

# Joint Meeting of the Georgia RHST Coordinating Committee & RHST Advisory Subcommittee

HB 277 Rural & Human Services Transportation

October 6, 2010

# Today's Agenda

- ▶ HB 277 Roles and Responsibilities
- ▶ RHST Delivery in GA
- ▶ Why Coordinate?
- ▶ GDOT RHST Statewide Plan Update
- ▶ Key Coordination Issues Discussion
- ▶ Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

# HB 277 Reporting Requirements

- ▶ Examination of:
  - All RHST programs including capital and operating costs
  - Duplication of services among programs, emphasis on overcoming duplication
  - Current level of coordination
  - Federal funding limitations
  - Interaction of agency programs with public transit
  - RHST best practices nationwide

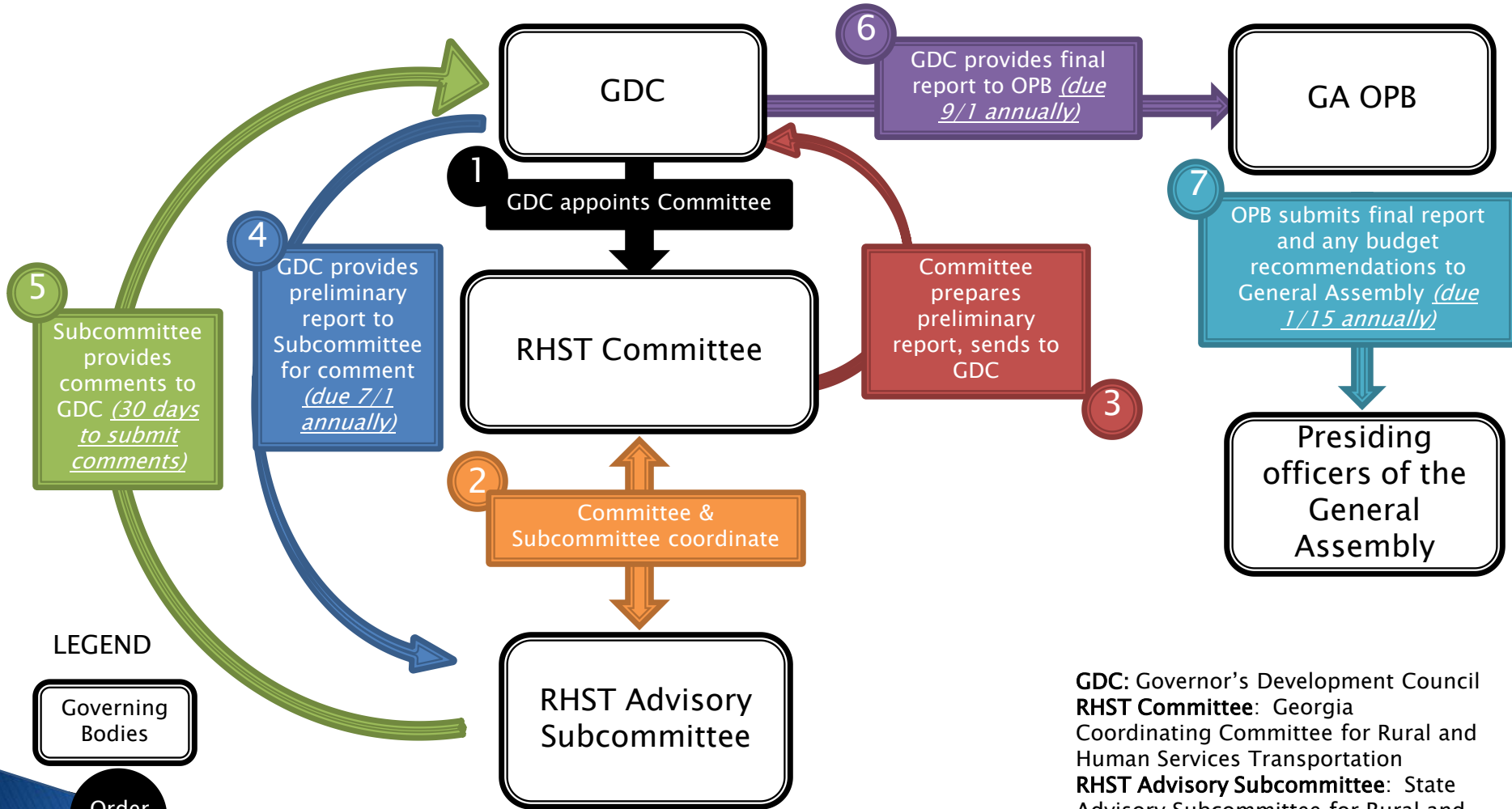
# HB 277 Roles and Responsibilities (cont'd.)

