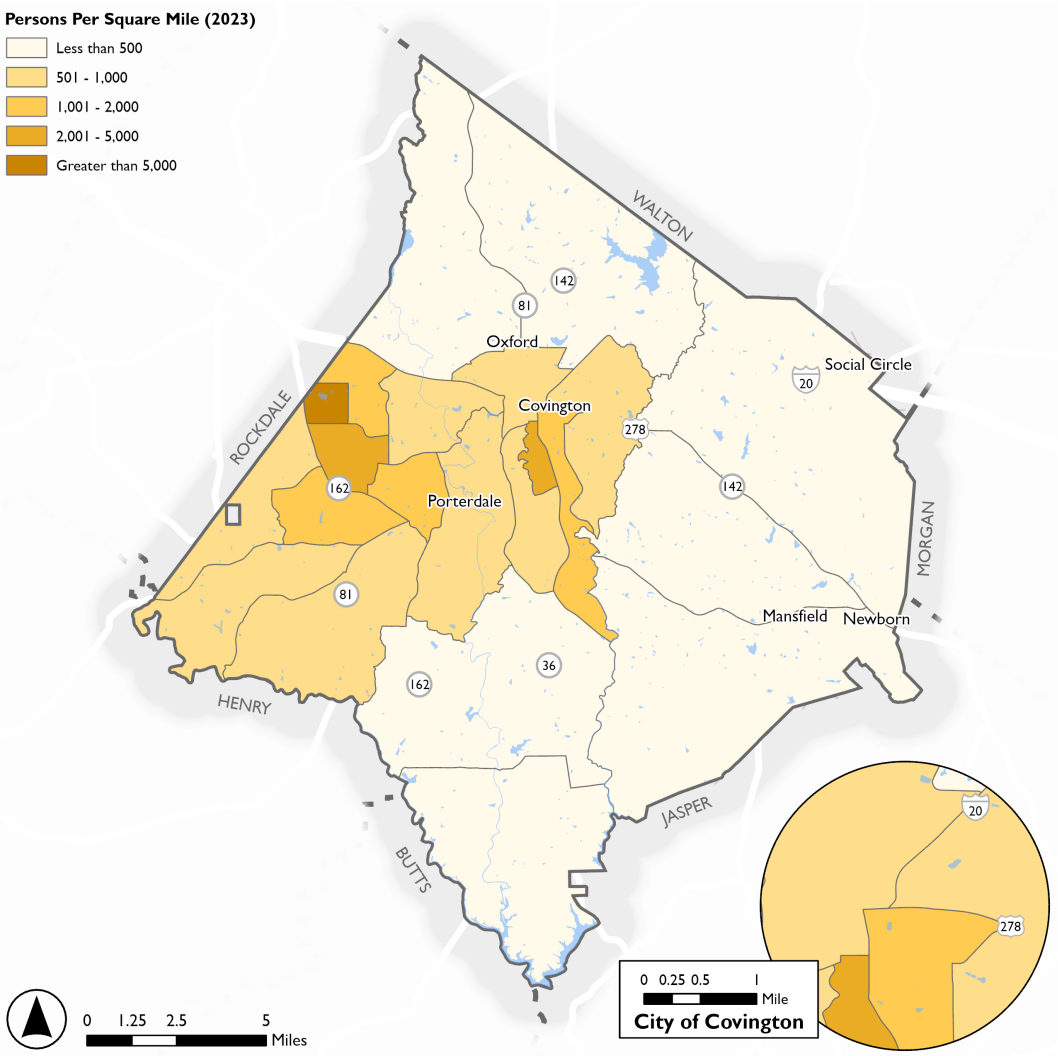
Interactive Exercise: Transportation Funds Allocation

- Mobility and Alternative Transportation received the highest total amount at $1,469
- 2nd - Building Capacity- $1,150
- 3rd - Maintaining Infrastructure- $1,124

Inventory of Existing Conditions

1. Project Overview
2. Community Demographics and Development
3. Existing Transportation Network
4. Transportation Network Trends and Conditions
5. Relevant Plans and Programs
6. Planned and Programmed Projects
7. Report of Accomplishments

Population Density



Population Growth/Projections

Year	Population	Growth from Previous Decade	Growth %
Decennial Census			
1960	**20,999**		
1970	**26,282**	+ 5,283	25.2%
1980	**34,666**	+ 8,384	31.9%
1990	**41,808**	+ 7,142	20.6%
2000	**62,001**	+ 20,193	48.3%
2010	**99,958**	+ 37,957	61.2%
2020	**112,483**	+ 12,525	12.5%
ARC Projections			
2030 (projected)	***132,571***	+20,088	17.9%
2040 (projected)	***150,553***	+17,982	13.6%
2050 (projected)	***169,013***	+18,460	12.3%

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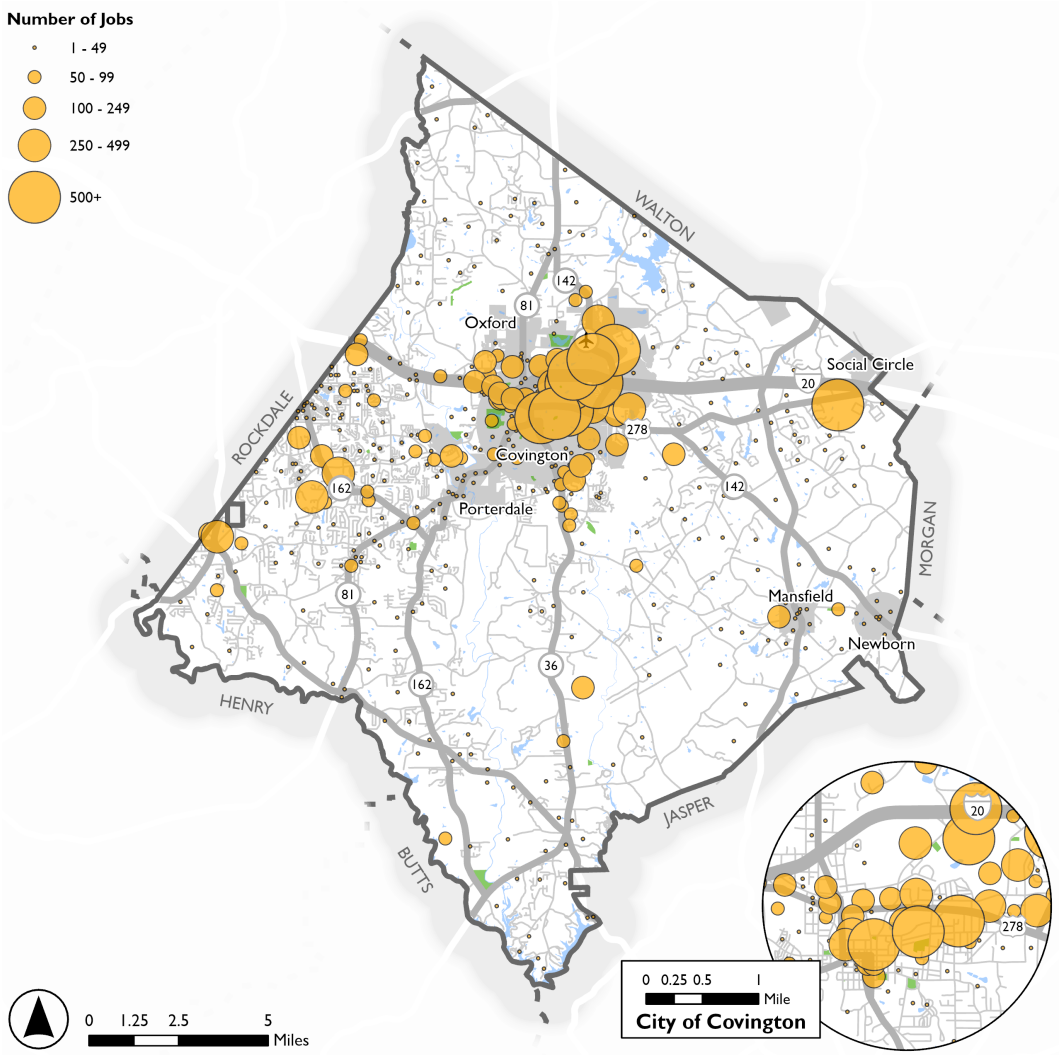
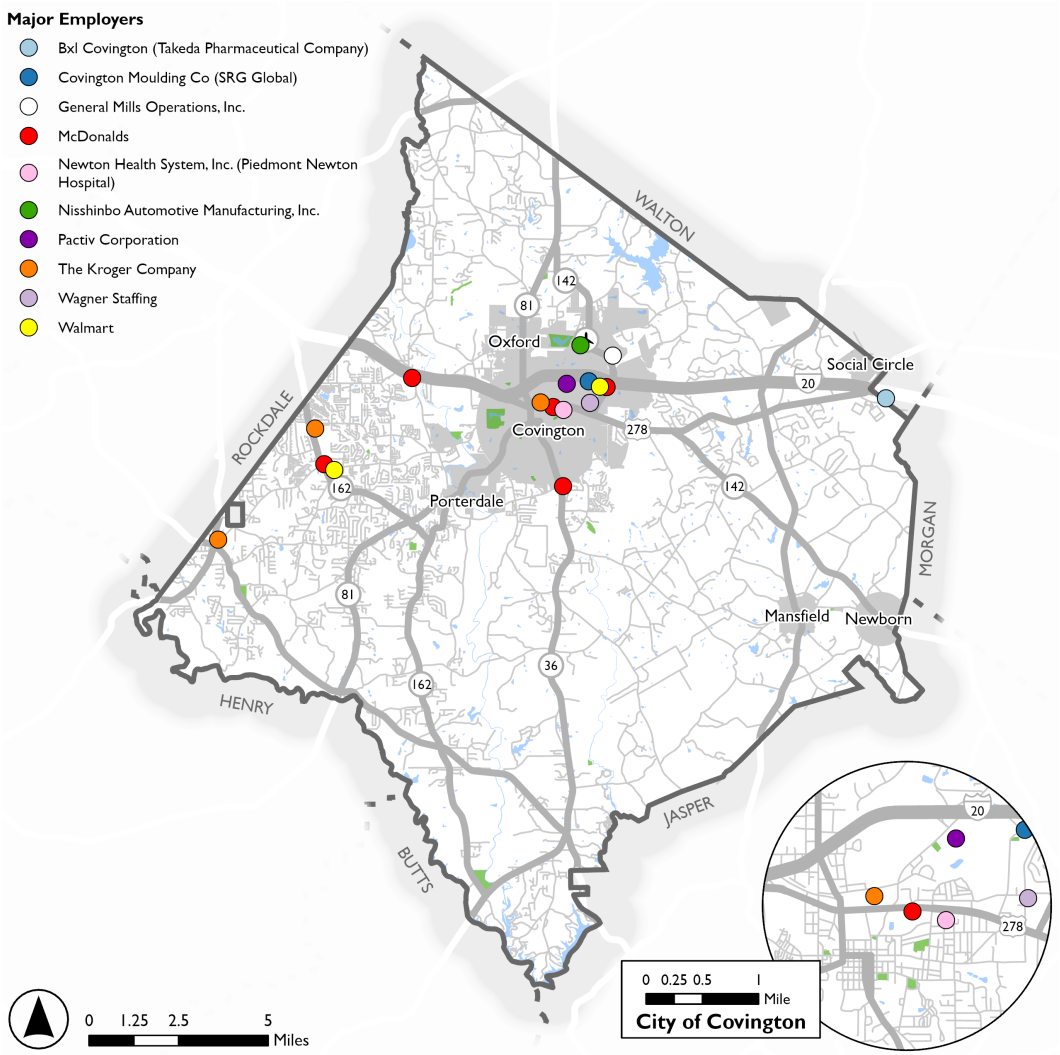
Job Density

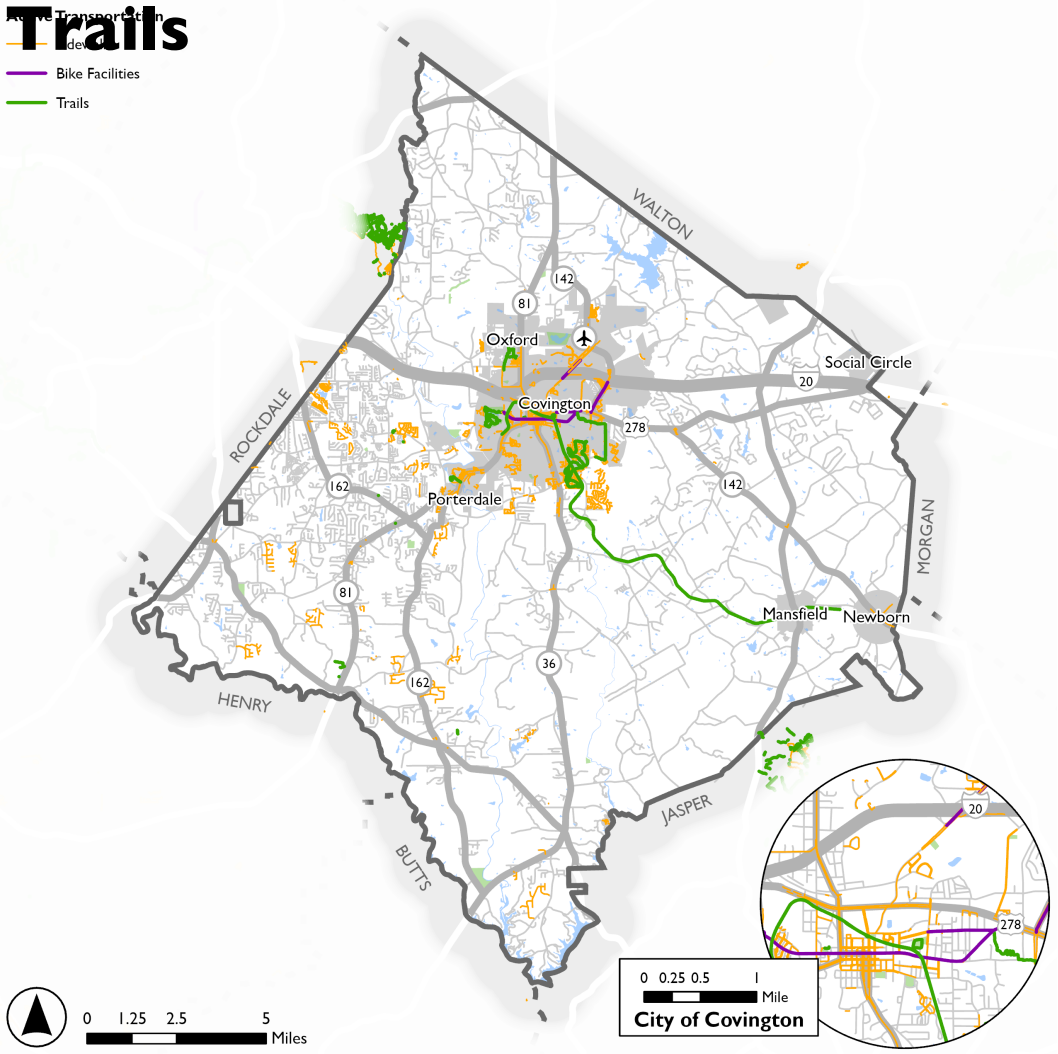


Major Private Employers



Inventory of Existing Conditions

Sidewalks, Bike Facilities, and Trails



Current Network

- Sidewalks in downtown areas, new housing developments in western Newton County
- Very few bike lanes/facilities

Existing Trails

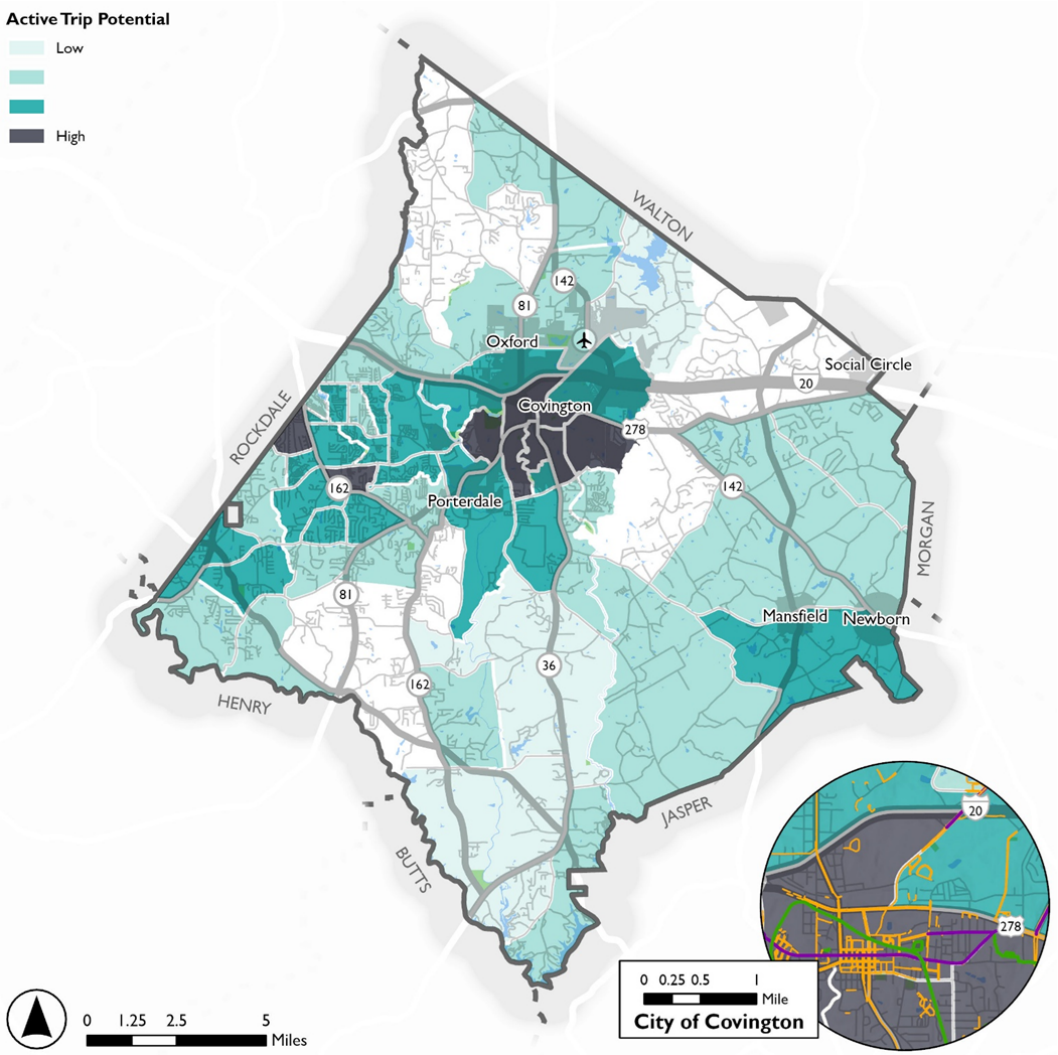
- Cricket Frog Trail
- Eastside Trail
- Lake Varner Trail
- Oxford Trail
- Turner Lake Trail
- Yellow River Trail

Future Trails

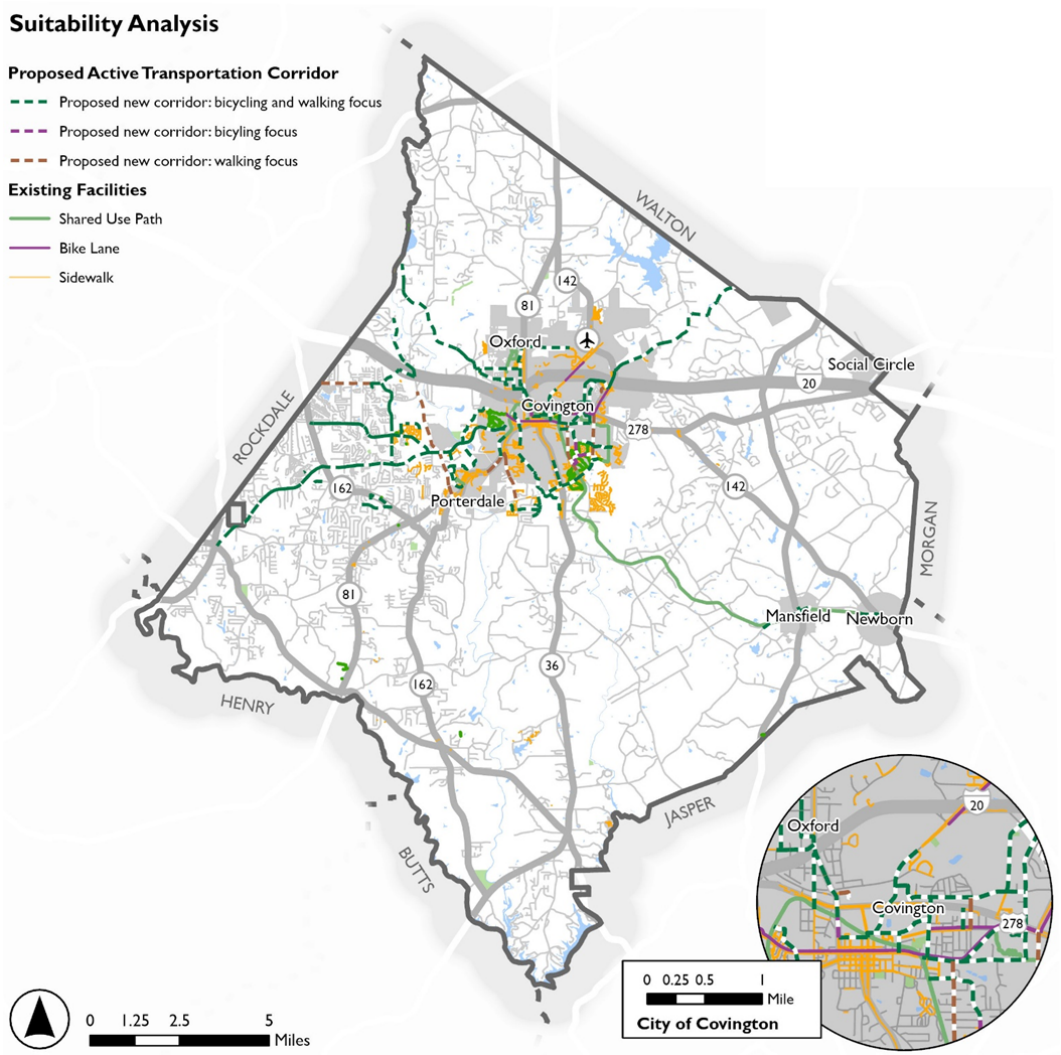
- Connection to Elliot Wildlife Center (Jasper County)
- Dried Indian Creek Trail
- Fairview Road Trail
- Oxford Trail to Covington
- Turner Lake Park to Porterdale

