Draft Recommendations
Public Meetings
May 11, 2022



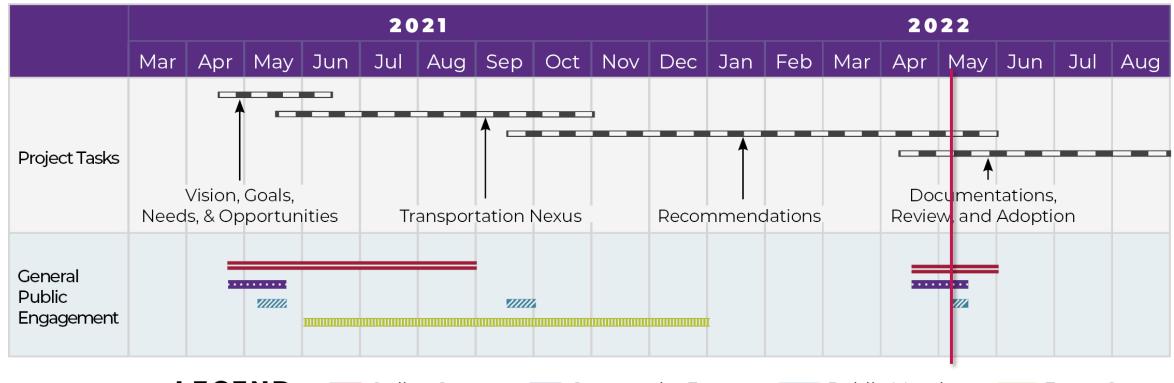


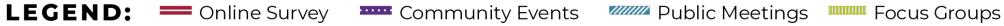


## Agenda

- Schedule
- What Has Been Done
- What We Heard
- Draft Transportation and Land Use Recommendations
- Engagement Opportunities
- Breakout Discussions

## Project Schedule



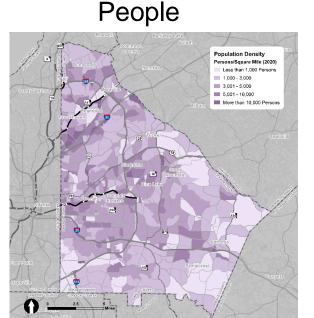


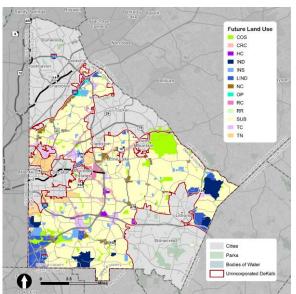




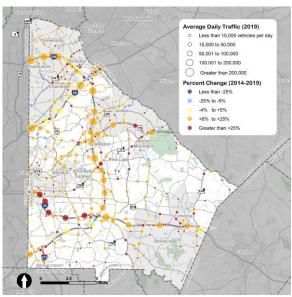
## Existing Conditions/ Needs Assessment

- Report including:
  - Review of previous plans
  - Understanding of existing conditions
  - Projection of future needs through 2050
- Considers people, places, and mobility





Places

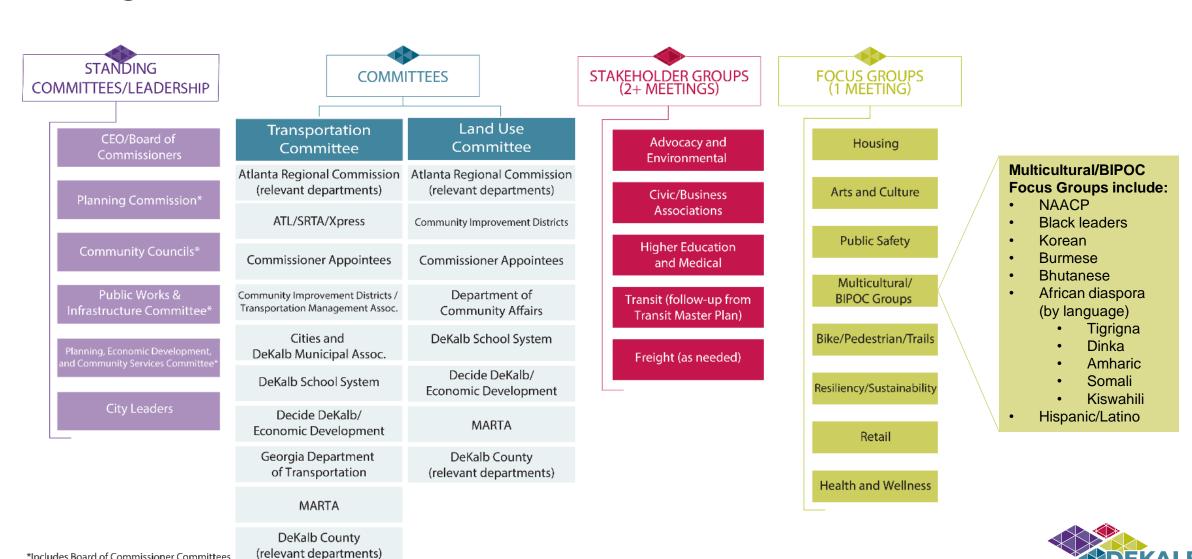




Mobility

## Targeted Stakeholder Outreach

\*Includes Board of Commissioner Committees



## Stakeholder and Public Engagement to Date

## **Meetings with**

Stakeholder Groups 6
Focus Groups 19
Commissioners 25
Community Councils 1
Public 8

## Other Engagement

Community Interc	epts 7
Community Prese	ntations 10+
Online Survey	1
Website	1
Social Media Platf	orms 2



# What We Heard

## Feedback: Transportation Priorities

\*Presented in rank order

- Provide Transportation Options through Connectivity across Modes
- Enable Healthy Communities and Improve Quality of Life
- Improve Safety
- Improve Maintenance
- Promote Equity
- Increase Funding for Improvements
- Increase Access to Jobs and Education
- Encourage Economic Development
- Respect and Improve DeKalb County's Character
- Practice Fiscal Responsibility in Transportation Investments
- Better Accommodate Movement of Goods

## Feedback: Good Things in DeKalb

\*Presented in rank order

# Where Good Things are Happening Now

- 1. Toco Hills Town Center
- 2. Emory Village Neighborhood Center
- 3. Briarcliff & North Druid Hills Town Center
- 4. North Decatur & Scott Blvd Town Center
- 5. Oak Grove Neighborhood Center

