

Citizens Advisory Committee

Thursday, January 25th, 2024, 4:00 PM

**HR Training Room, 2nd Floor, Hall County Government Center
2875 Browns Bridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30504**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome – Renee Gerrell, Chair**
- 2. Approval of October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Recommend Approval of Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**
 - Michael Haire, GHMPO
- 4. First Review of Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan**
 - Michael Haire, GHMPO
- 5. First Review of Draft 2024 GHMPO Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis**
 - Michael Haire, GHMPO
- 6. Presentation on Future Year 2055 SE Data for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): 2025 Update**
 - Michael Haire, GHMPO
- 7. Other**
 - Update from the TCC Subcommittees
- 8. TCC Agency Report**

9. Public Comment

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: April 25, 2024

11. Adjourn

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- 8. TCC Agency Report**

Citizens Advisory Committee

**HR Training Room, 2nd Floor, Hall County Government Center
Draft Minutes of October 26, 2023 Meeting**

Voting Members Present:

Renee Gerrell, Hall County – *Chair*
Patrick O’Rourke, Hall County – *Vice-Chair*
Pat Jones, City of Oakwood
Chip McCallum, City of Flowery Branch
John Rudio, City of Flowery Branch
Berlinda Lipscomb, City of Gainesville
Betsy Wigington, City of Gainesville
Brent Hoffman, Hall County
Billy Edwards, Town of Braselton

Voting Members Absent:

Toni Buffington, Hall County
Nick Haynes, Hall County
Joe Kennedy, Hall County
Tony Millwood, City of Oakwood
Rick Marzano, City of Flowery Branch
Beverly Nordholz, City of Gainesville
Sammy Smith, City of Gainesville
Kim Jackson, Hall County
Adrienne Rice, Hall County
Jim Southard, Jackson County

Others Present:

Joseph Boyd, GHMPO
Katie Greenway, Hall County

1. Welcome – Renee Gerrell, Chair

Ms. Gerrell opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

2. Approval of July 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Jones made a motion to approve of the July 27, 2023 meeting minutes, with a second from Mr. O’Rourke, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Recommend Approval of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Boyd introduced Amendment #1 to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which adds two new projects to the TIP program years and adds retroactive funding to another project. The two new projects being added to the TIP are GH-038, which widens

State Route 60 / Thompson Bridge Road from two to four lanes from State Route 136 / Price Road to Yellow Creek Road, and GH-130, which widens State Route 60 / Thompson Bridge Road from State Route 400 in Lumpkin County to Yellow Creek Road in Hall. Mr. Boyd explained to the committee that these are not new projects, but they previously did not have to be reflected in the TIP because they are funded by HB170 funds. As the MPO is now going to start showing all projects that receive state or federal funding, these projects will now be moved into the official TIP programming.

Additionally, retroactive funding is being added to GH-020A (State Route 11/Cleveland Highway Widening from Lakeview Street to South of Nopone Road – Phase I). This funding was already authorized but not reflected in MPO documents.

MOTION: Ms. Lipscomb made a motion to recommend approval of Draft Amendment #1 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program, with a second from Mr. Hoffman, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Recommend Approval of Draft PM1 Safety Targets for 2024

Mr. Boyd gave a brief overview of PM1 (Safety), PM2 (Bridge and Pavement), and PM3 (National Highway System, Freight, and CMAQ). Mr. Boyd explained that performance management targets are set by GDOT, and PM1 targets are the only targets adopted annually. These PM1 (Safety) targets set targets for the number of fatalities, number of serious injuries, fatality rate, serious injury rate, and total number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. The targets required for calendar year 2024 are actually identical to the targets adopted for 2023, so this resolution will be extending these adopted performance measures into 2024.

MOTION: Mr. O'Rourke made a motion to recommend approval of the Draft PM 1 Safety Targets for 2024, with a second from Ms. Jones.

5. First Review of Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Boyd introduced the first draft of the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP is the annual budget document for the MPO that provides funding for planning activities over a single fiscal year, including any studies that local jurisdictions would like to conduct. Mr. Boyd briefly discussed the funding amounts listed, and explained that the amounts listed for the base PL grant are not final. Mr. Boyd stated he anticipates to have finalized funding amounts by the winter round of MPO meetings.

This draft document also includes the SR 60/US 129 Connectivity Study in the "Anticipated Unfunded Products in FY 2025" section, with an estimated cost of \$150,000, made up of \$120,000 in additional PL funds and \$30,000 in local cash match.

Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Gerrell both commented that though the SR 60/US 129 Connectivity Study would be welcomed, they still feel that the entire corridor needs to be evaluated in one large study so that future right-of-way and roadway designs can create a seamless northern arc across the top of Gainesville. Mr. Boyd responded that he would pass those comments along to Hall County.

6. 2022 Crash Profiles for Hall and Jackson Counties

Mr. Boyd briefly discussed the 2022 Crash Profiles for Hall and Jackson Counties, which display all crashes, crashes with injuries, and crashes with fatalities throughout both Hall and Jackson Counties. Mr. Boyd discussed five-year trends, and discussed the analytical tools provided by the platform Numetric, which GHMPO was given access to by GDOT. Lastly, Mr. Boyd offered to provide further analysis and data for anyone at their request.

Mr. Hoffman made the comment that we should be utilizing the high crash locations to prioritize future transportation projects, to which Mr. Boyd responded that as part of the ongoing Metropolitan Transportation Plan update, the project team would be analyzing crash data and seeing where new projects would be needed and appropriate.

7. Other

Mr. Boyd provided brief updates from the TCC Trails Subcommittee. Gainesville is finalizing the design of the Airport Connector Trail, with hopes that construction can begin sometime during the winter of 2023/2024.

Mr. Boyd next provided a status update on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): 2025 Update and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. Staff was working with RS&H on the creation of the socioeconomic data needed to conduct the study updates. A kickoff meeting for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan Update is scheduled for some time in December 2023.

Mr. Boyd provided updates on the following:

- State Route 13/Atlanta Highway at Memorial Park Road – Explore congestion solutions including, but not limited to, adding a right-turn lane from Atlanta Highway (southbound) onto Memorial Park Road. Mr. Boyd said he had talked with GDOT and Hall County and that there was not currently enough right-of-way to install a turn lane at this time, but that other options are being explored to help alleviate congestion at this intersection.
- Browns Bridge Road/State Route 369 at Pearl Nix Parkway – Explore adding capacity to the left-turn lane from Pearl Nix Parkway (northbound) onto Browns Bridge Road (westbound). Mr. Boyd stated that he had talked with Hall County Public Works, who maintains Pearl Nix Parkway, and that they would look into this issue and see if a future project could be programmed utilizing local funds/SPLOST VIII.

8. Jurisdiction and Agency Reports

Mr. Boyd provided a brief recap of the local jurisdiction project updates that were provided at the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting on October 18, 2023.

9. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

Ms. Gerrell reminded the Committee that their next meeting would be on January 25, 2024.

11. Adjourn

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Renee Gerrell, Chair

Michael Haire, GHMPO

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MEMORANDUM

To: Citizens Advisory Committee Members

From: Michael Haire, GHMPO

Date: January 18, 2024

Re: Recommend Approval of Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Each year, GHMPO adopts and publishes the Unified Planning Work Program, which serves as the annual operating budget for the MPO and provides funding for planning activities. This draft document will be the UPWP for FY 2025, which runs from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

This draft includes the Section 5303 grant awarded to GHMPO by FTA, as well as the additional PL fund contract awarded to GHMPO for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan: 2025 Update / Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. GHMPO anticipates receiving the allocation for the base PL grant shortly.

The pages below are an excerpt; however, the full Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.ghmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/FY-2025-UPWP-Working-Draft.pdf?ver=1705434771>

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **Recommend Approval of Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Attachment: *Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)*



GAINESVILLE-HALL
Metropolitan Planning Organization

FY 2025

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Anticipated Adoption: February 13, 2024



In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination laws, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, familial, or in income status.

Prepared by the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization in coordination with the City of Gainesville, City of Oakwood, City of Flowery Branch, Town of Braselton, City of Hoschton, Hall County, Jackson County, Hall Area Transit, Jackson County Transit, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

**A Resolution by the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Committee Adopting the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program**

WHEREAS, the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for transportation planning within the Gainesville Metropolitan Area Boundary which includes all of Hall County and a portion of Jackson County following the 2010 Census; and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) requires the Metropolitan Planning Organization to develop and adopt a Unified Planning Work Program; and

WHEREAS, the Unified Planning Work Program is consistent with all plans, goals, and objectives of the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization.

NOW, THERE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization adopts the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program for the period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

A motion was made by PC member _____ and seconded by PC member
_____ and approved this the 13th Day of February, 2024.

Mayor Ed Asbridge, Chair
GHMPO Policy Committee

Subscribed and sworn to me this the 13th Day of February, 2024.

Notary Public

My commission expires _____

GHMPO BUSINESS PLAN & UPCOMING UNFUNDED STUDIES

Objective

- Provide GHMPO planning partners information on current and future unfunded projects and required planning activities.

Anticipated Unfunded Products in FY 2025

Product	Cost Estimate & Funding Source	Date of Completion
SR 60/US 129 Connectivity Study	\$150,000	FY 2025
Henry Street and Piedmont Avenue Streetscaping Study	\$50,000	FY 2025
City of Flowery Branch Downtown Redevelopment Study – Phase II	\$100,000	FY 2025
SR 60/SR 124/Sam Freeman Road Corridor Improvement Study	\$100,000	FY 2025

Potential Unfunded Products in Future Years

Product	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Year
North Hall Parkway Study	\$200,000	FY 2026

GHMPO Five Year Funding Plan Table

GHMPO Five Year Funding Plan					
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
FHWA Allocation	\$329,647.88	\$332,944.36	\$336,273.80	\$339,636.54	\$343,032.91
FHWA PL Apply	\$150,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FTA Allocation	\$136,372.00	\$137,735.72	\$139,113.08	\$140,504.21	\$141,909.25
State Match	\$13,637.25	\$13,773.62	\$13,911.36	\$14,050.47	\$14,190.98
Local Cash Match	\$13,367.25	\$13,500.92	\$13,635.93	\$13,772.29	\$13,910.01
Total Revenue	\$643,024.38	\$697,954.62	\$502,934.17	\$507,963.51	\$513,043.15
Contracts	\$150,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Staff/Direct	\$493,024.38	\$497,954.62	\$502,934.17	\$507,963.51	\$513,043.15
Total Expenditures	\$643,024.38	\$697,954.62	\$502,934.17	\$507,963.51	\$513,043.15

1% annual growth in allocation

Staff/Direct includes: salaries, fringe, indirect and other direct charges

FHWA PL Apply are prior year funds GHMPO must apply for

FY 2025 TOTAL BUDGET

GHMPO's total budget for FY 2025 is **\$872,038.20** from all sources:

