



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

A RESOLUTION BY THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION  
ENCOURAGING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO ADDRESS PENDING SHORTFALLS TO  
THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND (HTF)

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning for all or parts of eighteen counties, including 5.2 million people and 52% of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, ARC works closely with regional partners, such as the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), local governments, and transit agencies to both identify projects and program funding to address transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) has notified partners that once balances in the Highway Trust Fund's highway account decline to below \$4 billion the federal government will institute cash management strategies designed to keep the account solvent, including potential steps such as reimbursing states weekly instead of daily or paying states for only a portion of the reimbursement requests they submit; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT forecasts that highway account balances will decline below \$4 billion in late July or early August 2014, creating a funding crisis in the nation and state; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation has communicated to partners that no contracts for federal-aid projects will be authorized after July 1, 2014, due to the unstable prospect for reimbursement from federal sources; and

WHEREAS, within the Atlanta region over \$660 million in federal transportation funds, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2014, are now threatened, including critical safety, maintenance, and congestion relief projects – threatening the regional economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission requests that the State's congressional delegation immediately take action to address the pending insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund so that needed transportation projects are not delayed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the ARC encourages steps be taken to not only address the HTF's short-term cash balances, but also seek a long-term reauthorization of the MAP-21 transportation bill, including identifying stable funding sources to ensure the health of the HTF.