Inventory of Existing Conditions

Relative Active Trip Potential

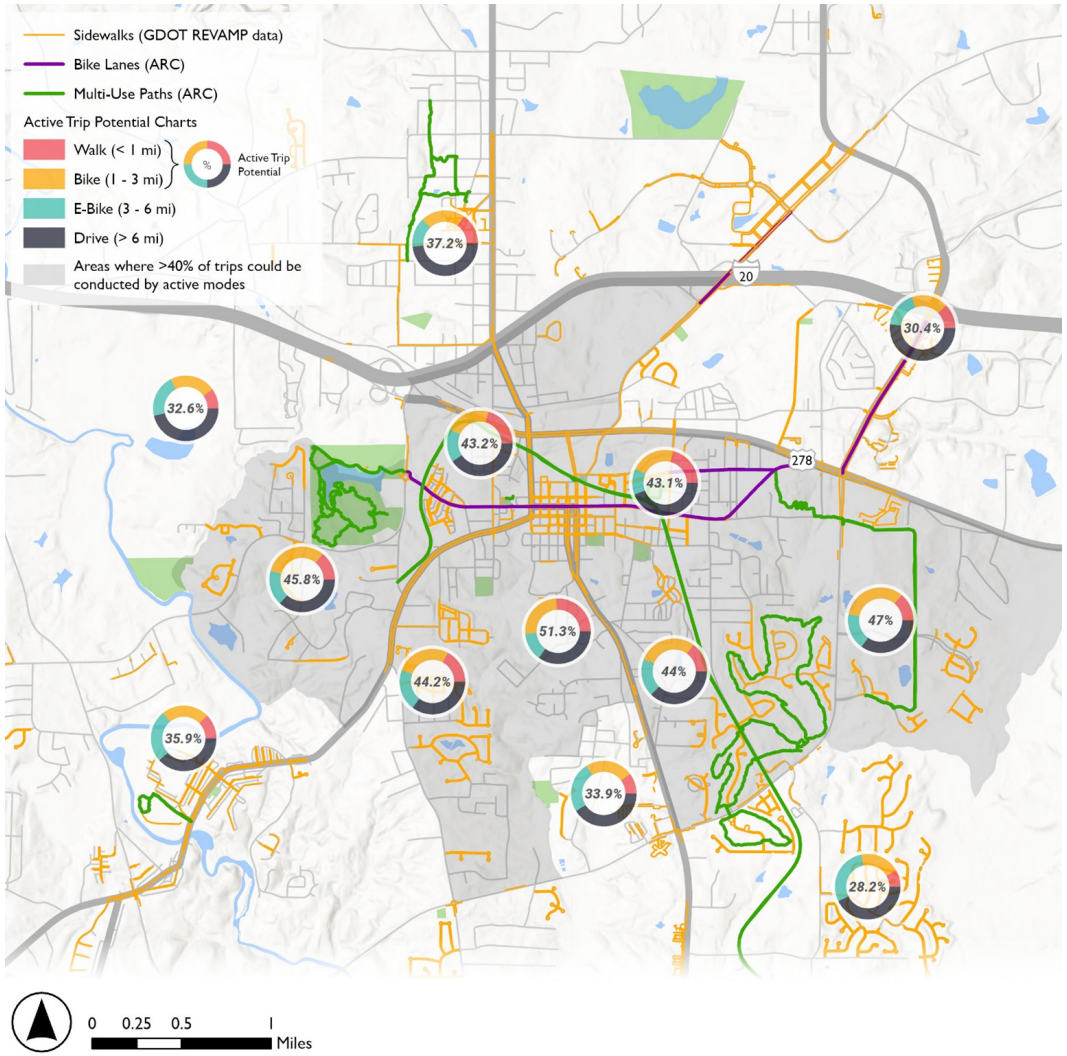


Active Transportation Suitability

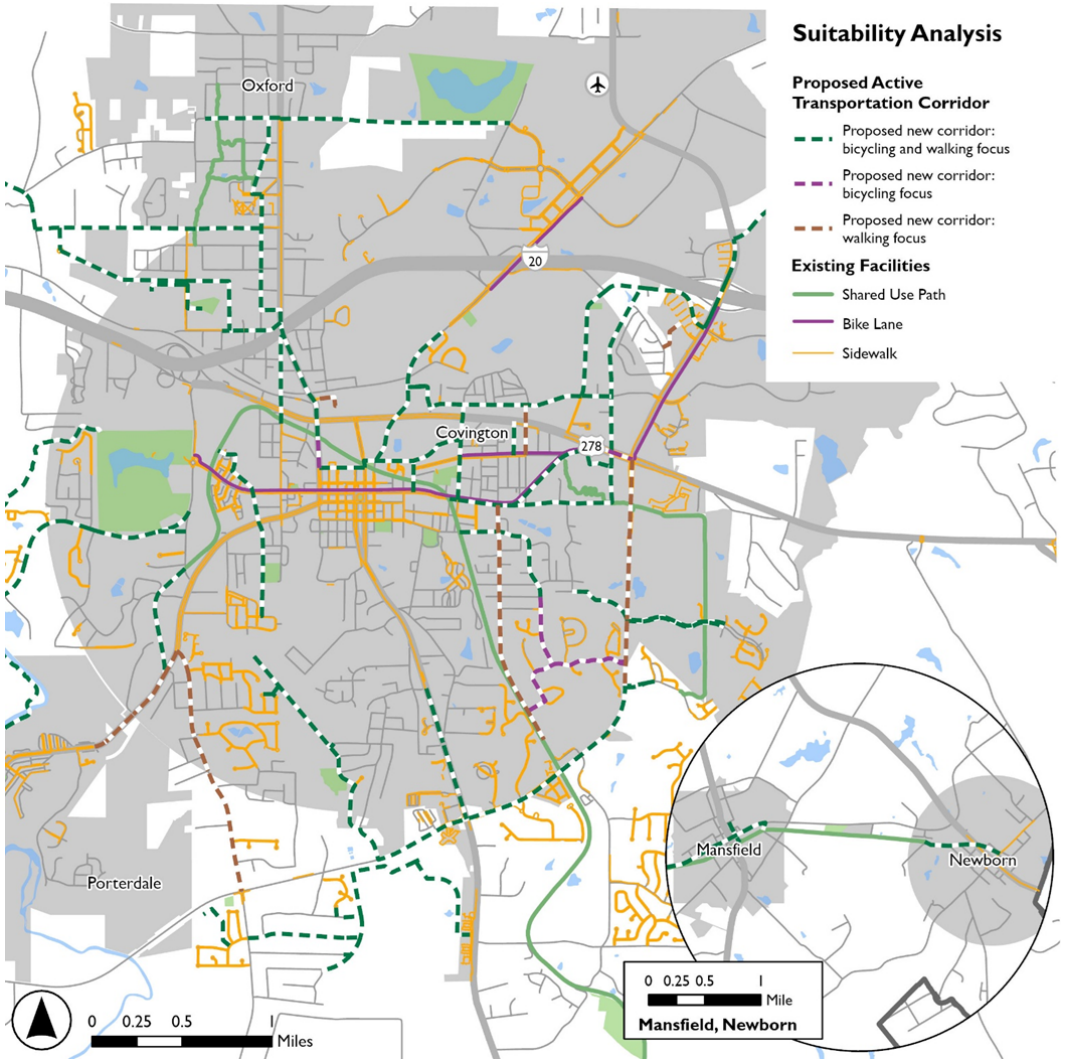


Inventory of Existing Conditions

Relative Active Trip Potential



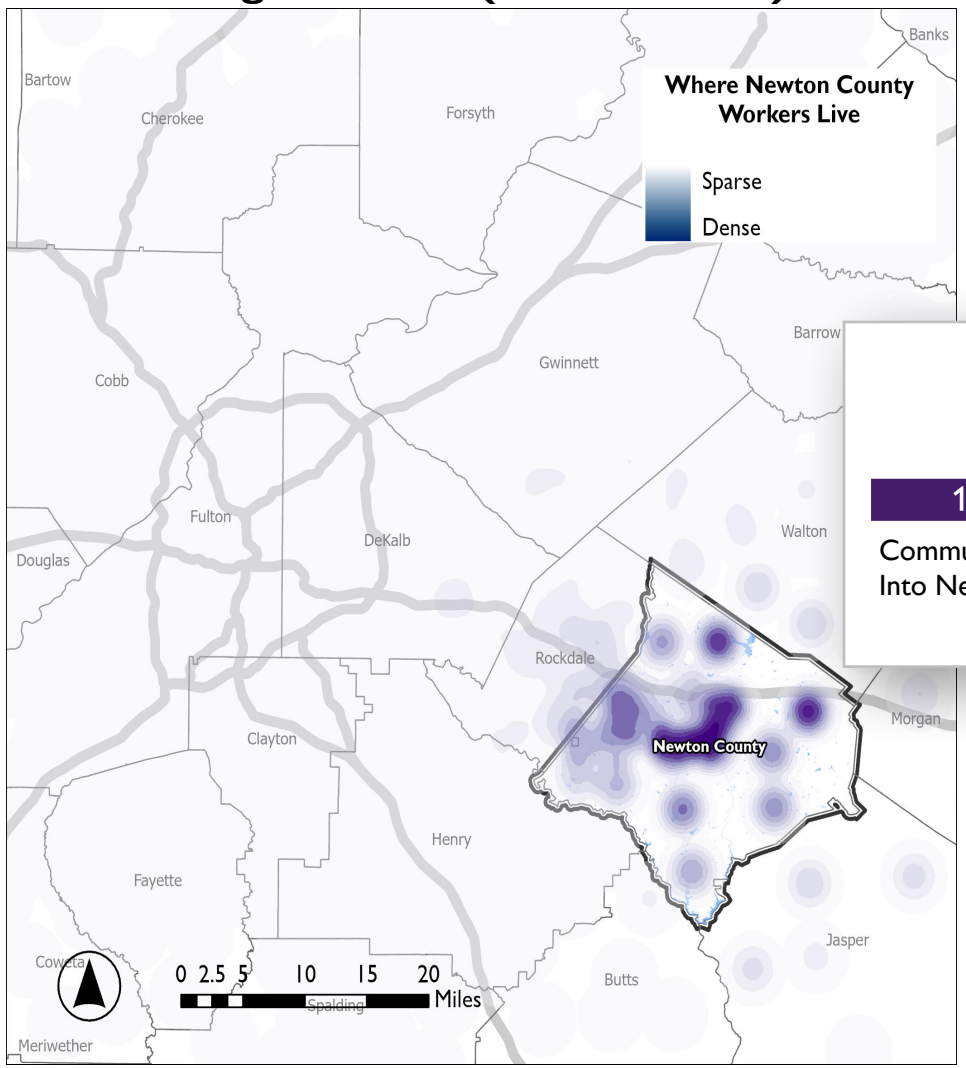
Active Transportation Suitability

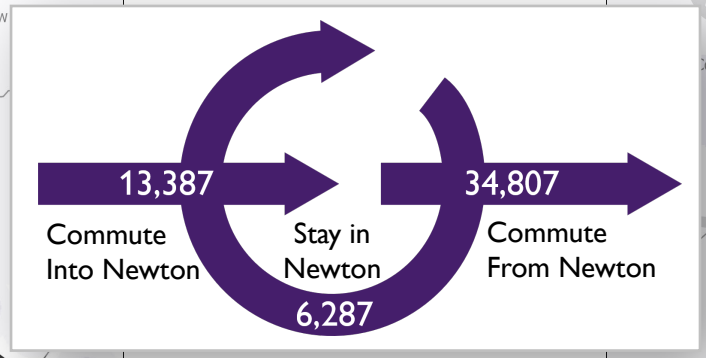


Inventory of Existing Conditions

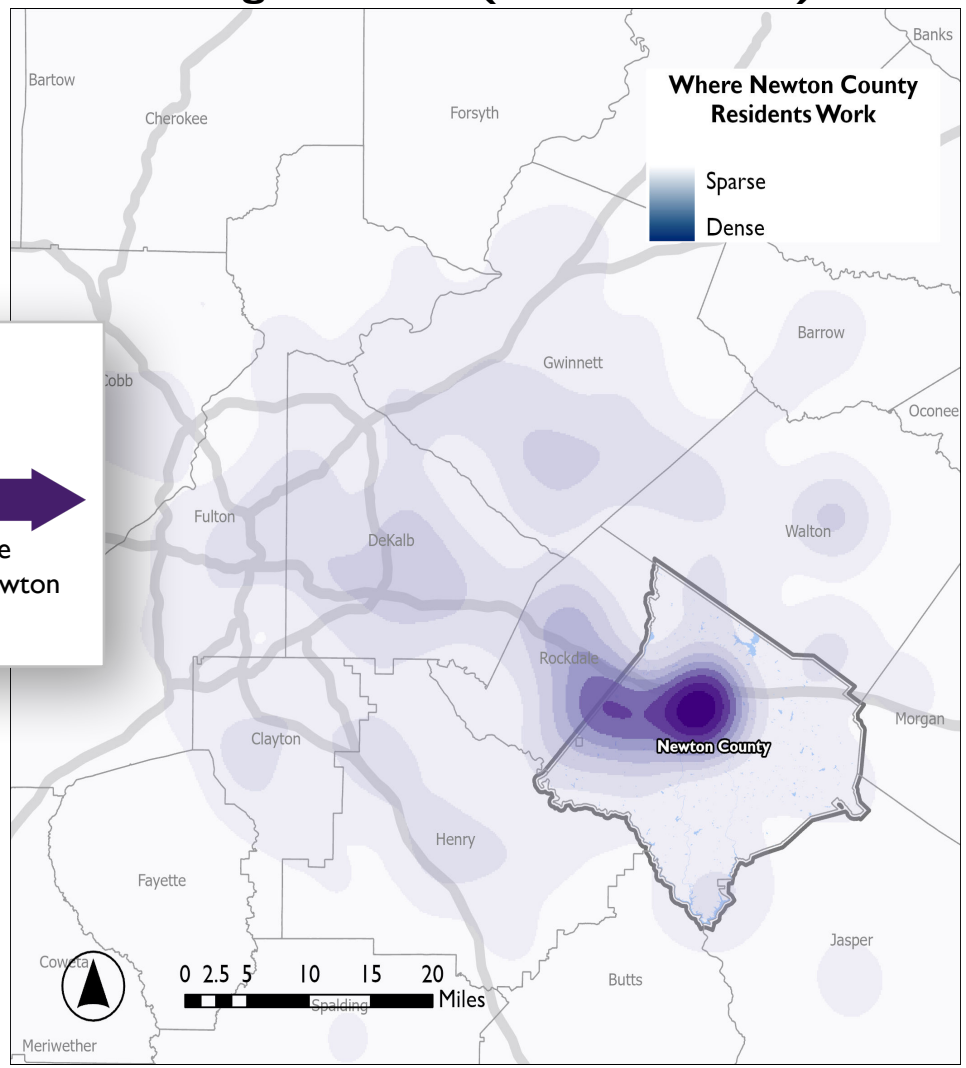
Journey to Work

Commuting Patterns (Into Newton)





Commuting Patterns (From Newton)



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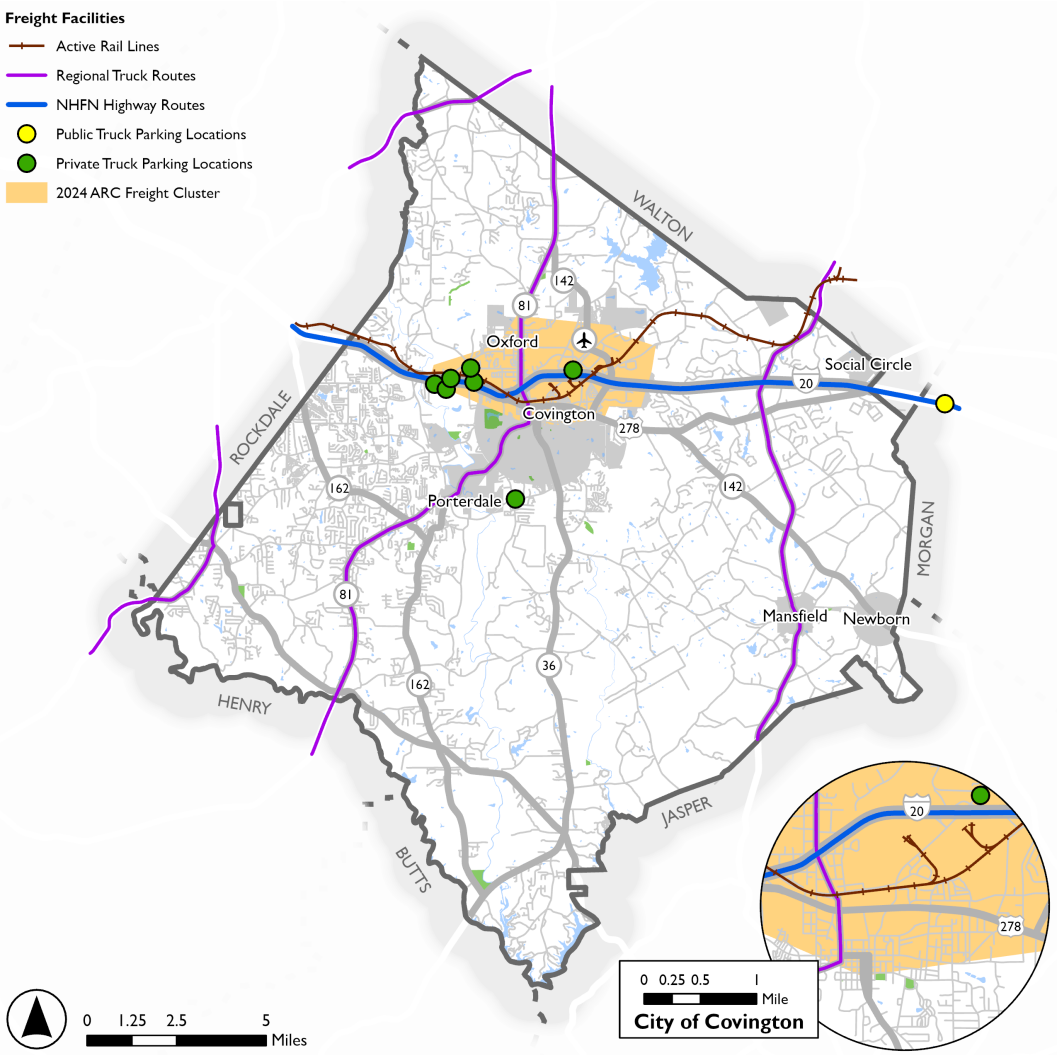
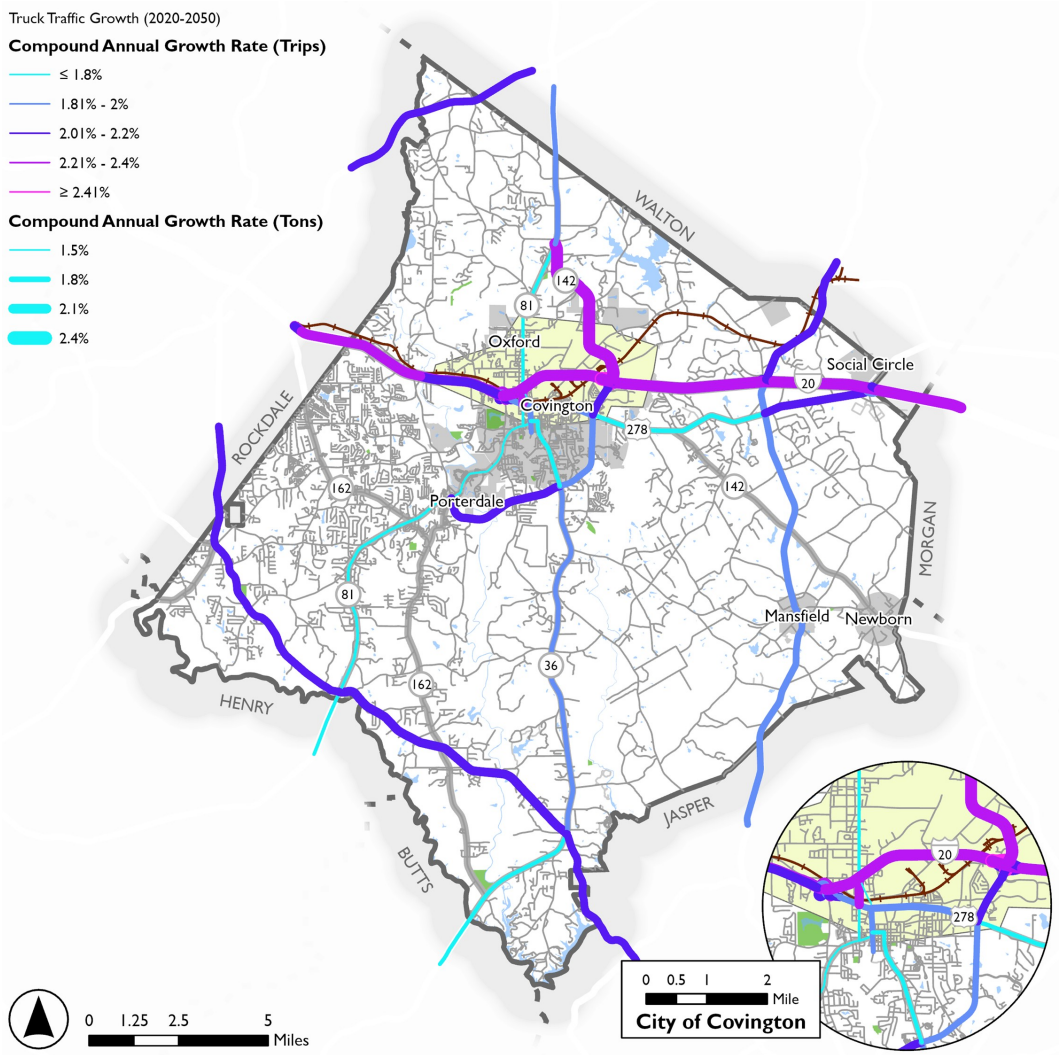
Freight