- ▶ Examination of:
  - Potential sharing of capital and operating costs among agencies
  - Consolidation of program areas to lower costs w/o sacrificing program quality to clients
  - Cost sharing opportunities for clients
  - Other cost reduction methods, including greater use of privatization

# RHST Committee Mission Statement

To identify methods to increase current coordination among RHST agencies and to provide the State legislature with fact-based, consensus-developed policy recommendations that increase the cost-effectiveness of RHST delivery in Georgia while maintaining or improving existing levels of service.

# HB 277: RHST Roles



## LEGEND

Governing Bodies

Order

Action taken

**GDC:** Governor’s Development Council  
**RHST Committee:** Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human Services Transportation  
**RHST Advisory Subcommittee:** State Advisory Subcommittee for Rural and Human Services Transportation  
**OPB:** Office of Planning and Budget

# RHST Committee & Subcommittee Membership

## ▶ RHST Committee

- Charlotte Nash – Chair
- Al Nash
- Lara Hodgson
- Michael Byrd
- Ex-Officio – Sonny Deriso, GDC Chair
- Ex-Officio – Vance Smith, GDOT Commissioner

## ▶ RHST Advisory Subcommittee

- Chair – Department of Transportation (DOT) Commissioner
- State School Superintendent
- Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner
- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) Commissioner
- Department of Community Health (DCH) Commissioner
- Department of Labor (DOL) Commissioner
- Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Commissioner
- Governor’s Development Council (GDC) Chair

# RHST Committee Formal Reporting Requirements per HB 277

- ▶ July 1, 2011 – Governor’s Development Council (GDC) submits Committee report to Subcommittee:
  - Subcommittee submits comments within 30 days to GDC
- ▶ September 1, 2011 – GDC submits report to Office of Planning & Budget (OPB)
  - Report shall make specific recommendations to improve RHST practices, including cost implications and impact on service
- ▶ January 15, 2012 – OPB submits final report & affiliated budget recommendations to presiding officers of the General Assembly
  - Copies to chairpersons of the transportation, appropriations, & health and human services committees in House & Senate

# RHST Committee Interim Reporting

- September 1, 2010 – Provide update to OPB detailing status of data collection, work plan & milestones – COMPLETE
- January 2011 – Provide second update to OPB, report on findings to date

