

Understanding The ATL and HB 930

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THE ATLANTA-REGION TRANSIT LINK AUTHORITY

HB 930: Atlanta-region Transit Link Authority (the 'ATL')
Intends to improve coordination, integration and efficiency of transit in Metro Atlanta

HB930 passed the General Assembly on March 29, 2018 and the Governor signed it into law on May 3, 2018, thus creating a new regional governance and funding structure called...



THE ATLANTA-REGION TRANSIT LINK AUTHORITY

A unifying entity that ensures coordinated planning and funding of transit across Metro Atlanta

Oversees all transit activity to increase transparency around regional transit planning, funding and operations

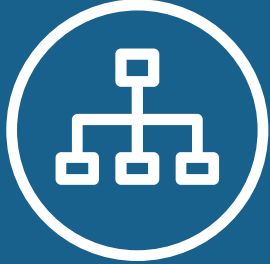
The ATL: Regional Opportunities...

...Flow from a Regional Outlook



Overview of the ATL

A unifying entity that ensures coordinated planning and funding of transit



**Regional
Governance**



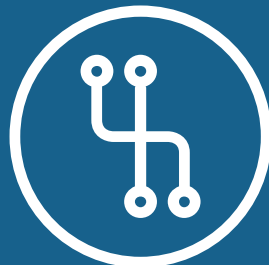
**Regional
Transit Plan**



**Transit
Funding**



**Regional
Unified Branding**



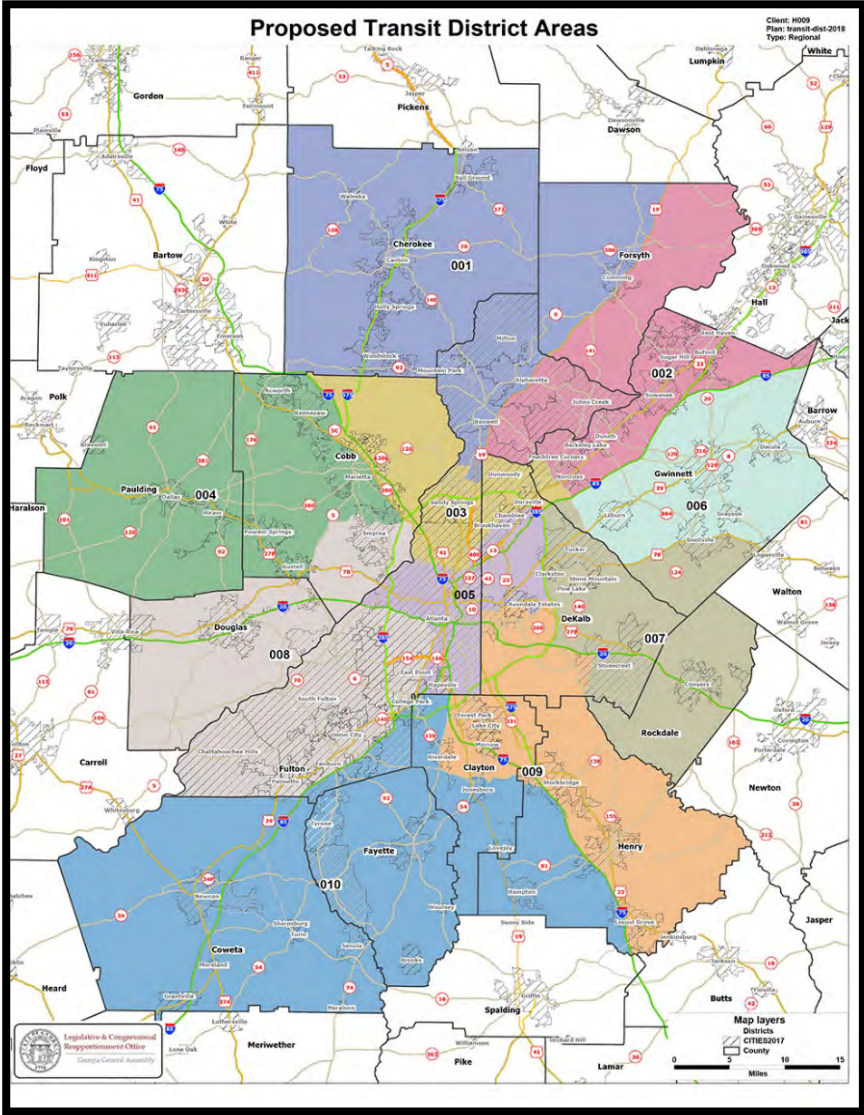
**Interaction with Existing
Transit Operators**