Truck Traffic Growth



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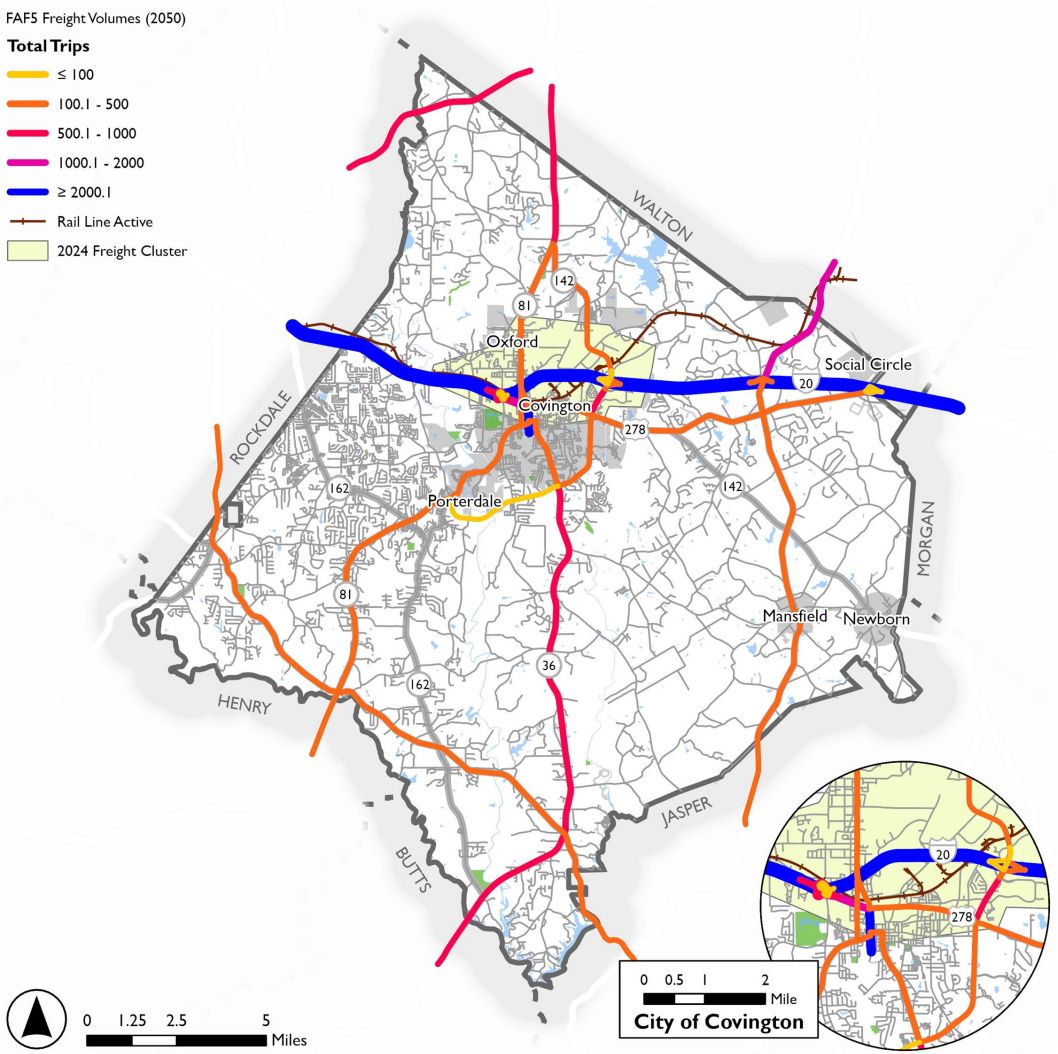
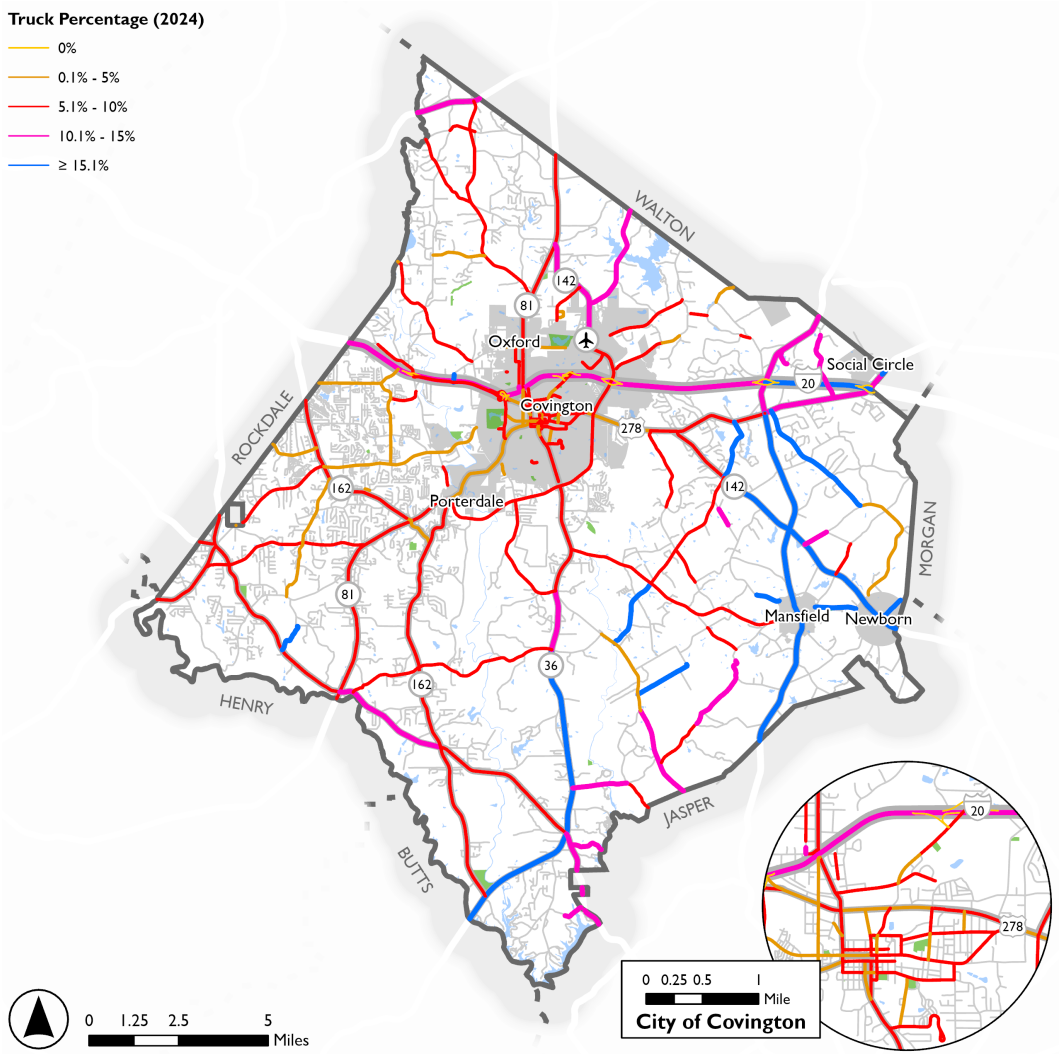
Truck Volumes



Truck Percentage



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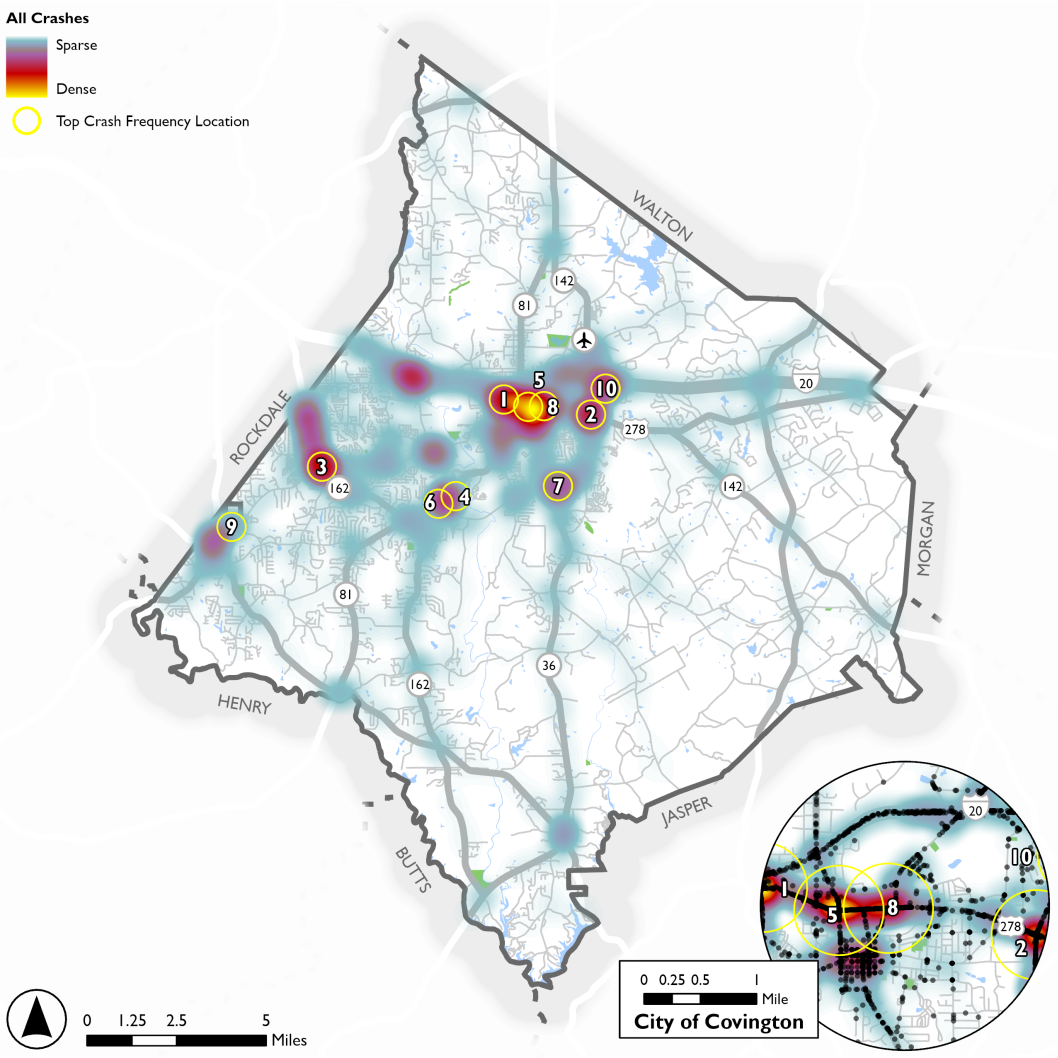
Crash Density



Top 10 Crash Intersections

Rank	Intersection	Total Crashes
1	Hwy 278 at Turner Lake Rd	154
2	Hwy 278 at SR 142/Dr MLK Jr Ave	140
3	Brown Bridge Rd at SR 162/Salem Rd	109
4	S Broad St at Covington Bypass Rd/Crowell Rd	108
5	Hwy 278 at Emory St	97
6	SR 162 at S Broad St	91
7	SR 36 at Covington Bypass Rd/Eagle Dr	85
8	Hwy 278 at Elm St	77
9	Brown Bridge Rd at Magnet Rd	75
10	SR 142 at Industrial Blvd/Lochridge Blvd	71

Inventory of Existing Conditions

Transit

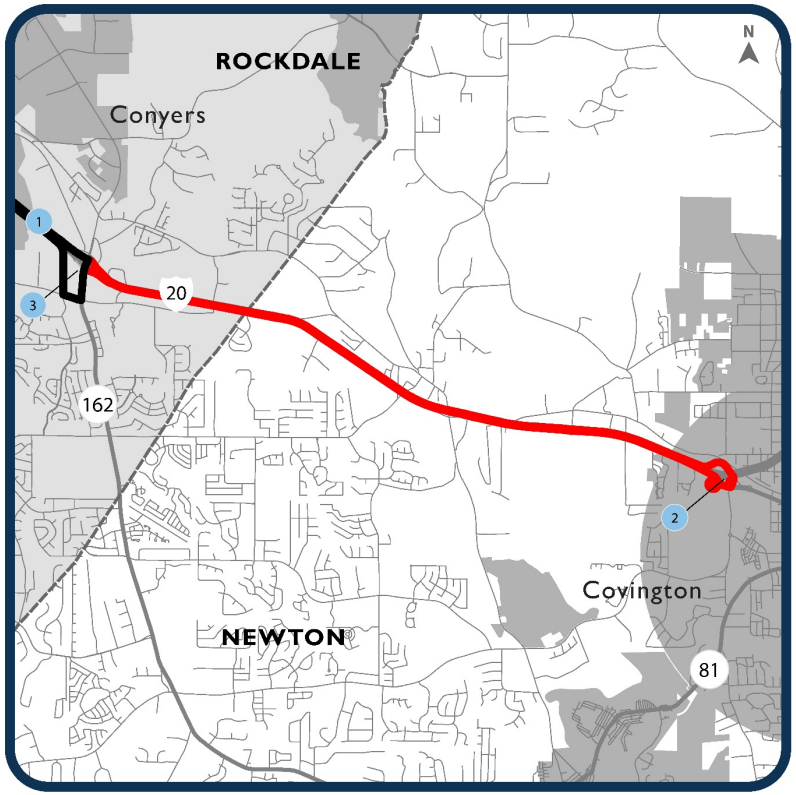
Newton County Transit Master Plan (2022)

- Completed 2022 but not adopted
- Recommended Services:
  - Countywide demand-response
  - Microtransit in denser areas
  - Conyers/Covington fixed route

ATL Redefine the Ride 2.0 (2025)

- 3 current routes from East Conyers/West Conyers to Midtown/Downtown/Perimeter
- Consolidation to 1 route
- Closure of E. Conyers Park and Ride

Newton TMP Xpress Service Recommendation



Potential Service Route

1 ATL Xpress Routes 423 & 426
2 Covington Park and Ride
3 East Conyers Park and Ride

Implementation of this service would require an intergovernmental agreement between Newton County and the ATL

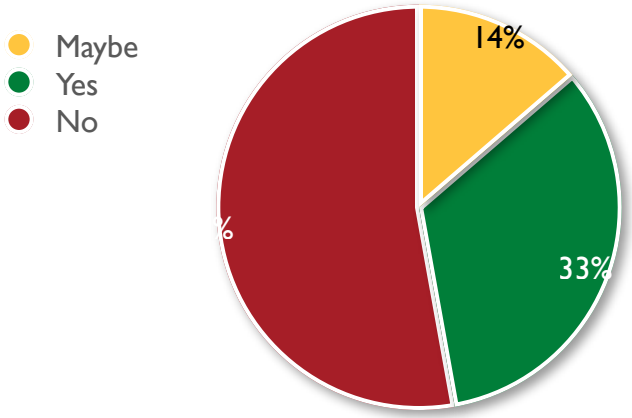
Moving Newton Transit Master Plan

***CTP Opportunities: 1. Advance/Adopt Some TMP Recommendations 2. Coordination of Services with Rockdale County**

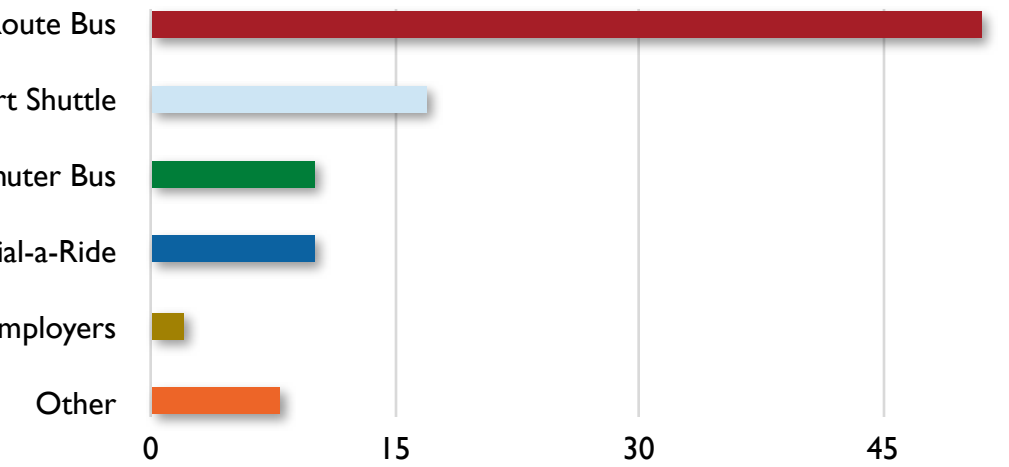
Transit Service Perception

Survey

Do you think there is a need for more demand for transit service in Newton County?

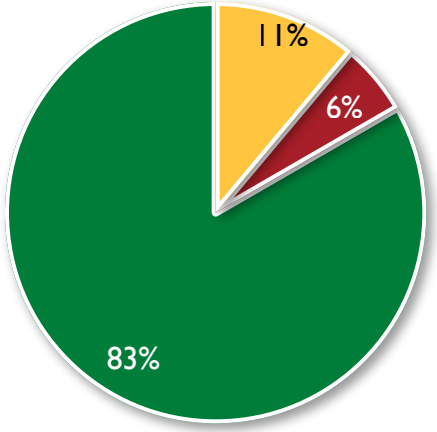


What type of services do you think would be appropriat Newton County?

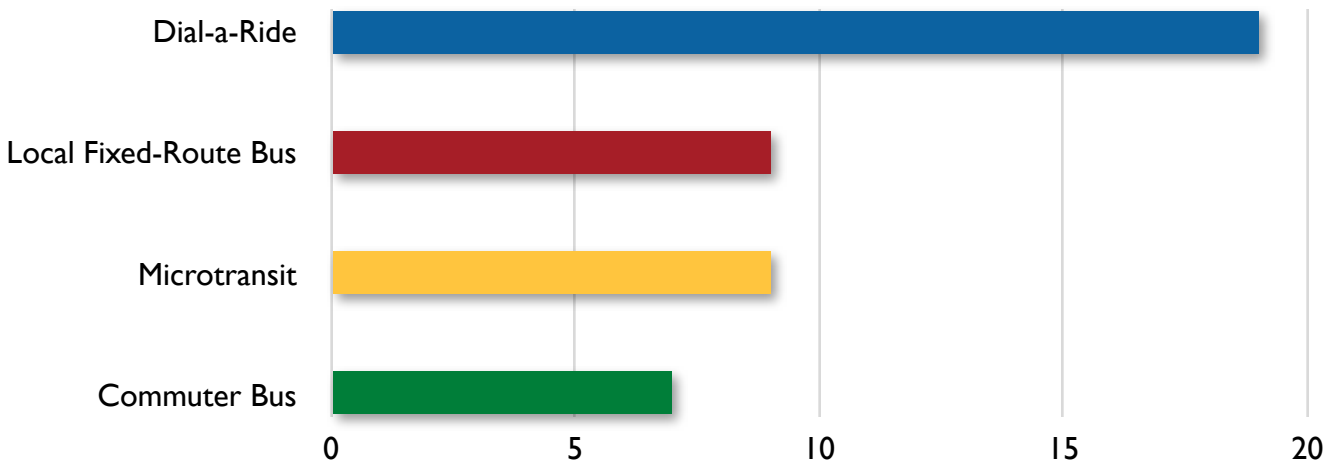


Public Meeting

Do you think Newton County should provide transit service?



What type(, most appropriate for the county? Please review the modes below and place a sticker under your preferred service(s).