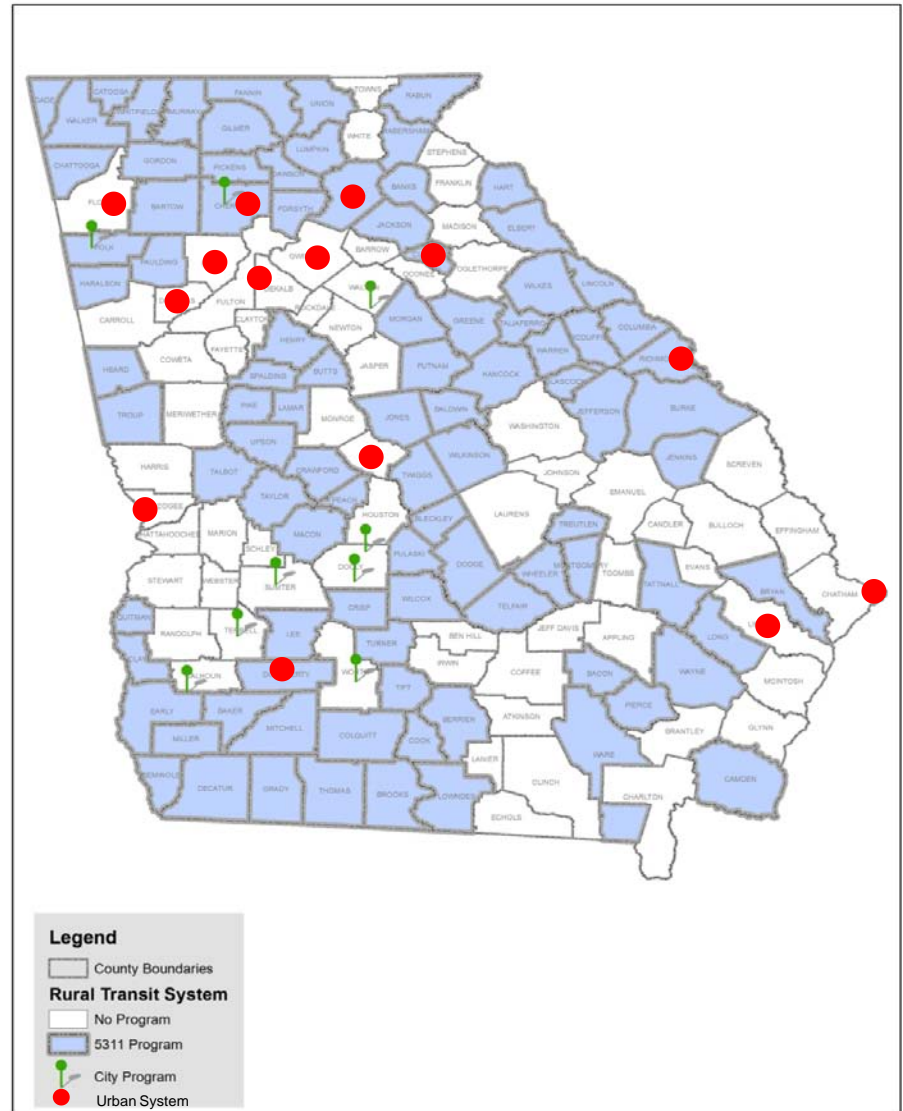
# RHST Delivery in GA – Overview

- Multiple funding programs and agencies - 63 different federal funding programs for RHST
- Three key State Agencies - GDOT/DCH/DHS
- Other key state agencies - Labor, Veterans, DBH&DD, Education, & Community Affairs

# RHST Delivery In GA

## GDOT/FTA Funding Recipients

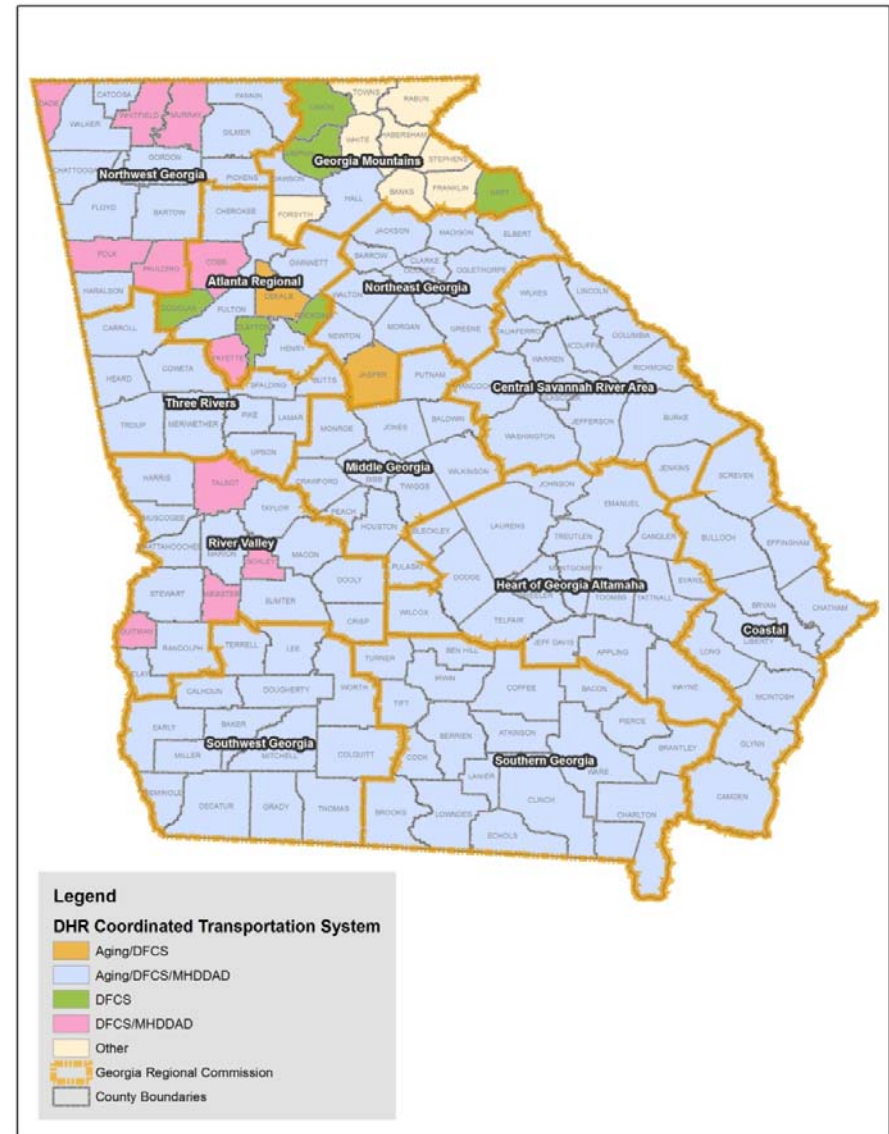
- ▶ 14 Urban Systems (5307/5309)
- ▶ 112 Recipients of 5311 funds
- ▶ Subject to federal and state parameters
  - Fares
  - Service area rules
    - Urban vs. rural
    - Paratransit