Regional Governance/ ATL Board Structure

16 members, 4 year terms – Designed for regional thought & approach



State Level	Appointees
Governor	1 (Chair)
Lt. Governor	2
Speaker	2
GDOT Commissioner	(Non-voting)*
TOTAL	5* (one third)
Local Level	Appointees
Caucus of Legislators, County Commission Chairs & Mayors within Districts	10
TOTAL	10 (two thirds)





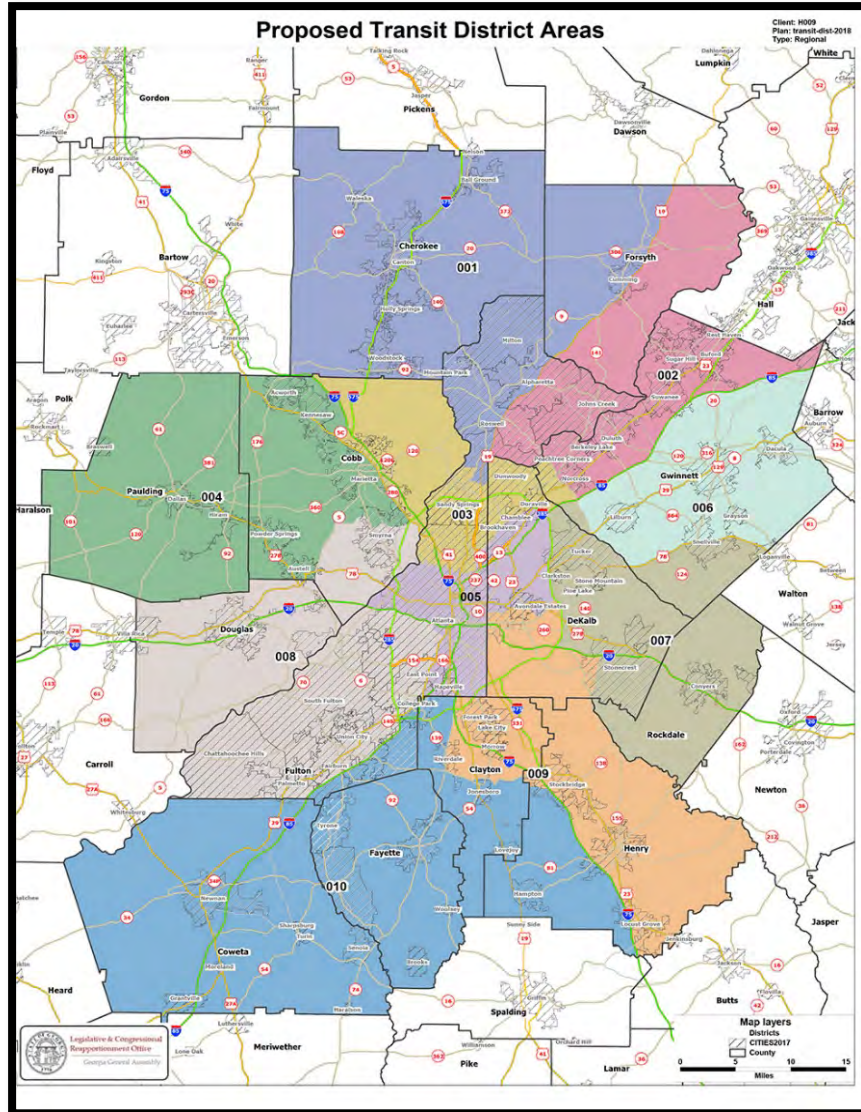
Each district's board member shall:

- Be a resident of the authority district which he or she represents
- Possess significant experience or expertise in a field that would be beneficial to the accomplishment of the function and purpose of the authority
- Other than the commissioner of transportation, no person holding any other “office of profit or trust under the state” shall serve on the board



Process for Electing District-based ATL Board Members

10 Transit Districts within the 13-county Region



Two-step process:

1) Mayors in each district meet to select a mayoral representative in the transit district election

2) Transit district election – *called by county chair with largest population in district* – occurs with three subgroups participating:

- State legislators whose districts include any of the transit district
- County commission chairs whose counties are part of the transit district
- State legislators whose districts include any of the transit district

Example Process for Electing ATL District 3 Board Member Covering Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton and Gwinnett Counties

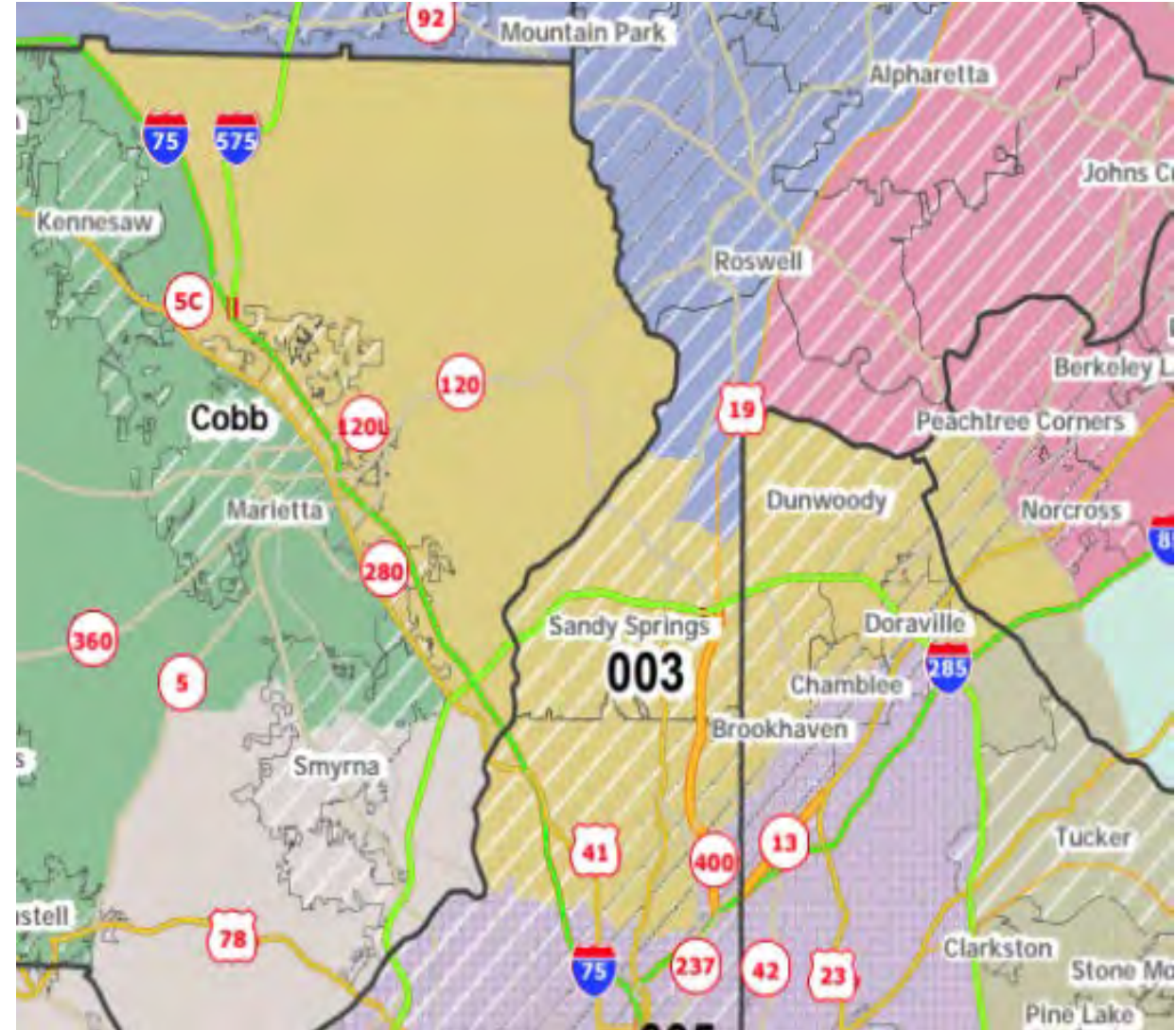


Step 1 – Mayoral Caucus:

9 mayors meet to select a rep for the district 10 election – from Brookhaven, Chamblee, Doraville, Dunwoody, Kennesaw, Marietta, Peachtree Corners, Sandy Springs, Smyrna

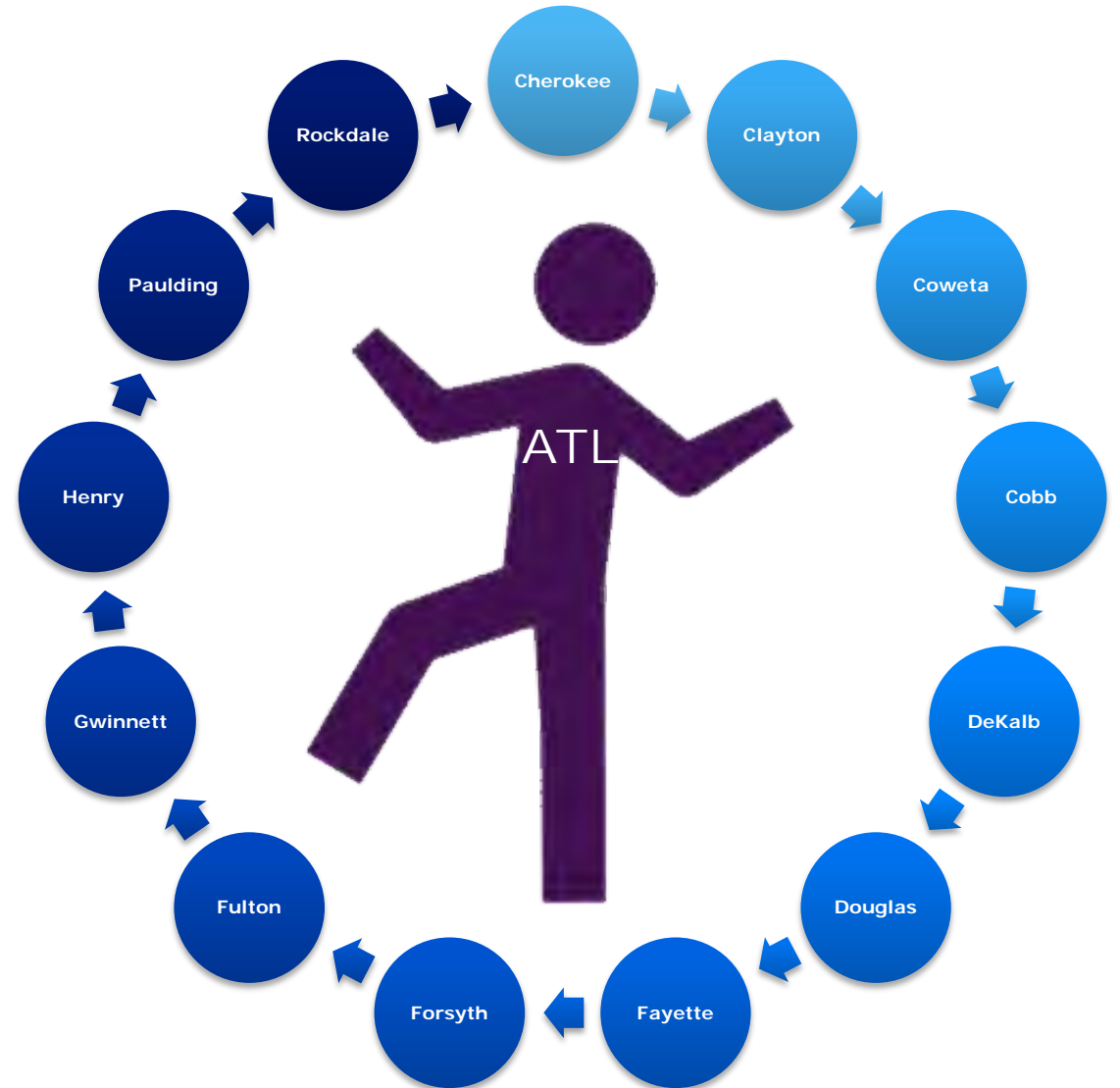
Step 2 – District Election:

- *Called by county chair with largest population in district – Cobb in this case*
- 32 Electors total
- 4 County commission chairs
- 2 Mayors (one from Step 1 + Atlanta)
- 9 State Senators
- 17 State Representatives
- *Location of meeting may vary*















- 6-year and 20-year time horizons
- Developed in consultation with the region's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
- Coordinate existing and future transit service
- Regional stakeholders, including local governments, may submit requests to the ATL for additions and amendments to the Plan from time to time based on changing conditions
- After 1/1/2019, referendum transit projects must be in RTP & approved by the ATL

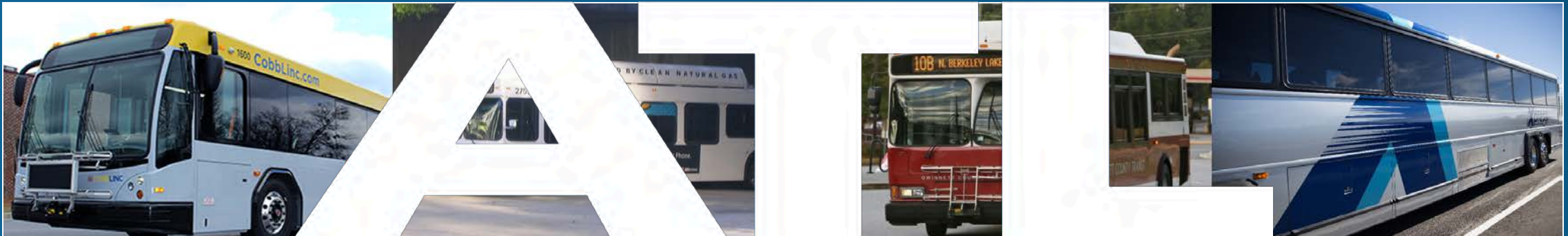




- **Regional Transit Plan must include plan for the creation of a unified brand to encompass all transit service providers in 13-county region**
- **As of Jan. 1, 2019, any new MARTA asset worth more than \$250,000 must display The ATL logo and brand, prominently featuring the acronym “ATL”**
- **As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

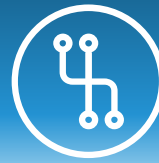
At Least 10 Public Transit Agency/Operators

- 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 
- vRide and Enterprise Rideshare 



ATL Interaction with Existing Transit Entities

MARTA – GRTA – SRTA: Still exists and continues to exist



ATL



- MARTA has exclusive authority for operating region's heavy rail system, including any new heavy rail projects
- MARTA retains control over its current local funding & operations
- MARTA's legal contractual obligations unaffected



- GRTA's authority over the TIP, DRI, and Governor's Development Council remain intact as they exist today
- The ATL is administratively attached to GRTA
- GRTA's role in regional transit transitions to ATL no later than July 1, 2020



- SRTA's tolling, GTIB, and transportation financing roles remain intact
- SRTA's GO! Transit program will be coordinated with the ATL
- SRTA's role in regional transit operations transitions to ATL no later than July 1, 2021

