

# ATHENS TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN



**CLIENT**  
Athens-Clarke County, GA

**LOCATION**  
Athens, GA

**BUDGET**  
\$12,000

**COMPLETED**  
September 2017

**CONTACT**  
Butch McDuffie  
Director  
Athens Transit  
775 East Broad Street  
Athens, GA 30601  
(706) 613-3913

**ROLE**  
Contracted by  
RS&H for Public  
Outreach

**TEAM MEMBERS**  
Caroline Evans, AICP  
Sarah Beddington, MPH

**DURATION**  
Year 2 of 5 year contract

A Transit Development Plan (TDP) is a Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) required, 10-year horizon plan intended to support the development of an effective multi-modal transportation system for the State. The TDP serves as the basis for defining public transit needs, which is a prerequisite to receipt of federal and state funding. TDPs are intended to serve as strategic planning documents. They define public transportation needs; solicit broad input by coordinating with other plans; involve substantial public participation, and explore community goals with decision makers and other stakeholders; define alternative courses of action; and develop a systematic plan and monitoring program.

In 2009, Athens-Clarke County adopted the 2009-2014 Transit Development Plan which provided capital, operational goals, and financial plans for the Athens Transit System (ATS). The GDOT Intermodal Department, along with the Federal Transit Administration depends on local transit agencies to reevaluate their TDPs every five years. Since the adoption of the 2009 TDP, Athens Transit completed a comprehensive feasibility study that included a thorough review of the TDP recommendations, a situational appraisal of land use, transportation plans, governmental actions and policies, socioeconomic trends, organization issues and technology, and developed unconstrained recommendations and service options. The Athens Transit Development Plan builds on the results of the Athens Transit Feasibility Study.

Blue Cypress supported the RS&H team by conducting workshops and meetings with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee to ensure that system goals and objectives are fully vetted. Blue Cypress also established the Public Participation Process to ensure compliance with the framework of the MACORTS and Athens Transit outreach protocols. Blue Cypress employs techniques that ensure public participation goals are met and that the desired outcomes are reached.