# RHST Delivery In GA

## DHS Coordinated System

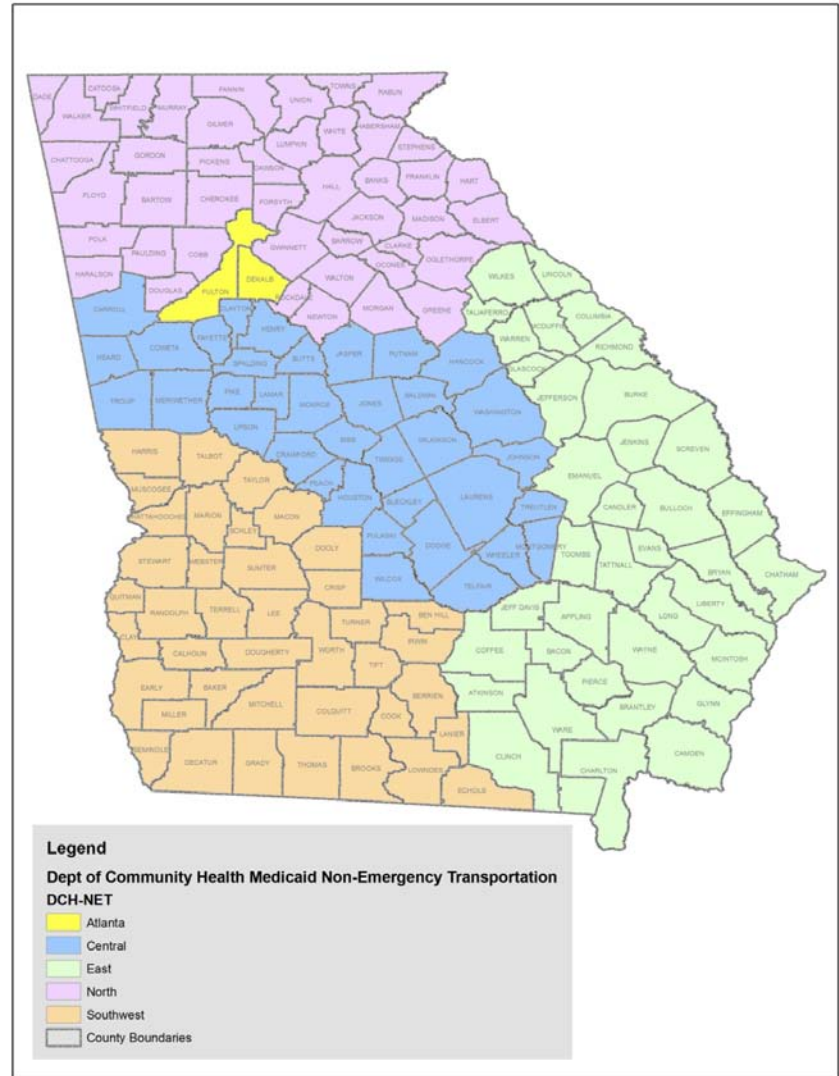
- ▶ Initiated FY1999
- ▶ Eligibility requirements
- ▶ 12 regions statewide
- ▶ Level of complexity and sophistication varies
- ▶ Role of RC varies
- ▶ Some “unified” systems (5310/5311)



# RHST Delivery in GA

## DCH – Non Emergency Transportation

- ▶ Eligibility requirements
- ▶ Five regions
- ▶ Three brokers:
  - North – Southeastrans
  - Atlanta – Southeastrans
  - Central – Southeastrans
  - Southwest– SW GA RC
  - East – LogistiCare
- ▶ Many providers