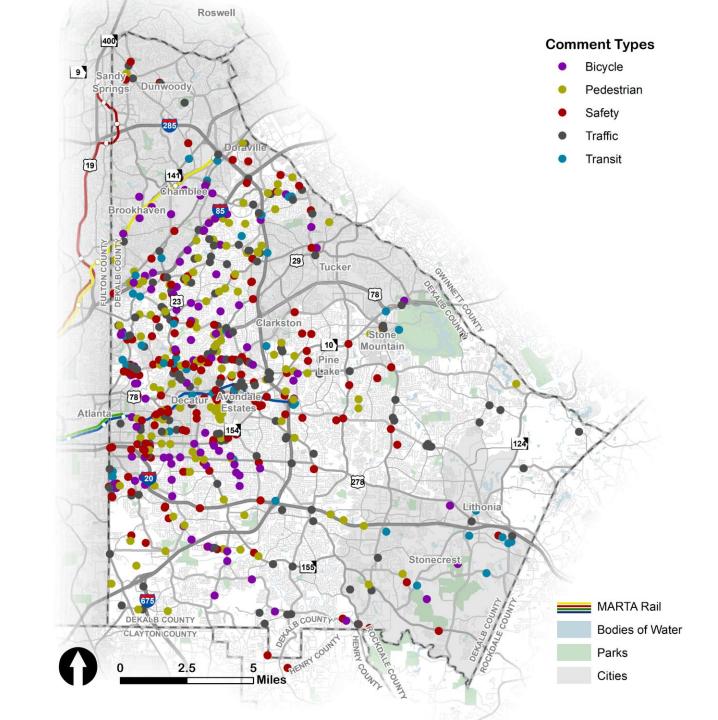
# Where You Would Like to See Good Things Happen

- 1. North DeKalb Mall Town Center
- 2. Northlake Mall Regional Center
- 3. Memorial Dr & Columbia Dr Town Center
- 4. Clairmont & Briarcliff Rd Urban Center
- 5. I-20 & Candler Rd Town Center

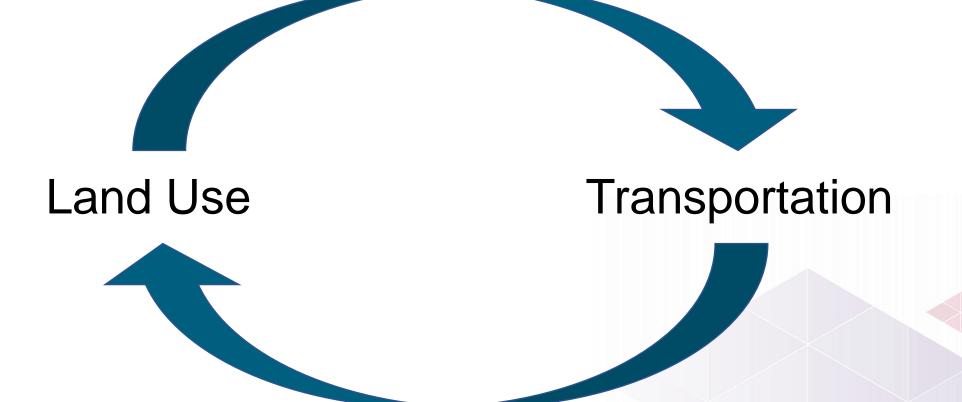


# Feedback: Transportation Needs

- Pins dropped on specific locations of need
- Specified by project type:
  - Bicycle
  - Pedestrian
  - Safety
  - Traffic
  - Transit
- Opportunity to like or dislike existing comments

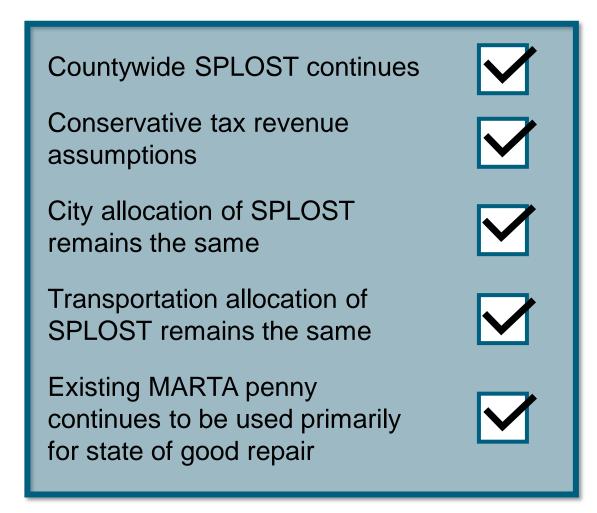


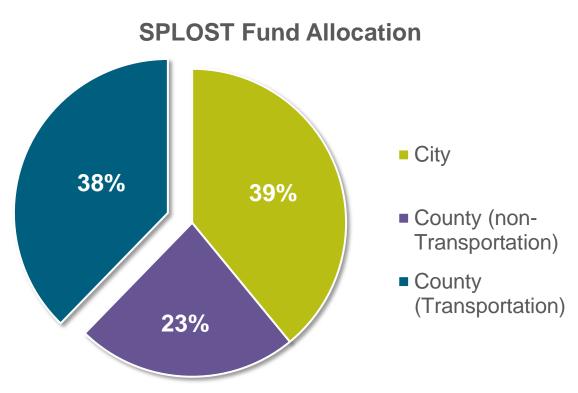
# Transportation and Land Use Nexus



# Draft Transportation and Land Use Recommendations

## Transportation Funding Assumptions







# Transportation Funding Overview (Unincorporated)

	Tier 1 6 Years	Tier 2 6 Years	Tier 3 15 Years
Set-aside Funding Categories	\$179,000,000	\$162,000,000	\$371,000,000
Project Funding	\$71,000,000	\$103,000,000	\$363,000,000
Total Transportation Funding	\$250,000,000	\$265,000,000	\$734,000,000



## Policy Recommendations for Transportation

## Asset Management

Pavement condition assessment, management plan

Invest heavily in resurfacing but balance with new capital project opportunities

## Technology

Invest first in programmatic levels followed by key infrastructure needs

Add later funding for smart corridors, advanced tech

Bicycle/Pedestrian

House trail planning in one department, hire a lead Conduct trail plan, sidewalk inventory/assessment Invest appropriate funding for meaningful expansion



## Transportation Projects

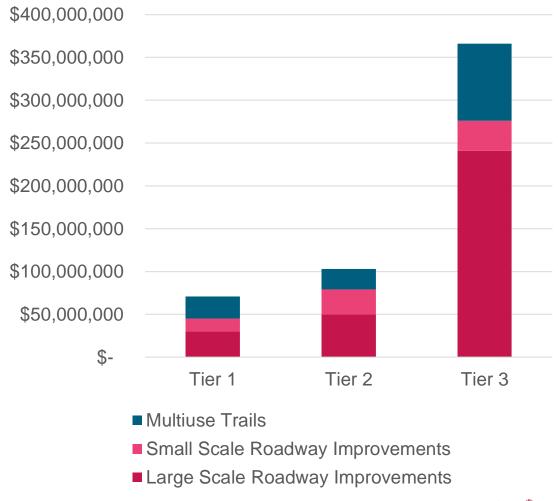
Total project allocation across three tiers of projects and three major funding categories:

Multiuse Trails: \$140M

Small Scale Roadway: \$77M

Large Scale Roadway: \$320M

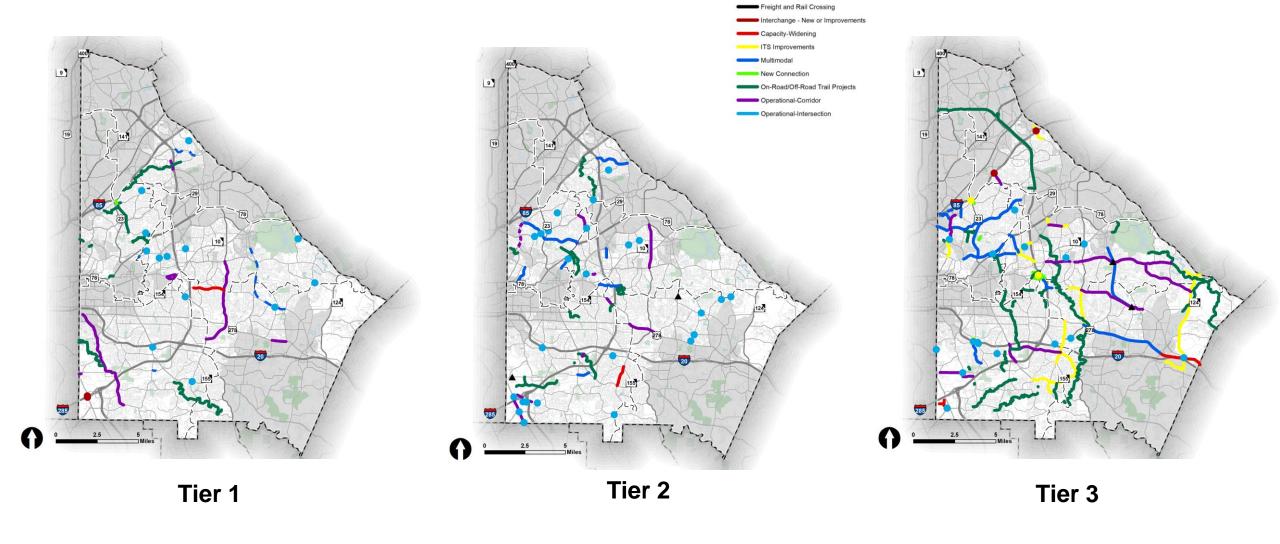
#### **Draft Transportation Project Funding**



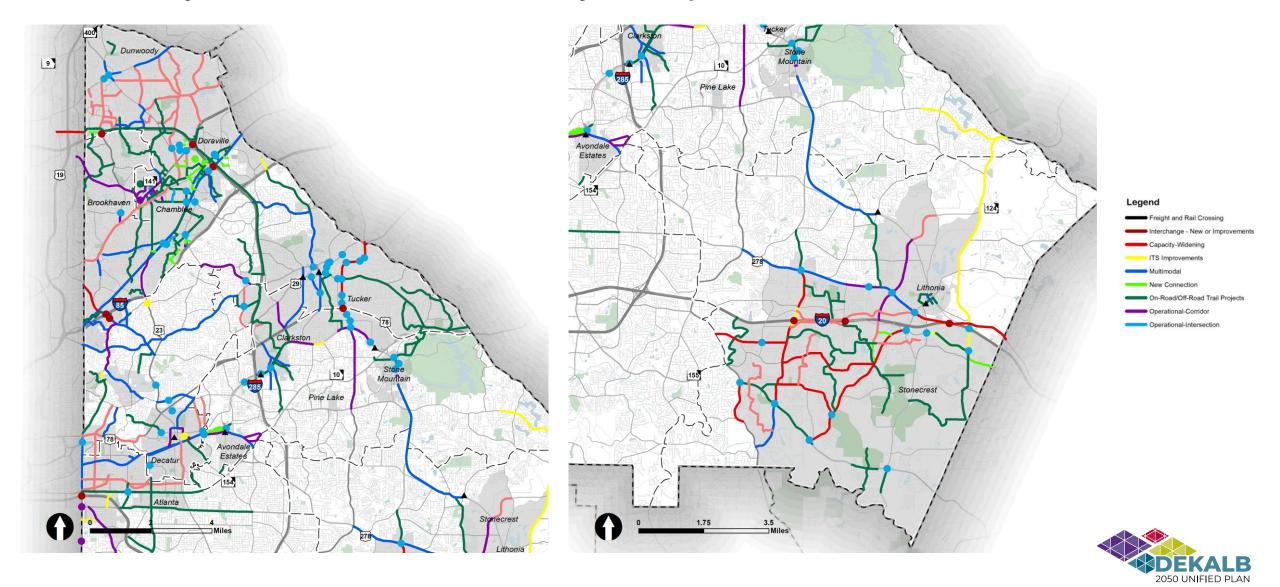


## Draft Transportation Project Recommendations

**Unincorporated DeKalb County** 



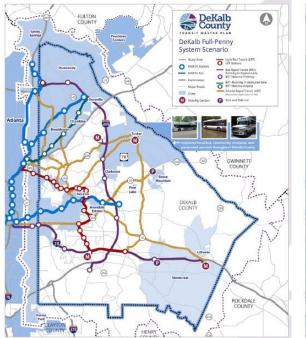
# Early Coordination: City Project Recommendations



## Policy Recommendations for Transit

- Within the Unified Plan
  - Confirm need and level of transit investment (full-penny, half-penny, etc.) to advance transit expansion
  - Document transit system and project benefits for public and stakeholders
  - Establish policy foundation for moving forward
- Beyond the Unified Plan (\*If new funding for transit is desired)
  - Build from/update four scenarios developed in Transit Master Plan, work with MARTA
  - Conduct robust public education and engagement
  - Take steps to advance referendum through the ATL