	PL Funds (\$)			PL Funds (Additional Award PL 0019901)			Y410 Funds (\$)			Section 5303 Funds (\$)				
Work Elements	Budget Amount (100%)	FHWA (80%)	Local Match (20%)	Budget Amount (100%)	FHWA (80%)	Local Cash Match (20%)	Budget Amount (100%)	FHWA	Local Match	Budget Amount (100%)	FTA (80%)	GDOT Match (10%)	Local Match (10%)	Total Budget Amount (\$)
1.0 Administration														
1.1 Operations and Administration	149,422.18	119,537.74	29,884.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149,422.18
1.2 Training/Employee Education	18,750.00	15,000.00	3,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,750.00
1.3 Equipment and Supplies	5,000.00	4,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
1.4 UPWP	12,500.00	10,000.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,500.00
Work Element 1.0 Total	185,672.18	148,537.74	37,134.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	185,672.18
2.0 Public Involvement														
2.1 Community Outreach/Education	12,500.00	10,000.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,500.00
Work Element 2.0 Total	12,500.00	10,000.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,500.00
3.0 Data Collection														
3.1 Socioeconomic Data	6,475.70	5,180.56	1,295.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,475.70
Work Element 3.0 Total	6,475.70	5,180.56	1,295.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,475.70
4.0 System Planning														
4.1 Intermodal Planning	6,250.00	5,000.00	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,250.00
4.2 GIS, Model Development & Applications	6,250.00	5,000.00	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,250.00
4.3 Long-Range Plan	6,250.00	5,000.00	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,250.00
4.4 Transportation Improvement Program	6,250.00	5,000.00	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,250.00
4.5 MTP/Bike & Ped Plan/Special Transportation Studies	100,000.00	80,000.00	20,000.00	398,500.00	318,800.00	79,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	498,500.00
Work Element 4.0 Total	125,000.00	100,000.00	25,000.00	398,500.00	318,800.00	79,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	523,500.00
5.0 Transit Planning														
5.1 Program Support & Administration	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,958.71	51,166.97	6,395.87	6,395.87	63,958.71
5.2 Long Range Transportation Planning	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,958.70	51,166.96	6,395.87	6,395.87	63,958.70
5.3 Transportation Improvement Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,455.09	6,764.07	845.51	845.51	8,455.09
Work Element 5.0 Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	136,372.50	109,098.00	13,637.25	13,637.25	136,372.50
6.0 Safe & Accessible Transportation Options/Complete Streets														
6.1 Safe & Accessible Transportation Options	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,517.82	7,517.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,517.82
Work Element 6.0 Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,517.82	7,517.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,517.82
Total Work Elements (\$)	329,647.88	263,718.30	65,929.58	398,500.00	318,800.00	79,700.00	7,517.82	7,517.82	0.00	136,372.50	109,098.00	13,637.25	13,637.25	872,038.20

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MEMORANDUM

To: Citizens Advisory Committee Members

From: Michael Haire, GHMPO

Date: January 18, 2024

Re: First Review of Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan

Every five years, GHMPO develops and adopts a Participation Plan, which describes how the MPO will foster public participation. The GHMPO Participation Plan provides opportunities to engage in the planning development process for both private and public stakeholders. Government agencies at the local, regional, state, and federal level all play an important role in the ongoing development of transportation projects. It is imperative that their decision-making is augmented by the thoughts and feedback of citizens who use the transportation network daily.

The last Participation Plan was included as an appendix in the 2021 Title VI Environmental Justice Analysis, but the 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan will be adopted as a separate document from the 2024 Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis.

This is the first round of review for the Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan, which is anticipated to be adopted at a future Policy Committee meeting, after another round of committee review.

The pages below are excerpts; however, the full Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan can be accessed by following this link: <http://www.ghmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/DRAFT-2024-GHMPO-Participation-Plan.pdf>

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **None**

Attachment: Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan



GAINESVILLE-HALL
Metropolitan Planning Organization

Participation Plan

Anticipated Adoption: May 14, 2024



In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination laws, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, familial, or in income status.

Prepared by the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization in coordination with the City of Gainesville, City of Oakwood, City of Flowery Branch, Town of Braselton, City of Hoschton, Hall County, Jackson County, Hall Area Transit, Jackson County Transit, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

Purpose of the Participation Plan

Public participation is integral to good transportation planning. Without meaningful public participation, there is a risk of making poor decisions, or decisions that have unintended negative consequences. Public participation can lead to transportation planning that can make a lasting contribution to an area's quality of life. Meaningful public participation is central to good decision making. The fundamental objective of public participation programs is to ensure that the concerns and issues of everyone with a stake in transportation decisions are identified and addressed in the development of the policies, programs, and projects being proposed in their communities. Public input is weighed against the costs of the projects and the technical and environmental feasibility of the projects within a scheduled timeframe.

The GHMPO Participation Plan provides opportunities to engage in the planning development process for both private and public stakeholders. Federal, state and local agencies play an important role in the ongoing development of transportation projects. Local elected officials and staff members' decision making is augmented by the eyes and ears of people who use the transportation network on a daily basis. Those persons traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income or minority households, senior citizens or those with limited proficiency in English, are encouraged to participate in the transportation decision making process.

Greater participation by the public helps guide where tax dollars should be spent. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) like the GHMPO were created in order to ensure that existing and future expenditures for transportation projects and programs were based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive (3-C) planning process. Federal funding for transportation projects and programs is channeled through the MPO. The current federal transportation legislation laying out MPO guidelines, including public participation, is contained within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), signed into law by President Biden in November 2021.

Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization

The Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO), hosted by Hall County Planning & Development, is housed within the Hall County Government Center in Gainesville, Georgia. GHMPO staff administers the planning program, provides technical guidance and administrative support to the committees. GHMPO works with federal agencies such as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and at the state level with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). Local jurisdictions are represented within the GHMPO committees.

Committee meetings are held quarterly and are open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend and participate. Please visit GHMPO's website for current organization and committee information at www.ghmpo.org.

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee (PC) is the decision making body for the organization. It consists of the following voting officials or their designees:

- Mayor, City of Flowery Branch
- Mayor, City of Gainesville
- Mayor, City of Oakwood
- Chairperson, Hall County Board of Commissioners
- District 1 Commissioner, Hall County Board of Commissioners
- District 4 Commissioner, Hall County Board of Commissioners
- Chairperson, Jackson County Board of Commissioners
- Director of Planning, Georgia Department of Transportation

Technical Coordinating Committee

The Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) provides recommendations from a technical perspective on the plans and programs adopted by GHMPO. The voting membership is made up of administrators, engineers and planners from the member jurisdictions, Hall Area Transit (HAT), and GDOT. The non-voting membership in the TCC Bylaws include representatives of various state and federal transportation agencies, local law enforcement, chamber of commerce, school boards, and major local institutions. TCC membership is as follows:

Table 1: TCC Voting Membership

GHMPO	Hall County	City of Oakwood
Director	Public Works Director	City Manager
Transportation Planning Director	County Engineer	City of Flowery Branch
GDOT	Road Projects Engineer	Com. Dev. Director
Transportation Planner	City of Gainesville	Hall Area Transit
District Pre-Construction Engineer	Planning Director	General Manager
Georgia Mountains Regional Commission	Public Works Director	Jackson County
Transportation Planner	Traffic Engineer	County Manager

Citizens Advisory Committee

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) provides recommendations from the public's perspective and consists of 19 appointees from the member jurisdictions as follows: Hall County (8), Gainesville (5), Flowery Branch (2), Oakwood (2), Braselton (1), and Jackson County (1).

Major Planning Documents by Subject Area

GHMPO is responsible for the development of documents that outline transportation plans, account for MPO operations, and explain our efforts to get greater participation from all stakeholders within the community. Early participation by the public in the preparation of these documents can improve the finished product as continuous feedback on our transportation plans make for a more comprehensive view of current needs and future aspirations.

Key Transportation and Operational Plans

There are three documents that form the foundation for the ongoing work of the GHMPO:

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):

The MTP is mandated by Federal legislation and must be fiscally-constrained. Fiscal constraint means projects may be funded in the target tier years in the future but are identified as long-range projects until a funding source is identified to pay for the project and explains how the current transportation network functions and project needs are to be met. The most recently adopted MTP developed by the GHMPO is the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan: 2020 Update (2050 RTP Update) and is the foundation of the community's transportation planning program. The MTP provides at least a 30-year look at the improvements needed to assure the mobility of people and goods in Hall County and western Jackson County. The Plan includes different modes of travel on streets and highways, public transportation/transit, railroads, and bicycle and pedestrian needs.

The MTP must be amended at least every five years due to Hall County's inclusion in the Atlanta Air Quality Non-Attainment area. Updating the MTP every five years ensures that regional demographics, economic trends and travel demands are reviewed and needed projects are approved and programmed for funding and construction. The projects included in the MTP will ultimately fold into a regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

GHMPO is currently in the process of developing the Metropolitan Transportation Plan: 2025 Update, which is anticipated to be adopted in the summer of 2025.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

The TIP is another mandated document by Federal legislation and is fiscally-constrained as well. TIP projects have funding sources available to proceed within the four-year TIP planning horizon. The list of transportation projects is programmed for the GHMPO planning area and serves as the implementation plan for the MTP. The TIP reflects the schedule and costs of the preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction and utility phases for transportation improvements. The TIP is updated in conjunction with the MTP every five years, and TIP projects are amended through the committee process in between the five-year update period. The public involvement process for the TIP is used to satisfy the Georgia Department of Transportation public participation process for the Program of Projects (POP). Public notice of public involvement activities and time established for public review of comment on the TIP will satisfy POP.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):

The UPWP is the annual work program for the GHMPO. It outlines MPO operations and accomplishments for the past fiscal year and announces future planning activities to be undertaken in the current fiscal year. Annual budget figures are derived from federal sources and local matching funds makeup the Planning (PL) budget. Federal with state and local matching funds go into the transit Section 5303 budget. The UPWP is updated annually.

Key Participation and Nondiscrimination Plans

There are two plans that constitutes GHMPO's efforts for public participation and inclusion:

Participation Plan:

The Participation Plan explains to the public an understanding of what to expect in the transportation planning process and how to get involved. It lists strategies GHMPO uses to provide and receive information from the public on the transportation planning and programming process including projects, studies, plans and committee actions. The Participation Plan takes into account Title VI and limited English proficiency populations. The document is updated as needed with a formal review every five years.

Title VI Program and Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis:

As a sub-recipient of federal funds, GHMPO is obligated to follow Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and associated laws and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. For EJ Analysis, GHMPO transportation planning projects are compared to area EJ populations of racial and ethnic minorities or low income households. The Title VI complaint process and a complaint form are included. Title VI Program and EJ Analysis is updated every three years.

The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan addresses a federal mandate that entities receiving federal funds must provide meaningful access to those who are not fluent in English without unduly burdening the fundamental mission of the organization. The most current version of the LEP Plan can be found in Appendix C of the Title VI Program and EJ Analysis.

Other Notable Plans

Conformity Determination Report (CDR):

Maintaining air quality standards is a federal requirement, and Hall County is part of the Atlanta nonattainment 20-county 8-hour ozone maintenance area and part of a 22-county particulate matter (PM) 2.5 non-attainment area. GHMPO coordinates closely with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), which has the technical staff to carry out the modeling necessary to demonstrate air quality conformity for the entire area. As part of this coordination, GHMPO aligns its various review and approval schedules with those of the ARC whenever possible. The most recently approved Conformity Determination Report (CDR) can be found on the GHMPO website under Air Quality, and as one of the Appendices to the Transportation Improvement Program.

Other Transportation Studies:

In the past, GHMPO has acted as a conduit for federal dollars with a local match to fund various transportation studies as accounted for in the UPWP budget. Previous studies included Hall County and Jackson County Crash Profiles, the Transit Development Plan (TDP), the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, and the City of Gainesville Transportation Master Plan.

Table 2: Major Documents Timetable for Updates and Amendments

<i>Document Title</i>	Metropolitan Transportation Plan	Transportation Improvement Program	Unified Planning Work Program	Participation Plan	Title VI Program and Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis
Update Requirement	Every five years	Every four years	Annually	Every five years	Every three years
Last Update	5/12/2020	8/8/2023	2/13/2024	5/14/2024	5/14/2024
Next Update Before	5/12/2025	8/8/2027	2/13/2025	5/14/2029	5/14/2027
Public Meetings	Two full rounds of review by all three GHMPO committees	Two full rounds of review by all three GHMPO committees	Two full rounds of review by all three GHMPO committees	Two full rounds of review by all three GHMPO committees	Two full rounds of review by all three GHMPO committees
Comment Period	30 days	30 days	30 days	45 days	30 days
Comment Period for Amendments	15 days	15 days	15 days	45 days	15 days

What is Public Participation?