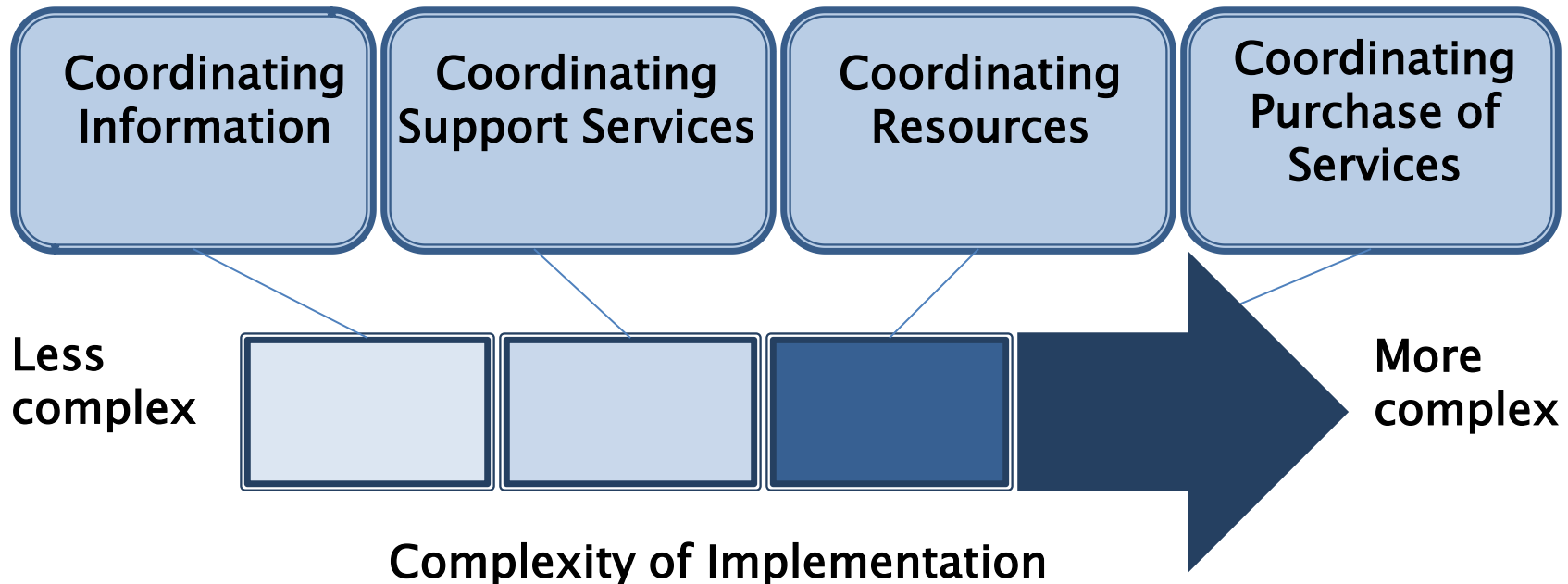


# Why Coordinate?

- ▶ Potential for multiple entities providing RHST service to the same area, at the same time
- ▶ Myriad of reporting requirements and compliance regulations
- ▶ Customer confusion as who to call, how to call, and ride eligibility
- ▶ Stretch often limited funding used to support RHST by:
  - Reducing redundant administration, service delivery, and/or capital expenditures
  - Improving economies of scale
- ▶ Make services easily understood and accessed by riders
- ▶ Improve quality of service
- ▶ Ensure wise and efficient use of public funding
- ▶ Leverage new funding to attract additional federal funds.

# Coordination Continuum

- An array of strategies, not just one
- Can range from sharing information to consolidating services



