NORTH FULTON *IN REVIEW*

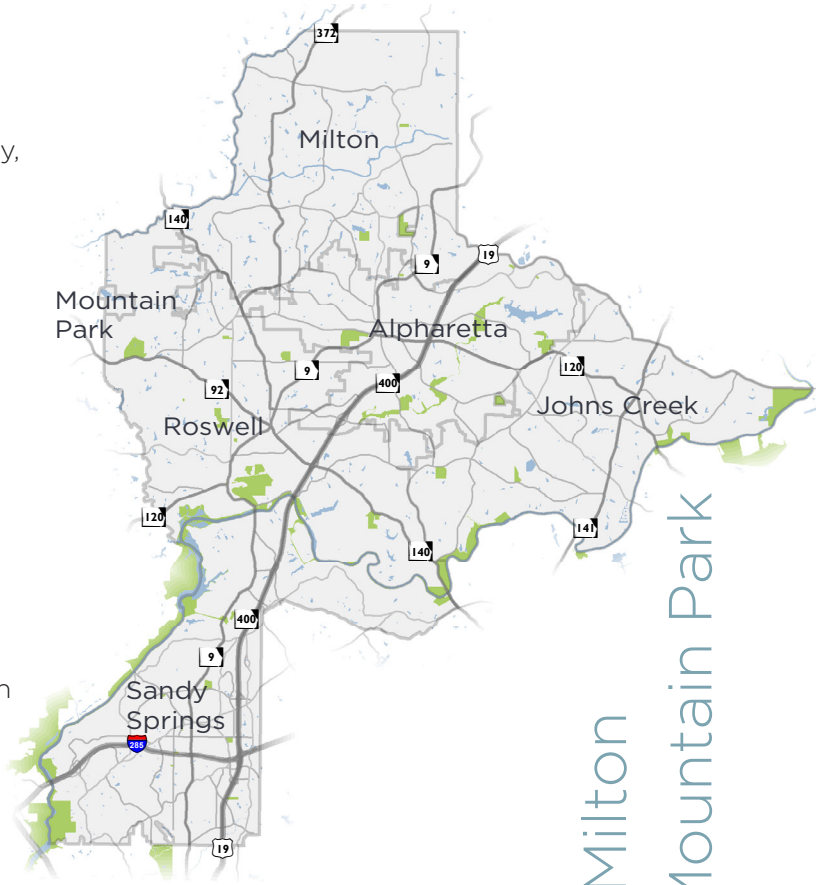
AUGUST 2016

NORTH FULTON COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The North Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan (NFCTP) seeks to address economic prosperity, quality of life, and cross-jurisdictional collaboration through multimodal transportation solutions. An update to the initial CTP completed in 2010, the plan is a joint effort between the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and the six North Fulton cities and provides an opportunity for the municipalities to plan together while informing the regional transportation planning process. **The NFCTP ultimately will establish a vision for North Fulton's transportation future.**

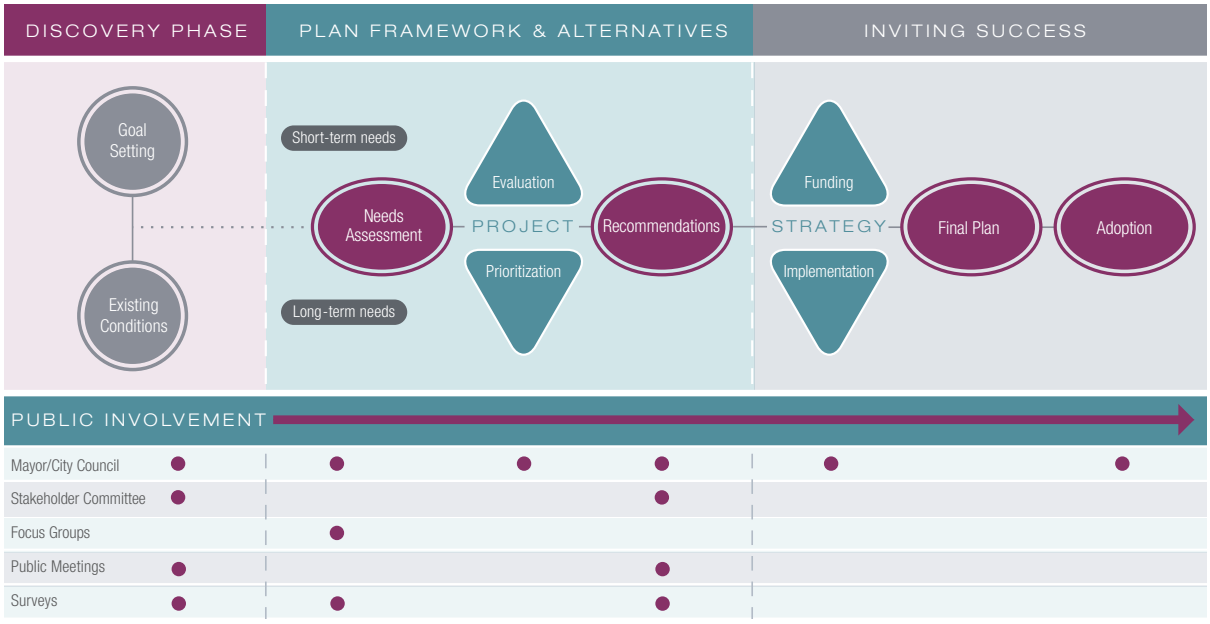
The report summarizes how the environment has changed and reflects the transportation successes experienced since the 2010 NFCTP. This information will be the first of many inputs into North Fulton's transportation future.