Public participation is a part of the transportation planning process where a wide array of stakeholders and citizens are sought for the decision making process from inception to the adoption of the plan. Public participation benefits all participants by bringing a variety of viewpoints to the transportation planning process. The earlier the public is involved in the planning process, the better the outcome, as time and limited resources can be more effectively used when focused on solid projects rather than being wasted on ill-conceived projects.

Informed citizens can make a difference in the regional transportation system and boost the long-term economic prospects of the region while protecting the quality of life. Previous experience has taught GHMPO that local people can be well aware of the history and character of the community and that transportation plans developed in a vacuum often have little public support. GHMPO regularly evaluates and refines the public participation process.

Guidelines for Public Participation

23 Code of Federal Regulations (see Appendix 1) requires that MPOs' participation plan define a process for providing citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with reasonable opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process.

GHMPO will use the following guidelines to provide adequate outlets for the public to shape the development of our transportation plans. Further details on how we meet these guidelines can be found in the Public Participation Strategies section of this document.

Give Adequate Public Notice

Give adequate public notice of public participation activities and time for public review and comment on major transportation planning documents. If the final draft of any transportation plan differs significantly from the one available to the public during public review and comment period or raises new material issues which interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public participation, an additional public notice of the comment and review period on the revised plan shall be made available.

Provide Timely Information

Provide timely and reasonable access to information about transportation issues and processes.

Make Public Meetings Reasonably Accessible

Hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times. All GHMPO public and committee meetings are open to the public. Where applicable, GHMPO will also provide access to public meetings via landline, smartphone, and computer through the GoToMeeting online meeting platform.

Respond in Writing

Respond in writing, when applicable, to public input. When significant written and oral comments are received on the draft transportation plan, a summary report of comments received will be part of the final plan.

Solicit the Needs of the Traditionally Underserved

Seeking out and considering the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority households, who may face challenges accessing employment and other services. Transportation projects affect communities with both negative and positive impacts, so we need to hear from all stakeholders and try to mitigate negative outcomes.

Coordinate the Public Participation Process

Coordinate with local and statewide public participation processes wherever possible to enhance public consideration on related issues, plans, and programs. This coordinated effort reduces redundancy and cost.

Provide a Public Comment Period

Provide a public comment period of 30 calendar days prior to adoption of the key transportation planning documents, 15 days for amendments with the exception of providing a public comment period of 45 calendar days prior to the adoption of this Participation Plan and 45 days for an amended Participation Plan.

Review the Participation Plan

Periodically, the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the document are reviewed to ensure a full and open participation process. GHMPO undergoes a self-certification of its procedures and policies as an MPO on an annual basis in conjunction with the FHWA and GDOT. The PP is formally reviewed every three years at a minimum.

Citizens Advisory Committee

Thursday, January 25th, 2024, 4:00 PM

**HR Training Room, 2nd Floor, Hall County Government Center
2875 Browns Bridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30504**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome – Renee Gerrell, Chair**
- 2. Approval of October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Recommend Approval of Draft FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**
 - Michael Haire, GHMPO
- 4. First Review of Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan**
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- 7. Other**
 - Update from the TCC Subcommittees
- 8. TCC Agency Report**

MEMORANDUM

To: Citizens Advisory Committee Members

From: Michael Haire, GHMPO

Date: January 18, 2024

Re: First Review of Draft 2024 Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis

Every three years, GHMPO develops and adopts a Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis, which assures that the MPO is not discriminating against or barring any citizens from public participation in the planning process. The Plan describes the process for formally filing a Title VI complaint against GHMPO and provides the complaint form. Additionally, the plan lists all Title VI complaints filed against GHMPO, of which there currently are none.

The last Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis, adopted in 2021, included the Public Participation Plan as an appendix. The new Draft 2024 GHMPO Participation Plan will be adopted concurrently with the Draft 2024 Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis as a separate document.

This is the first round of review for the Draft 2024 Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis, which is anticipated to be adopted at the May 14, 2024 Policy Committee meeting.

The pages below are an excerpt; however, the full Draft 2024 Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis can be accessed at the following link:
<http://www.ghmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/DRAFT-2024-GHMPO-Title-VI-Plan.pdf>

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None

Attachment: Draft 2024 Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis



GAINESVILLE-HALL
Metropolitan Planning Organization

Title VI Plan and Environmental Justice Analysis

Anticipated Adoption: May 14, 2024



In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination laws, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, familial, or in income status.

Prepared by the Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization in coordination with the City of Gainesville, City of Oakwood, City of Flowery Branch, Town of Braselton, City of Hoschton, Hall County, Jackson County, Hall Area Transit, Jackson County Transit, the Georgia Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

Title VI / Nondiscrimination Policy Statement and Management Commitment to Title VI Plan

49 CFR Part 21.7(a): Every application for Federal financial assistance to which this part applies shall contain, or be accompanied by, an assurance that the program will be conducted or the facility operated in compliance with all requirements imposed or pursuant to [49 CFR Part 21].

The Gainesville-Hall Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO) assures the Georgia Department of Transportation that no person shall on the basis of race, color, or national origin as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Federal Transit Laws, 49 CFR Part 21 Unlawful Discrimination, Nondiscrimination In Federally-Assisted Programs Of The Department Of Transportation and as per written guidance under FTA Circular 4702.1B, dated October 2012, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation under any program or activity undertaken by the agency.

The GHMPO further agrees to the following responsibilities with respect to its programs and activities:

1. Designate a Title VI Liaison that has a responsible position within the organization and access to the recipient's Chief Executive Officer or authorized representative.
2. Issue a policy statement signed by the Executive Director or authorized representative, which expresses its commitment to the nondiscrimination provisions of Title VI. The policy statement shall be circulated throughout the Recipient's organization and to the general public. Such information shall be published where appropriate in language other than English.
3. Insert the clauses of Section 4.5 of this plan into every contract subject to the Acts and the Regulations.
4. Develop a complaint process and attempt to resolve complaints of discrimination against the Gainesville- Hall MPO.
5. Participate in training offered on the Title VI and other nondiscrimination requirements.
6. If reviewed by GDOT or any other state or federal regulatory agency, take affirmative actions to correct any deficiencies found within a reasonable time period, not to exceed ninety (90) days.
7. Have a process to collect racial and ethnic data on persons impacted by the agency's programs.
8. Submit the information required by FTA Circular 4702.1B to the GDOT. (refer to Appendix A of this plan)

THIS ASSURANCE is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all federal funds, grants, loans, contracts, properties, discounts or other federal financial assistance under all programs and activities and is binding. The person whose signature appears below is authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the agency.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Executive Director/Signatory Authority, Your Transit System, Date: Month/Day/Year

Transit Planning and Advisory Bodies

FTA Circular 4702.1B, Chapter III, Paragraph 10: Recipients that have transit-related, non-elected planning boards, advisory councils or committees, or similar committees, the membership of which is selected by the recipient, must provide a table depicting the racial breakdown of the membership of those committees, and a description of efforts made to encourage the participation of minorities on such committees.

The Gainesville-Hall MPO is overseen by the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), and Policy Committee (PC).

Body	Caucasian	Latino	African American	Asian American	Native American	Other
Service Area Population	61.86%	25.48%	6.75%	2.25%	0.17%	0.35%
Technical Coordinating Committee	75%	5%	10%	10%	0%	0%
Citizens Advisory Committee	95%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%
Policy Committee	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

The Gainesville-Hall MPO will make efforts to encourage minority participation on the committee. These efforts are made by distributing information about the participation on the committee at public meetings and throughout the transit system. The Gainesville-Hall MPO will utilize the minority population demographic maps included in Appendix H in order to focus on the areas in which the committee participation information is distributed.

Figure 1: Percentage of LEP Households by Census Tract

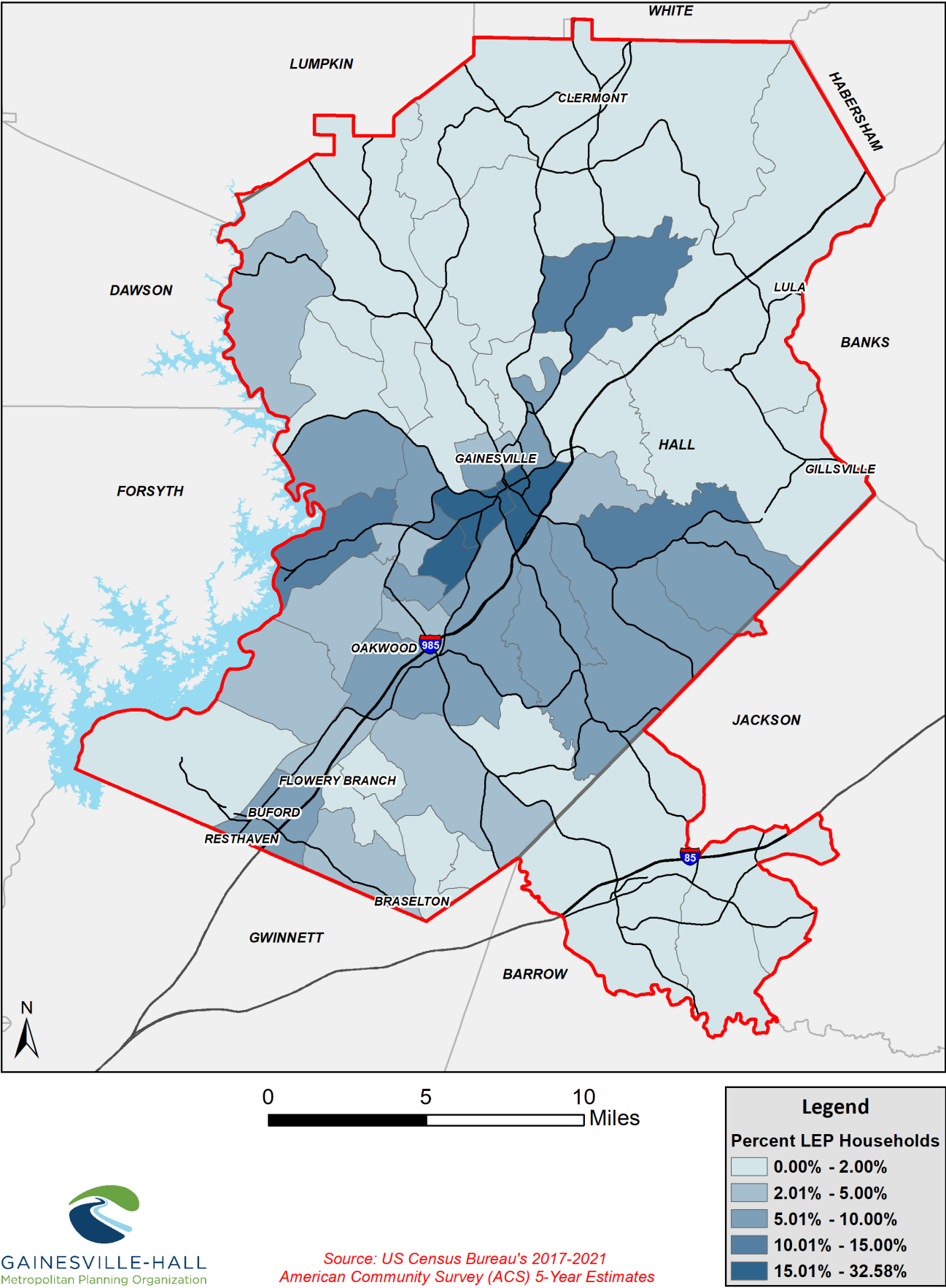
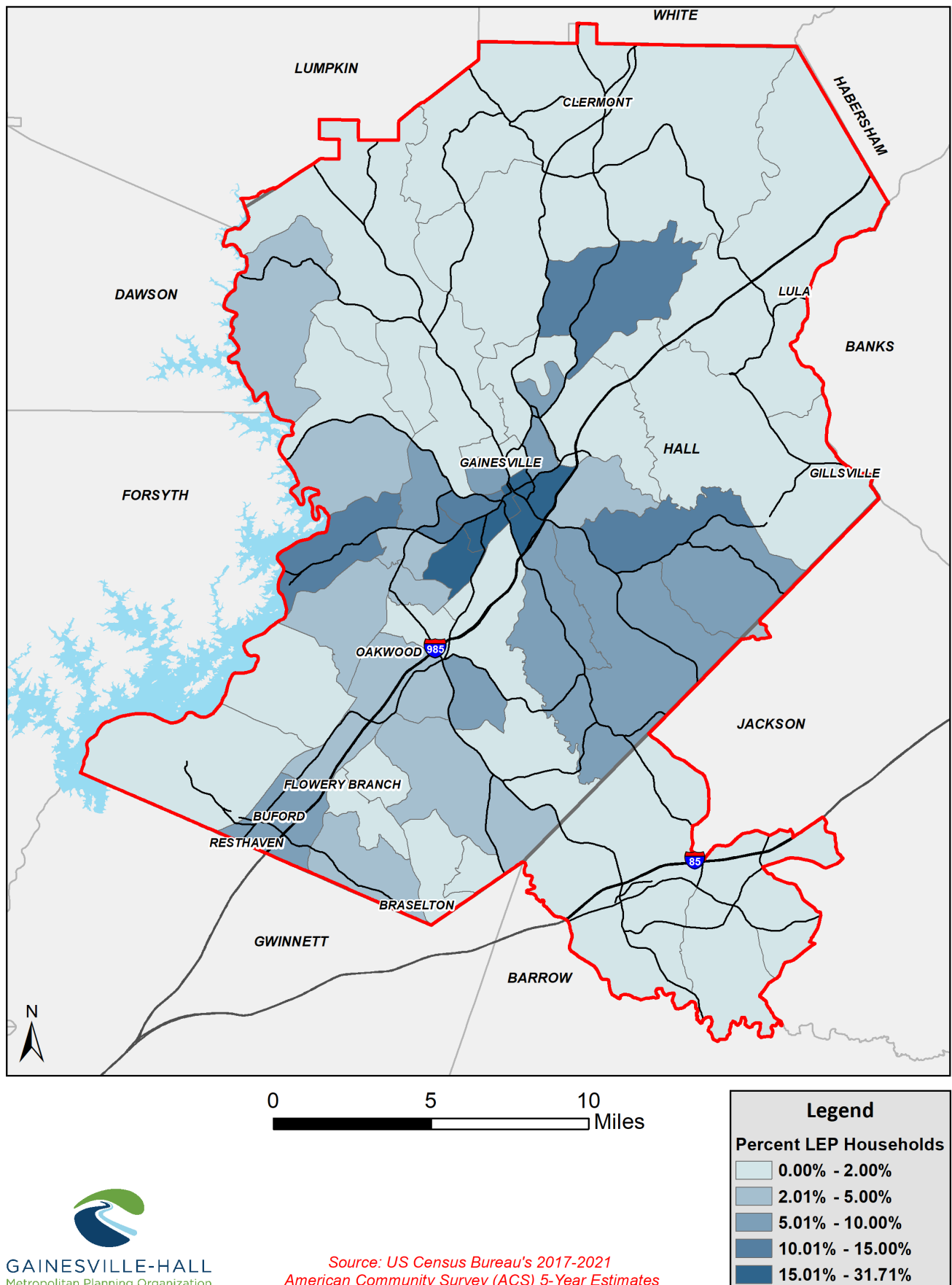


