

PRESS RELEASE

Date Tuesday July 14, 2020

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE DRAFT 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP)!

VISION: SUSTAIN REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM THAT REDUCES CONGESTION, IMPROVES TRAFFIC SAFETY; AND PROVIDES ROAD MAINTENANCE, PUBLIC TRANSIT, SIDEWALKS, BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS LINKING JOBS, EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR ALL CITIZENS AND VISITORS IN RICHMOND, COLUMBIA, AIKEN AND EDGEFIELD COUNTIES.

Augusta, GA – The Augusta Regional Transportation Study Metropolitan Planning Organization (ARTS MPO) invites the public to participate in the 21-day review period (Wednesday July 15, 2020 thru Tuesday August 4, 2020) of the draft 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. The public will have an opportunity to provide input on short-, medium-, and long-term transportation projects. Projects include roadways and bridges, public transit, aviation, freight, multi-use trails, sidewalks, and bicycle infrastructure.

Augusta Regional Transportation Study (ARTS) is a bi-state Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that covers all or part of Columbia and Richmond Counties in Georgia; and, Aiken and Edgefield Counties in South Carolina. The ARTS MPO is responsible for developing local transportation policies and facilitating the use of federal funds to implement the transportation planning process. The draft 2050 MTP, is a federally-mandated policy document that identifies and evaluates existing and new transportation solutions and mobility options over the next 10, 20, and 30 years. An essential part of this planning process is the public's participation in developing a shared vision, establishing long-term goals, validating priorities and addressing multimodal transportation and mobility needs for transportation infrastructure improvements in the region.

The draft 2050 MTP lays out a future vision and roadmap for bringing about a more mobile, equitable, sustainable and vibrant future for our region. The draft 2050 MTP details how ARTS MPO aids in the planning, building, managing and maintaining our region's transportation system. \$3.1 billion of revenues are estimated to address more than 300 transportation related projects. The projects in Richmond, Columbia, Aiken and Edgefield counties range from capacity adding; safety/operational; transit expansion; bridge replacements; and, the expansion of multiuse bike paths and sidewalks.

The Draft 2050 MTP will be available online for public review **from Wednesday July 15, 2020 to Tuesday August 4, 2020.**

Draft 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, comment forms and the interactive project map can be found here:

https://www.futuremobility2050.com/



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The document can be viewed and comments submitted at:

Main Branch of the Public Libraries: Aiken County, Columbia County, Richmond County

& Woodworth (Fort Gordon)

Planning Offices: Aiken County, Columbia County, City of Aiken, North Augusta & Richmond County City and Town Hall Offices: Blythe; Burnettown; Edgefield; Grovetown; Hephzibah & New Ellenton Augusta Transit Offices; CSRA Regional Commission; GDOT & SCDOT Area Engineer's Offices

Call (706) 821-1796 or send an e-mail to contact@FutureMobility2050.com to obtain a personal copy of the Draft 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or those requiring language translation services may contact the office of the Augusta Planning and Development Department at (706) 821-1796 or send an e-mail to contact@FutureMobility2050.com.

For more information or media inquiries on the ARTS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, call (706) 821-1796, visit www.FutureMobility2050.com or email contact@FutureMobility2050.com.

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