

GWINNETT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA

RESOLUTION ENTITLED: **Gwinnett County Transit Review Committee**

READING AND ADOPTION: **September 3, 2019**

At the regular meeting of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners held in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, Auditorium, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, Georgia.

Name	Present	Vote
Charlotte J. Nash, Chairman	Yes	Aye
Jace Brooks, District 1	Yes	Aye
Ben Ku, District 2	Yes	Aye
Tommy Hunter, District 3	Yes	Aye
Marlene Fosque, District 4	Yes	Aye

On motion of **Commissioner Hunter**, which carried by a vote of **5-0**, the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the following Resolution:

A RESOLUTION CREATING
THE GWINNETT COUNTY TRANSIT REVIEW COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Gwinnett County has experienced significant growth and change since Gwinnett County Transit began Express route service in November 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners believes that Gwinnett County's transit services must also grow and evolve to meet the changing needs of the County's residents, businesses, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners, based upon the recommendation of the Destination 2040 Comprehensive Transportation Plan update, authorized an in depth look at transit in Gwinnett County; and

WHEREAS, after an extensive and detailed development process which included robust public participation, the Connect Gwinnett: Transit Plan was finalized and approved by the Board of Commissioners on July 17, 2018; and

WHEREAS, based upon the recommendations of the Connect Gwinnett: Transit Plan and the authorization provided in House Bill 930 of the 2018 Session of the Georgia General Assembly, the Board of Commissioners negotiated and entered into a Rapid Transit Contract with the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority to implement expanded transit services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners called for a referendum to place before the voters of Gwinnett County whether the Rapid Transit Contract should be approved; and

WHEREAS, the referendum was held on March 19, 2019, and its failure to pass resulted in the Rapid Transit Contract not being approved; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes the continued need to address the mobility needs of the community and the role that expanded transit options can serve in addressing those needs; and

WHEREAS, the Connect Gwinnett: Transit Plan adopted in 2018 provides options and recommendations for the transit needs and visions for Gwinnett County which includes different means for the provision of transit services; and

WHEREAS, additional ideas regarding transit in Gwinnett were suggested by the community during the time leading up to the March 2019 referendum; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that there are multiple options for the provision of transit services to Gwinnett County's residents, businesses, and visitors and desires to pursue options that will be feasible and meet the needs of the Gwinnett community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners seeks the assistance of members of the Gwinnett community in assessing potential transit options and determining a feasible approach to providing transit services to meet the increasing and changing needs of those who live, work, learn, and play in Gwinnett; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners believes that the best way to obtain this assistance is through the establishment of a Transit Review Committee whose purpose is to conduct a thorough and thoughtful review of Gwinnett's transit needs and the options for addressing these needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby creates the Gwinnett County Transit Review Committee as set forth in the Gwinnett County Transit Review Committee Overview incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Transit Review Committee membership shall be as established in Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Transit Review Committee shall be charged with accomplishing the objectives set forth in Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Transit Review Committee shall submit its written report and recommendations to the Board of Commissioners by December 31, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon submission of its final written report and recommendations, the Committee shall be dissolved.

THIS RESOLUTION is adopted this the 3rd day of September, 2019.

GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: 
CHARLOTTE J. NASH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

BY:  (SEAL)
DIANE KEMP, COUNTY CLERK



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: 
DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY

EXHIBIT "A"

Gwinnett County **Transit Review Committee Overview**

1.0 Purposes

Purposes of the Transit Review Committee include:

- To review and consider the transit needs of Gwinnett County now and in the future based upon existing and projected growth patterns.
- To review and assess transit options for Gwinnett County, including those suggested by members of the community during the referendum process.
- To review and assess the feasibility of differing transit options in Gwinnett County.

2.0 Objectives

Objectives of the Transit Review Committee include:

- The Committee may review and provide comments on the Connect Gwinnett: Transit Plan.
- The Committee may assess current infrastructure with regard to the provision of transit services by Gwinnett County and consider the current needs of Gwinnett County's residents, businesses, and visitors.
- The Committee should consider Gwinnett's future needs for transit and its role in the County's overall transportation and mobility services, based on factors such as projected population and employment.
- The Committee should review and consider multiple transit service options and review the feasibility of each. To aid the Committee in this work, the Gwinnett Department of Transportation will provide to the Committee several potential approaches that will help highlight different modes, service levels and costs.
- The Committee will prepare a written report and recommendations concerning the provision of transit services to meet the increasing and changing needs of the community that can assist the Board of Commissioners in determining next steps in addressing Gwinnett's transit needs. In addition to the Committee's recommendations, the report should include information that presents the scope of the Committee's work and the basis for its recommendations, such as

infrastructure needs, feasibility of proposed approaches, quality of life, and potential economic benefits and impacts.