Figure 2: Percentage of Spanish-Speaking LEP Households by Census Tract



Source: US Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021 Five-Year Estimates

Language	County	Percent of Population
Total	Hall	100%
Speak only English	Hall	70.42%
Spanish or Spanish Creole	Hall	26.58%
Speak English “very well”	Hall	14.79%
Speak English less than “very well”	Hall	11.79%
Other Indo-European Languages	Hall	1.65%
Speak English “very well”	Hall	1.17%
Speak English less than “very well”	Hall	0.50%
Asian and Pacific Island Languages	Hall	1.25%
Speak English “very well”	Hall	0.76%
Speak English less than “very well”	Hall	0.49%
Other Languages	Hall	0.10%
Speak English “very well”	Hall	0.06%
Speak English less than “very well”	Hall	0.03%
Total	Jackson	100%
Speak only English	Jackson	91.44%
Spanish or Spanish Creole	Jackson	6.09%
Speak English “very well”	Jackson	4.01%
Speak English less than “very well”	Jackson	2.08%
Other Indo-European Languages	Jackson	1.09%
Speak English “very well”	Jackson	0.64%
Speak English less than “very well”	Jackson	0.45%
Asian and Pacific Island Languages	Jackson	1.29%
Speak English “very well”	Jackson	0.85%
Speak English less than “very well”	Jackson	0.44%
Other Languages	Jackson	0.09%
Speak English “very well”	Jackson	0.09%
Speak English less than “very well”	Jackson	0.00%

Figure 3: Percentage of Households Below Poverty Level by Census Tract

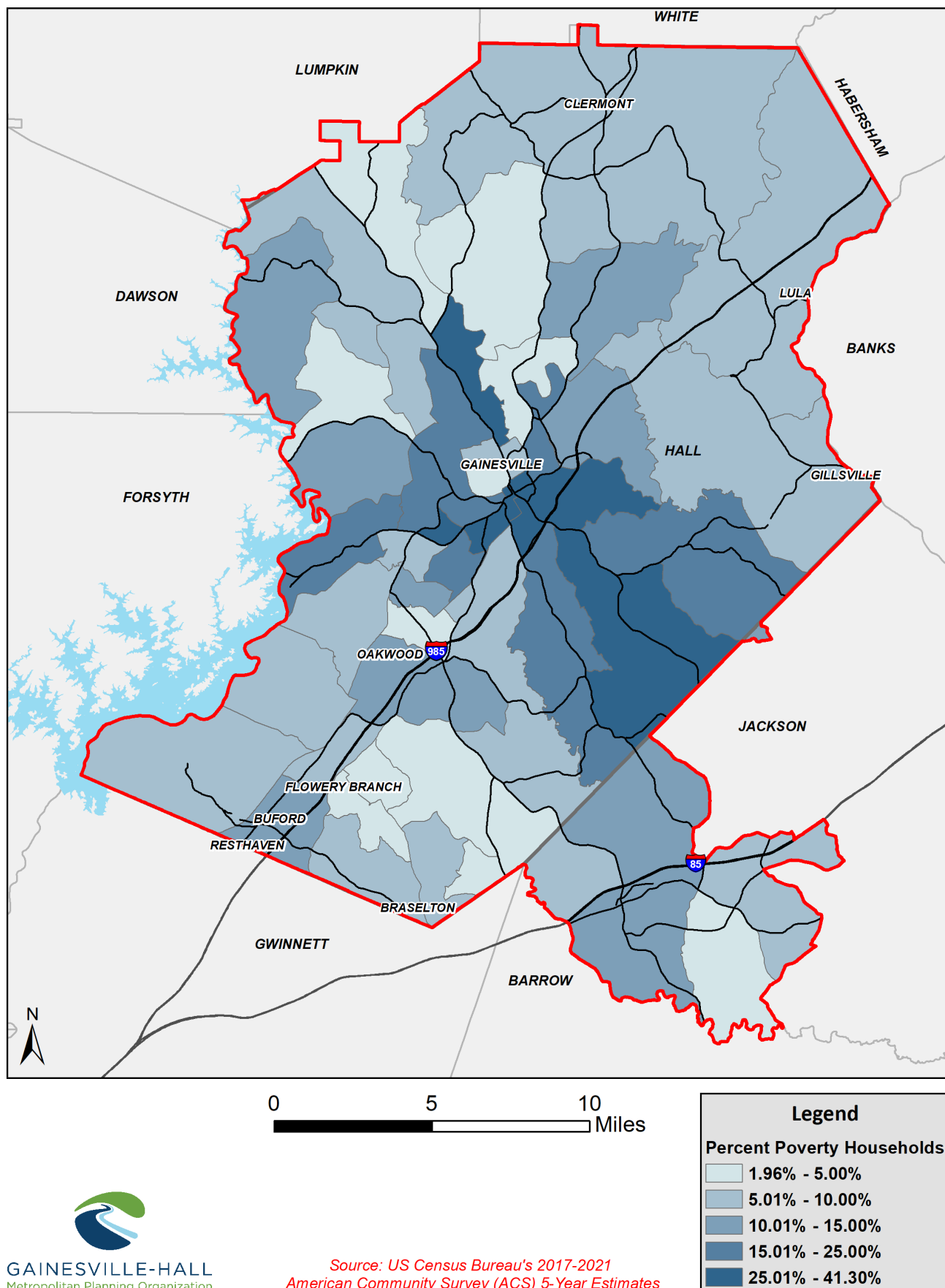
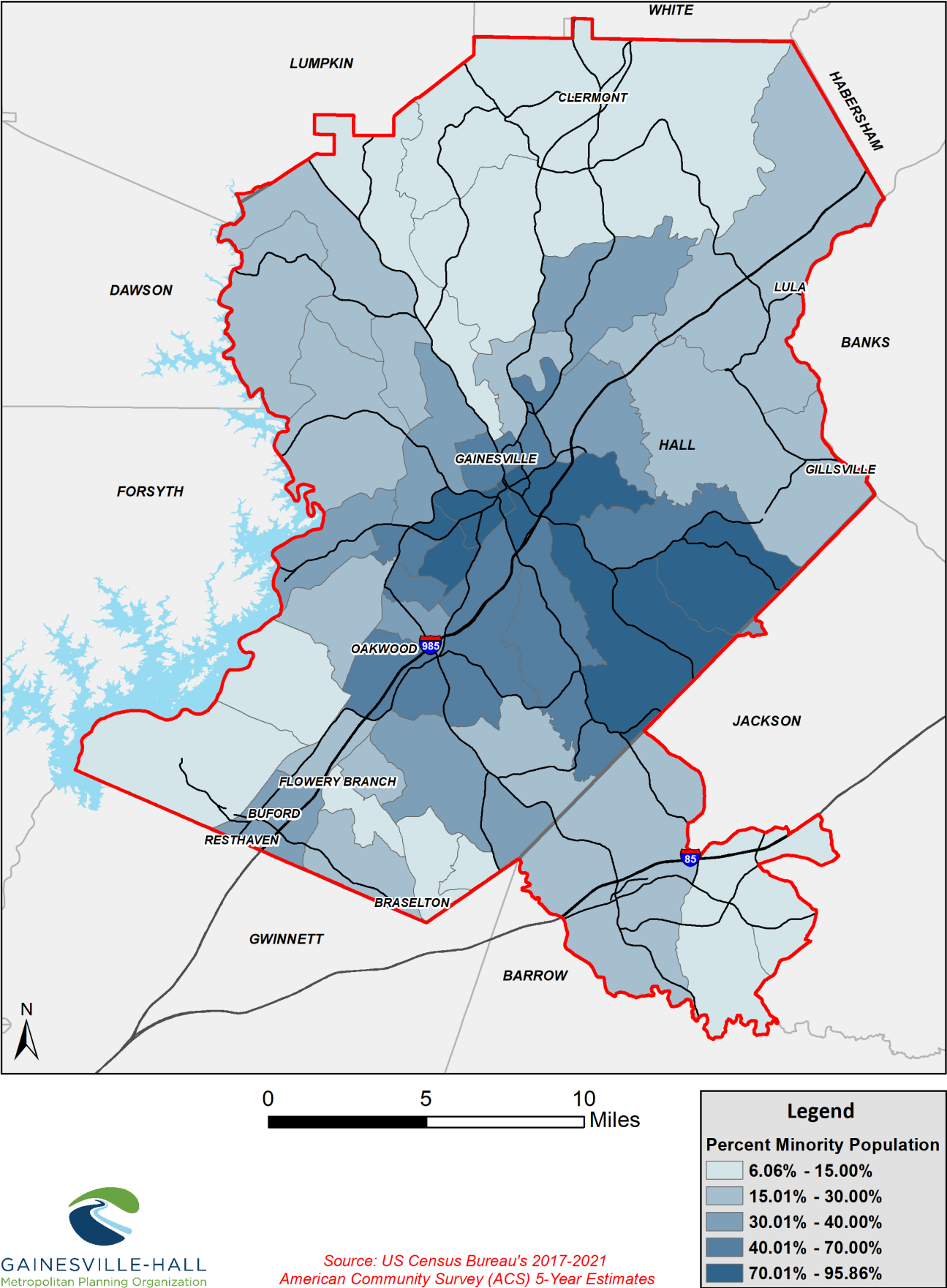


Figure 4: Percentage of Racial and Ethnic Minority Population by Census Tract



Citizens Advisory Committee

Thursday, January 25th, 2024, 4:00 PM
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- 7. Other**
 - Update from the TCC Subcommittees
- 8. TCC Agency Report**

MEMORANDUM

To: Citizens Advisory Committee Members

From: Michael Haire, GHMPO

Date: January 18, 2024

**Re: Presentation on Future 2055 SE Data for the Metropolitan
Transportation Plan (MTP): 2025 Update**

In July, GHMPO staff met with consultant RS&H to kick off the Metropolitan Transportation Plan: 2025 Update. Since then, staff have been working with RS&H to develop 2020 Base Year and 2055 Future Year SE data for GDOT's Traffic Demand Model Update. The 2020 Base Year data was finalized in 2023, while the 2055 Future Year SE Data was submitted to GDOT in December and is now being presented to the GHMPO Committees for informational purposes.