ATL Interaction with Existing Transit Entities

ARC – GCT – CATS – CobbLinc – Others: Still exists and continues to exist



Others

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

- Gwinnett, Cherokee and Cobb have many options going forward

- County Demand-Response Transit Services
- County Vanpool Programs
- University Transit Services



- **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**



- 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





- Fulton County – **can hold a referendum for additional 0.2% sales tax for transit, in increments of .05% for at least 10 and no more than 30 years**

Restrictions Unique to Fulton County:

- Sales tax proceeds cannot be used to fund heavy rail expansion but can be used for light-rail, bus rapid transit, or other transit services provided by MARTA.
- Local governments will have planning and zoning power over any proposed transit-oriented development.
- Before a referendum can be called, an intergovernmental agreement must be entered into between Fulton County Board of Commissioners and Mayors in Fulton representing at least 70 percent of the population of Fulton County (outside the City of Atlanta).



ATL Approval

If the tax is levied after January 1, 2019, the proposed projects must be part of the regional transit plan and approved by the ATL Authority.

Ballot Question:

“Shall an additional sales tax of ____ percent be collected for a period of ____ years in the portion of Fulton County outside the City of Atlanta for the purpose of (description of project or projects)?”



Before a referendum can be called, an intergovernmental agreement must be entered into between Fulton County Board of Commissioners and Mayors in Fulton representing at least 70 percent of the population of Fulton County (outside the City of Atlanta).

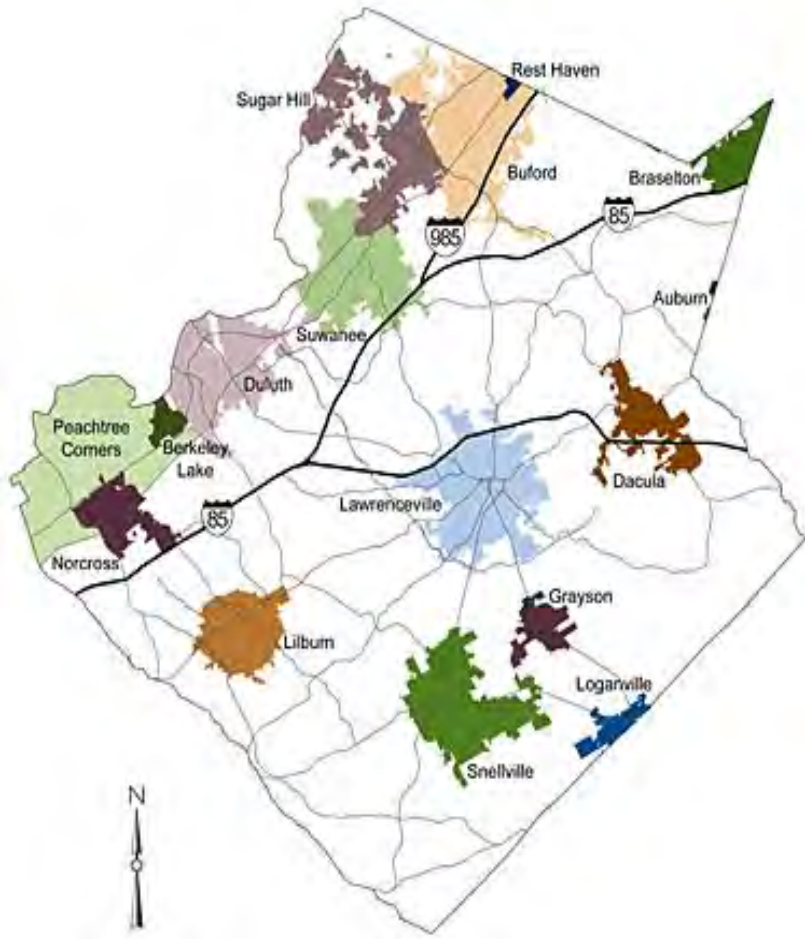
Jurisdiction	Total 2015 Population (Outside Atlanta)	% of County 2015 Population (Outside Atlanta)
ALPHARETTA	63,693	11.02%
CHATTAHOOCHEE HILLS	2,690	0.47%
COLLEGE PARK	13,264	2.29%
EAST POINT	35,467	6.13%
FAIRBURN	13,967	2.42%
HAPEVILLE	6,650	1.15%
JOHNS CREEK	83,335	14.41%
MILTON	37,547	6.49%
MOUNTAIN PARK	556	0.10%
PALMETTO	4,421	0.76%
ROSWELL	94,501	16.34%
SANDY SPRINGS	105,330	18.22%
UNION CITY	20,805	3.60%
NOW SOUTH FULTON	95,968	16.60%
Totals	578,194	100.00%