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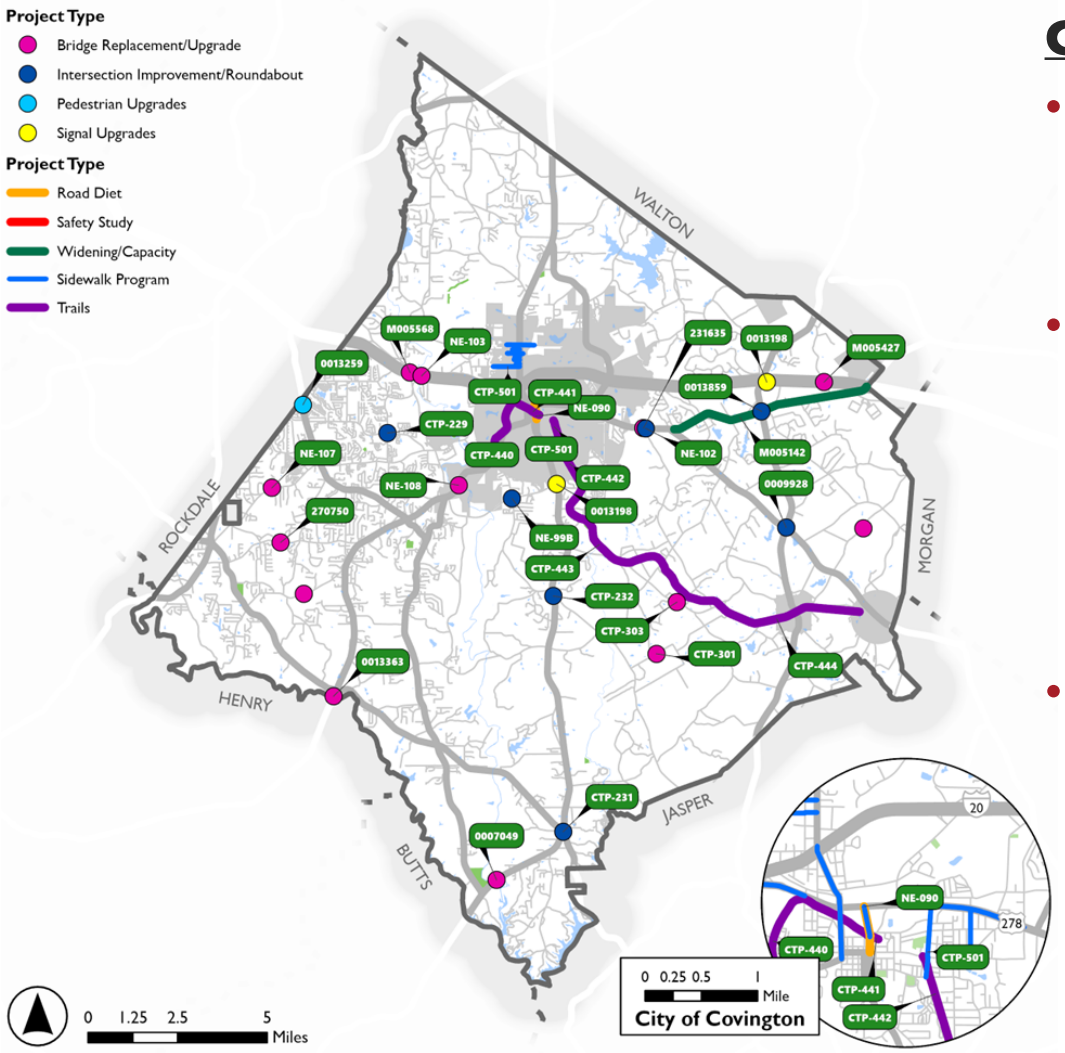
Report of Accomplishments

	Project Name	Project ID	Description	Project Category	Project Subcategory	PE Year	Construction Year	STATUS				Notes
								Complete	Underway	Not Started	Not Relevant	
4	Salem Road Widening	NE-004/RO-206	From Flat Shoals Rd (Rockdale) to Brown Bridge Road	Roadway	General Purpose Capacity	2019	2025		X			FY 2024-2027 TIP; GDOT PI 231210-; 2028 completion
5	Flat Shoals Road at Covington Bypass	NE-99B	Intersection improvement	Roadway	Operations & Safety			X				Completed in 2018
6	SR 81 (Emory St.) Bicycle/Ped Bridge	NE-100	Bicycle and pedestrian bridge over I-20	Connectivity	Joint Bike-Ped Facilities	2024	2030		X			Cancelled project NE-100 but advancing via new GDOT PI 0019270 bridge replacement will include a multi-use trail; anticipated 2029 CST
7	I-20 Frontage Road at Yellow River	NE-103	Bridge Replacement	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade			X				GDOT PI #; 2022 completion
8	SR 81 At Dried Indian Creek	NE-104	Bridge Replacement	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade	2017	2025		X			FY 2024-2027 TIP; GDOT PI 0013751
9	Crowell Road/Almon Road at I-20	NE-105	Intersection/interchange improvement	Roadway	Operations & Safety				X			Under construction; 2025 completion
10	Brown Bridge Road at Yellow River	NE-106	Bridge Replacement	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade				X			Under construction; 2025 completion
11	Brown Bridge Road at Snapping Shoals	NE-107	Bridge Replacement	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade			X				2024 completion
12	SR 81 at Yellow River	NE-108	Bridge Upgrade	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade	2019	2027		X			FY 2024-2027 TIP; GDOT PI 0015560; final design; anticipated 2027 CST
13	SR 11 at SR 142	_009928	Roundabout	Roadway	Operations & Safety	2014	2026		X			Final design; anticipated 2026 CST
14	Signal Upgrades in Newton/Morgan Counties	_0013198	Three Locations in Newton: SR81 at Soule St., SR 36 at Covington Bypass, SR 11 at I-20 E.B.	Roadway	Operations & Safety	2015	2028	X				Completed 2020
15	Pedestrian Upgrades: 13 Locations in Newton/Putnam Counties (ADA upgrades at signalized intersections)	_0013259	8 Newton County Locations	Connectivity	Pedestrian Facility	2016	2023	X				Completed 2025
16	SR 212 at Lake Jackson	_0013603	Bridge Replacement	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade	2016	2023		X			Under construction; 2025 completion
17	SR 11 at US 278/SR 12	_0013859	Roundabout	Roadway	Operations & Safety			X				2024 completion
18	I-20 at CR 114/Social Circle Road	M005427	Bridge Rehab	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade	2016	2016	X				2018 Completion
19	Bridge Rehabiliation Program (multiple)	M005568	Includes Almon Road over I-20	Roadway	Bridge Upgrade	2017	2018	X				2020 Completion
20	SR 81 at Covington Bypass	CTP-101	Operational/Intersection Study	Other	Planning					X		Porterdale city limits
21	Brown Bridge Road Widening	CTP-108	SR 162/Salem Road to Crowell Road	Roadway	General Purpose Capacity	2025	2030		X			Advancing as TIP projects NE-115 and NE-116.
22	US 278 Safety Study	CTP-216	Turner Lake Road to SR 36	Other	Planning	2022	2028		X			Segment is now included in City of Covington US 278 project (NE-111/NE-112)
23	Turner Lake Road Safety Study	CTP-217	U.S. 278 to SR 81 (not incl. Roundabout)	Other	Planning				X			Segment is now included in City of Covington Turner Lake Road project
24	New Alcovy Road crossing (CSX rail)	CTP-226	At-grade RRcrossing safety improvements	Roadway	Operations & Safety						X	Not started
25	Emory Street crossing (CSX rail)	CTP-227	At-grade RRcrossing safety improvements	Roadway	Operations & Safety						X	Not started
26	Kirkland Road at Brown Bridge Road	CTP-228	Intersection improvement	Roadway	Operations & Safety	2025	2030		X			Included in Brown Bridge Rd widening

CTP_Short-Range | CTP_Mid-Range | CTP_LongRange

Inventory of Existing Conditions

Projects Completed



Completed/Underway Since previous CTP

- **Intersection Improvements**
  - Flat Shoals Road at Covington Bypass (2018)
  - SR 212 at SR 36 (roundabout)
  - Crowell Road/Almon Road at I-20 (to be completed 2025)
- **Bridges**
  - CR 213 at W. Bear Creek
  - I-20 Frontage Road at Yellow River (2022)
  - Brown Bridge Road at Snapping Shoals (2024)
  - Benton Road at W. Bear Creek (2025)
  - Brown Bridge Rd. at Yellow River (to be completed 2025)
  - SR 212 at Lake Jackson (Under Construction)
- Other
  - Cricket Frog Multiuse Trail, Floyd St. to Ziegler Road (outside Newborn)

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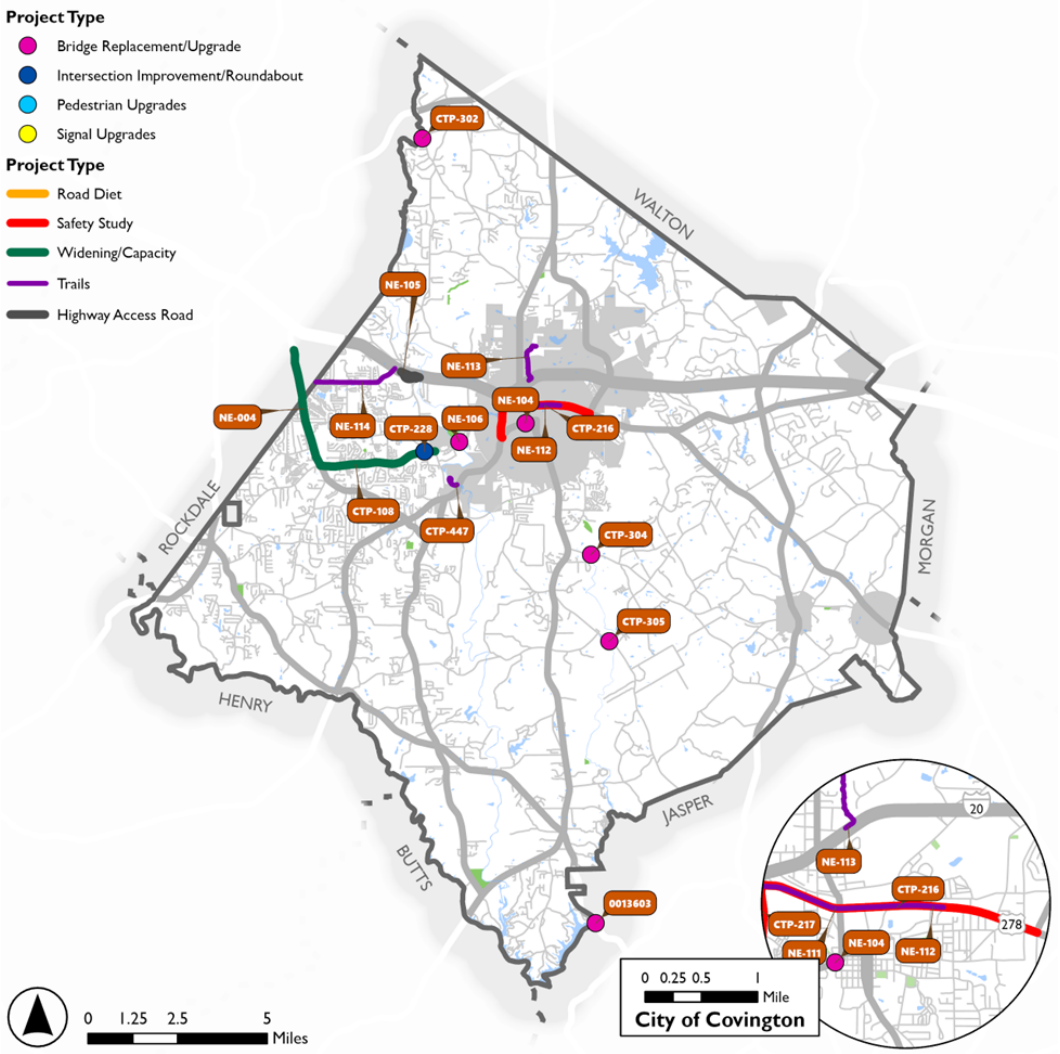
Projects Advancing



Advanced to Design/Construction

- **Capacity**
  - Salem Rd. widening (Old Salem to Brown Bridge) – Construction 2025
  - Brown Bridge Road: SR 162 (Salem) to Crowell Road (PE 2026)
  - Brown Bridge Road
- **Intersection Improvements**
  - SR 11 at SR 142 (roundabout) – 2026 construction
  - SR 12/278 at SR 142 (roundabout) (2028)
- **Bridges**
  - Dial Mill Road at Little Haynes Creek
  - SR 81 at Dried Indian Creek (starting 2025)
  - SR 81 at Yellow River (2026)
  - Henderson Mill Road at Bear Creek (2028?)
- **Other**
  - Yellow River Trail (SR 81 to Brown Bridge Road) – ROW
  - SR 278 Multi Use Path Improvements (2028)
  - SR 278 Multi Use Path Phase II (2028)
  - Dried Indian Creek Trail (Oxford): E. Soule St. to I-20

Next Steps

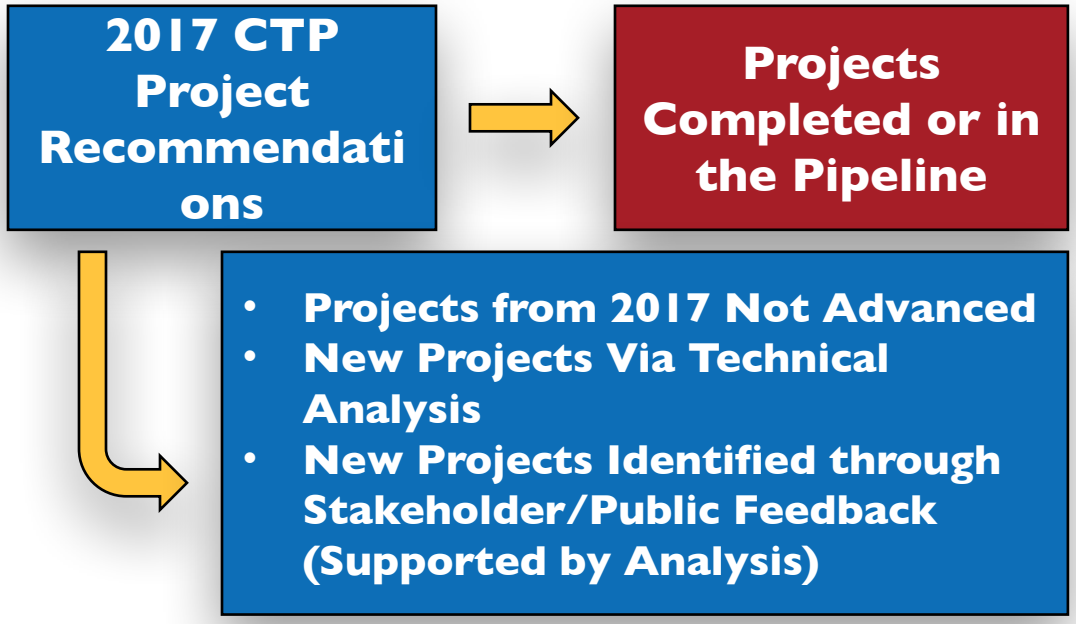
Technical Analysis:

- Finalize Needs Assessment Report
- Identification of Potential Projects
- Project Recommendations
- Final CTP Report

Outreach:

- TAC Committee Meetings
- Additional Stakeholder Coordination (including Rockdale County)
- 2nd Public Input Survey
- Additional Pop-Up and Public Meeting
- Plan Adoption

How Do We Identify Projects?



Rockdale County
Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update

Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference

October 9, 2025

ROCKDALE
COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

PROJECT TEAM

Project Team Members:

- Gresham Smith
- VHB
- The Collaborative Firm

Gresham Smith

I-285/I-20 East Interchange

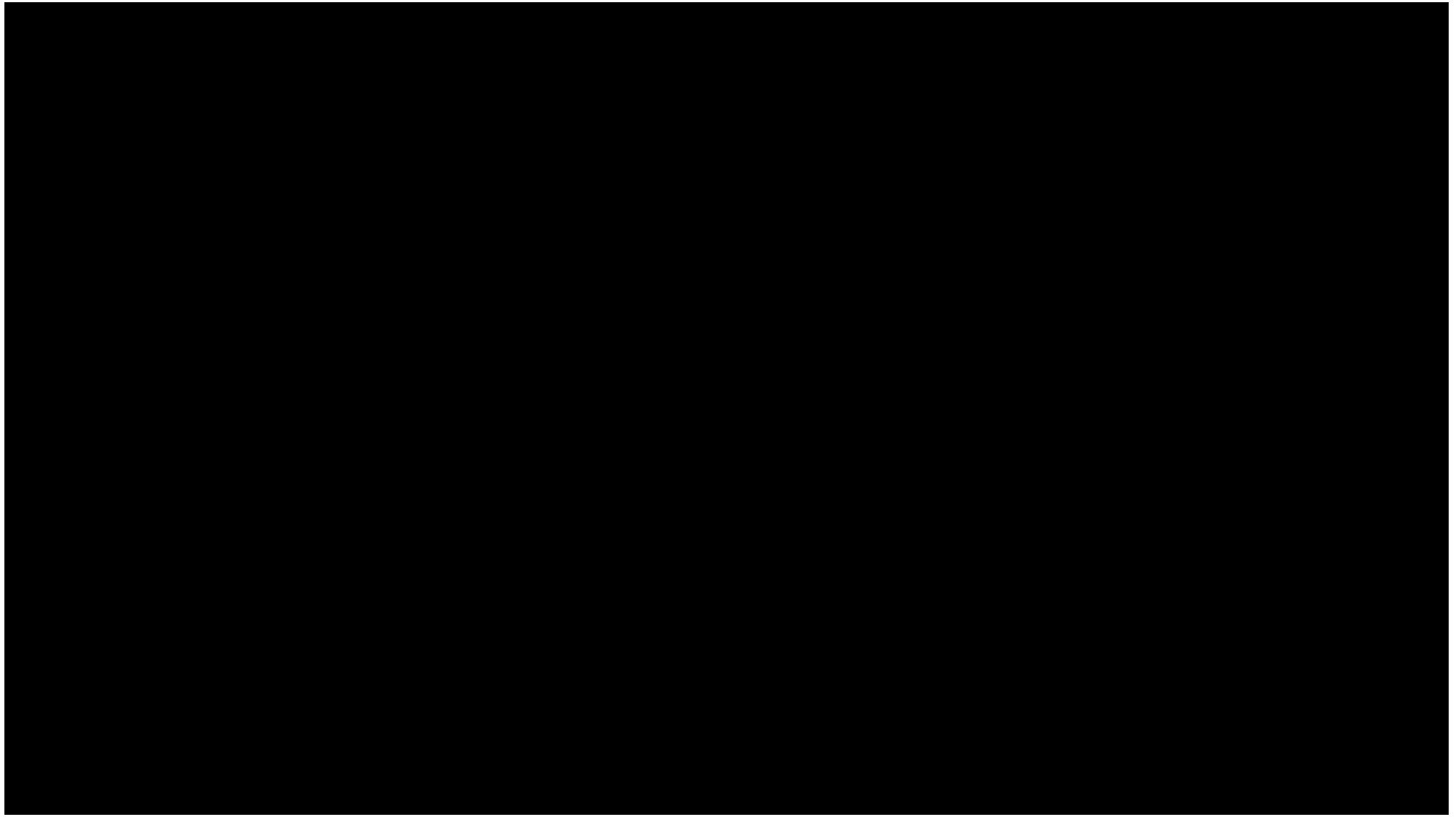
- **Project Overview**
  - Reconstructs the I-285/I-20 East Interchange ramps
  - Constructs new CD lanes along I-20 WB and an additional lane in I-20 EB CD lanes
  - Adding auxiliary lanes along I-20 and I-285
  - Replaces three bridges:
    - Miller Road
    - Fairington Road
    - I-20 over Snapfinger Creek
  - Widens the I-285 NB bridge over Snapfinger Road

- **Current Status**
  - Recent shift to the new bridge on mainline I-20 over Snapfinger Creek
  - Ongoing bridge construction
  - Beams set on Fairington Road and new I-285 SB to I-20 EB bridges

2023
Construction Start

2026
Anticipated Substantial Completion

I-285/I-20 East Interchange



Old Covington Highway widening from Lake Capri to Sigman Road

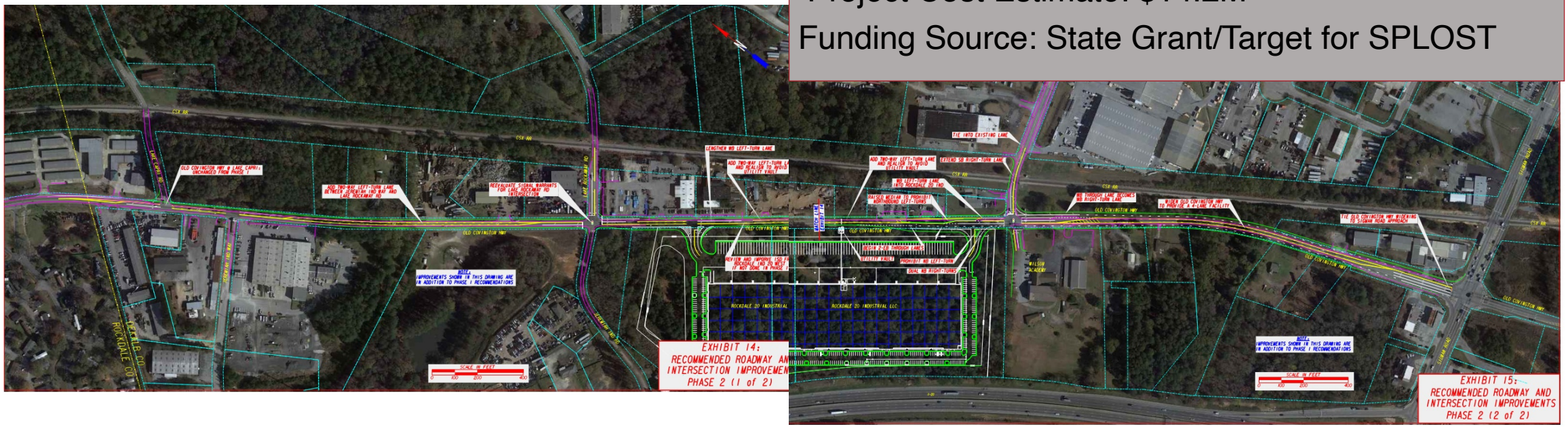
Description: This project is approximately 1.19 miles and is currently in the Preliminary Engineering (PE) selection phase. Old Covington Hwy will be widened from two lanes to four 12-foot lanes separated by a multi-turn median. The corridor has 4 intersections with two proposed signalized intersections. Survey and PE activities are underway, and R-O-W acquisition needs are being identified.