The 2055 Future Year data includes population and household counts, total employment overall and by sector, student populations and school enrollment, and household median income, all at the Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level. RS&H has included a brief presentation discussing the data and their methodology.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: **None**

Attachment: Presentation on Future Year 2055 SE Data



GHMPO

2025 MTP UPDATE

CAC Meeting

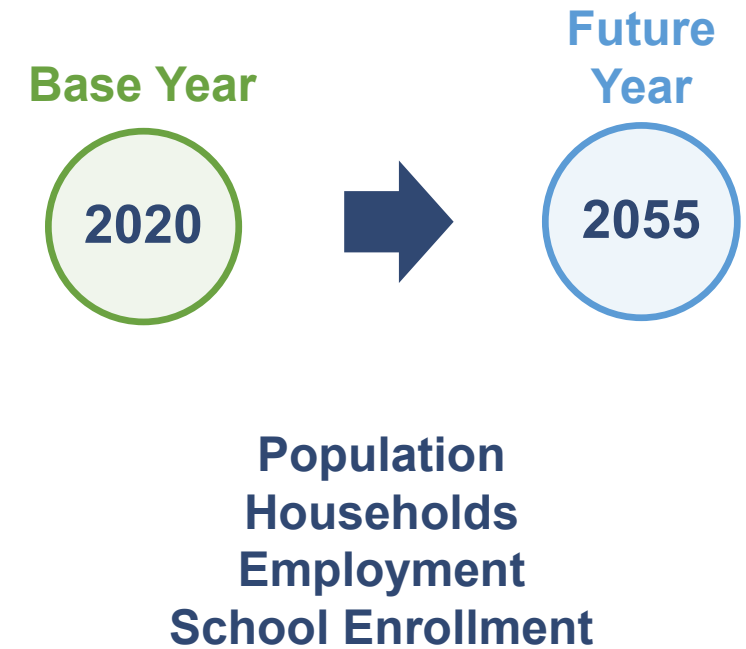
January 25, 2024

Overview

- Socioeconomic Data (SE) Background
- 2020 Base Year Review
- 2055 Future Year Projections
 - Control Totals
 - TAZ Allocation
- MTP Schedule

SE Data Background

- SE data is an essential component of the Travel Demand Model (TDM) and 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update
- Updated every 5 years
- Used to:
 - Forecast future travel demand/congestion
 - Help identify and prioritize future transportation projects/needs



CAC 40

Population Sources

- REMI
- Woods & Poole (W&P)
- 2020 RTP
- US Census
- Office of Planning & Budget (OPB)
- Comprehensive Plans
- Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)*
- Georgia Statewide Travel Demand Model (GSTDM)

*Hall County only

Employment Sources

- REMI
- Woods & Poole (W&P)
- 2020 RTP
- Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
- Comprehensive Plan*
- Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)**
- Georgia Statewide Travel Demand Model (GSTDM)

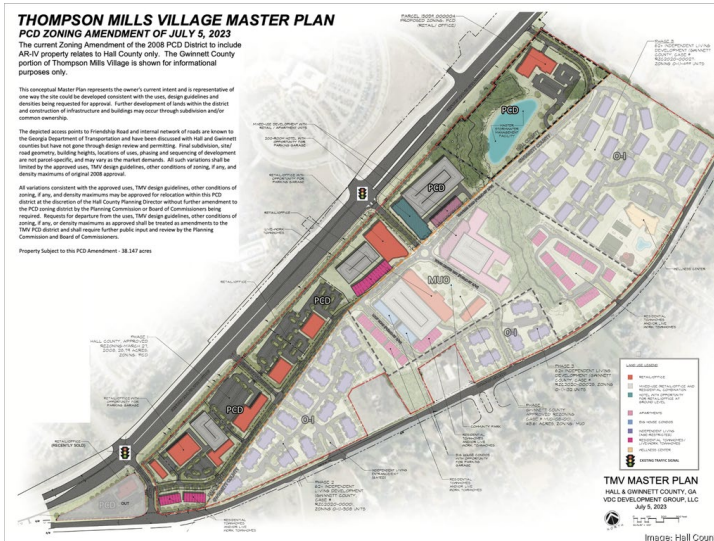
* = Jackson County only

** = Hall County only

NOTE: Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) data was only available at the Workforce Development Area (Regional) level and not the County level

CAC 42

Development Activity



Viewpoint: Growth is coming to Gainesville-Hall County

Apr 23, 2021, 5:10am EDT

Business and industry make long-term investments in Gainesville-Hall County because of the area's stability, skilled workforce, visionary leadership and quality of life. Since 2015, the Gainesville-Hall County area has added over \$1.5 billion in new capital investment and 5,800 jobs from 118 new and existing business expansions. The Milken Institute has named Gainesville-Hall County to its top ten Best Performing Cities for five consecutive years and Site Selection magazine named the area a Top 10 Small Metro for eight of the last ten years.

For a community with a sustained pattern of growth, there are new challenges to address, particularly in efforts to recruit, retain and develop skilled employees. To meet current and future needs in workforce development, Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce leaders are engaged in solutions for the future of housing, infrastructure growth and the skills employers need most.

In 2020, residential property sales were up 18% over the prior year. Population forecasts predict that Gainesville-Hall County will grow at 1.5% per year to more than 250,000 by 2035. The residential development community has responded to the market need for housing. In 2020, local governments in Hall County approved over 1,500 new single family home construction permits, a 37% increase over the previous record year in 2019. Additionally, over 20 new multi-family apartment developments will deliver



Our leadership is in denial: Lula Councilman Cornett, Hall Commissioner Poole clash over Inland Port impact at forum



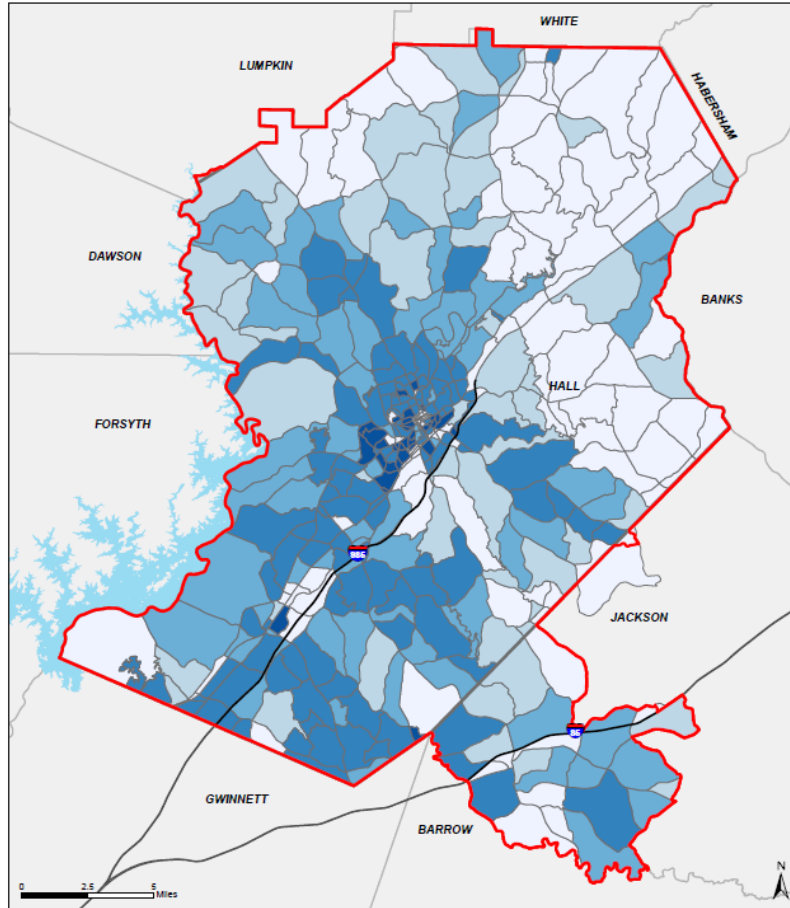
CAC 43

2020 Base Year SE Data

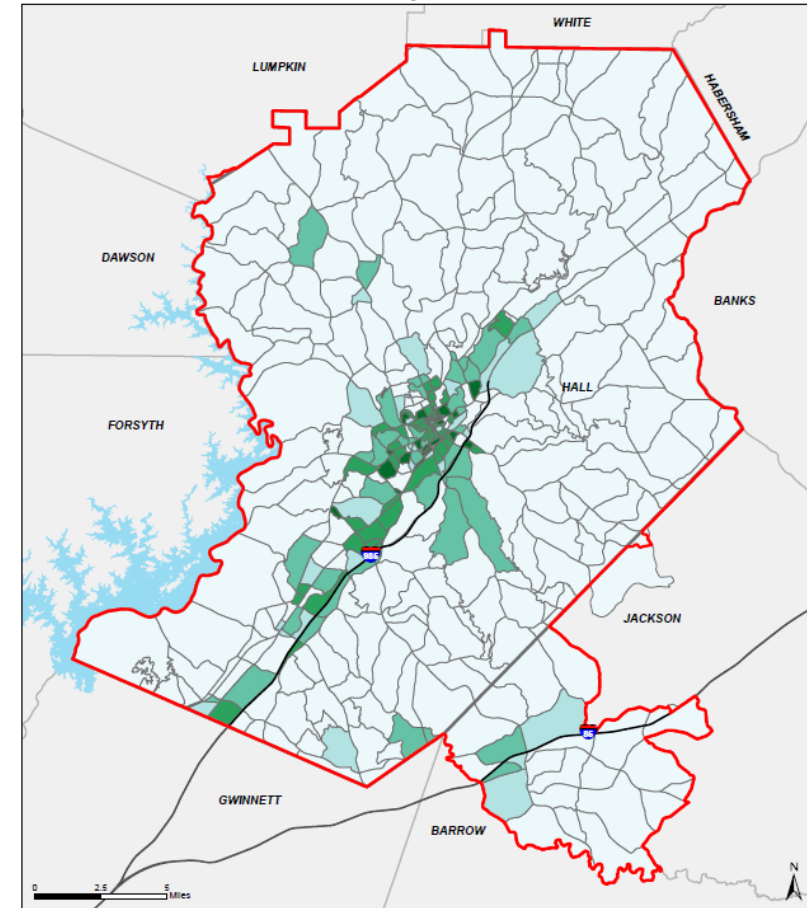
County	Population	Households	Employment	Students (K-12)	University Enrollment
Hall	201,999	71,047	107,785	35,002	14,864
Jackson	75,915	26,178	27,885	13,549	-
Jackson (portion within GHMPO)	20,712	6,955	7,046	4,262	-