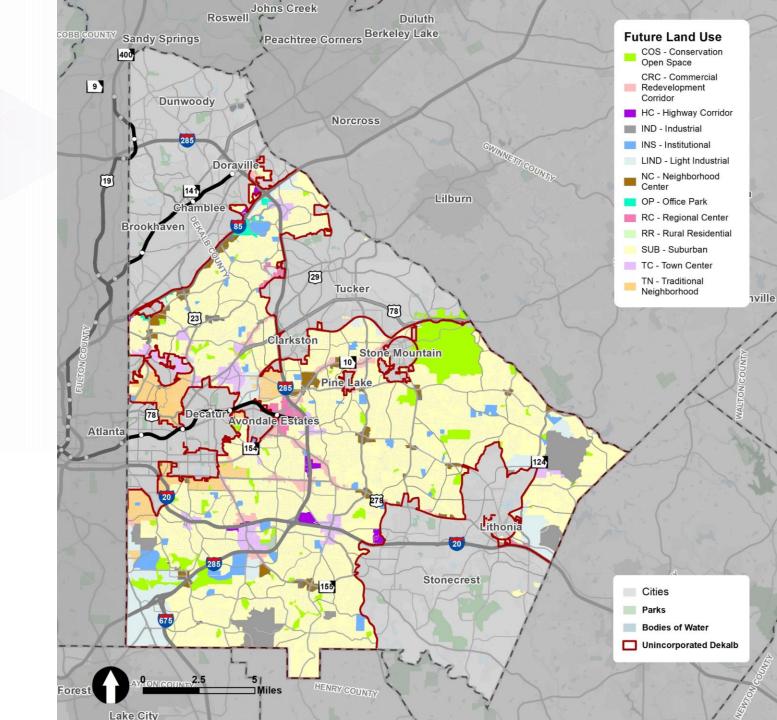






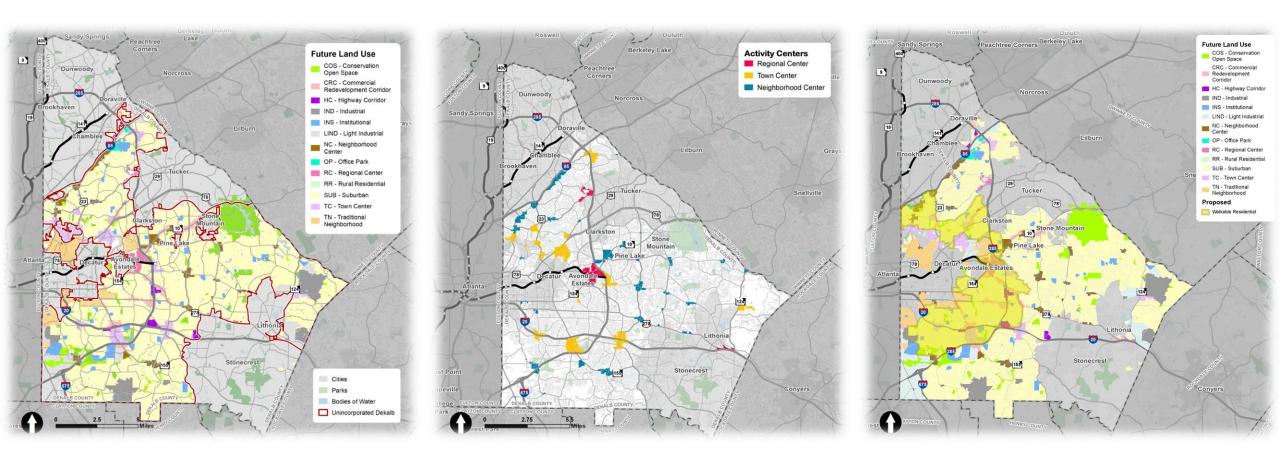
# Updating the Future Land Use Plan

- County character is diverse and evolving
- Infill and redevelopment needed to support continued growth
- Market and demographics pushing for more diverse housing types
- New cities and annexations have impacted priority areas



## Draft Land Use Recommendations

**Unincorporated DeKalb County** 



**Future Land Land Use** 

**Activity Center Updates** 

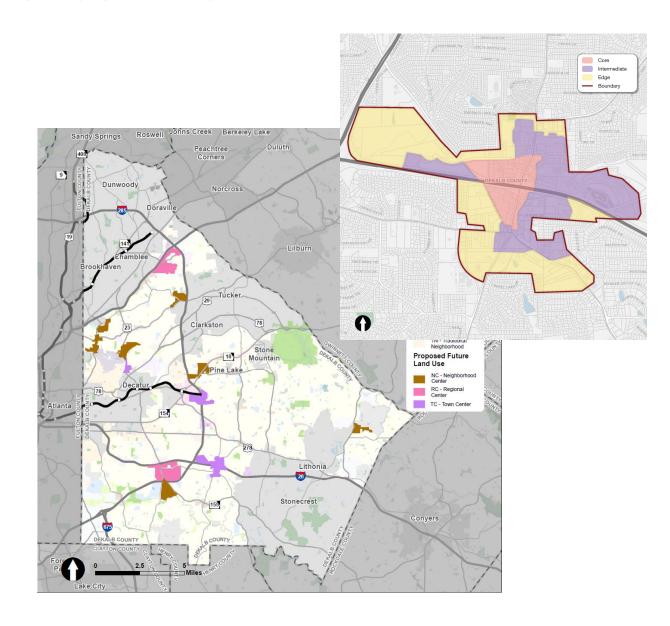
**New Residential Character Area** 

## Draft Land Use Recommendations

Unincorporated DeKalb County

#### **Activity Center Updates**

- Reflects current and future development activity
- Provides more flexibility
- Recategorization of some Activity Centers
- Revise some boundaries
- Use Small Area Plans to guide how activity centers should develop in a greater level of detail



## Policy Recommendations for Land Use

Economic Development and Housing are key policy areas addressed in a Community's Comprehensive Plan and were identified as <a href="mailto:priorities">priorities</a> by <a href="mailto:DeKalb County stakeholders">DeKalb County stakeholders</a>

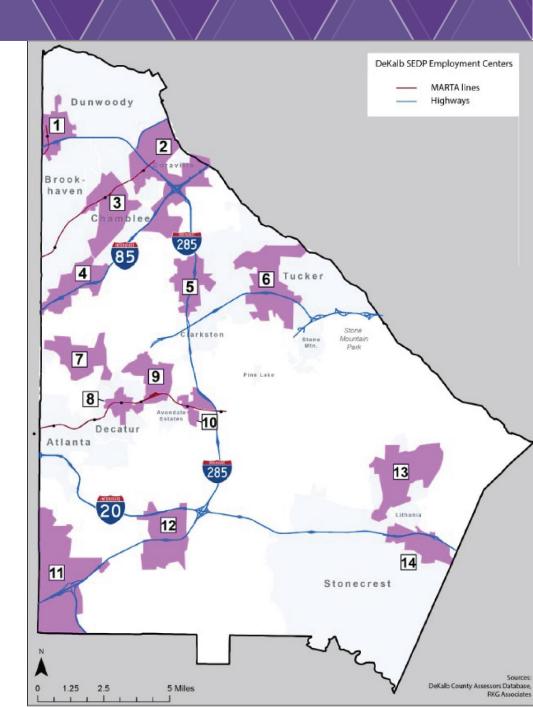
## **Economic Development**

Housing



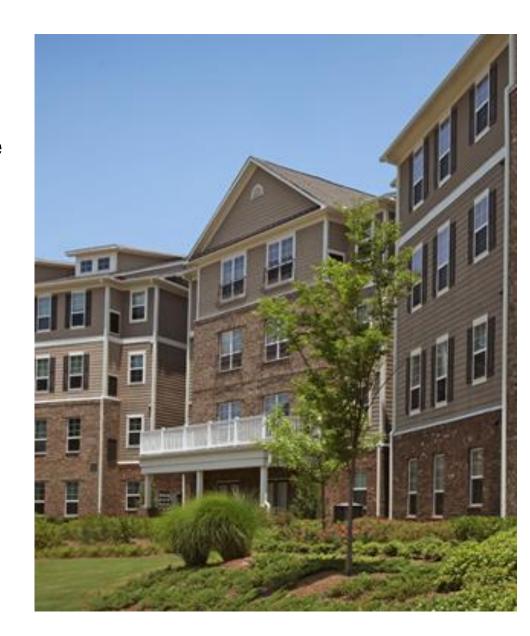
## Recommendations

- Coordinating with <u>Decide DeKalb</u>, which is the Development Authority of DeKalb County
- Coordinating Land Use policy to better support business recruitment and retention
- Placing greater <u>emphasis on economic</u> <u>development</u> in <u>underserved</u> and <u>marginalized</u> <u>communities</u>
- Supporting <u>additional workforce development</u> efforts