Next Phase:

- ROW Acquisition FY 2026

Project Cost Estimate: $14.2M

Funding Source: State Grant/Target for SPLOST



Sigman Road Widening, Phase III-B

Loganville Hwy(SR 20) to SR 138 Walnut Grove Road

This project is currently in design and will be constructed as the next part of the Sigman Corridor. This project will widen and improve approximately 1.367 miles of Sigman Rd. from SR. 20 Loganville Highway to Walnut Grove.

Sigman Rd. will be widened from two lanes to four 12-foot lanes separated by a 20-foot raised median. The shoulders will be upgraded to urban-type with curb and gutter. The left shoulder will be widened to 21 feet with a 10-foot multi-use path and the right shoulder will be widened to 16 feet with a standard 5-foot sidewalk. This portion of Sigman Road is technically part of GDOT's state route GA-20 and will be sponsored by Georgia DOT

This Project:

- Current AADT is 19,800
- Project Cost Estimate: $37.5 M

Next Phase:

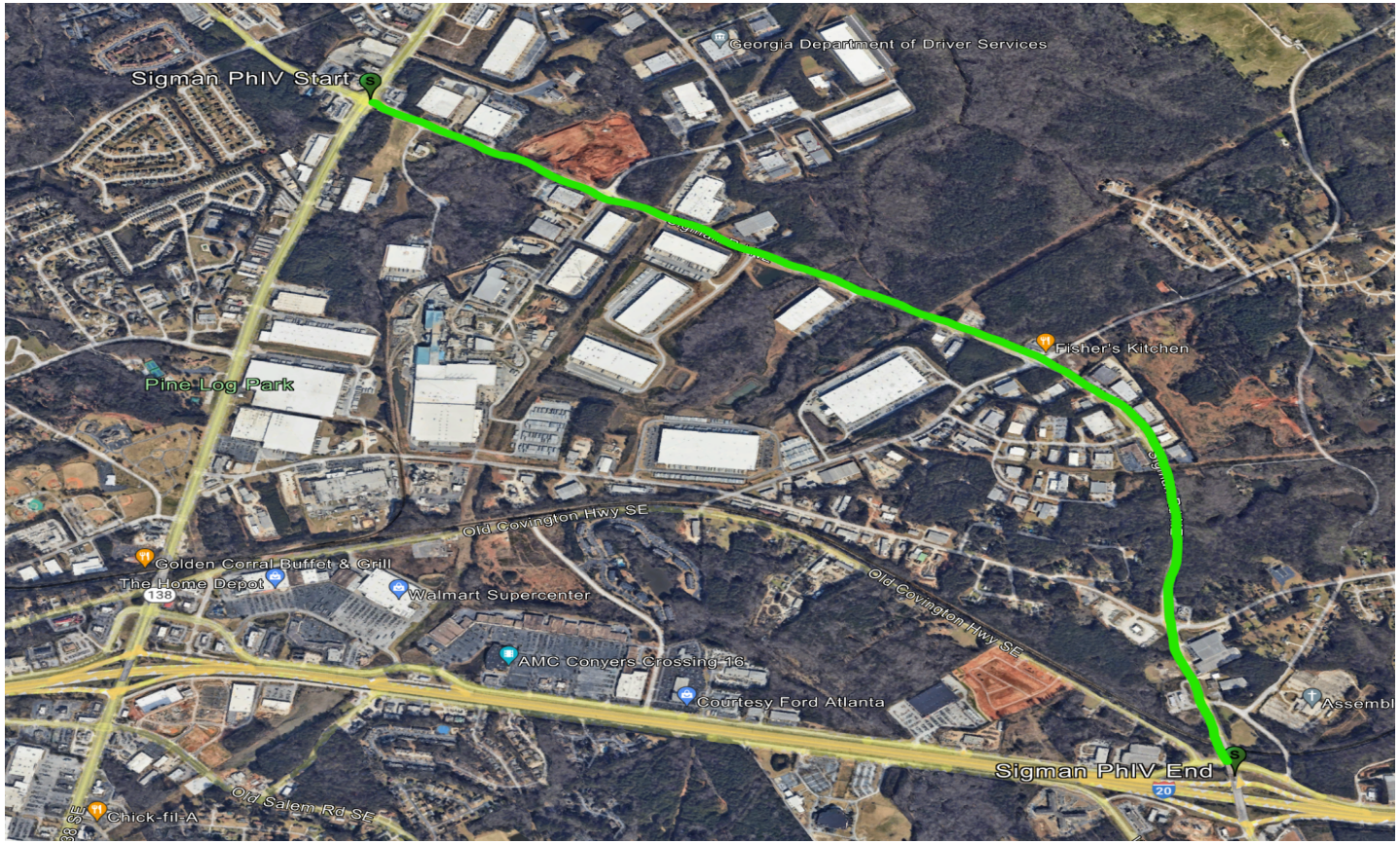
- Complete PE and ROW acquisition
- Proposed CST Project 2028
- Funding Source: GDOT Sponsored / Target for SPLOST

Sigman Road Widening, PHASE III-A and III-B

Sigman Road Widening, Phase IV and Multi-Use Trail From Highway 138 to the Dogwood Connector

Status:

- Revised Concept Report is currently underway
- The project will focus on the 2.5-mile segment for widening between SR20/138 (Walnut Grove Road) and Old Covington Road. Completing this portion of Sigman Road will provide a bypass north of Conyers to relieve congestion
- Funding Source: GDOT Sponsored/Target for SPLOST
- Total: $811.5k
- Long Range Construction Plan: **2050**



Courtesy Pkwy Ext. from Old Covington Hwy to Flat Shoals Road

Description:

Courtesy Parkway Extension is designed to accommodate 10,500 vehicles once completed and approximately 13,500 annual average daily traffic (AADT) with future expansion. At 1.5 miles this project will provide an additional non-access crossing of I-20 while serving as an alternative to and bypass of the heavily congested SR 138/I-20 interchange for north-south traffic.

This Project:

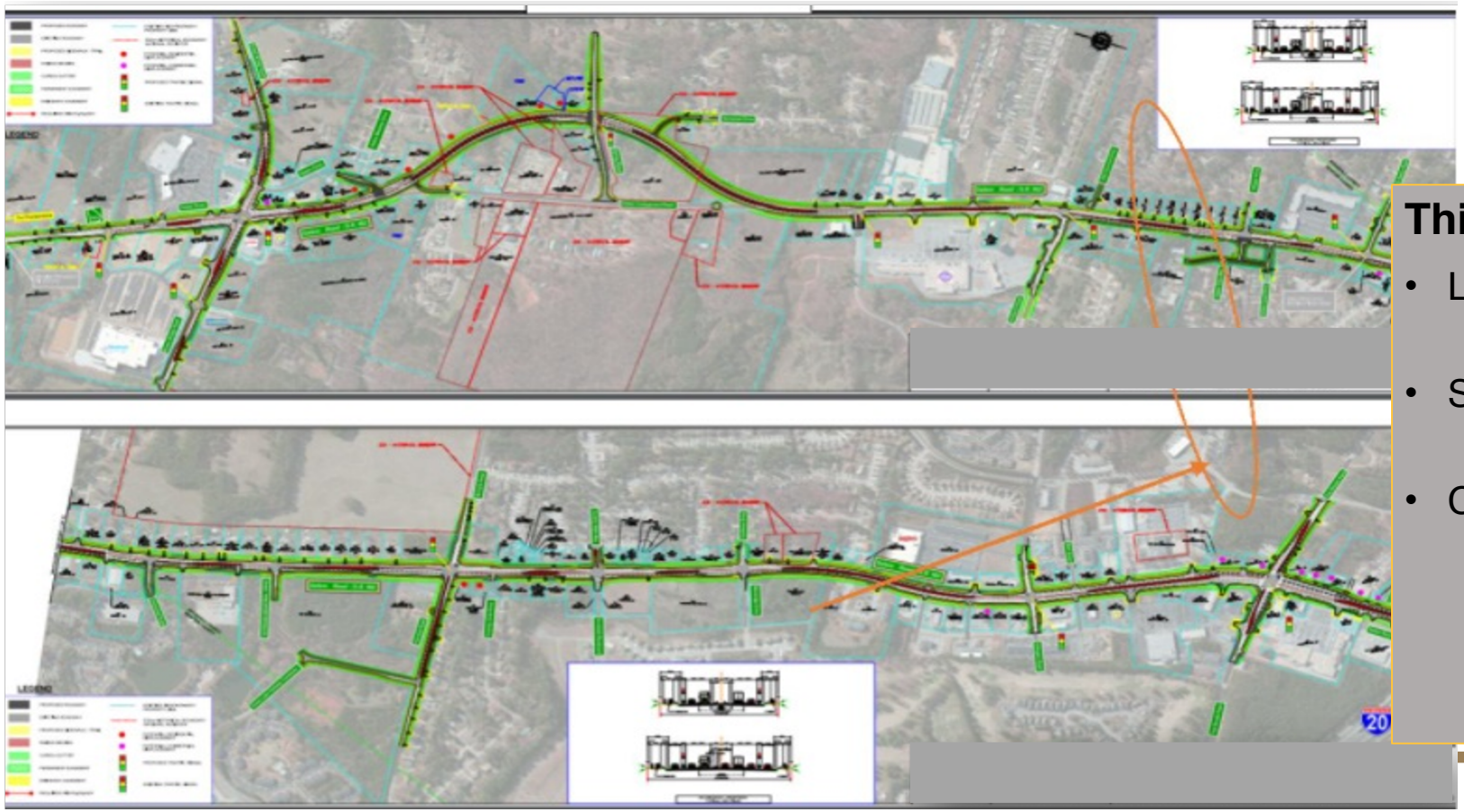
- Improves interchange operations for LOS.
- Project Cost: approximately $50M
- Funding Source: Federal Grant/Rockdale County Match
- Demolition is Complete

Next Phase:

- Construction start – QTR 4 of 24’

SR 162/Salem Rd from Flat Shoals Rd to Old Salem Rd – Widening – Newton, Rockdale Counties

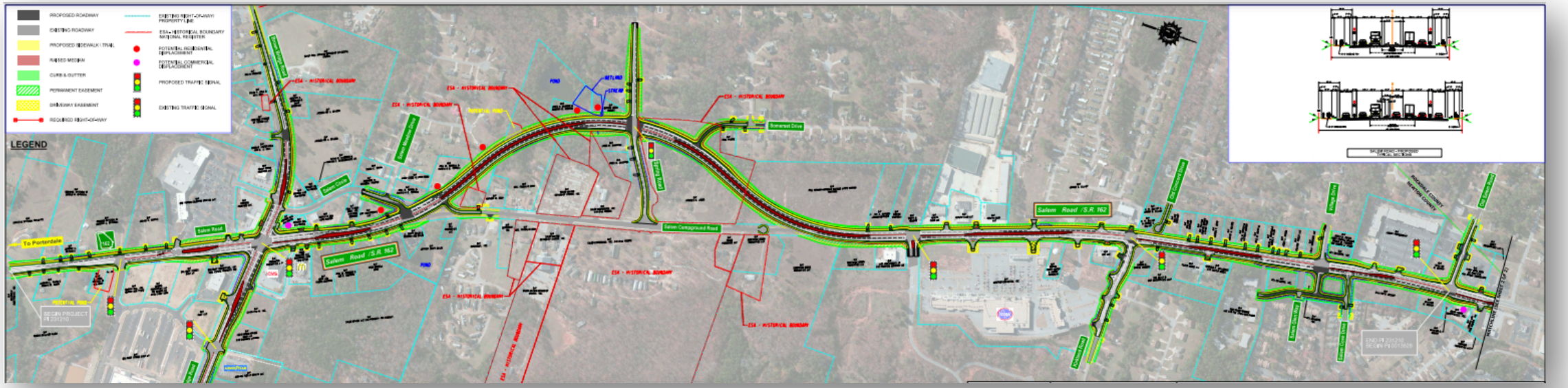
Delivers two projects simultaneously, widening Salem Rd from just south of Brown Bridge Rd in Newton Co to Flat Shoals Rd in Rockdale Co. Widens from existing two lanes to four (two lanes each direction), and to six lanes approaching I-20. Adds raised median, sidewalks and multi-use path.

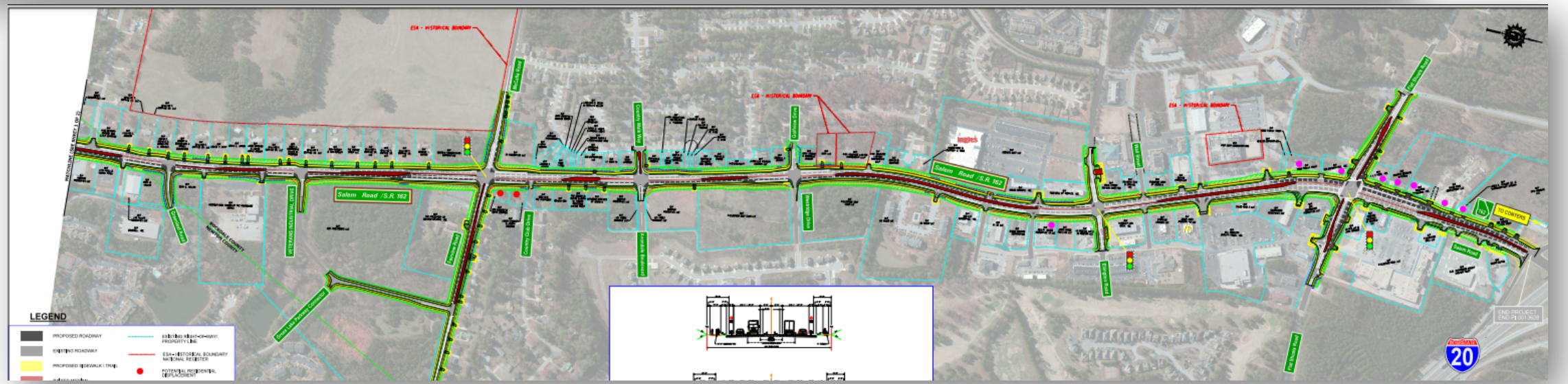


This Project:

- Let July 2024
  - (Issuing NTP, Finalizing Contract)
- Scheduled Completion:
  - Summer 2028
- Construction Cost:
  - ~$84,000,000

SR 162/Salem Rd from Flat Shoals Rd to Old Salem Rd – Widening – Newton, Rockdale Counties





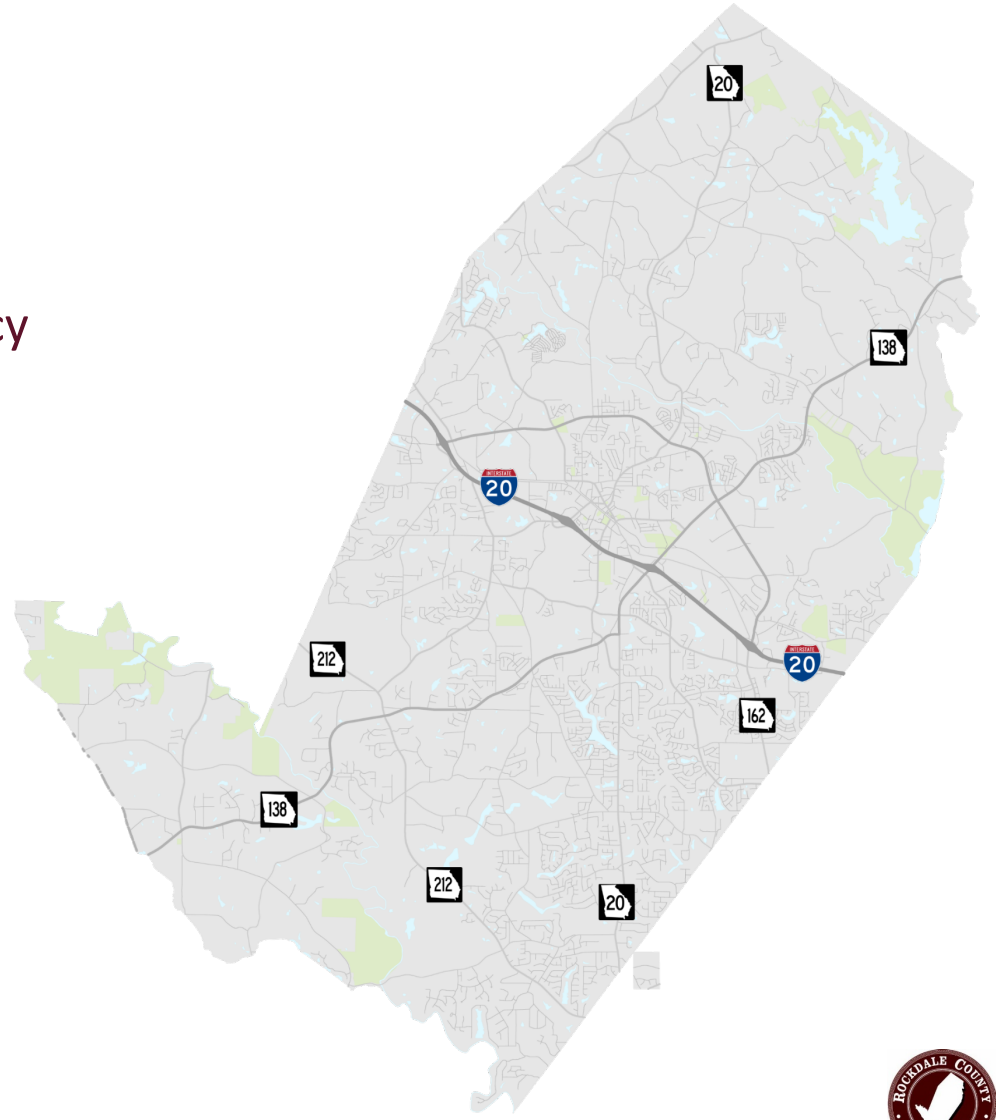
BACKGROUND ON COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANS

- A Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP):
  - investigates existing and future (through year 2050) transportation needs
  - Incorporates both technical analysis and community feedback
  - identifies and prioritizes potential infrastructure and policy initiatives to address those needs

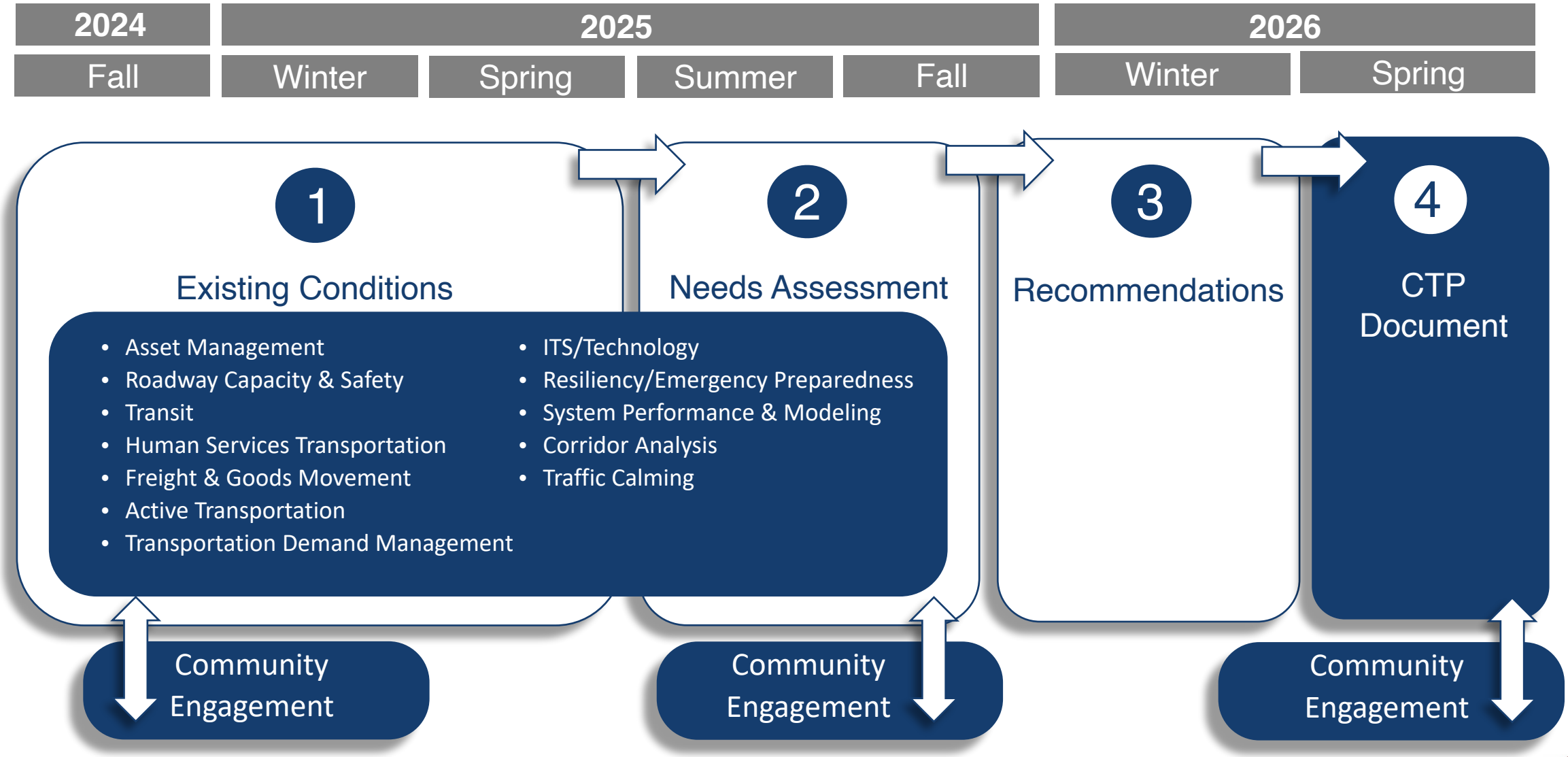
- The CTP is funded 80% by the Atlanta Regional Commission to help support the entire region's Transportation Plan