Alpharetta | Johns Creek | Milton
Roswell | Sandy Springs | Mountain Park

PLANNING PROCESS

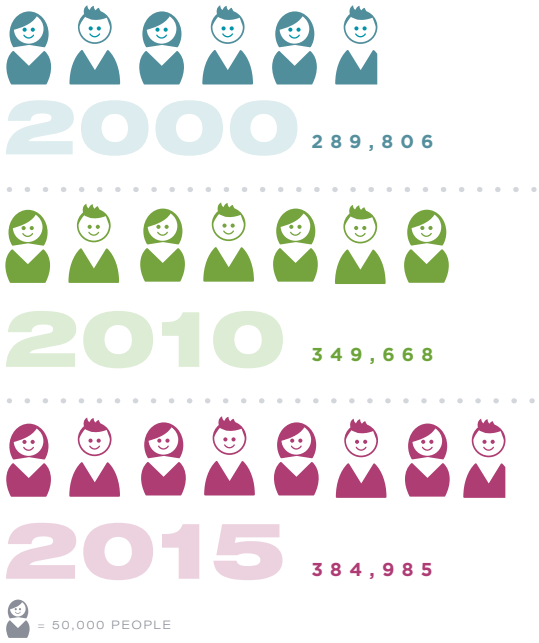
The NFCTP embraces a planning process that prioritizes community-level input. The chart below describes the plan's three major phases and notes how each of the plan's elements (Existing Conditions, Needs Assessment, Recommendations, and Final Plan) integrates with public outreach efforts. The NFCTP outreach approach offers a variety of methods for the community to engage and provide input throughout the duration of the plan.



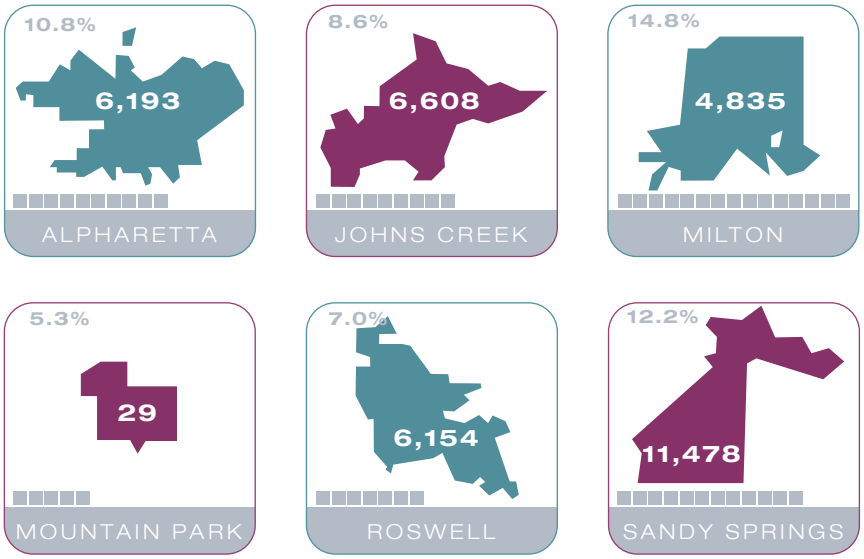
REALITY CHECK

PEOPLE

POPULATION GROWTH (2000-2015)



POPULATION GROWTH FROM 2010-2015 (BY CITY)



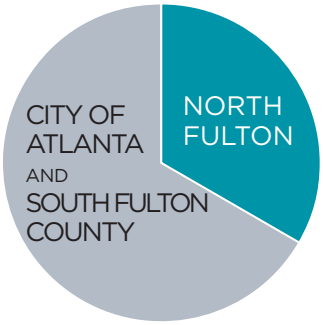
NORTH FULTON : Δ 35,297 (10.1%)
ATLANTA REGION : Δ 379,230 (8.9%)