It is anticipated that the final report and recommendations made by the Committee will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for its use in evaluating and determining Gwinnett County's vision and plan for transit services.

3.0 Transit Review Committee Structure

It is intended that the Transit Review Committee will represent a variety of viewpoints, interests, and community segments so that it may collectively represent the interests of Gwinnett County. Appointing entities should select individuals who are critical thinkers with the ability and aptitude to objectively review options without being unduly influenced by pre-conceived notions about transit. No individual who is an announced candidate for elected office at any level or who has a position, paid or volunteer, with any active political campaign is eligible to serve as a member of the Transit Review Committee.

The Transit Review Committee will be made up of 13 members. Once a majority of members has been appointed, the Committee may begin its work. As noted below, the appointments to the Transit Review Committee shall be made by individual members of the Board of Commissioners and by the appointing organizations without further action by the Board of Commissioners and shall represent the following groups:

- 5 members representing the Board of Commissioners, with each Commissioner having one appointment
- 1 member representing seniors, to be appointed by the Gwinnett Council for Seniors
- 1 member representing young adults, to be appointed by the Georgia Gwinnett College Student Council
- 1 member representing the paratransit consumer community, to be appointed by the Gwinnett Transit Advisory Board
- 1 member representing the non-profit sector, to be appointed by the Coalition for Health and Human Services
- 1 member representing employers, to be appointed by the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce
- 1 member representing Gwinnett's young professionals, to be appointed by the Gwinnett Young Professionals organization

- 1 member representing Gwinnett's civic organizations, to be appointed by Leadership Gwinnett Alumni
- 1 member representing Gwinnett's municipalities, to be appointed by the Gwinnett Municipal Association

The Transit Review Committee may utilize County staff and advisors to operate efficiently and effectively. Any final written reports and recommendations shall be presented to the entire Committee for consideration. The Committee will present its final written recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. The following provides a description of how the Committee will be structured and function:

- The Chair, who shall be elected by a majority of the Committee, will be responsible for the overall direction and work progress of the Committee which includes ensuring use of quality assurance/quality control practices and procedures; facilitating the use of advisors; and providing updates to the Board of Commissioners as necessary.
- The County will provide the Transit Review Committee with an independent facilitator to facilitate both the meetings and the work of the Committee.
- A group of advisors will serve as support to the Gwinnett County Transit Review Committee. Advisors may be staff, individuals, consultants, organizations, representatives of governmental agencies, or institutions that bring important knowledge or expertise and will assist the Transit Review Committee in the successful development of recommendations to the Board of Commissioners concerning transit options to meet the growing and changing needs of the Gwinnett community.
- County staff, including but not limited to the Department of Transportation, shall provide available information and support as may be reasonable to assist the Transit Review Committee and shall provide administrative help as needed to the Committee.

3.1 Committee Work

In order to accomplish the objectives set forth herein, it is critical that the Transit Review Committee have a clear, objective process by which to study, evaluate, and make recommendations. This process should be inclusive of appropriate audiences throughout Gwinnett County.

3.2 Public Involvement

The Transit Review Committee should incorporate viewpoints and information from individuals, elected officials, and other stakeholders to help identify challenges, prioritize needs, and assist in development of recommendations. The Committee may

accept comments and information through such means as public comment at a meeting, written comments submitted to the Committee, or a program to accept comments through an on-line process using the Gwinnett County website.

3.3 Public Meetings

All meetings of the Gwinnett County Transit Review Committee will be open to the public. A quorum of the members shall be present in order for the Committee to conduct business. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. The Committee shall follow Robert's Rules of Order in the conduct of meetings.

4.0 Deliverables

The Transit Review Committee is expected to provide a Final Report to the Board of Commissioners. The Final Report will be used by the Board of Commissioners in evaluating and determining Gwinnett County's vision and plan for transit services to meet the transit needs of the Gwinnett community. The following items will be included in this document:

1. Executive Summary
2. Summary of Public Comments
3. Description of Process Utilized in Analyzing Transit Needs and Options for Gwinnett
4. Relevant Background Information
5. Final Recommendations

5.0 Committee Timetable

The Transit Review Committee shall complete its work and present its Final Report to the Board of Commissioners by December 31, 2019.