- The last Rockdale CTP was adopted in 2018

- Rockdale County selected a consultant team led by Gresham Smith to complete this update of the CTP



CTP PROCESS & SCHEDULE



CTP GOALS

- **Enhance access to jobs, homes, and services within Rockdale County and throughout the Atlanta Region through a multi-modal transportation system**
- **Improve mobility within Rockdale County through enhanced multi-modal connectivity**
- **Maintain a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation network which will sustain economic activity and promote economic development**
- **Promote sustainability through the coordination of land use and transportation plans**
- **Facilitate implementation of plan recommendations through coordination efforts and local initiatives**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Up to 10 Pop Up Events

- Oct 17, 2024 – Transportation Summit
- Oct 19, 2025 – Conyers Old Towne Festival
- *Tentative – Oct 2025*
- *TBD 2026*

6 Community Open Houses

- Nov 14, 2024 – Johnson Park
- Nov 18, 2024 – CE Steele
- Sept 29, 2025 (5-7pm) – Johnson Park
- *Tentative – Sept/Oct 2025*
- *TBD 2026*

3 Stakeholder Meetings

- February 2025
- September 2025
- *TBD 2026*

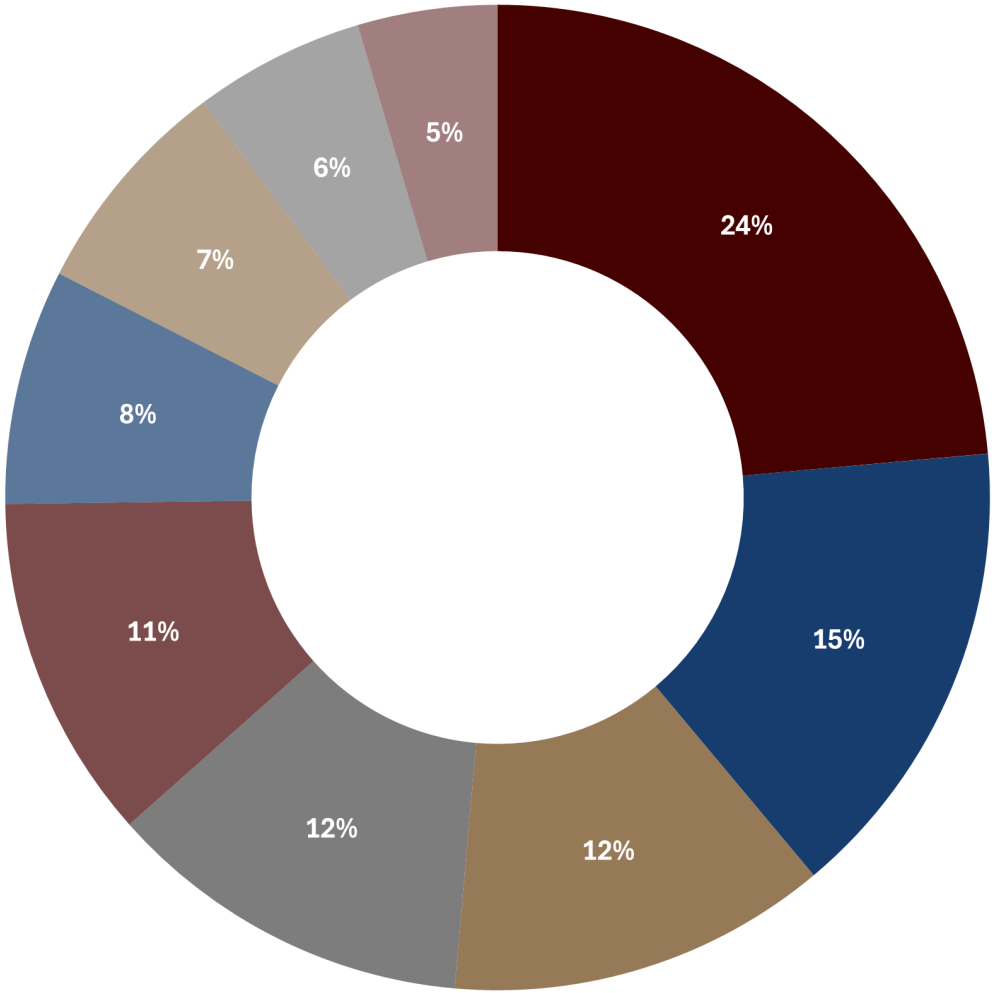
3 Focus Groups

- *Tentative – Sept/Oct 2025*
  - Emergency Responders and Law Enforcement
  - SPLOST Committee Members
  - Freight Operators

Online Survey and Interactive Map

- Oct 2024 – June 2025
- *TBD 2026*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

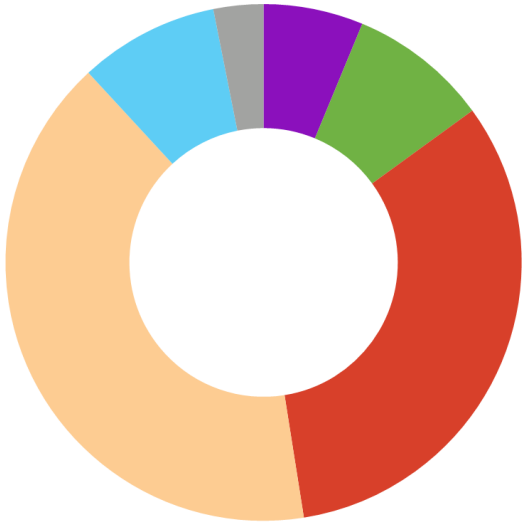


Systemic Goals Ranking

1. Facilitate Safe and Efficient Freight Movement
2. Improve Connectivity to Surrounding Communities
3. Identify Opportunities for Active Transportation
4. Address Bottleneck Locations
5. Address East-West Travel within Rockdale
6. Develop Parallel Alternatives to Major Routes
7. Invest in Principal Routes to Maximize System Efficiency
8. Enhance Connectivity to I-20
9. Address North-South Travel within Rockdale

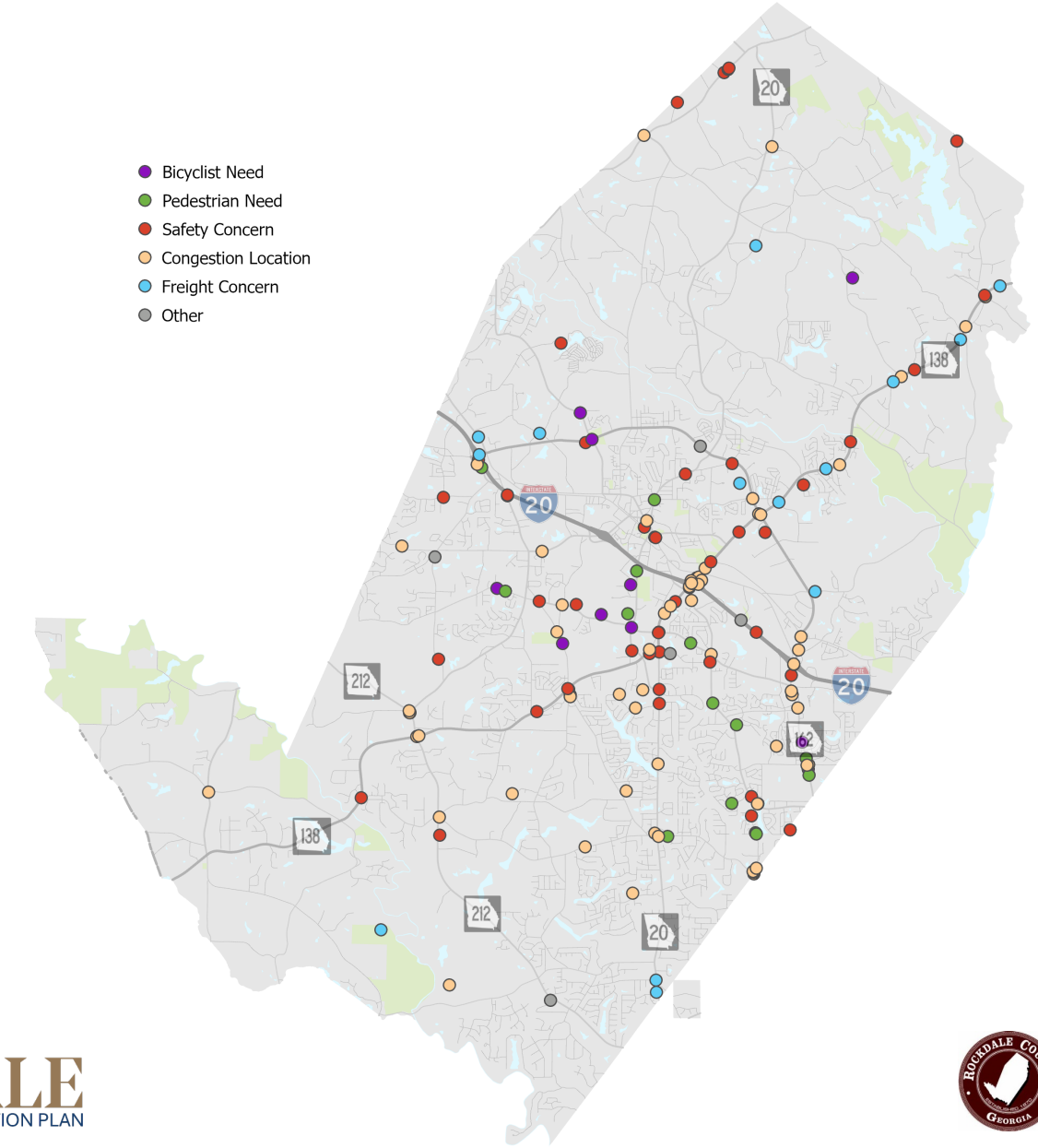
Map Feedback

- 160 comments online and in-person



Share of total comments

- Bicyclist Need
- Pedestrian Need
- Safety Concern
- Congestion Location
- Freight Concern
- Other

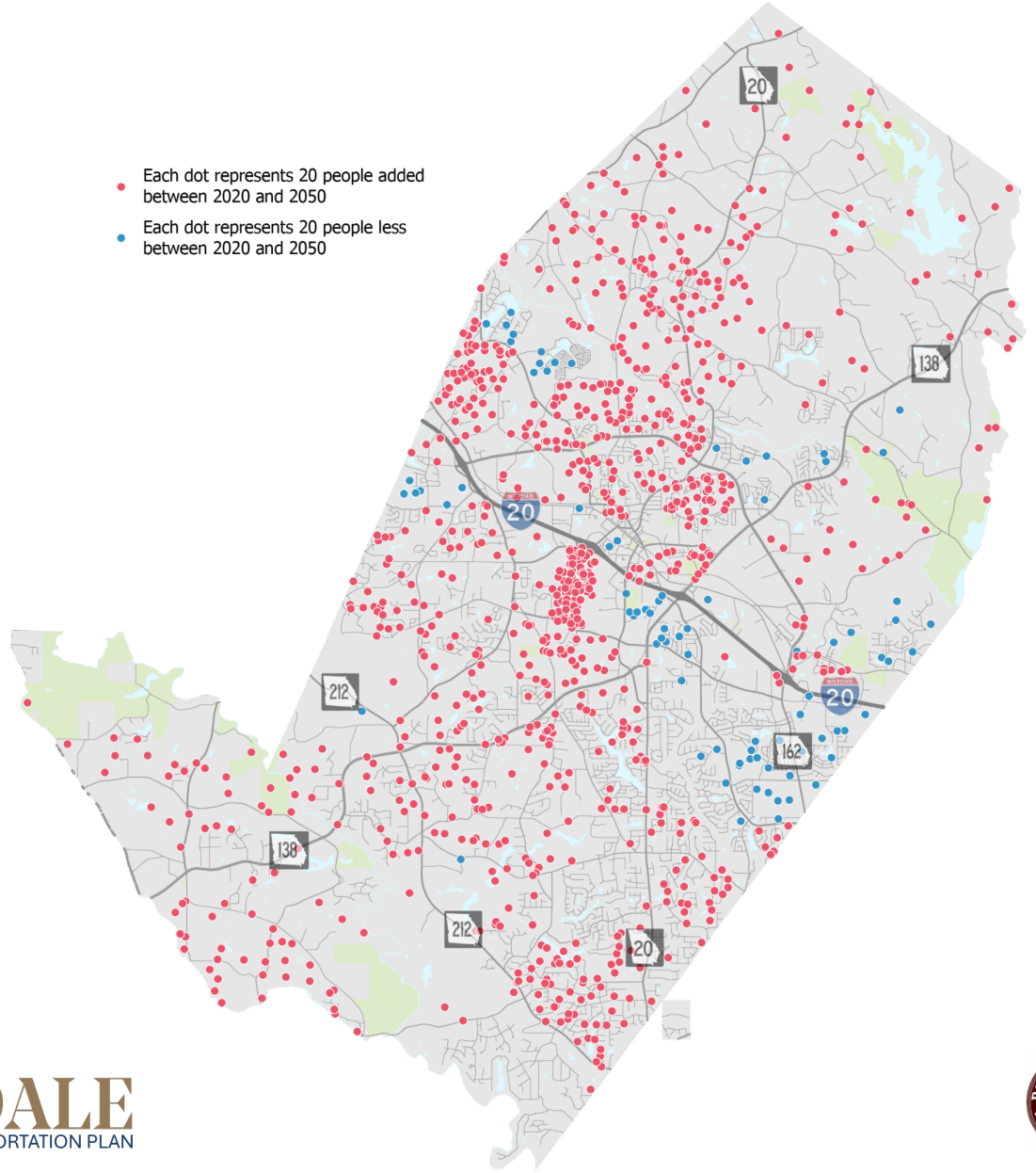


Common Themes

- There are several congested areas. School traffic contributes to traffic congestion.
- There is poor lighting at night.
- Limited sight distance at intersections and U-turning traffic create unsafe conditions.
- There are a lot of trucks on some roads. Truck traffic is worsening pavement condition.
- Some roads don’t have sidewalks and pedestrians must walk along the roads, which is not safe, especially at night. Sidewalks are needed for families and children to walk to school and other places.
- There are a lot of cyclists on the roadways, and there is not enough space for both bikes and cars to travel safely.

Anticipated Population Change

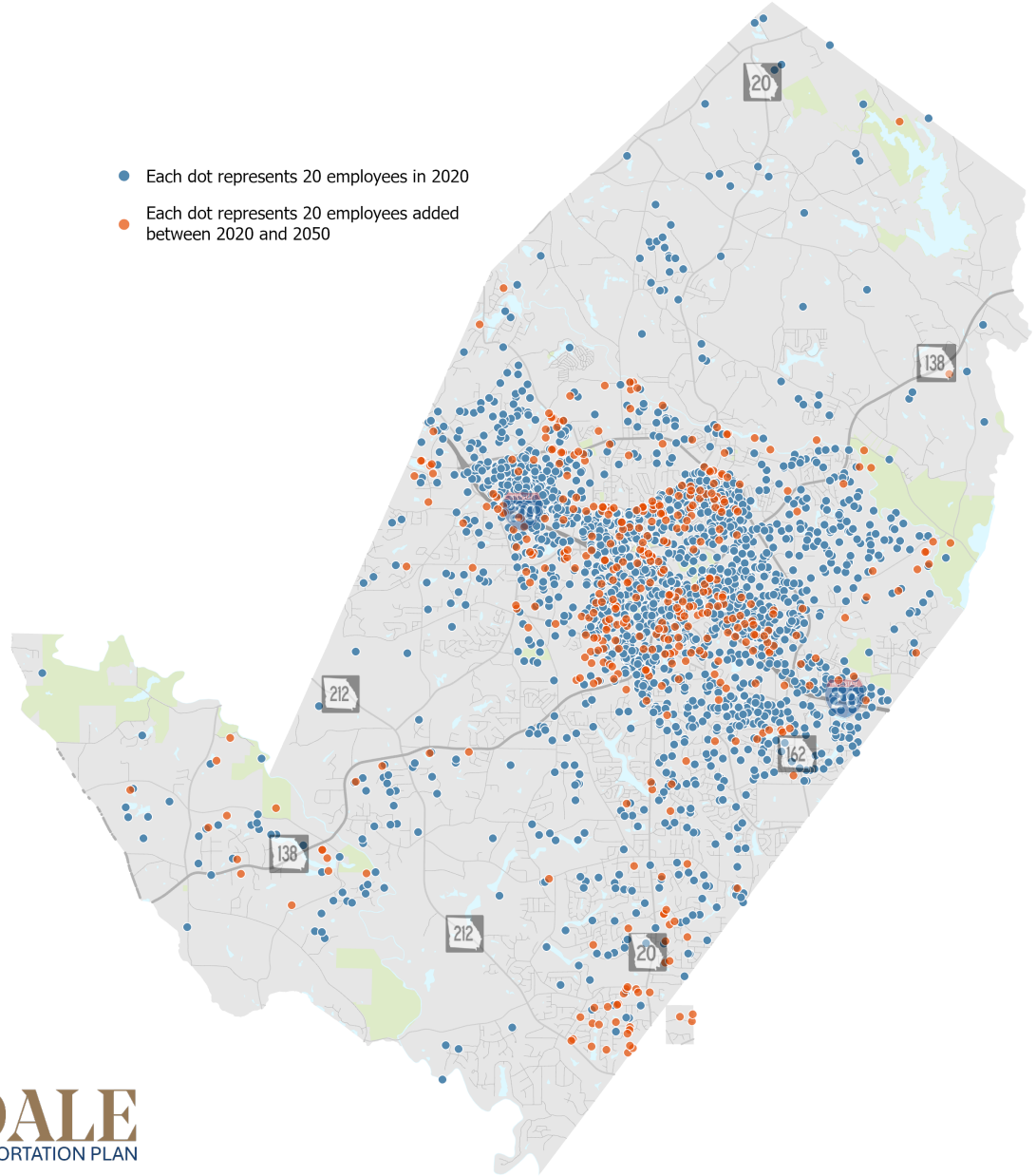
The County's population is expected to increase from 92,000 people in 2020 to over 112,000 people in the year 2050.*



*According to the Atlanta Regional Commission

Anticipated Employment Change

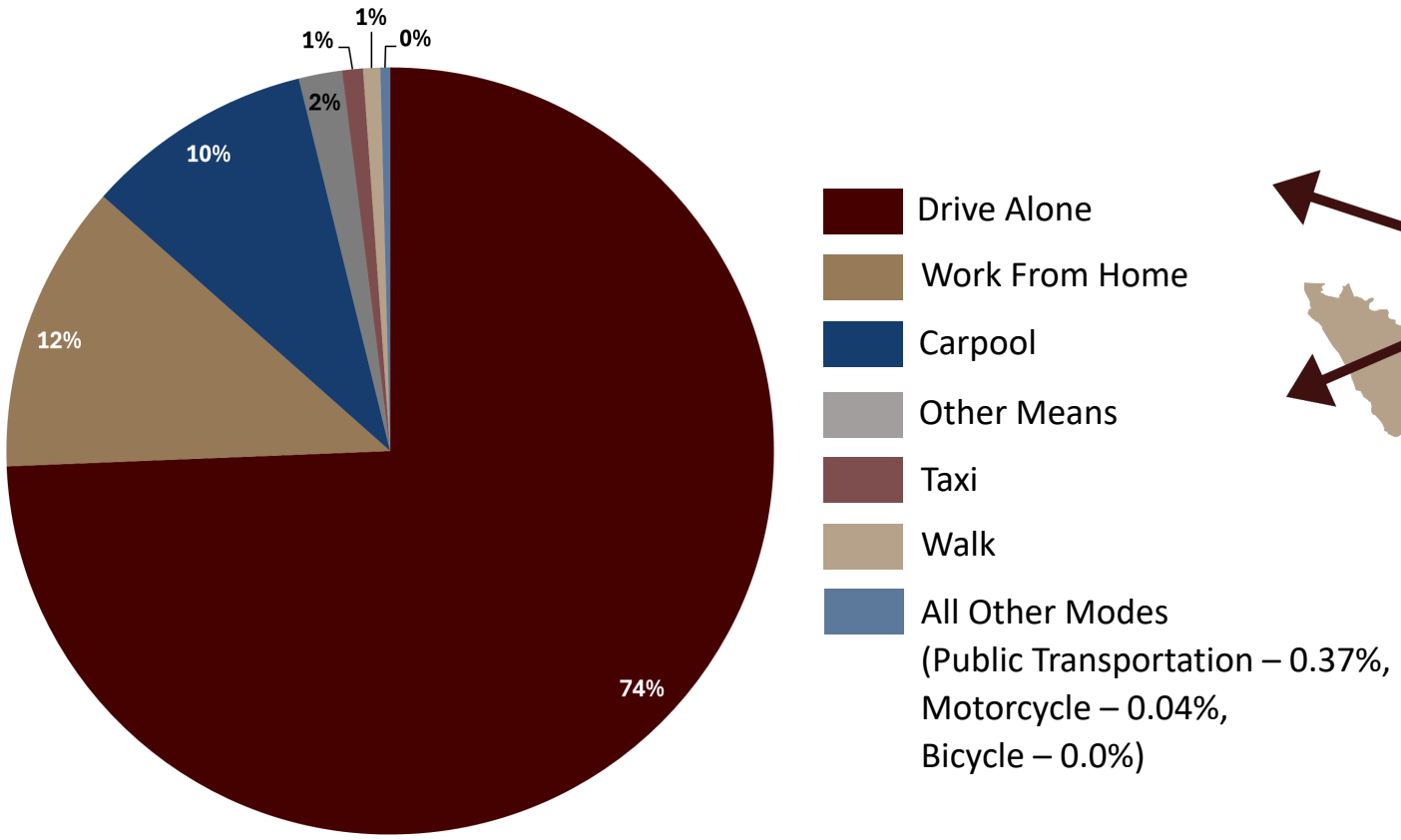
Employment in the County is also expected to grow – anticipated to increase from 41,000 people in 2020 to 50,000 people in the year 2050.*