2020 Base Year SE Data Review

Population

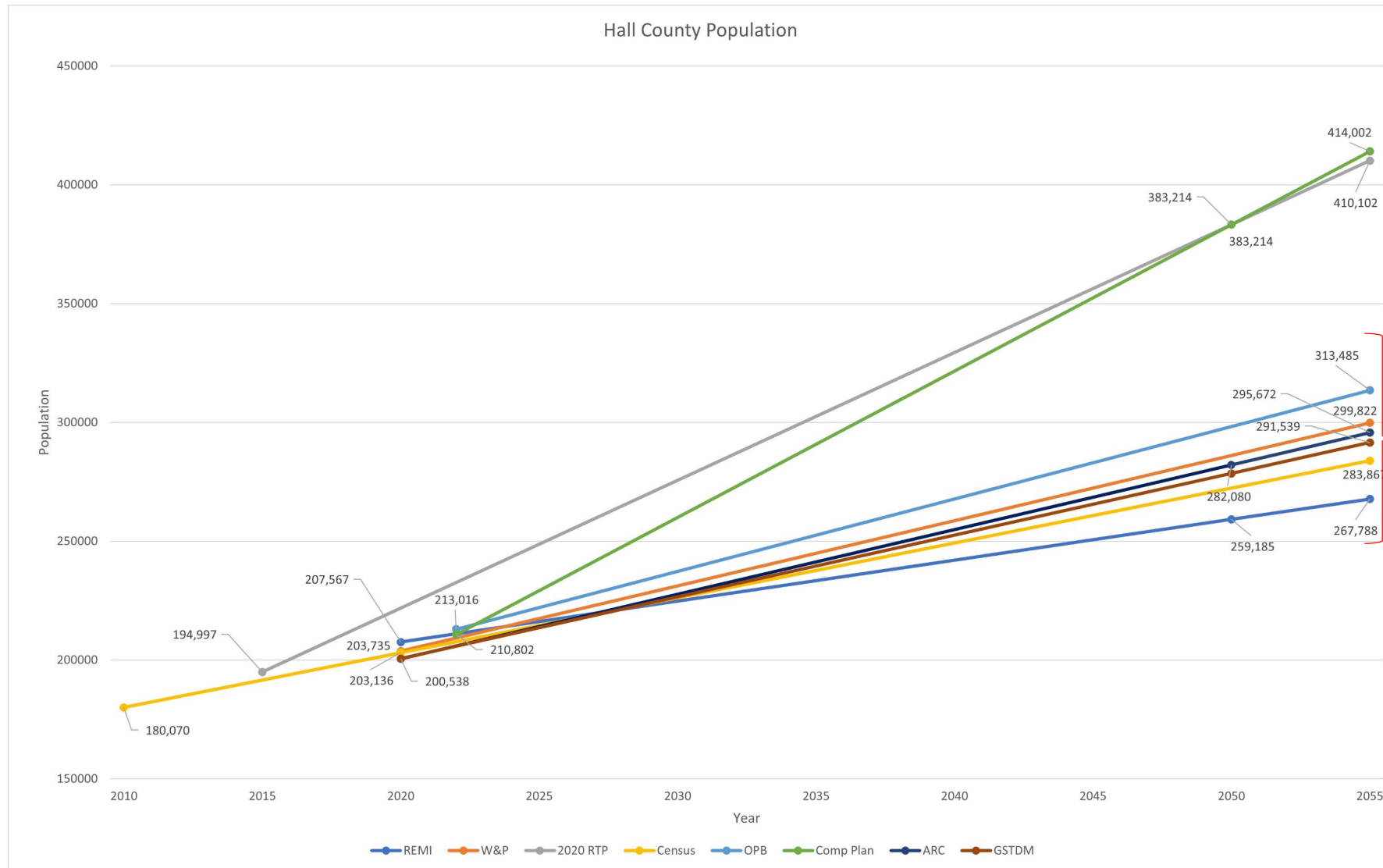


Employment



CAC 45

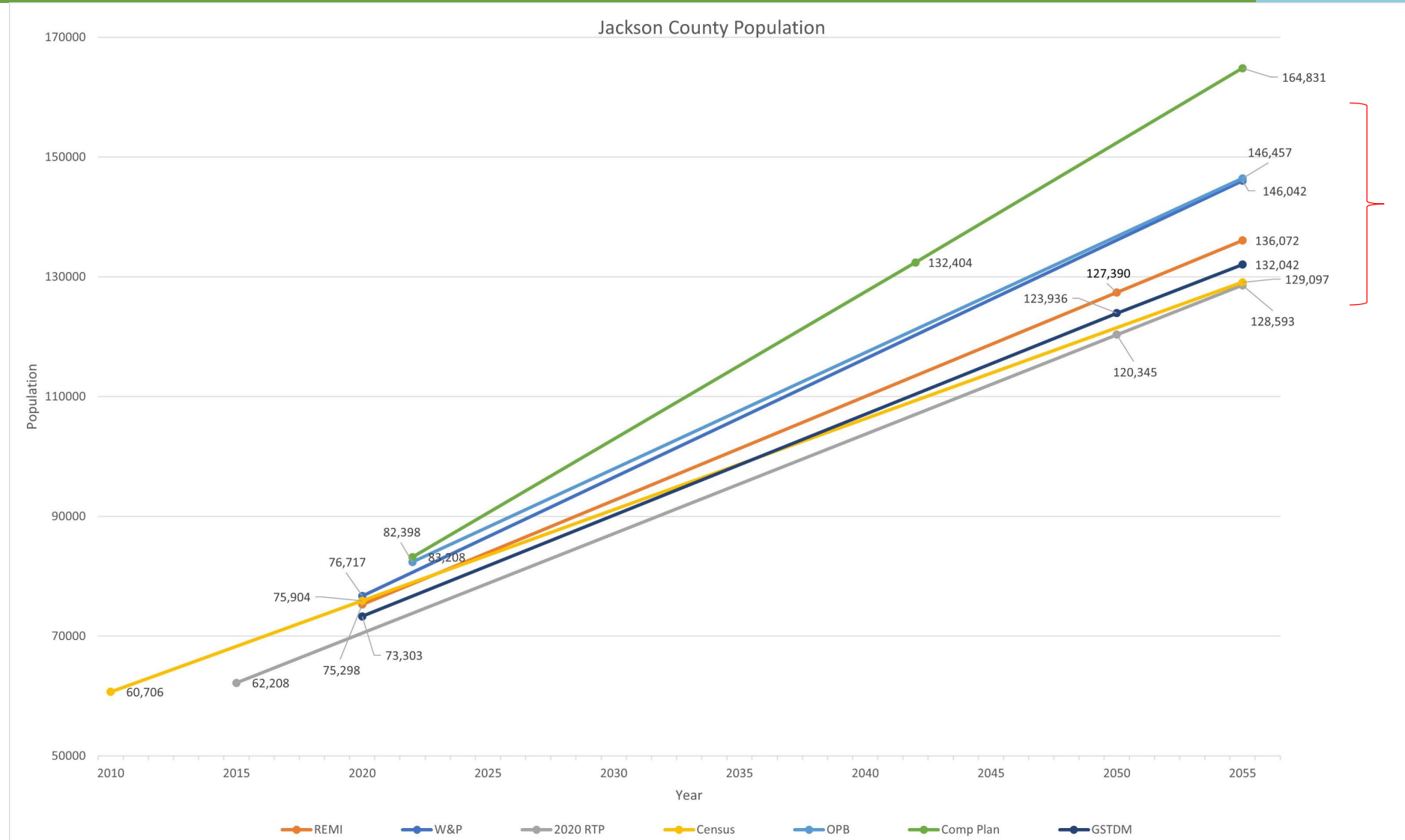
Hall County – Population Projections



**2055
Forecast:
292,096**

CAC 46

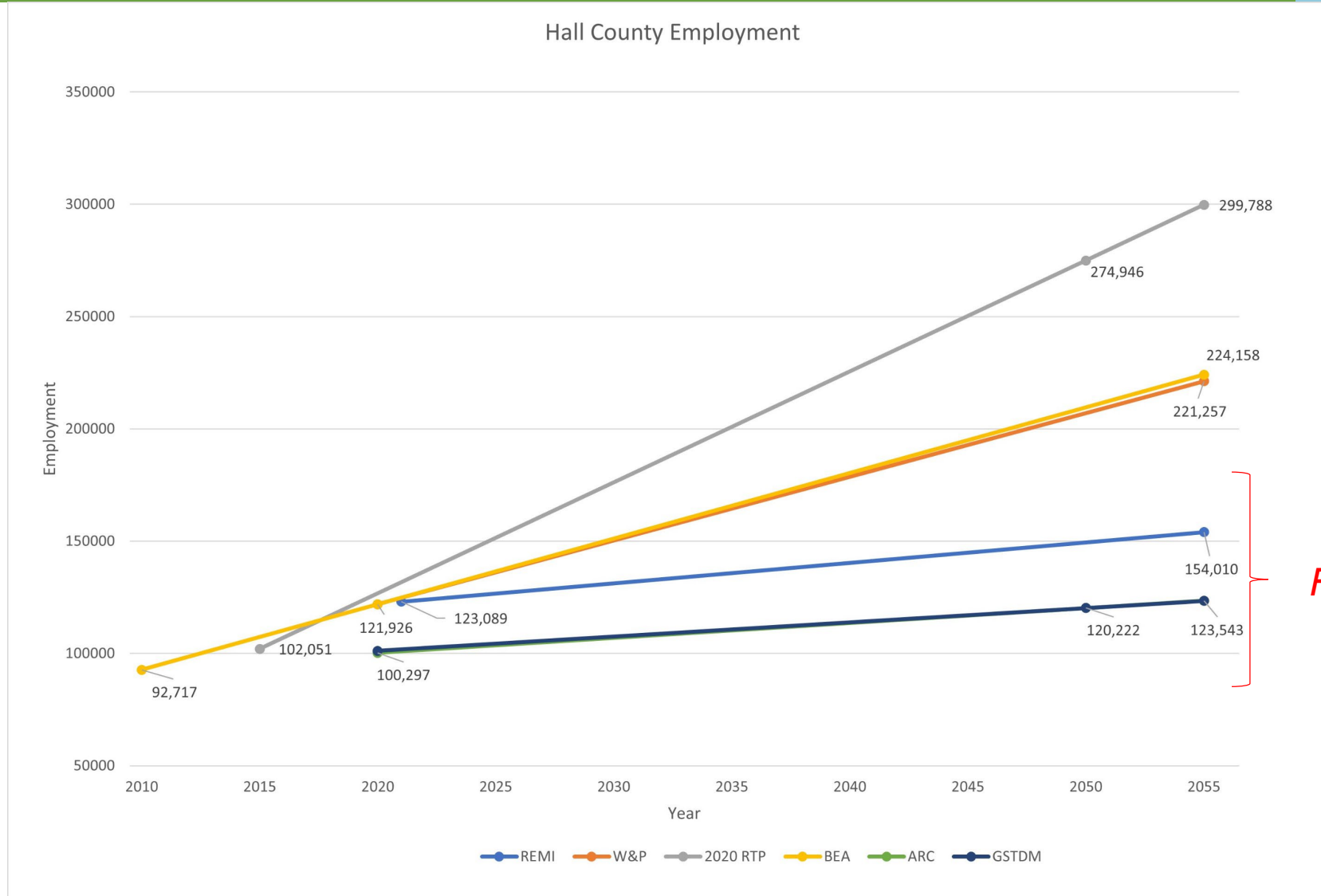
Jackson County – Population Projections



**2055
Forecast:
140,451**

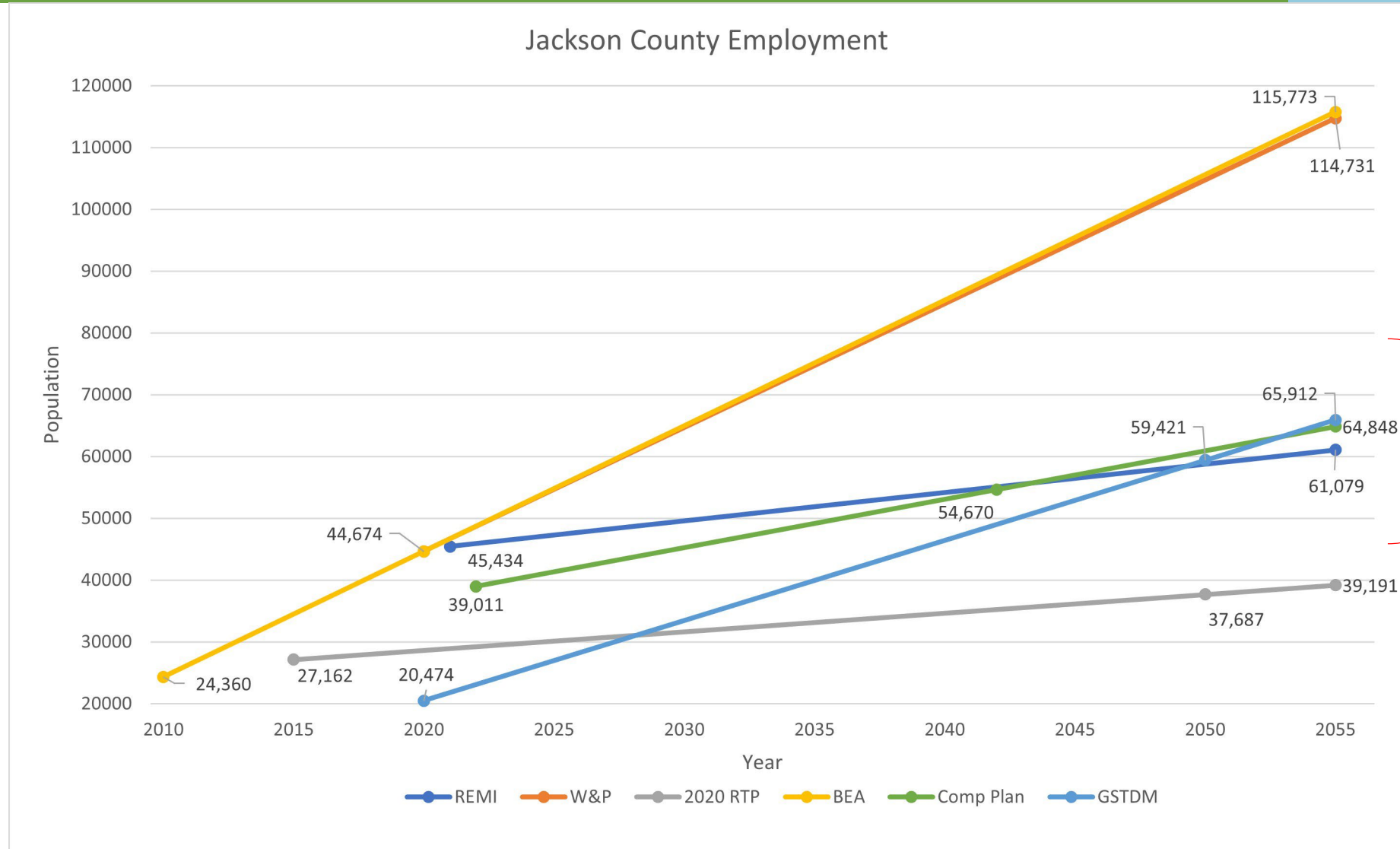
CAC 47