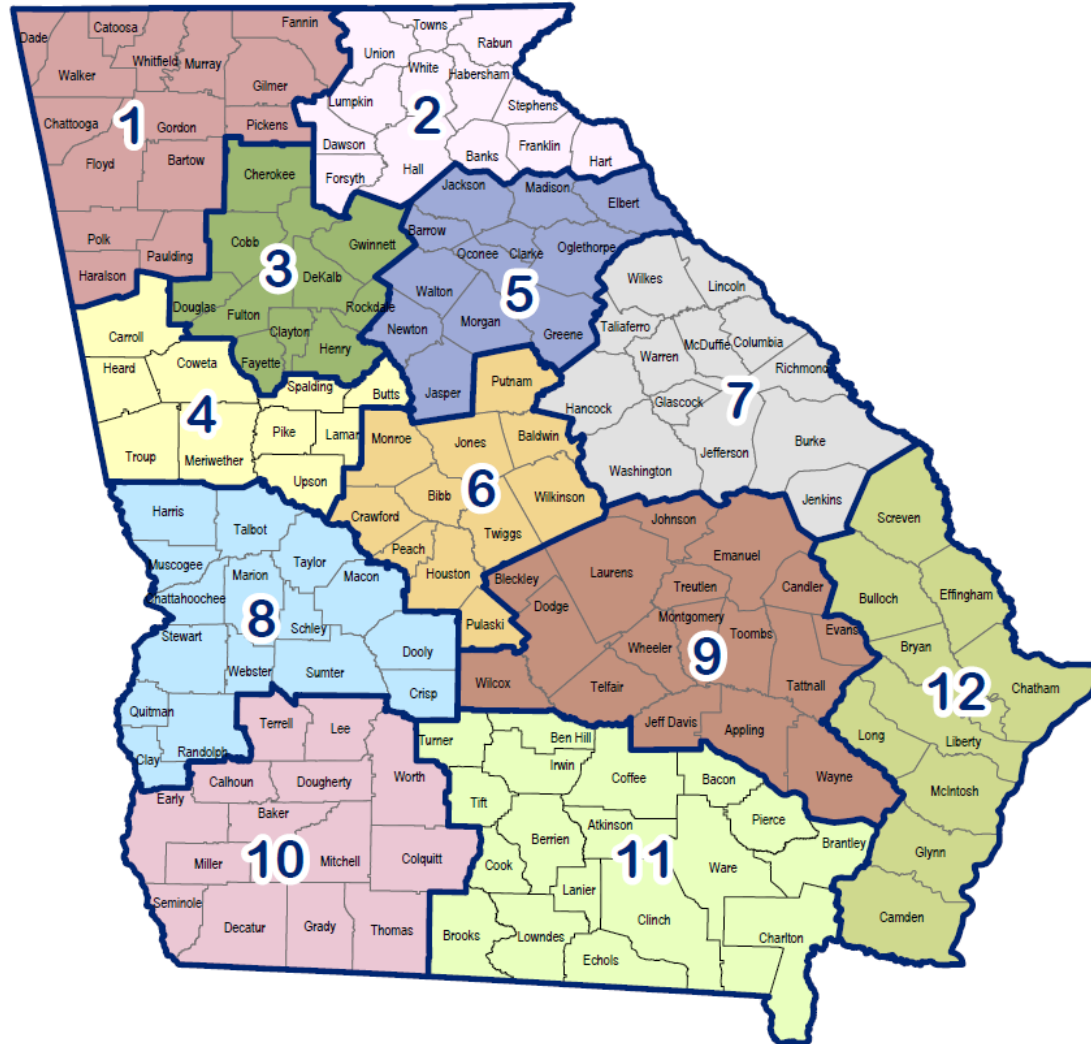
# GDOT Human Services Transportation (RHST 2.0) Statewide Plan Update Goals

- ▶ Improved Customer Service
- ▶ Enhanced Coordination
  - Best Practices
  - Improved Client Service
  - Service Bundling
  - Inter-Agency Cooperation
  - Centralized Reporting
  - Regional Approach
- ▶ Service Consolidation
- ▶ Service Efficiencies
- ▶ Efficient Use of Limited Funds

# HB 277 and GDOTs RHST 2.0 Focused on Same Goals

- ▶ GDOT RHST 2.0 effort provides data meeting HB 277 reporting requirements
  - Analyzes existing RHST services including capital and operating data
  - Identifies existing coordination at local, regional, state and federal levels
  - Identifies inter-agency cooperation areas
  - Examines best practices – Georgia, U.S. and international
  - Identifies potential legislative action to further RHST coordination
  - Recommends service efficiencies & cost reduction