## Recommendations

- Developing a <u>county housing strategy</u> focused on the preservation of existing <u>affordable housing</u>, the creation of <u>new affordable units</u>, and <u>partnerships</u> with both private and non-profit entities
- Establishing a <u>staff position focused</u> specifically on <u>housing affordability</u>
- Creating of a new housing affordability advisory committee
- Preserving existing supply of workforce and affordable housing
- Identifying opportunities to <u>partner with private and</u> <u>non-profit organizations</u> to provide workforce and affordable housing



## Other Policy Recommendations for Land Use

## Sustainability

Arts, Culture, & Historic Resources

Health and Wellness

Retail Improvements

Public Safety

#### **Policy Recommendations**

- Comprehensive Plans can address various policy areas across the county
- Each policy area has specific recommendations to help set and achieve goals
- Policies and recommendations reflect feedback received from staff, stakeholders, and the community





## Public Engagement – Meetings and Events

### **Virtual Public Meetings**

Wednesday May 11 1:00-2:30 PM

Thursday May 12 6:00-7:30 PM

Saturday May 14 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

## **Community Events**

Tucker Days
May 7
Noon-3:00 PM

**Good Neighbor Day** 

May 14 *Noon-5:00 PM* 

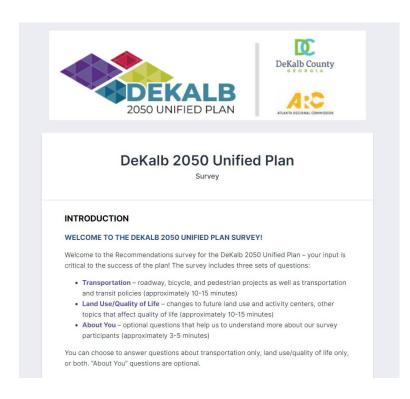
Gresham Park May 21 Noon-3:00 PM **Stonecrest Mall** 

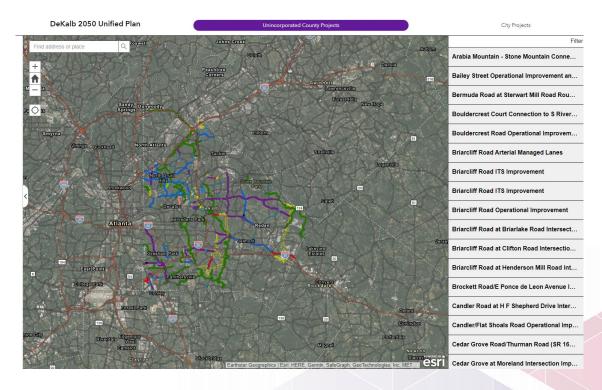
May 15 *Noon-3:00 PM* 

Wade Walker Park

May 22 *Noon-3:00 PM* 

## Public Engagement – Survey and Website





#### Survey

**Interactive Maps** 

Website

www.dekalb2050unifiedplan.com/

Email address

2050unifiedplan@dekalbcountyga.gov

Social media
#UnifiedDeKalb, #ItsInDeKalb



# Draft Recommendations Breakout Discussion







## Breakout Agenda

- Transportation
- Transit
- Land Use
- Quality of Life

# Poll Everywhere Exercises

When the poll is active, please submit your responses at pollev.com/kha1





# Transportation

# Recommendations for Transportation

Tier 1 Tier 3 Tier 2 15 years 6 years 6 years \$127M \$107M \$206M **Asset Management** Funding Set-asides **Technology** \$30M \$6M \$9M Sidewalks/Crossings \$24M \$24M \$75M Projects **Transportation Projects** \$71M \$363M \$103



### **Transportation Projects**

Total project allocation across three tiers of projects and three major funding categories:

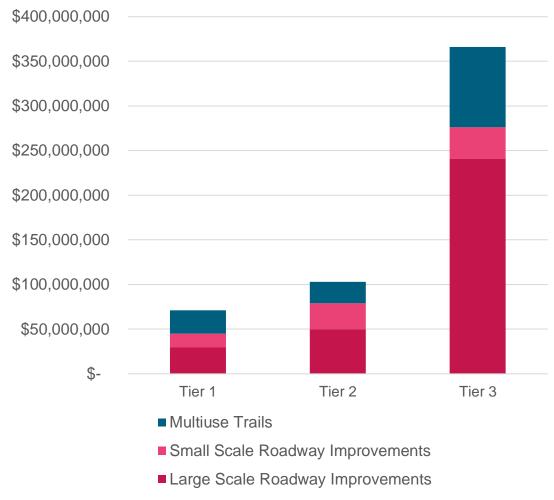
Multiuse Trails: \$140M

Small Scale Roadway: \$77M

Large Scale Roadway: \$320M

Polling Question!

