

# ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY TRANSIT

Supplemental Funding for Operations & Maintenance

761



# VISITORS HELP FUND LOCAL PROJECTS



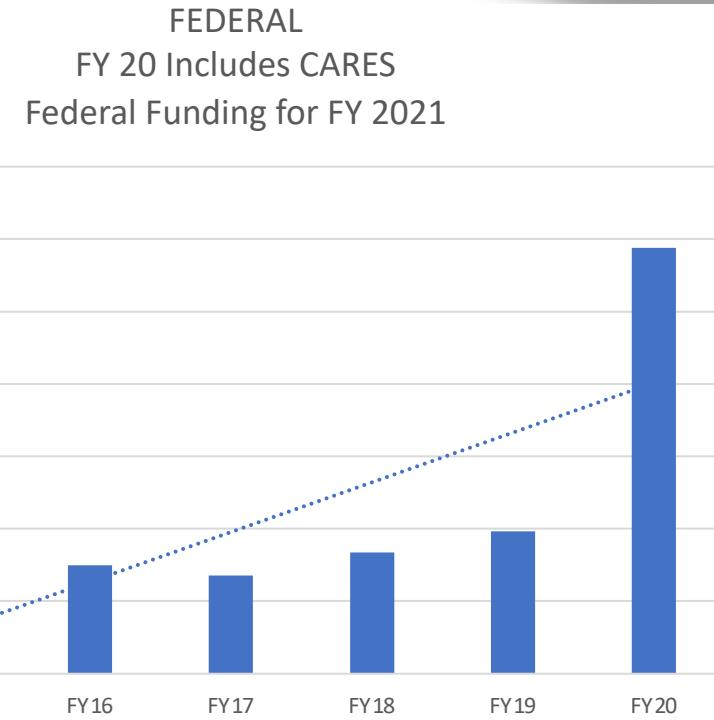
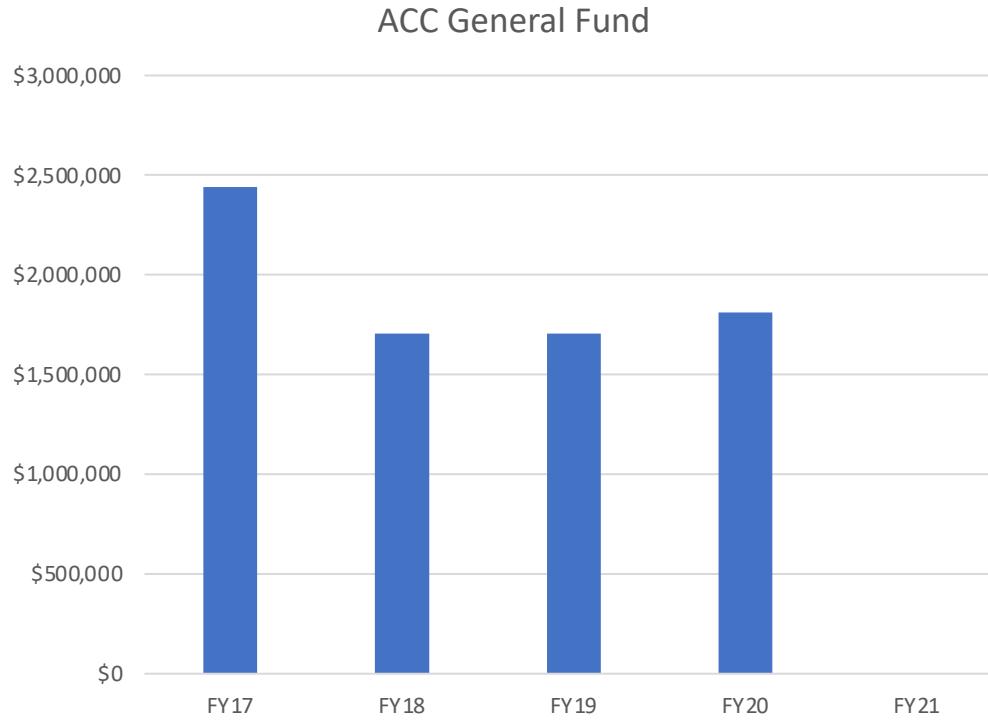
**ACC Transit is seeking to fund its operations and maintenance functions and personnel through T-SPLOST.**

**This would eliminate reliance on the General Fund, reduce local tax-payer burden, and ensure future fare-free Transit.**



**TRANSIT**

# ACC TRANSIT EXTERNAL FUNDING



# PROGRAM GOALS:



## Economic Prosperity

- Realizes extension of fare-free public transportation for all persons in Athens-Clarke County
- Use of public transportation decreases the impacts on other infrastructures such as roads and bridges.
- Studies have shown that for every dollar local communities invest in public transit, a three-fold return is realized.

## Social Well-being

- Encourage expansion in social health by providing underserved populations with access to groceries, shopping, and community services.

## Environment

- Public Transportation utilization reduces the need for personal vehicles. The reduction in personal vehicles equates to a positive environmental impact, and increased roadway safety.