# GA Regional Commissions



# Regional Commission

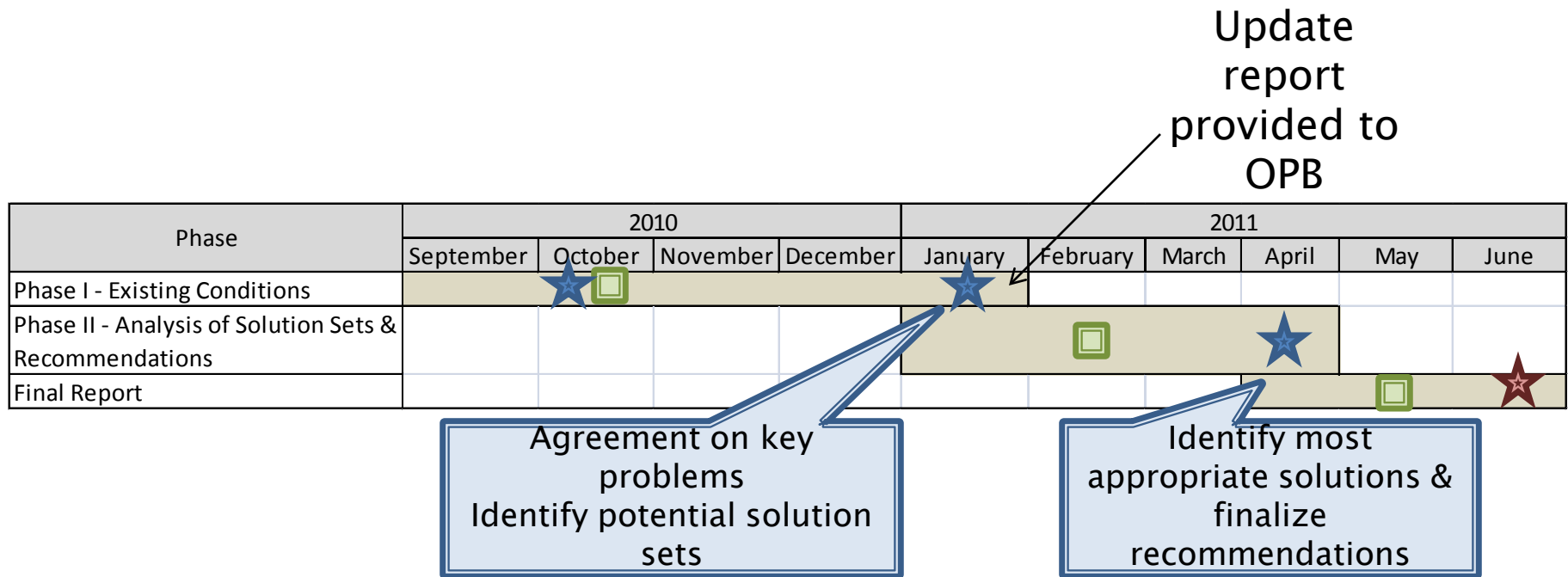
## Key Issues

- ▶ Tailored Approaches, not a one size fits all
- ▶ Funding Program Reporting Requirements
- ▶ Service Payment
- ▶ Vehicles – purchase, insurance, maintenance
- ▶ Vehicle Utilization
- ▶ Administrative
- ▶ Scheduling and Reporting Software

# Open Discussion

- Reaction to RC Identified Issues
  - Funding Program Reporting Requirements
  - Service Payment
  - Vehicles – purchase, insurance, maintenance
  - Vehicle Utilization
  - Administrative
  - Scheduling and Reporting Software
- Other Suggested Items

# Work Plan – Timeline



- ★ Joint meeting of Committee and Subcommittee
- ★ Draft final report provided to Governor’s Development Council
- Committee-only meetings

# Work Plan – Future Meeting Schedule

## **Joint Meeting Dates – in AM at GDC offices**

- January 12, 2011
- April 13, 2011

## **RHST Committee meetings – in AM at GDC offices**

- October 13, 2010
- February 9, 2011
- May 11, 2011

# Stakeholder Involvement

- **Website established:**

[http://www.grta.org/rhst\\_home/rhst\\_home.html](http://www.grta.org/rhst_home/rhst_home.html)

- **Email address for comments:**

[rhst@grta.org](mailto:rhst@grta.org)

- **Meetings available via webcast:**

[http://www.grta.org/board\\_calender/board\\_schedule.htm](http://www.grta.org/board_calender/board_schedule.htm)

- **Stakeholder outreach:**

- Meetings in each of 12 regional commission areas first two weeks of November
- Joint GDOT/GDC outreach effort
- Intent is to confirm key issues and possible solutions

# Questions?

Contact:

[dcassell@grta.org](mailto:dcassell@grta.org)