### **Draft Transportation Project Funding**



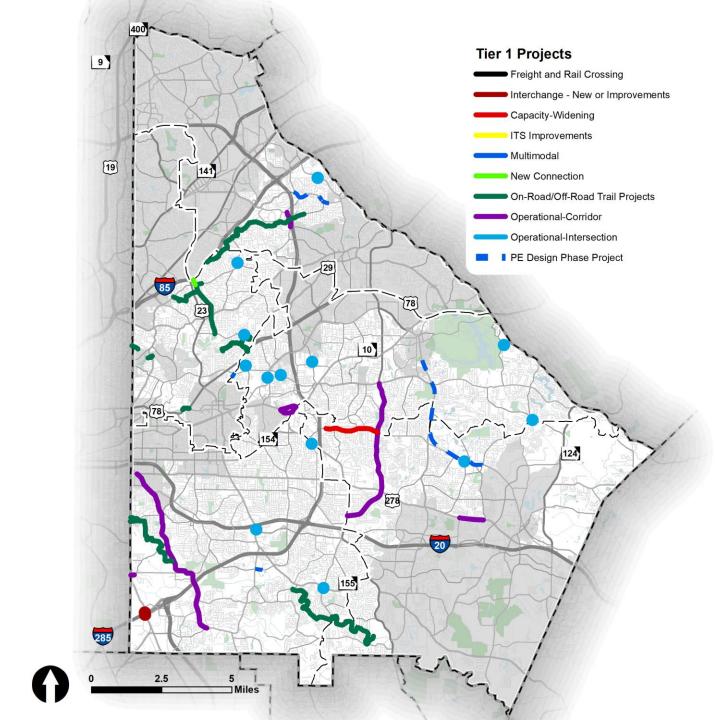


### Draft Projects – Tier 1

• Large Roadway: \$30M

• Small Roadway: \$15M

• Trail: \$26M



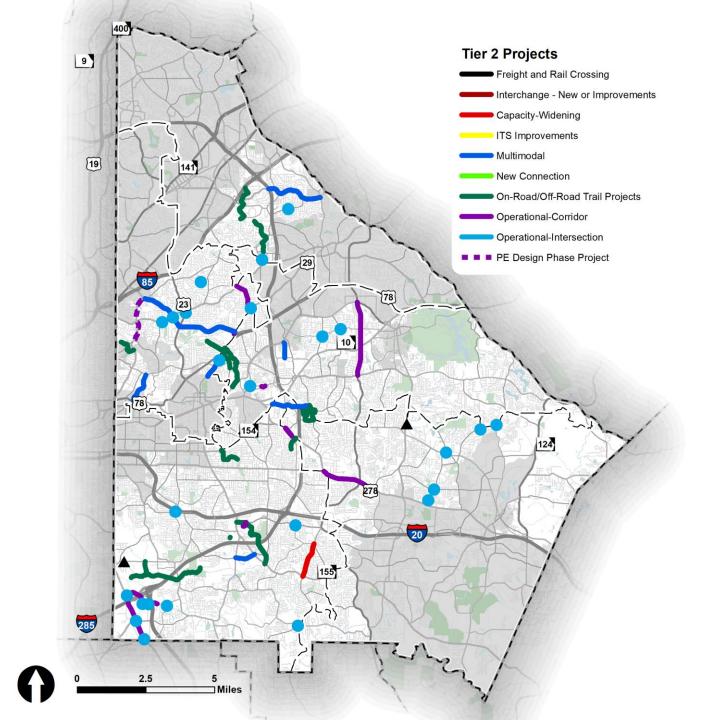
### Draft Projects – Tier 2

Large Roadway: \$50M

• Small Roadway: \$29M

• Trail: \$24M

### Polling Question!



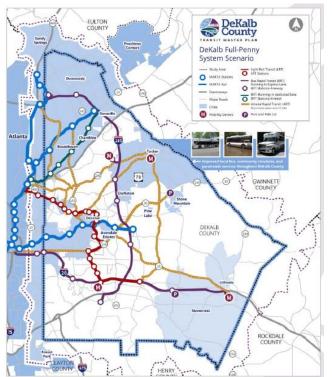


### Transit Master Plan: Starting Point for Unified Plan

- Developed four scenarios for consideration
- Half-penny and full-penny scenarios considered countywide transit investments
- Other scenarios
  - Existing MARTA penny (no new funding | state-of-good-repair)
  - Previously adopted MARTA locally preferred alternatives
    - Clifton Corridor Light Rail
    - I-20 East BRT to Wesley Chapel and MARTA Rail extension from Indian Creek to Stonecrest

#### Potential Sales Tax Revenue under HB 930 (over 30 years in 2019 dollars)







### Transit Master Plan Key Recommendations

- Advance transit scenarios for additional public input and education
- Education and input on innovative funding opportunities
  - Public-Private-Partnership (P3)
  - Value Capture
  - IIJA and competitive FTA Capital Investment Grants
- Collaborate with MARTA on current unmet needs
- Collaborate with agency partners on expansion projects
- Align land use and development codes with transit efforts

In addition to the scenarios, several other key transit recommendations were included with the adoption of the Transit Master Plan

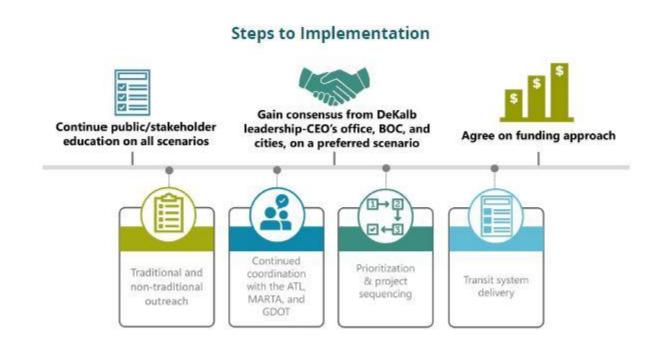






### DeKalb Unified Plan's Approach to Transit

- Confirm need and level of transit investment (full-penny, half-penny, etc.) to advance recommendations from DTMP
- Document transit system benefits and potential project benefits for public and stakeholders
- Unified Plan adoption can establish the policy foundation and level of new funding needed for transit (e.g., TSPLOST referendum)