*According to the Atlanta Regional Commission

COMMUNITY PROFILE

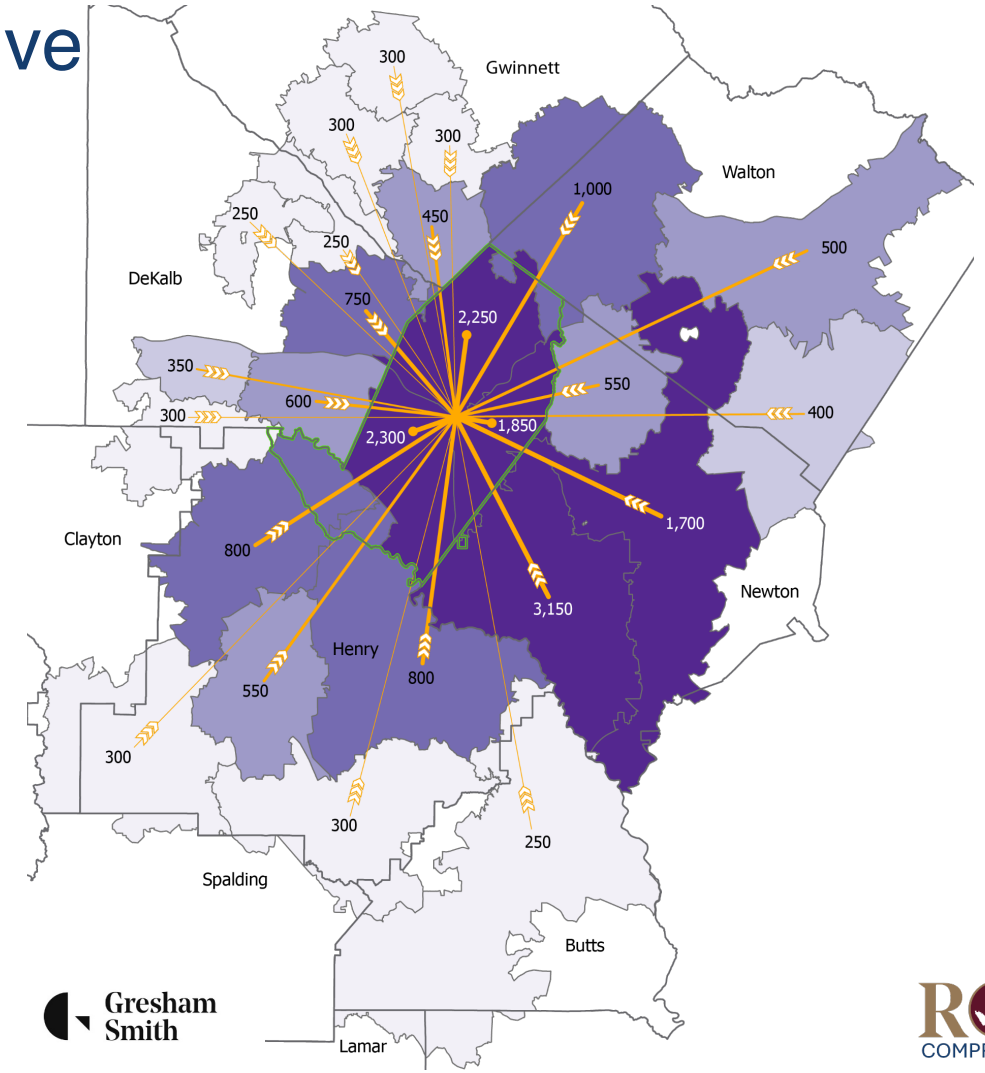
Commute Modes



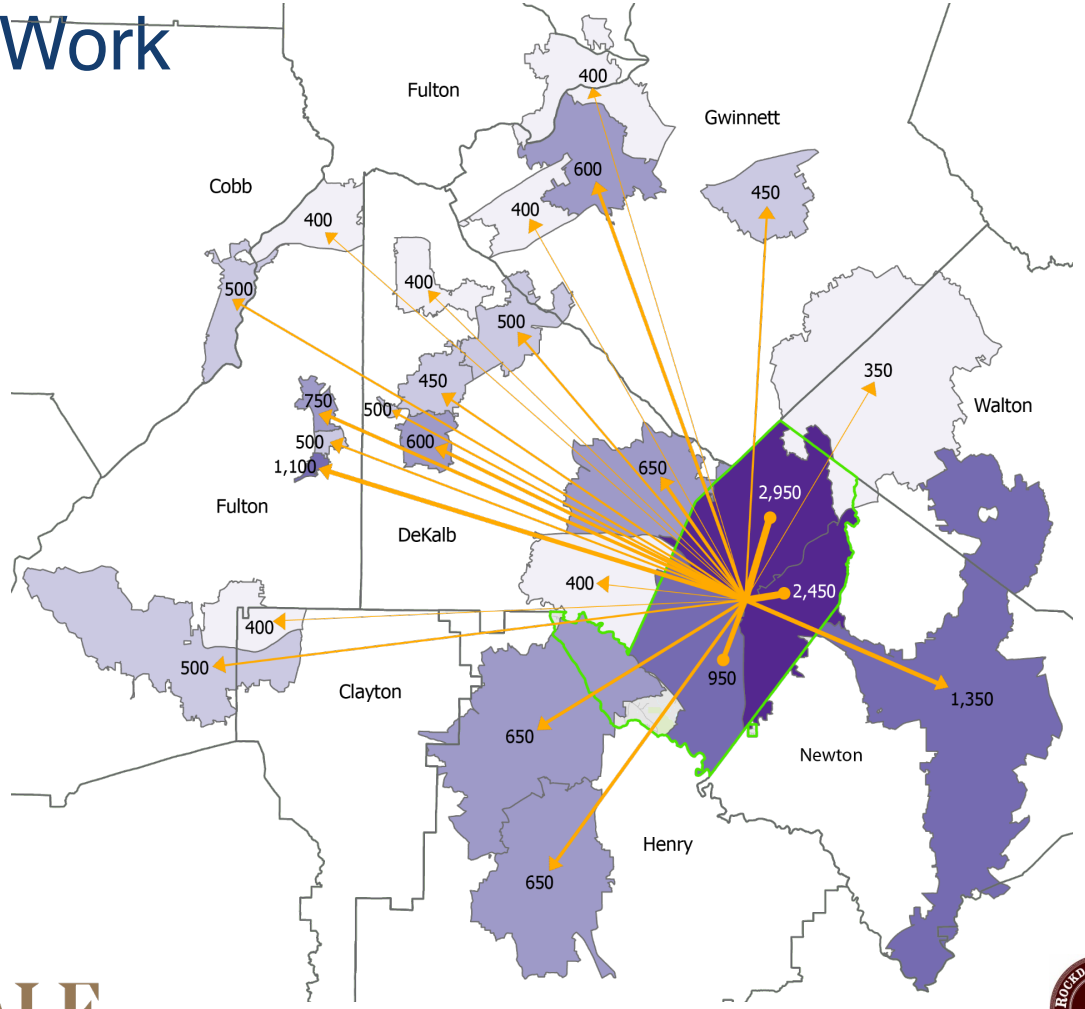
Commute Flows

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Where Rockdale Employees Live



Where Rockdale Residents Work



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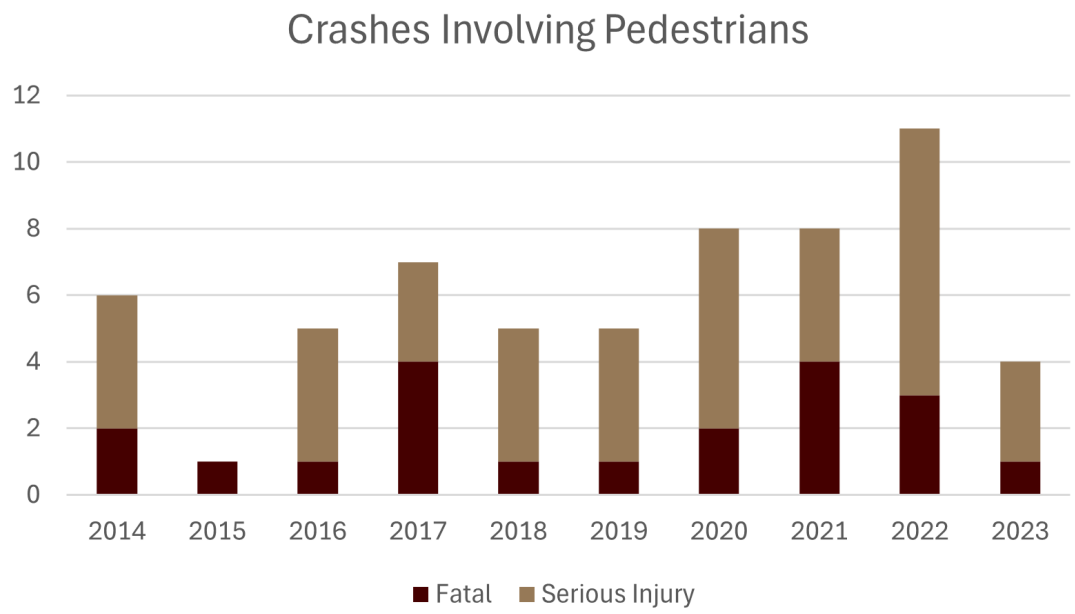
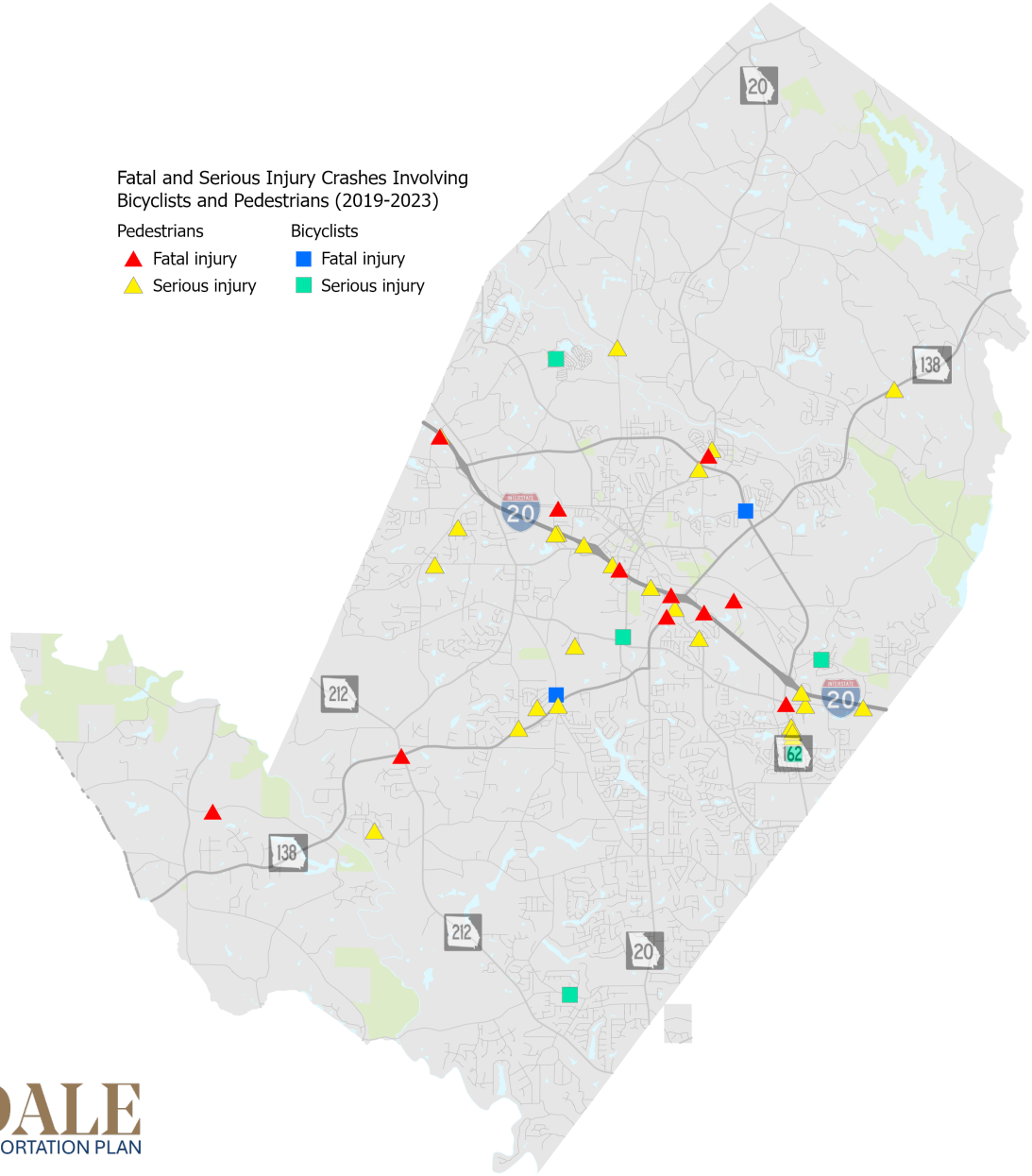
Rockdale County Georgia

BIKE & PEDESTRIAN

Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes

Fatal and serious injury crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians have increased since the last CTP.





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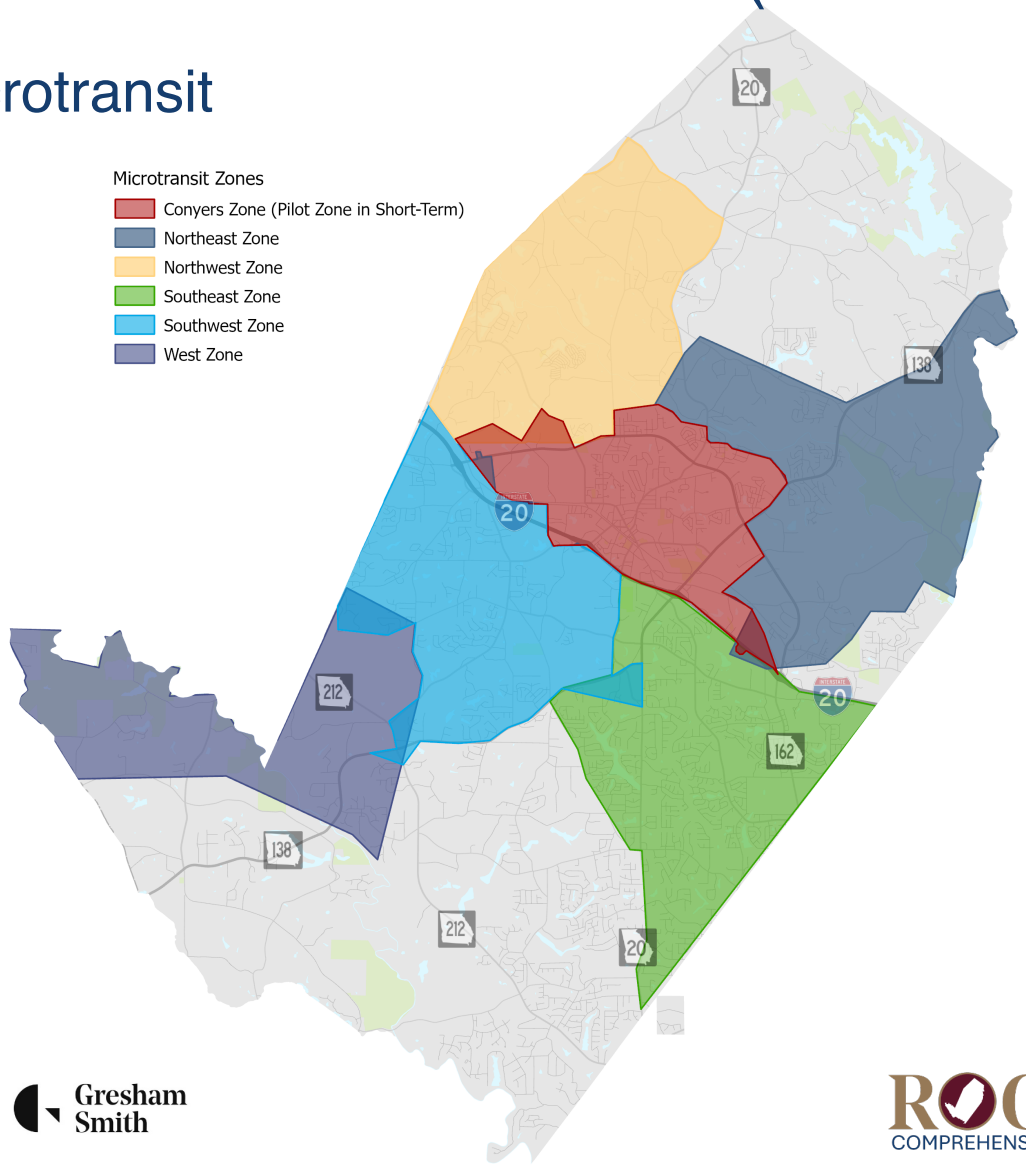
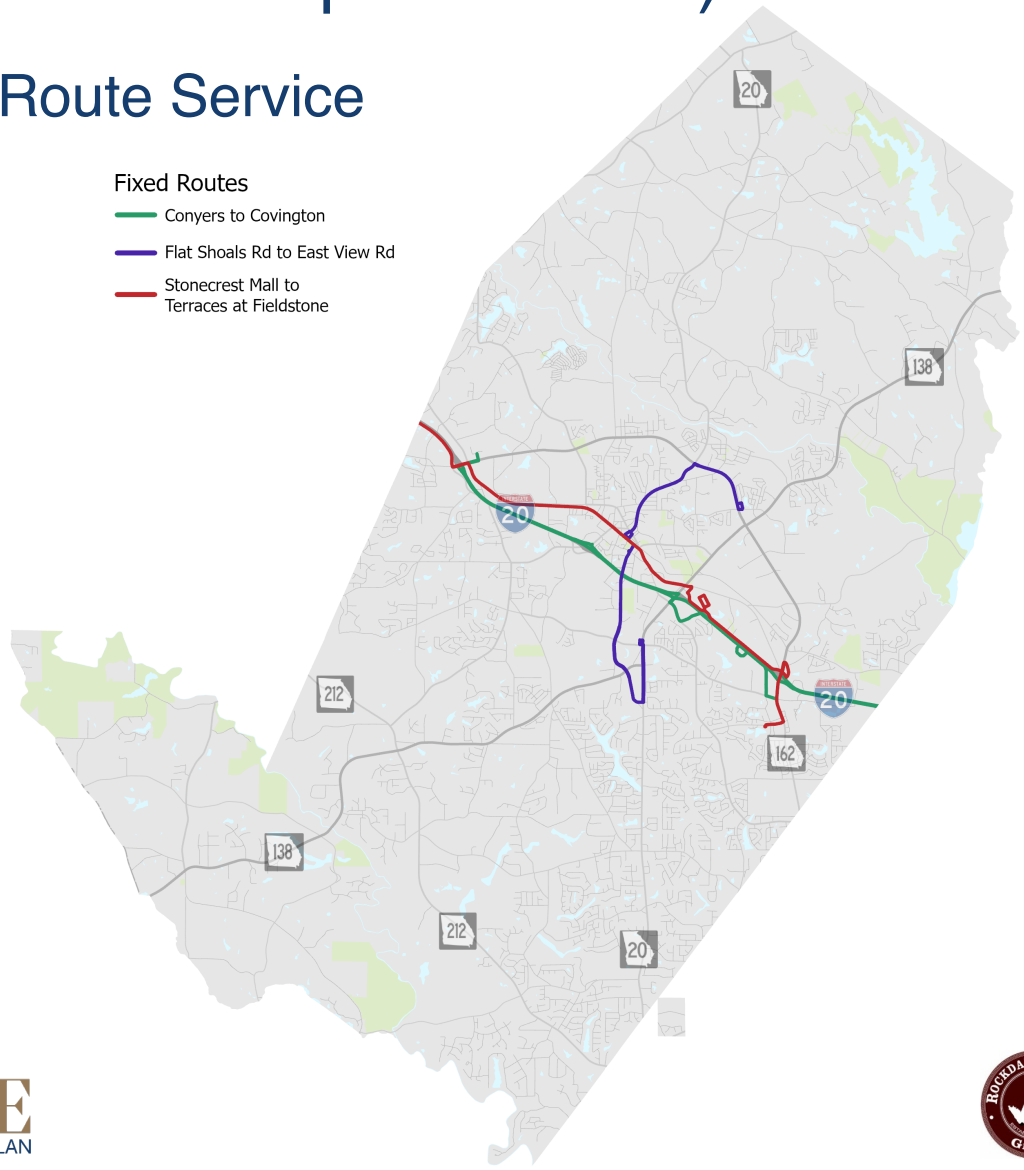
TRANSIT

