

ISSUES STUDIED IN THE EA

- Transportation Impacts
- Utilities
- Land Use
- Neighborhood and Community Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Parks and Public Lands
- Section 4(f)/Section 6(f)
- Visual
- Displacements and Relocations
- Safety and Security
- Hazardous Materials
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Federal and State Protected Species
- Hydrology/Floodplains
- Water Quality/Stormwater
- Navigable Waterways
- Waters of the US and Buffered State Waters
- Indirect and Cumulative Impacts
- Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency

PROJECT IMPACTS & BENEFITS

Issue Area	Impacts/Benefits	Mitigation Measures
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some intersections will experience congestion within the 2040 planning horizon, with and without the proposed project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May include the addition of turn lanes, installation of signage, construction of new traffic signals, or revision of the existing traffic signal timing plans
Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Projected ridership in 2040 is 17,700 passengers/day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cobb County will develop and refine a service plan to enhance service in the corridor, including changes to improve transfers from connecting bus service to ART
Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocation of utility lines located in the existing roadway right-of-way and in station areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilities will be avoided to the extent practicable - As design progresses impacts and mitigation will be determined in coordination with utility owners
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compatible with future land use plans - Would provide enhanced transit access to the existing and future land uses identified in adopted comprehensive plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None

PROJECT IMPACTS & BENEFITS

Issue Area	Impacts/Benefits	Mitigation Measures
<p>Neighborhood and Community Resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected to have a positive impact on community cohesion - Would provide focal points for community activity and development in the vicinity of the stations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None
<p>Historic Structures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 23 properties in the study area were determined as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places - There would be no adverse effect to historic resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office
<p>Parks and Public Lands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three planned trails cross the proposed project - Implementation of the ART project would not preclude future construction of these trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None
<p>Visual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barrett Lakes Blvd Station and Whitewater Station would remove part of a wooded area, which is consistent with the adjacent parking lot use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stations will be designed to complement their surroundings - Community input will be incorporated into the station design process

PROJECT IMPACTS & BENEFITS

Issue Area	Impacts/Benefits	Mitigation Measures
Displacements and Relocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No relocations of residential parcels - 10 full parcels and 59 partial parcels would be purchased - 26 businesses to be relocated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction activities will be carried out in compliance with all applicable local noise regulations
Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stations would be well lit and include public address systems, video monitoring, and emergency telephones - Bollards or fencing would be placed on the side of the platform not used to board the ART vehicles - Medians would be constructed with mountable curb facing to facilitate median crossover by emergency vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact limited to underground storage tank location near proposed North Loop/White Water Station 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prior to construction, CCDOT will complete subsurface testing to identify the presence of contaminated materials, and, if found, applicable laws and regulations would be followed

PROJECT IMPACTS & BENEFITS

Issue Area	Impacts/Benefits	Mitigation Measures
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No impacts for residential or institutional land uses along the corridor are anticipated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction activities will be carried out in compliance with all applicable local noise regulations
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for particulate matter, ozone, and carbon monoxide - No appreciable difference in emissions of mobile source air toxics between the No Build Alternative and the proposed project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Best management practices will be implemented during construction to control dust - ART vehicles will use compressed natural gas or be diesel-electric hybrid
Federal and State Protected Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some hardwood forest may be affected, which is summer roosting habitat for the federally listed northern long-eared bat. The project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect this species. - No significant adverse effect to the state-listed Chattahoochee crayfish and highscale shiner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tree clearing in habitat areas will not occur between March 30th and October 15th to avoid the northern long-eared bat's period of spring migration, summer roosting, and raising young - Enhanced erosion control around suitable habitat will be implemented and construction will be restricted during the spawning season

PROJECT IMPACTS & BENEFITS

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Hydrology/ Floodplains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing culverts will be extended unless a visual inspection during design finds obvious signs of damage or deterioration that would warrant replacement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use structures to provide adequate flow circulation, reduce grading areas, preserve natural drainage, and avoid floodplain fills
Water Quality/ Stormwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed project would increase impervious area by approximately 25% for guideway construction and between 25% and 50% for each park-and-ride facility - The proposed project would not affect water quality impairment of the 303(d) listed waters - Use of the proposed project could result in fewer cars traveling this corridor, which would lessen the amount of runoff associated with cars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preserve existing landscaped and vegetated areas and include impervious surface materials - Implement enhanced erosion control measures (such as street sweeping and hydroseeding) - Include stormwater filtration measures (such as bio-retention, detention, and wet ponds)
Waters of the US and Buffered State Waters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1,773 feet of culvert extensions are anticipated - No pond or wetland fills are anticipated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevent construction staging and limit the duration of earthwork near water resources and buffers - Limit clearing and grubbing areas to minimize habitat disturbance and preserve existing vegetation