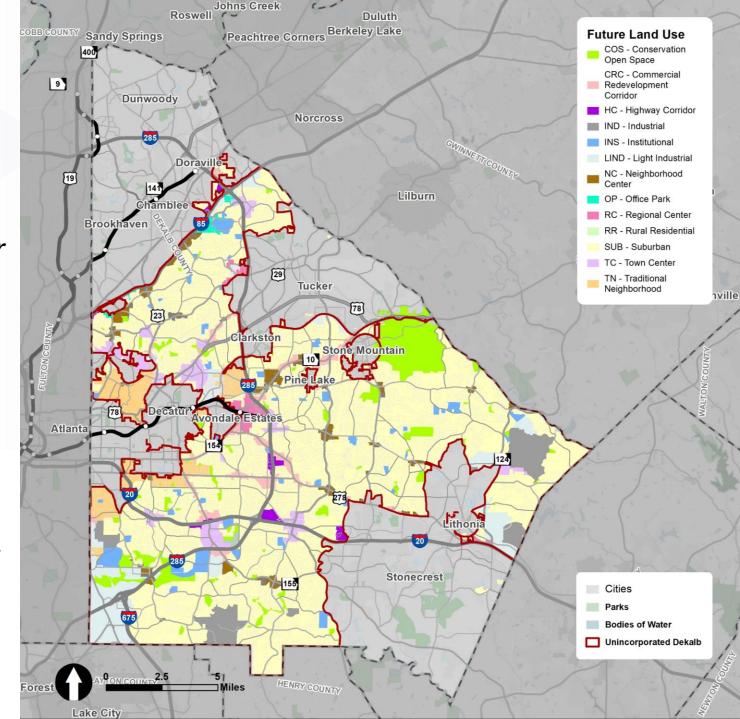
**Polling Questions!** 

## Land Use

# Reasons for Updating Future Land Use

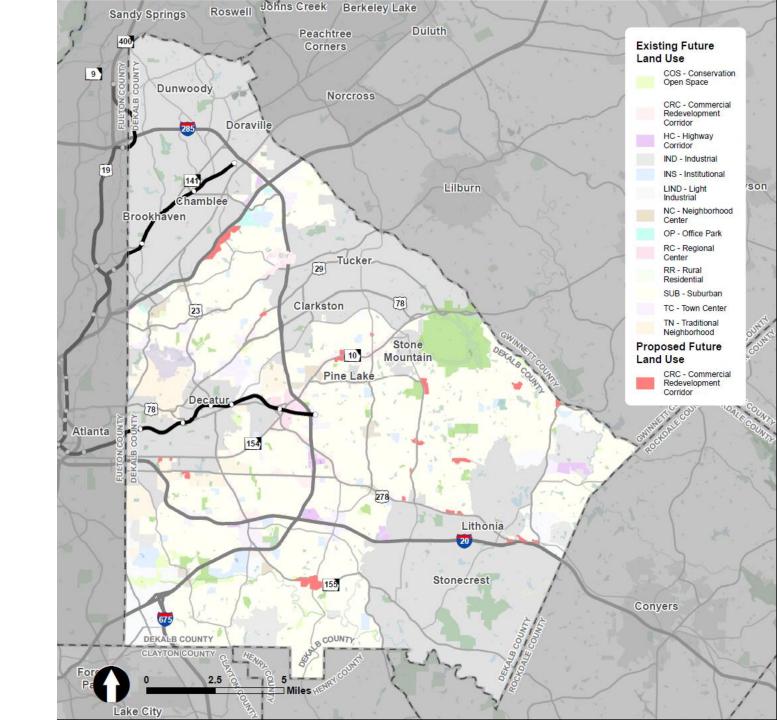
### **Activity Center Criteria**

- Located at or near the intersection of a major road or interstate or near a MARTA transit station
- Contains a variety of land uses (retail/shopping, residential, office, etc.)
- Has experienced recent development activity that is of higher intensity than the surrounding area
- Large enough to allow for transitions in development intensity between the activity center and surrounding areas (particularly single-family neighborhoods)



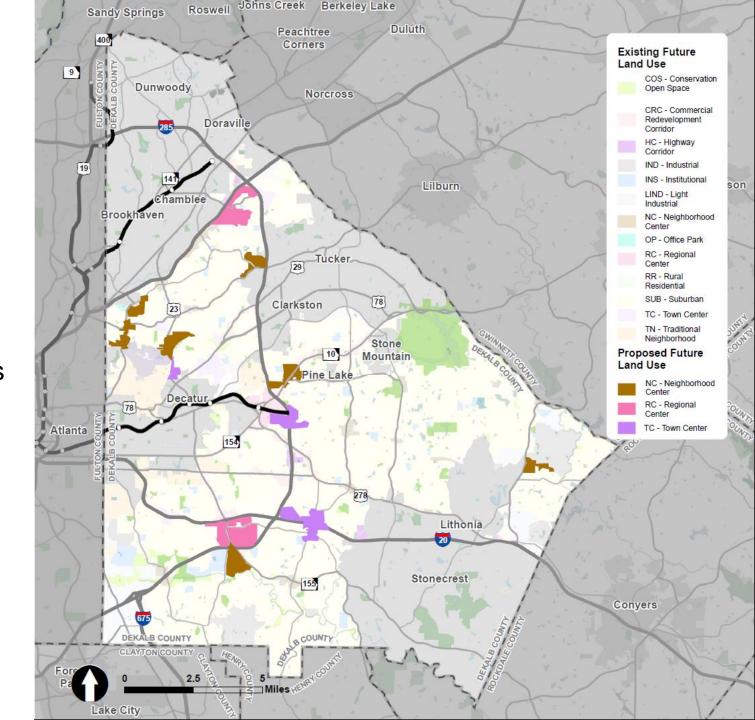
### **Activity Center Changes**

- Recategorize several smaller Neighborhood Centers to Community Redevelopment Corridor (CRC)
- Reflects <u>current</u> and <u>future</u> <u>development</u> activity
- Provides more <u>flexibility</u>
- Allows <u>similar development</u> <u>intensity</u>



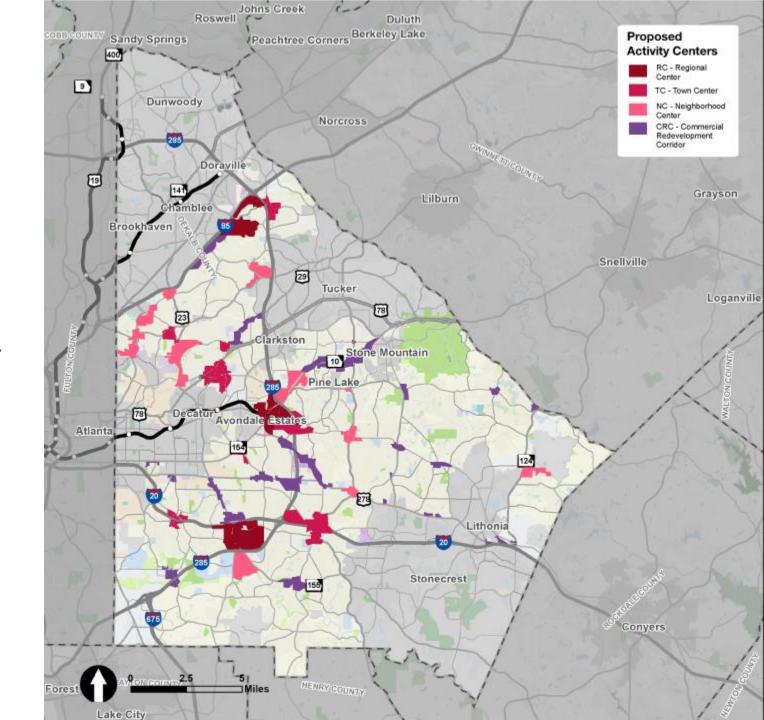
### **Activity Center Changes**

- Recategorize <u>South DeKalb</u> Mall as a <u>Regional Center</u>
- Based on recent annexations:
  - <u>Recategorize</u> some activity centers to <u>Town Center</u> or <u>Neighborhood</u> Center
  - Revising several activity center boundaries
- New activity centers:
  - Presidential Parkway/Mercer University
  - Near Mason Mill Park