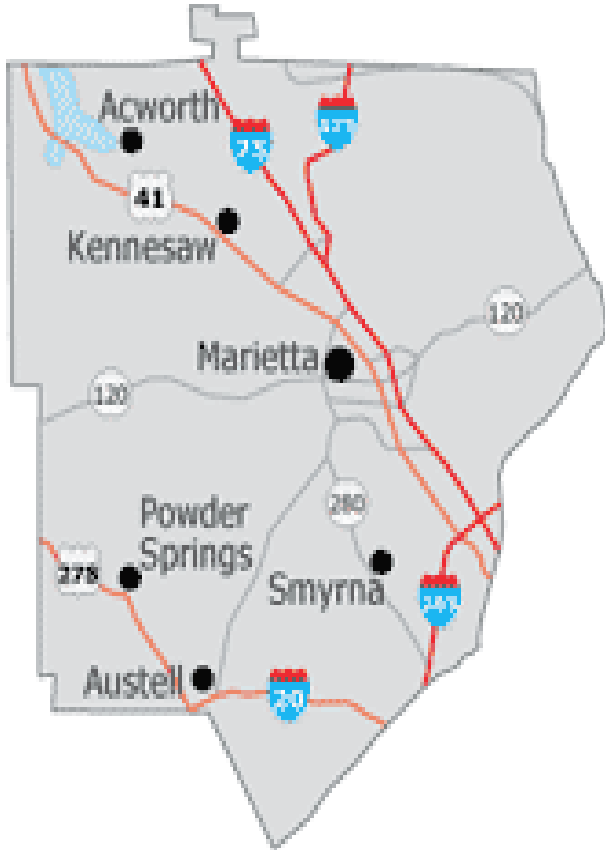
2018-2019 Election Dates

ELECTION DATE	TYPE OF ELECTION	PROJECTED VOTER TURNOUT	Must Start Process by
July 24, 2018	General Primary, Nonpartisan General Election and Special Election Runoff	8-13%	
November 6, 2018	General Election/Special Election	40-50%	May 2018
December 4, 2018	General Election/Special Election Runoff	28-38%	
March, 2019	Special Election (if required)	15-20%	Sept 2018
June, 2019	Special Election (if required)	15-20%	Jan 2019
September, 2019	Special Election (if required)	15-20%	Apr 2019
November, 2019	Municipal General /Special Election (Must start formal process in late May 2019)	15-20%	
December, 2019	Municipal General and Special Election Runoff	15-20%	

2019 dates have not been officially released by Secretary of State's Office



- **Gwinnett can hold Transit SPLOST referendum on joining MARTA via Contract at any time**
- **Joining MARTA involves 1% sales tax for length of MARTA Act; Transit SPLOST may be up to 1% for up to 30 years**
- **Provision for Gwinnett to have one additional MARTA Board seat (total of 3) if county joins system in 2018**
- **If Gwinnett holds a Transit SPLOST referendum in 2019 or after, it is governed under ATL provisions**
- **Transit projects must be included in ATL regional transit plan starting in 2019**



- **Cobb County can create a special taxing district within the county through a committee process**
- **Board of Commissioners and state legislative delegation must come to agreement on boundaries of special district**
- **County may then hold a Transit SPLOST referendum & enter into a contract with MARTA to provide transit services within such special district at any time up to December 1, 2019**
- **Cobb still has same option to join MARTA as existed prior to HB 930**



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