# WHY NOW?



- **CARES ACT Funding only provides pandemic relief**
- **Pandemic Level ridership decreased Federal funding sources**
- **A robust Transit system is paramount to reducing carbon emissions from single occupancy vehicles-a major contributor to global warming**
- **Fare-free transit triggered change in how Federal Funding (STIC) is allocated between UGA and ACC Transit**
- **Fare free service for all included 38,000 UGA students, resulting in an \$828,000 loss of UGA fare revenue.**

# Small Transit Intensive Cities Funding (STIC)



**Jointly, ACC Transit & UGA meet all criteria needed to qualify for STIC funds.**

- Historically, ACC Transit retained all funds and provided financial offset to UGA.
- Fare-Free transit eliminated need for financial offset, funds are now split



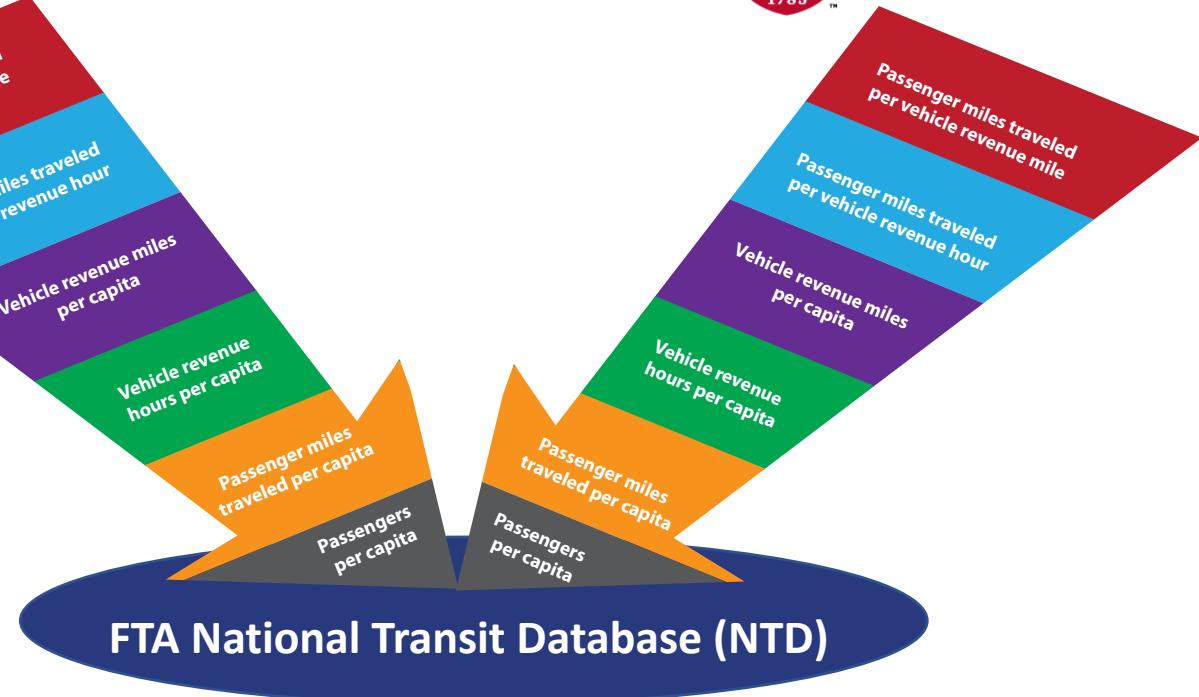
TRANSIT

# Ridership Data Required for STIC Funding

ACC Transit and UGA Transit historically submit ridership data jointly



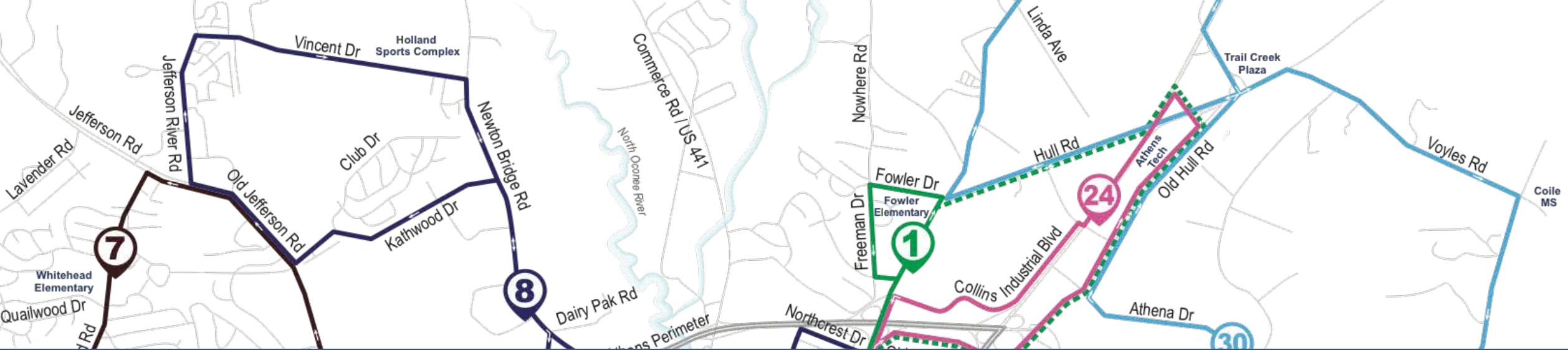
Transportation & Parking Services  
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**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



# WHY APPROVE TSPLOST FUNDING FOR OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE?



- Reduce the Transit reliance on the General Fund
- Provides funding for federal match required for competitive grants
- Reduces local tax burden by including sales tax paid by visitors
- Provide additional revenue for other departments within the local government
- Provide additional funds employee retention
- Support fair, equitable access to Transit Services, and amenities throughout Athens-Clarke County.



# Questions?