### **Activity Center Changes**

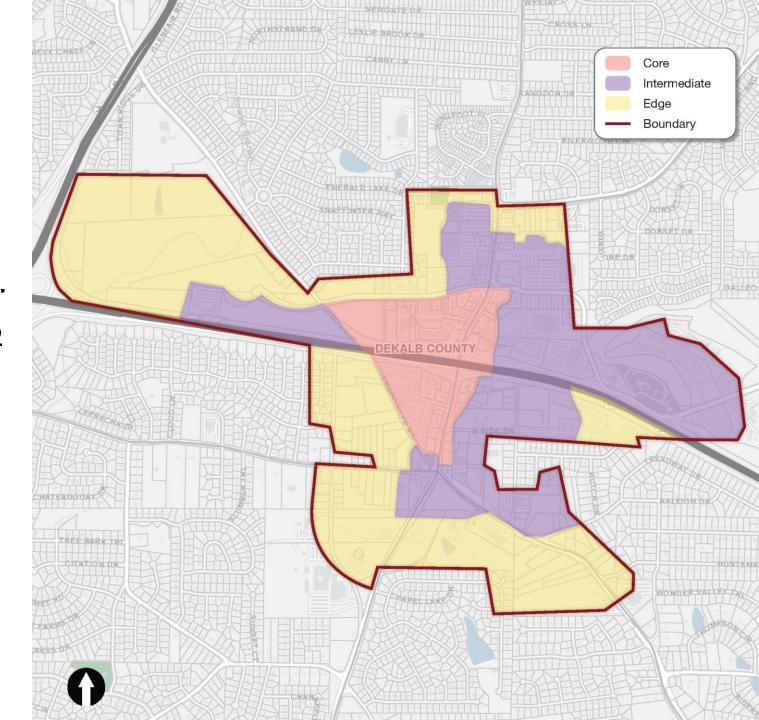
- "Activity Centers" and "Corridors" where development and density will be encouraged
- Protects existing, stable single-family neighborhoods
- Allows the County to continue growing.



Polling Question!

### **Small Area Plans**

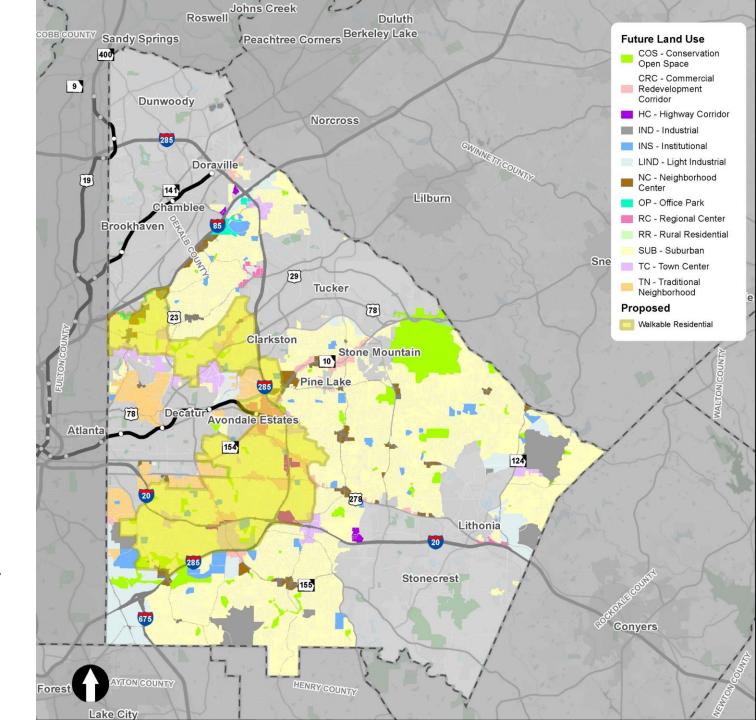
- Guide how activity centers should develop in a greater level of detail.
- Community-based plans also <u>help</u> <u>address specific issues</u> identified by the <u>community</u>.
- Used to <u>identify specific policies</u> and strategies to <u>manage growth.</u>



### New Residential Character Area

- Better reflect the diversity of development and character
- More intown and older residential areas
- Greater sidewalk and trail connectivity
- New development focused along major roadways & activity centers
- Protection of existing single-family neighborhoods

### Polling Questions!



# Quality of Life and Other Policy Areas

## Priority Policy Recommendations

Economic Development and Housing are key policy areas addressed in a Community's Comprehensive Plan and were identified as <a href="mailto:priorities">priorities</a> by <a href="mailto:DeKalb County stakeholders">DeKalb County stakeholders</a>

### **Economic Development**

Housing



Sustainability

Arts, Culture, & Historic Resources

Health and Wellness

Retail Improvements

Public Safety



## Sustainability

- Pursue, achieve and maintain ARC Green
   Communities Gold certification
- Develop a County Sustainability Plan
  - Define sustainability
  - Establish goals







### Arts, Culture, & Historic Resources

- Designate an Arts and Culture point person
- Create an arts council, potentially with the cities
   Planning, Programs, and Policies
- Develop an Arts and Culture Master Plan







### Health and Wellness

- Designate a Health and Wellness point person
- Establish a Health and Wellness focused roundtable
- Identify priority issues and areas
- Participate in public-private Health and Wellness initiatives







### Retail Improvements

- Focus on struggling or dilapidated retail districts.
- Adopt and implement the Memorial Drive Study.
- Enhance Memorial Drive through efforts similar to We Love BuHi.
- Develop strategies for struggling malls including public-private partnerships.







### Public Safety

- Increasing coordination between County Departments, DeKalb Police and DeKalb Fire and Rescue.
- Make additional investment in pedestrian lighting and sidewalks
- Focus on code enforcement efforts to combat illegal dumping







### Priority Policy Recommendations

### **Activity Center Criteria**

Please rank the policy areas and associated action items in order from most important to least important, with 1 being most important and 5 being least important.

Sustainability

Arts, Culture, & Historic Resources

Health and Wellness

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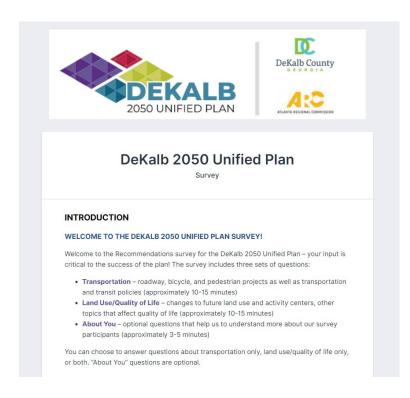
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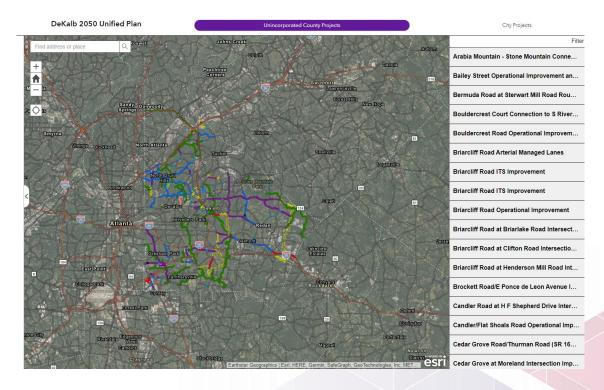
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