Hall County – Total Employment



CAC 48

Jackson County – Total Employment



**2055
Forecast:
63,497**

CAC 49

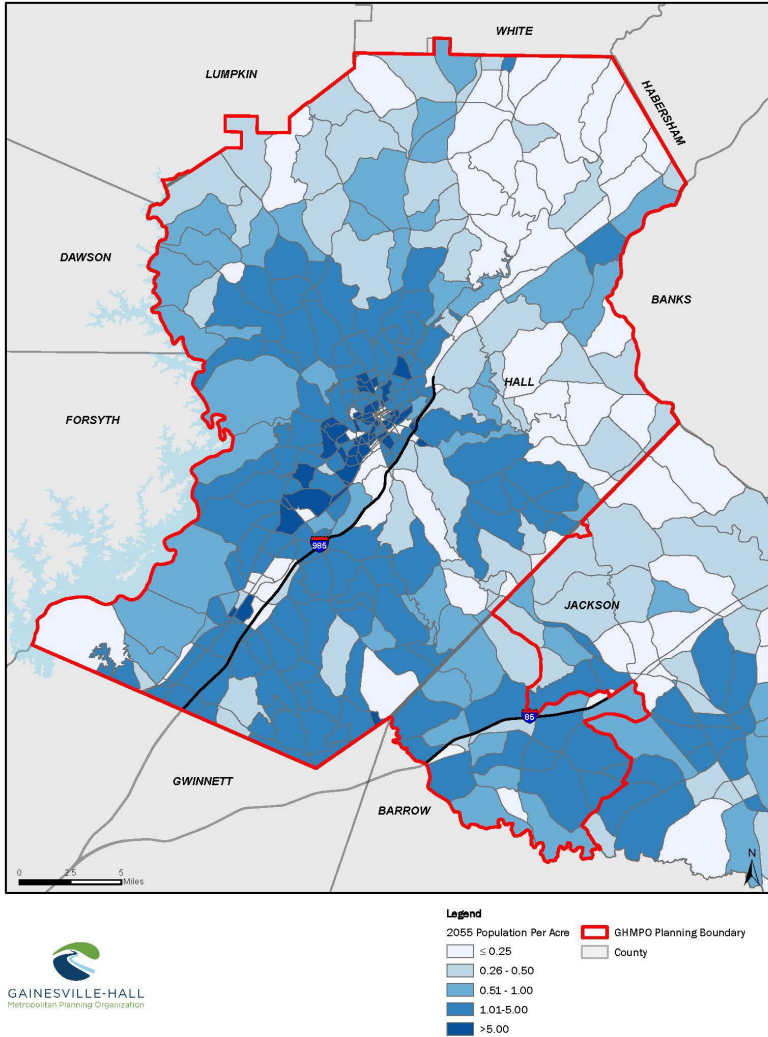
2055 Future Year SE Data

County	Population	Households	Employment	Students (K-12)	University Enrollment
Hall	292,096	101,043	133,643	49,645	14,876
Jackson	140,451	48,601	63,497	29,946	150
Jackson (portion within GHMPO)	41,009	13,737	14,296	15,883	-