Source: U.S. Census

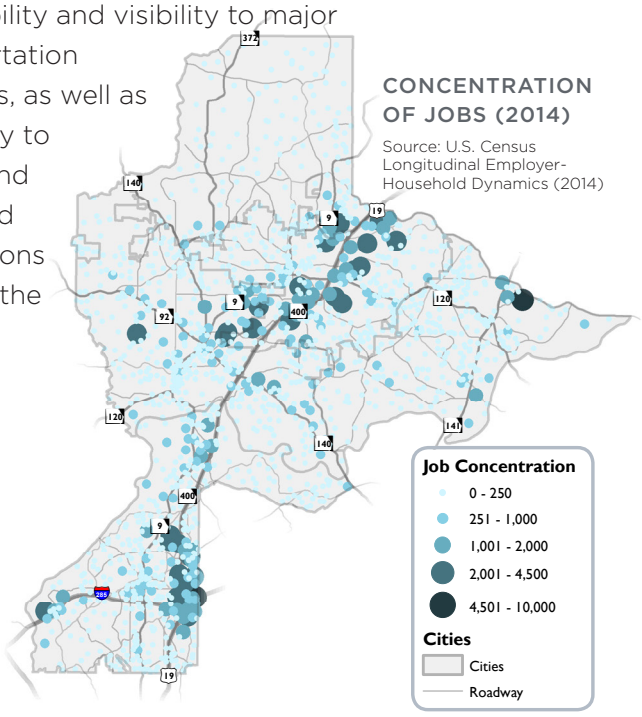
PROSPERITY

The North Fulton study area's jobs account for 34% of employment in Fulton County. North Fulton County had a total of 257,267 jobs in 2014, an increase of nearly 17% from 220,171 jobs in 2009.

FULTON COUNTY JOBS



Higher concentrations of jobs in North Fulton County lie along the GA-400/US-19 corridor, particularly along the stretch of the corridor from Mansell Road to Windward Parkway and I-285 to Abernathy Road. Employers locating in this area are capitalizing on accessibility and visibility to major transportation corridors, as well as proximity to skilled and educated populations living in the area.



TOP FIVE GROWING EMPLOYMENT SECTORS (2009-2014):

