

1 1 NEXT STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

A key result of Direct *Xpress* is an *Xpress* Service Plan with short- and long-term service recommendations. Over the coming months, GRTA will work to determine specific trip times, exact stop locations, and details about fares that will require additional examination and public input before finalization. In future years, GRTA will prioritize phased implementation of Horizons 2 & 3 recommendations.

HORIZON 1 IMPLEMENTATION

The current goal is to implement the Horizon 1 recommendations in summer/fall 2016 after a new operations contract is effective. As part of the implementation planning process for the Horizon 1 Service Plan, GRTA will be working to complete the following:

- Conduct Public Hearing
- Finalize precision in schedules, routing, and bus locations
- Coordinate with operating contractors
- Conduct additional Title VI analysis
- Communicate changes to ridership and stakeholders
- Update all printed and online materials
- Coordinate with regional partners for assistance with implementation
- Fare policy alignments
- Post-implementation on-board customer survey

HORIZONS 2 & 3 IMPLEMENTATION

The long-term recommendations reflect the projected needs within the Atlanta region. All Horizons 2 & 3 recommendations are dependent on additional funding. Given the capital and operating dollars required to implement these recommendations, a phased approach is recommended. While the ultimate phasing may be flexible, capital requirements such as park-and-ride construction or expansion or bus purchases must be programmed years in advance. Additional prioritization of recommendations may be required within each time horizon and improvement category.

It is anticipated that Horizon 2 recommendations will be implemented in 2016-2021. Several factors drive the recommendations for Horizon 2. The primary considerations for Horizon 2 implementation is the opening of the managed lane system on I-75 North and I-75 South, as well as the continued growth of Hartsfield-Jackson Airport.

Horizon 3 is anticipated for implementation in 2022-2026. Recommendations focus on maximizing the productivity of existing corridors and responding to the growth needs as the

region continues to expand. All-day service and additional trips to most park-and-rides are included in these recommendations.

Further refinement of costs, particularly for capital facilities such as park-and-rides, will be undertaken as part of a final prioritization process.