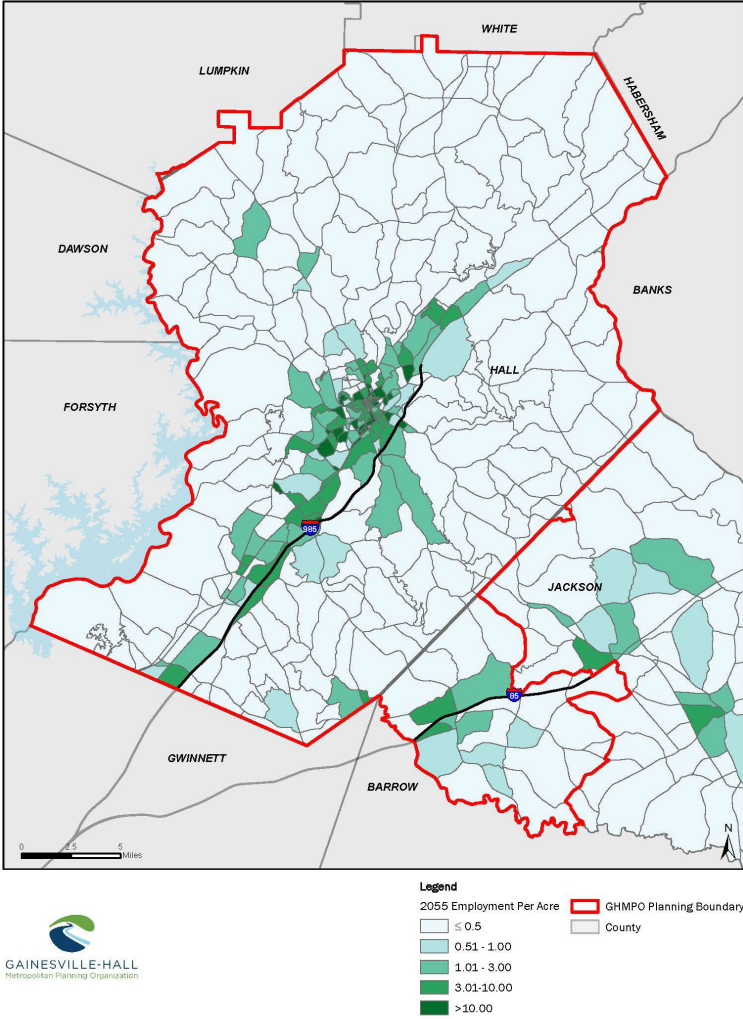
CAC 50

2055 Future Year SE Data

Population

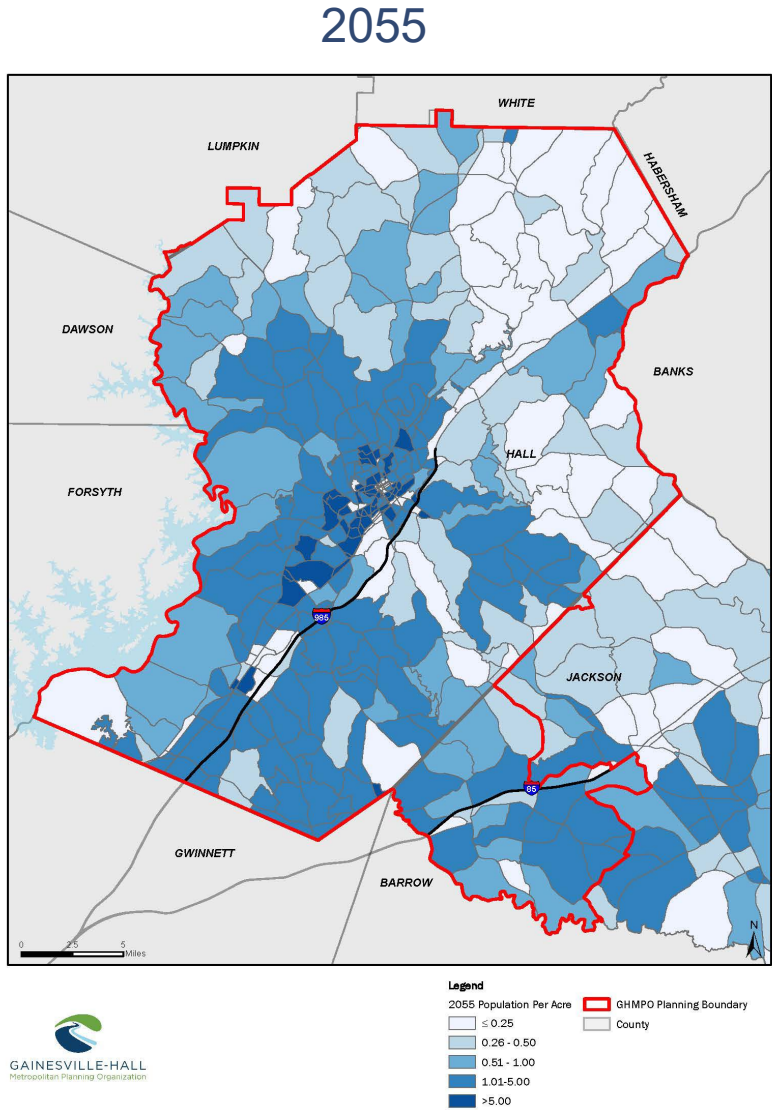
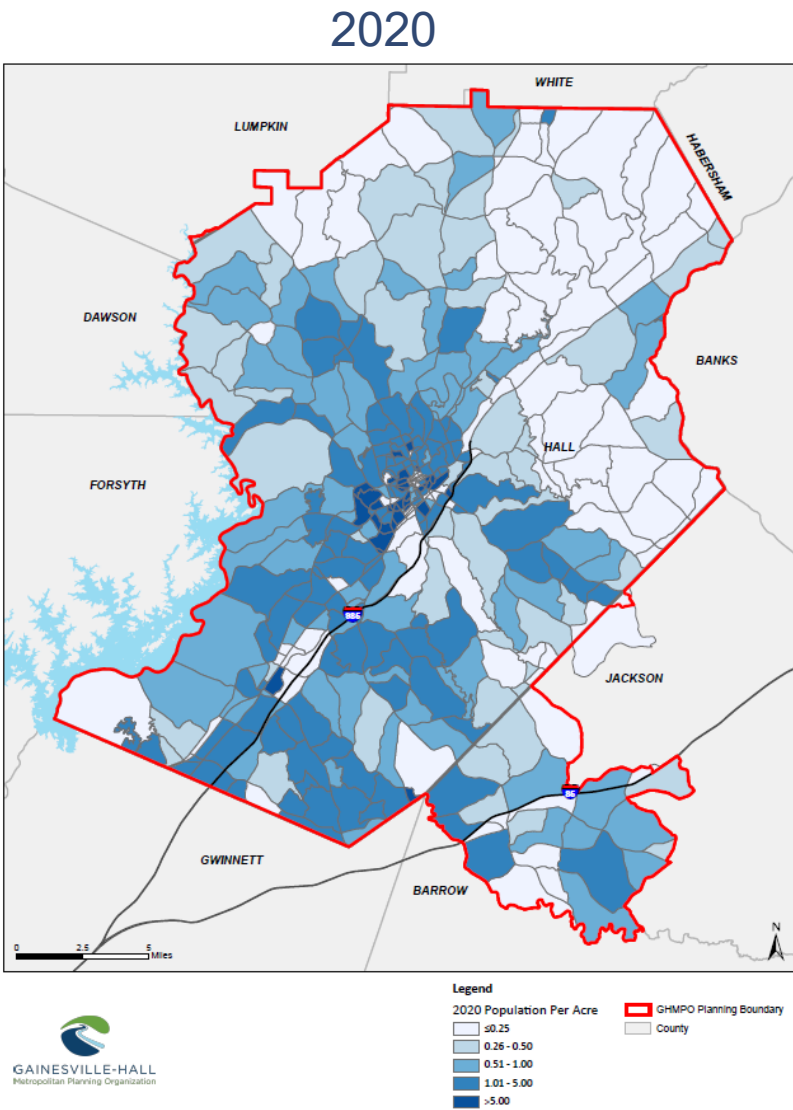


Employment

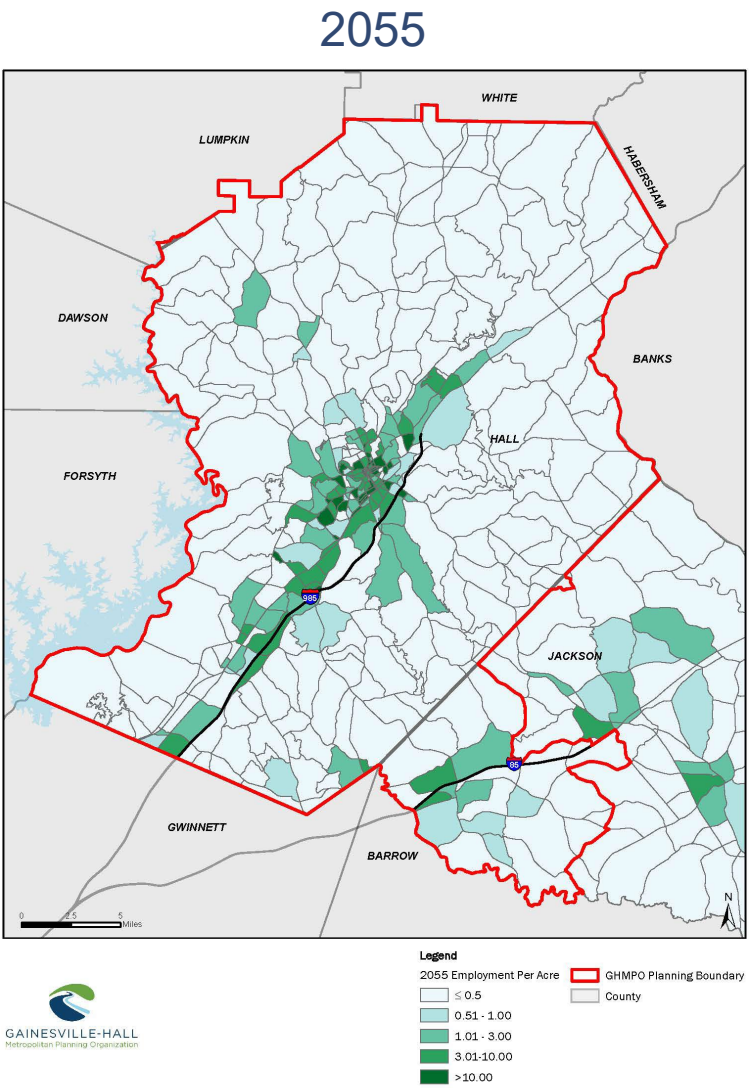
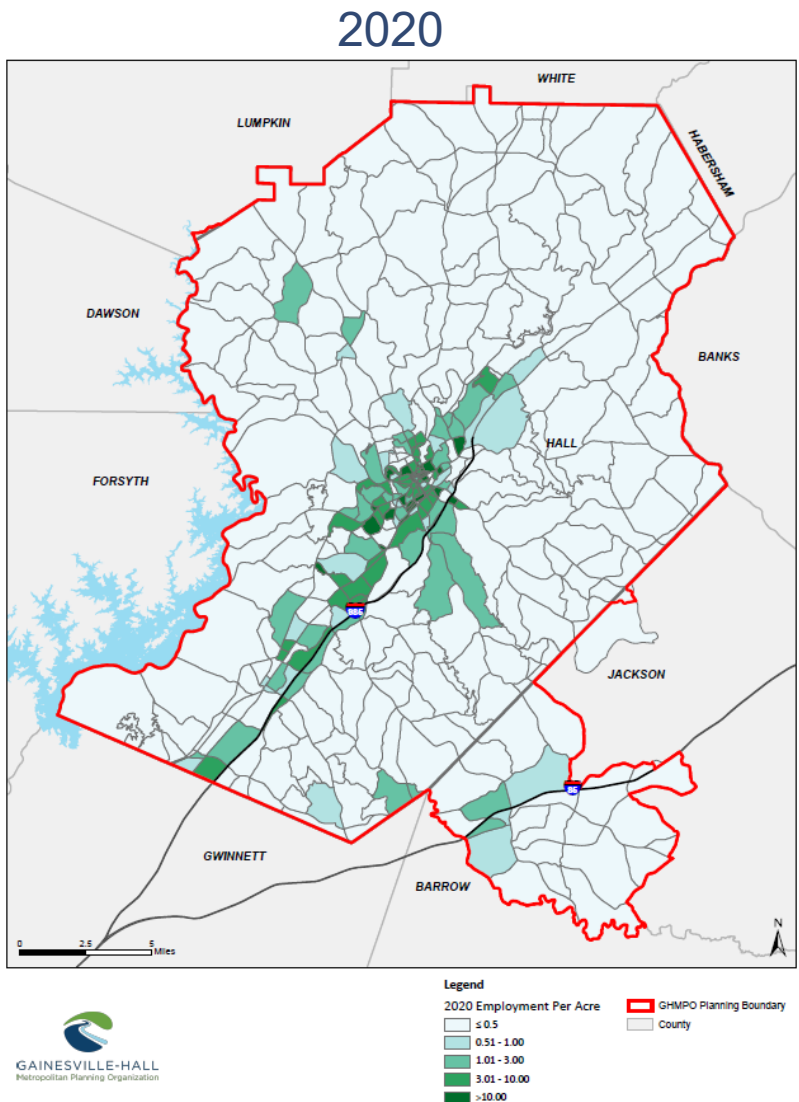


CAC 51

2020 to 2055 Population Density Change

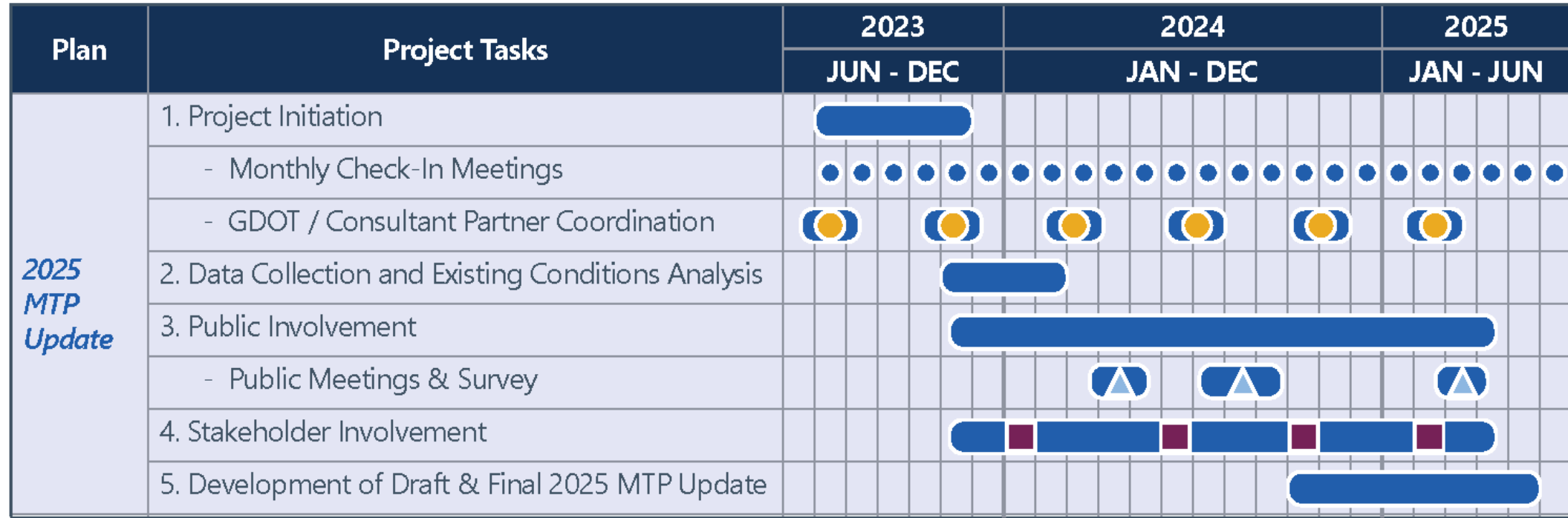


2020 to 2055 Employment Density Change



CAC 53

Schedule



■ - Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) ▲ - Public Meeting or Survey ● - GDOT / Consultant Partner Collaboration

Thank you!

Citizens Advisory Committee

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9. Public Comment

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: April 25, 2024

11. Adjourn

9. Public Comment

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: April 25, 2024

11. Adjourn

9. Public Comment

10. Upcoming Meeting Date: April 25, 2024

11. Adjourn