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HEALTHCARE

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

FINANCE AND INSURANCE

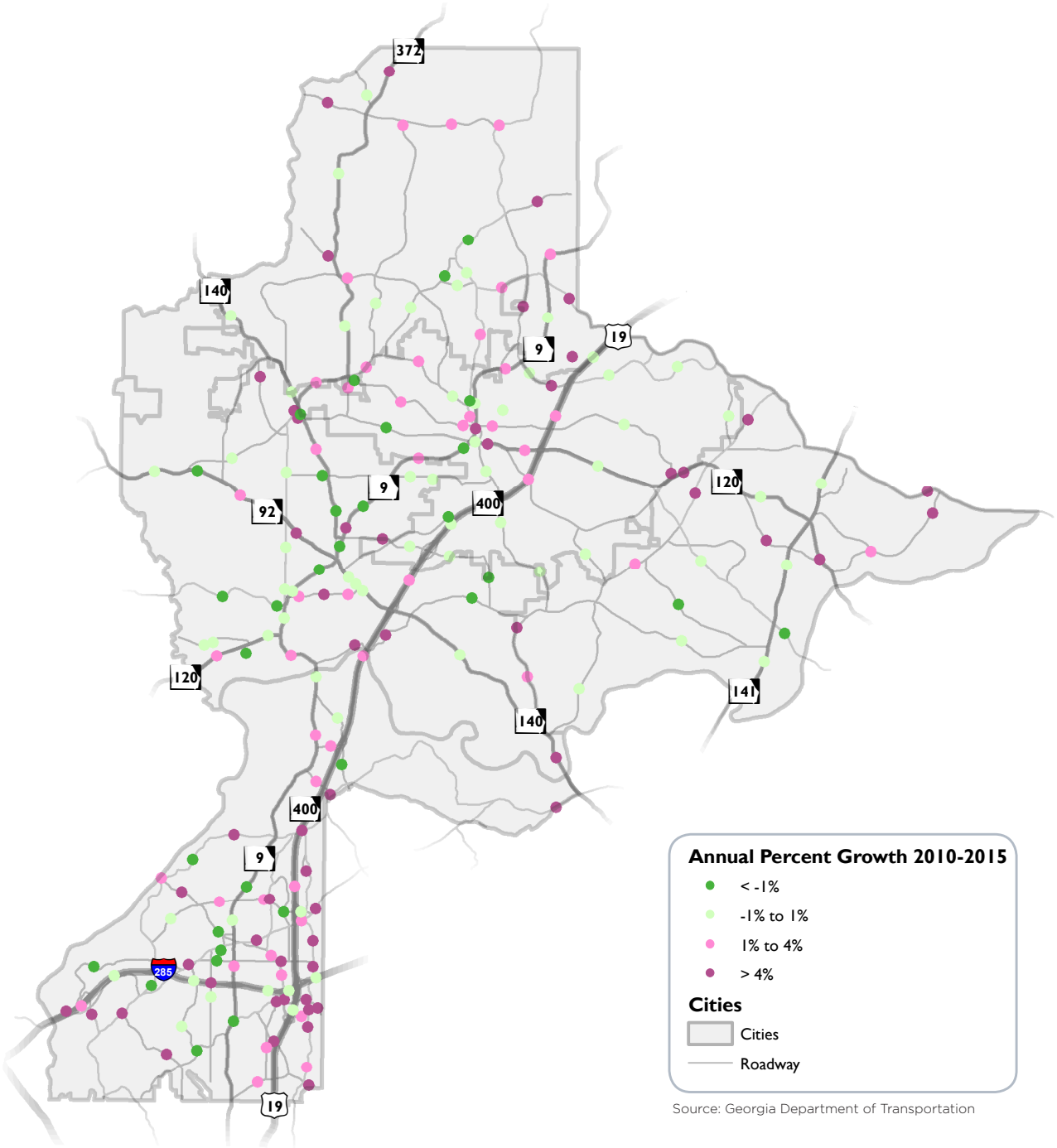
RETAIL TRADE

Source: U.S. Census, U.S. Census Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics

TRAFFIC GROWTH

ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC (2010-2015)

Annual average daily traffic (AADT) indicates traffic averages at specific points along major roads. Corridors that experienced significant traffic growth include a portion of GA 400 from just south of I-285 to Spalding Drive and the portion of Main Street where the corridor intersects Old Milton Parkway.



Source: Georgia Department of Transportation

SUCCESSES

Since the completion of the initial NFCTP, the Cities have experienced significant transportation successes despite escalating competition for resources, increasing infrastructure costs, and limited funding sources. Thirty-eight projects were recommended in the 2010 NFCTP: 9 bike/ped projects and 29 vehicular projects.

COMPLETE | UNDER CONSTRUCTION | IN PROGRESS (I.E, PROGRAMMED, STUDY IN PROGRESS) | ASPIRATIONAL

The Cities maintained momentum since the last plan by focusing implementation efforts not only on the projects included in the 2010 North Fulton plan, but also local projects and policies to improve mobility and overall quality of life.

CITYWIDE INVESTMENTS IN VEHICULAR PROJECT TYPES (2010-2015):

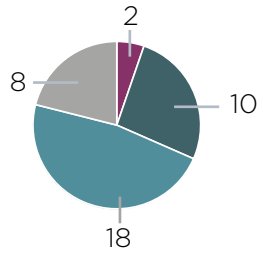
- ROADWAY WIDENINGS
- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
- OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS
- INTERCHANGE ENHANCEMENTS

CITYWIDE INVESTMENTS IN BIKE/PED PROJECT TYPES (2010-2015):

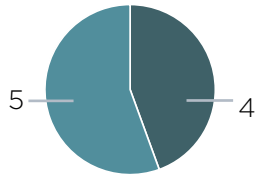
- GREENWAY CONSTRUCTION
- SIDEWALKS
- COMPLETE STREETS INITIATIVES
- STREETSCAPING
- CONNECTION ENHANCEMENTS

Source: North Fulton Cities, Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

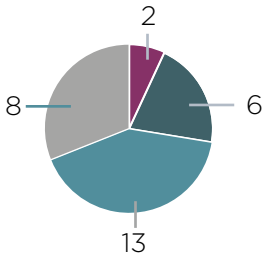
NFCTP PROJECTS



BIKE/PED PROJECTS



VEHICULAR PROJECTS



POLICY

The update to the NFCTP is well-positioned to take advantage of recent regional, state, and federal legislative changes. After years of funding uncertainty, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was authorized in December 2015. This legislation provides federal funding for the next five years; however, the fact remains that transportation revenues are declining across the nation.

Great strides have been made in establishing reliable transportation funding sources at the state and local levels. The Georgia State Legislature passed the Transportation Funding Act of 2015 (TFA), which stabilized revenues from Georgia's gas tax and will result in $750 million to $1 billion annually for infrastructure maintenance and new major mobility project construction, including the GA 400 managed lanes system in North Fulton County. The TFA also allowed for county governments to pass local Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Taxes (TSPLOSTs).

This year on November 8, Fulton County residents will be asked to vote on a 0.75-cent sales tax for transportation purposes that would result in nearly $380 million for North Fulton cities between 2017-2022 (City of Atlanta will have a separate sales tax vote). In addition to this 0.75-cent tax, another 0.25-cent tax for potential transit investments could be considered in future years. The opportunities offered by the TFA and possible Fulton County TSPLOST far surpass the revenue streams available throughout the life of the 2010 NFCTP and have the ability to considerably advance transportation mobility in North Fulton and around the state.

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