Future Potential Services (Rockdale Transit Development Plan)

Microtransit



Fixed Route Service



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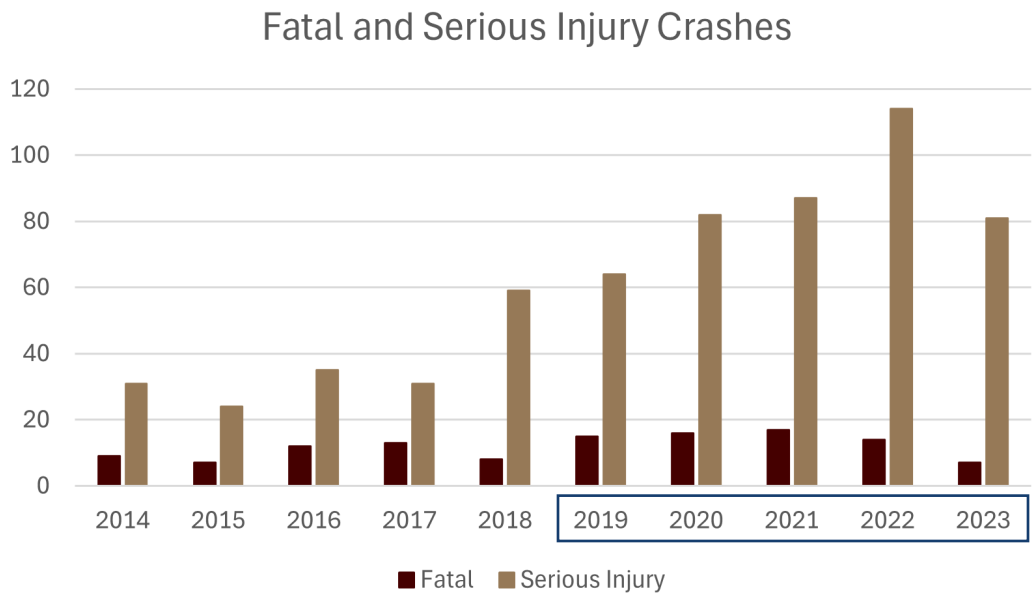
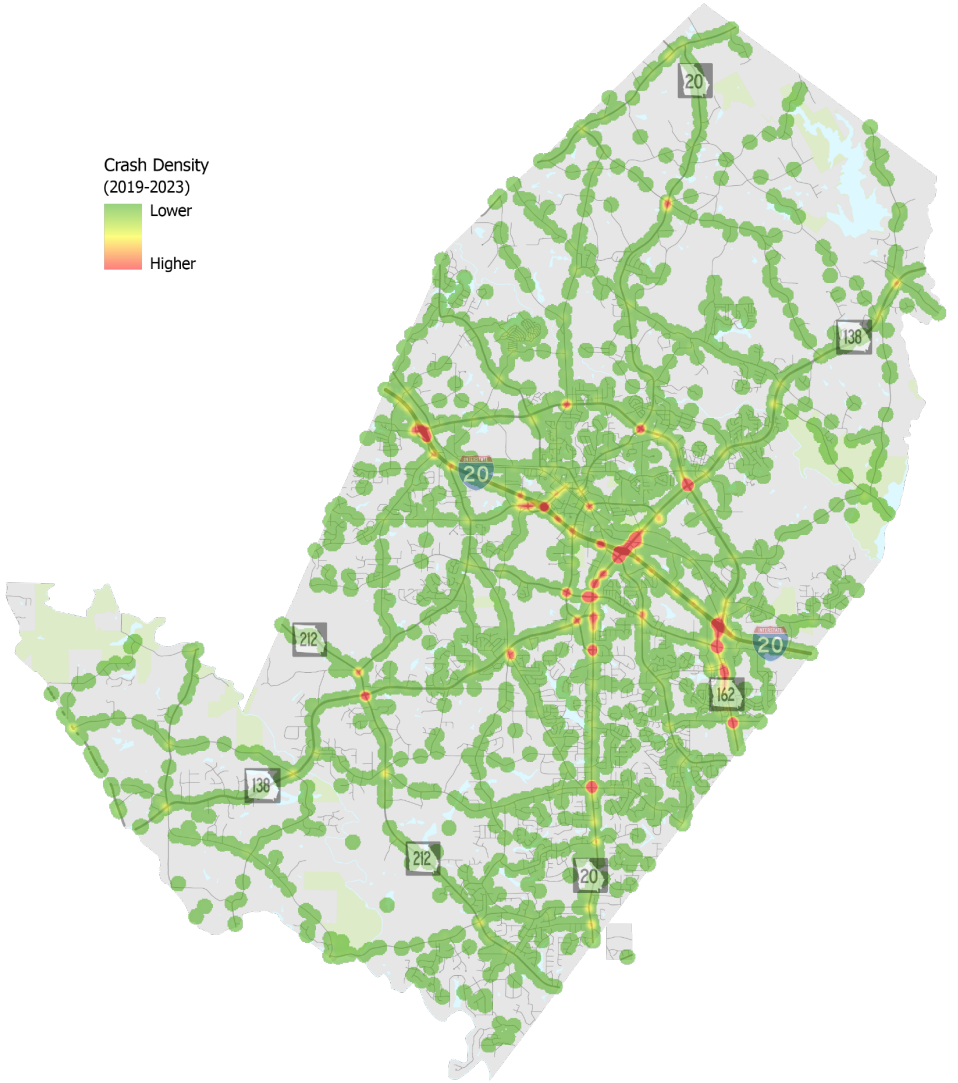
Crash History

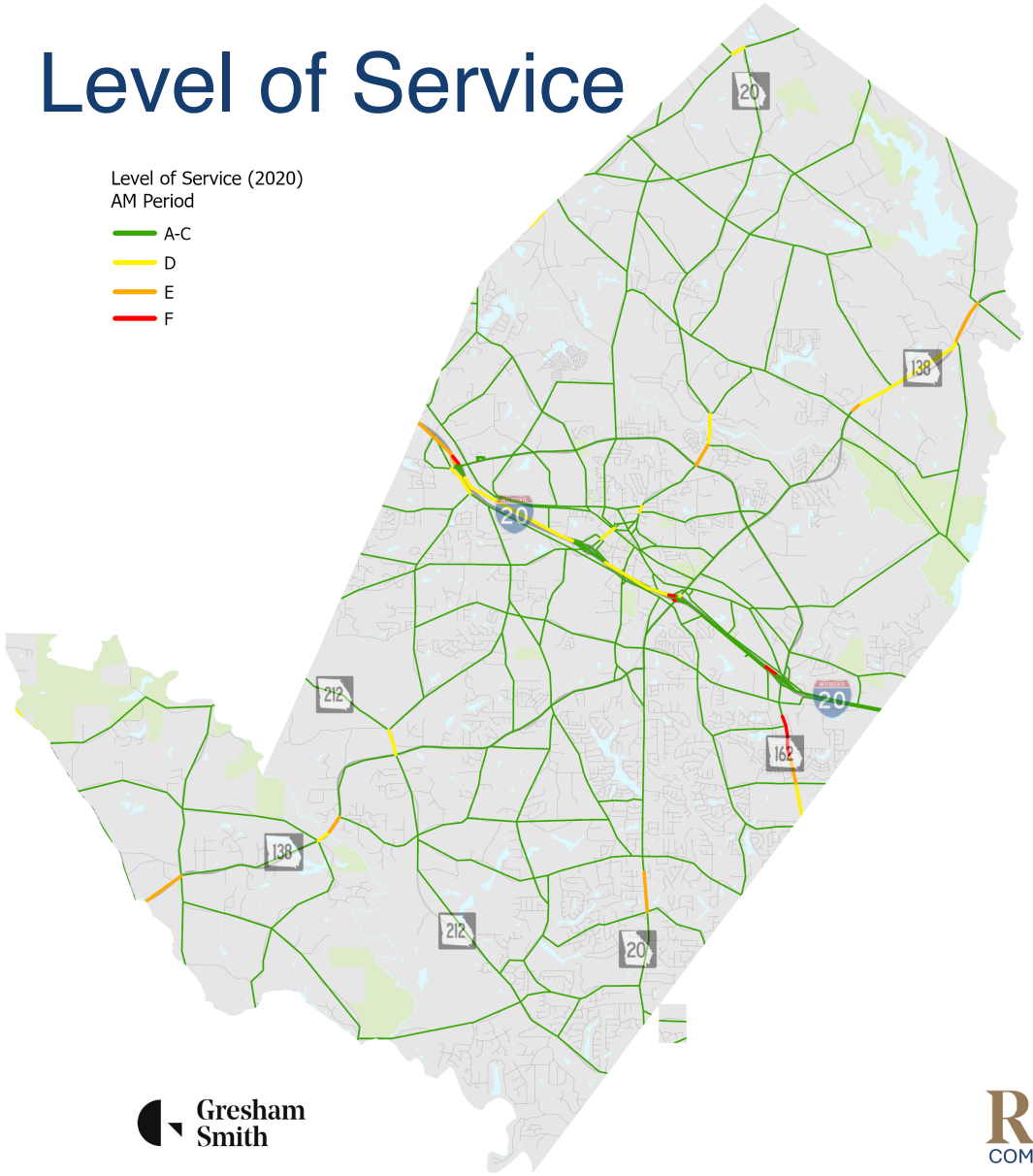
Crashes, particularly fatal and serious injury crashes, have increased since the last CTP.



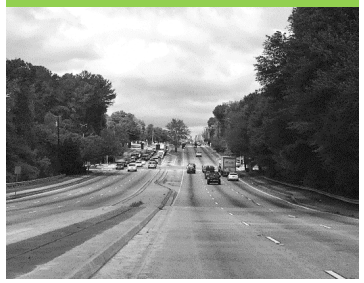


CONGESTION

Level of Service

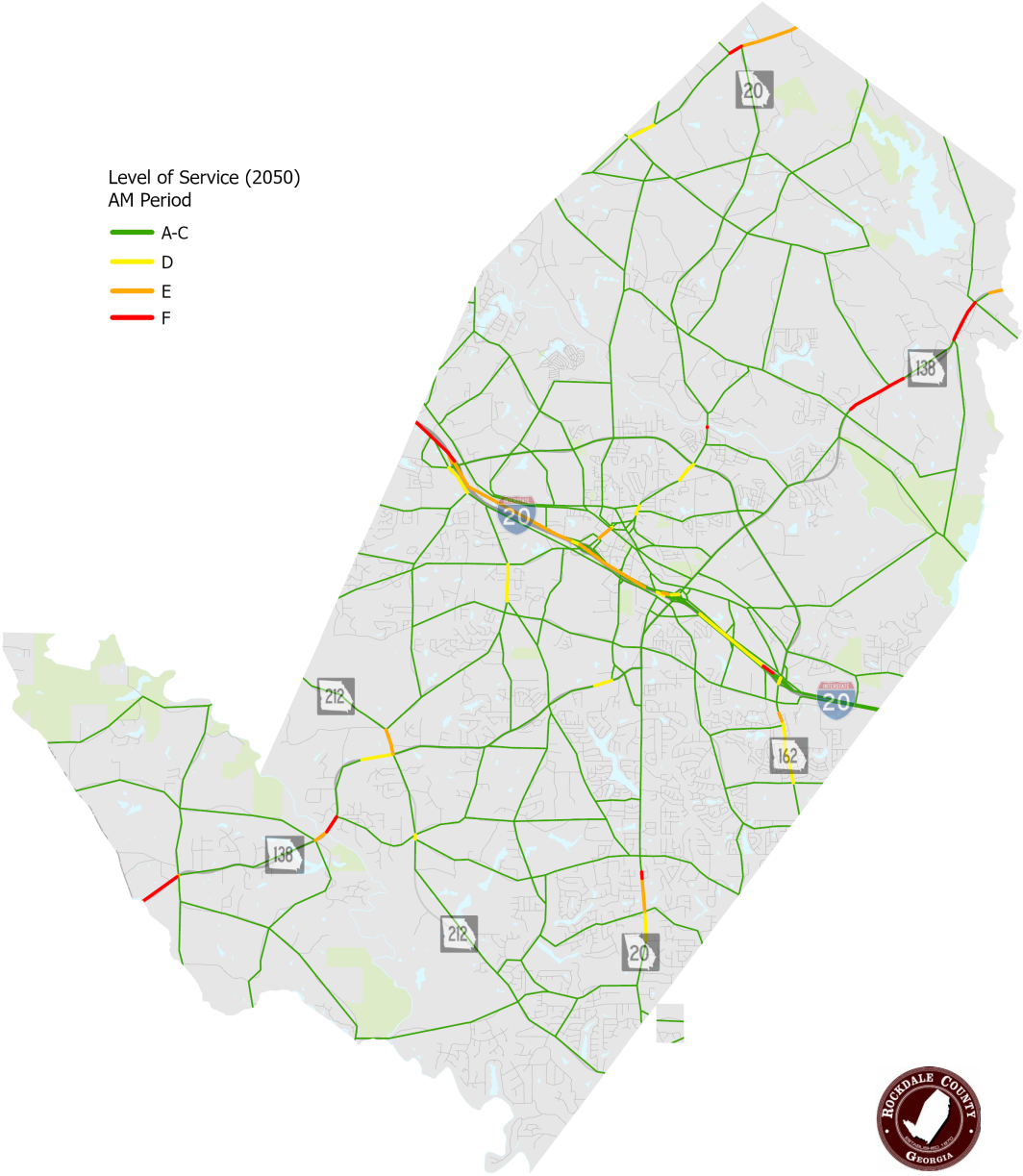


LOS A-C



LOS D

LOS E and F



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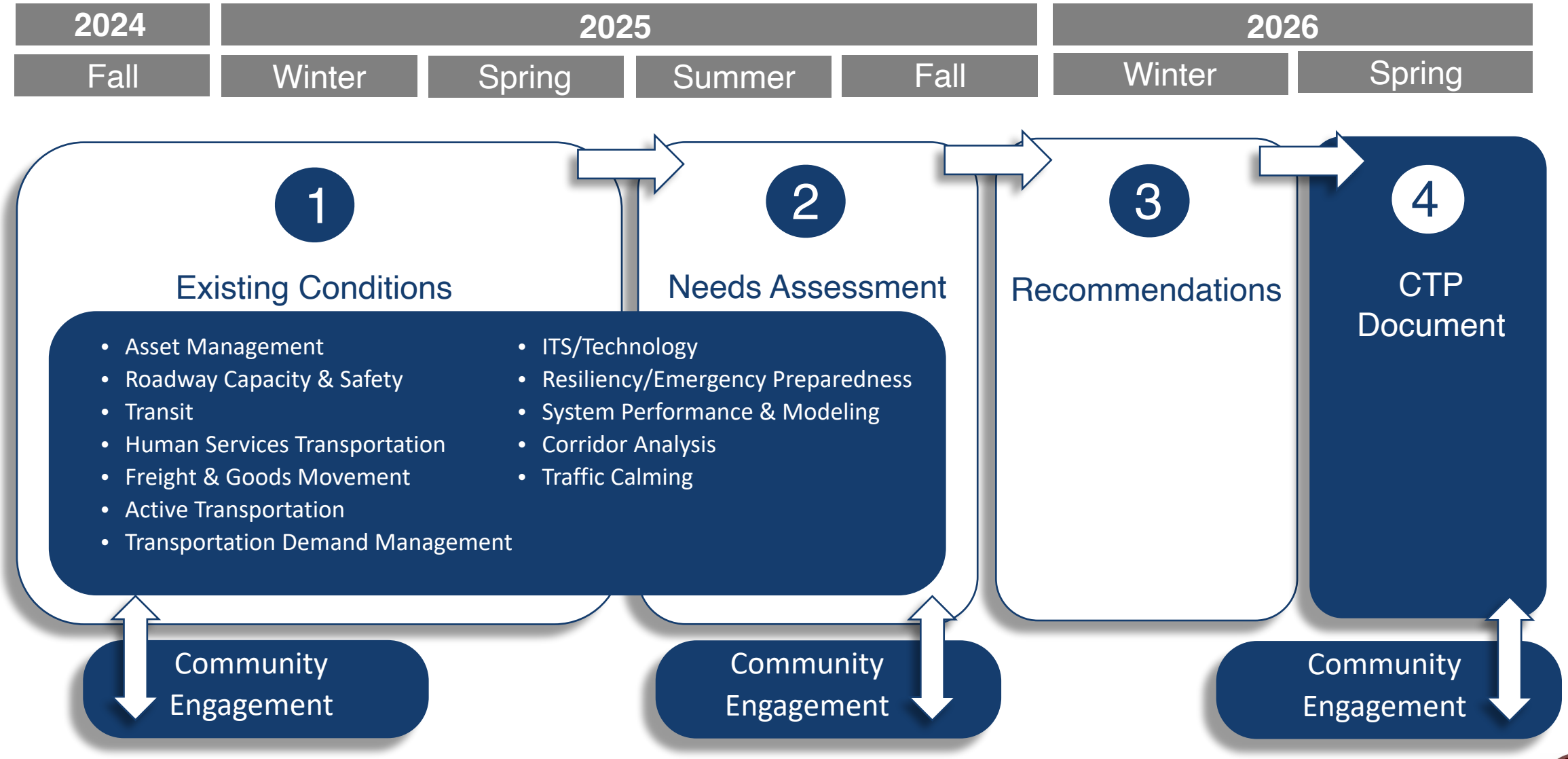
Rockdale County Georgia

NEXT STEPS



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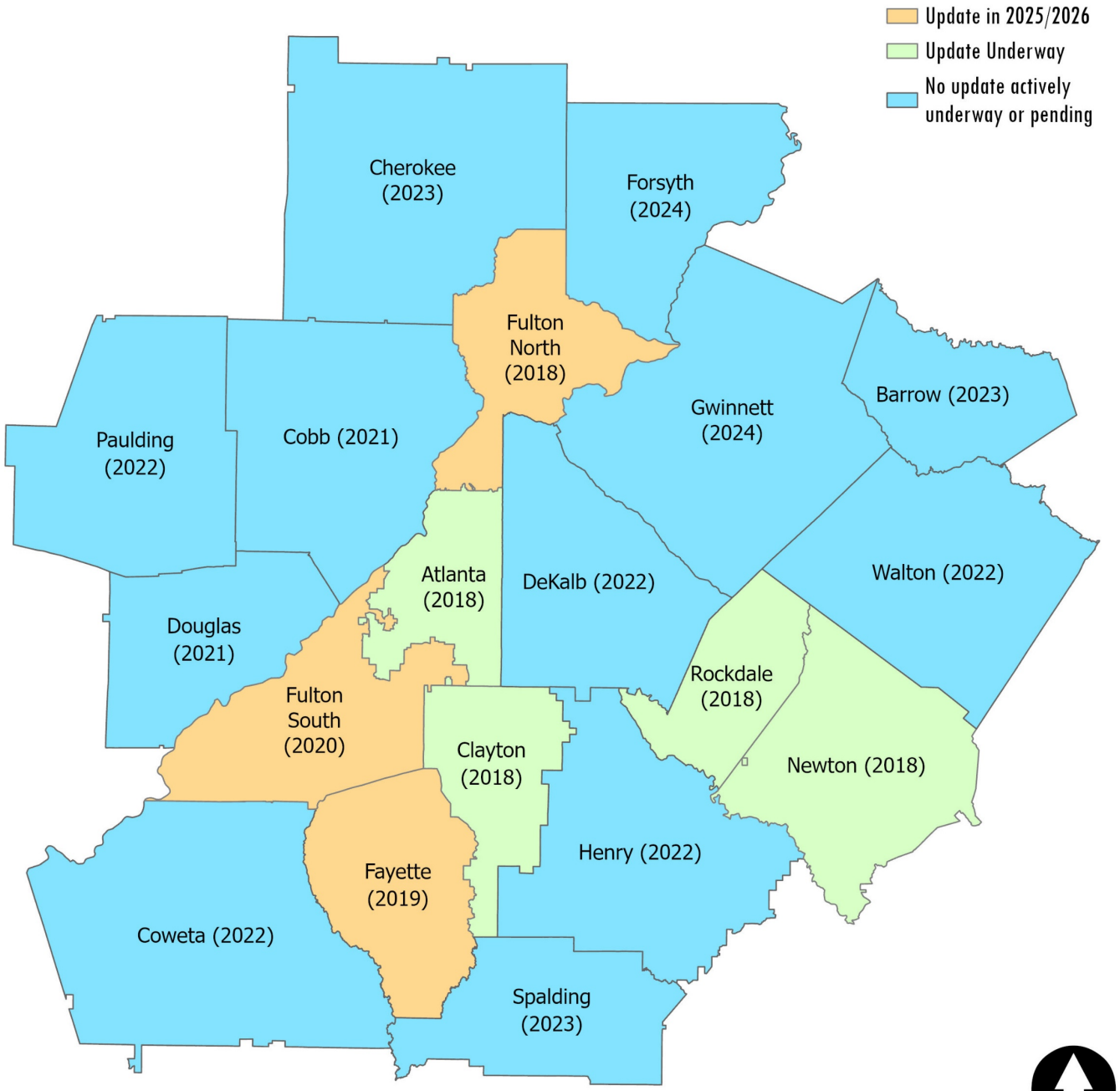
COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Next Steps

- Cross-County Collaboration
  - Identify shared stakeholders between Newton and Rockdale Counties
  - Coordinate on recommendations
  - Explore opportunities for successful implementation
- CTP Updates on the Horizon
  - City of Atlanta (Awarded)
  - Clayton County (Awarded)
  - Fayette County (Bid Closed)
  - North Fulton County (Bid Open)
  - South Fulton County



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Thank you!
Questions?
Comments?

Michael Kray
CTP Program Manager

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