

Regional Transportation Alliance – 2025-26 RTA Business Plan

RTA mission: *Deliver business leadership to get our region moving faster.*

Strategic advocacy priorities

- **Identify sustainable business model for RDU infrastructure** – Support RDU expansion by advancing sustainable infrastructure business model, including new revenue and faster environmental approvals
- **Lobby for solutions to modernize and strengthen state, federal revenue** -- Build upon existing state fee framework for electric, hybrid vehicles by exploring potential access fee, sales tax, gas tax options
- **Promote innovative, scalable funding and project delivery** – Identify new delivery and funding methods, with streamlined project development and public engagement, to reduce inflation risk and speed results

Rapid implementation initiatives

- **Accelerate US 1 / Capital Boulevard freeway** – Ensure upgrade of US 1 to multimodal freeway and parallel access road system between I-540 and Franklin Co., via part-time tolls and/or other funding
- **Advance construction on multiple BRT corridors, I-40/RDU Airport exchange station, RTP transit center** – Support Raleigh New Bern BRT construction; accelerate BRT network, stations, and FAST infrastructure
- **Drive consensus and implementation of I-40 mobility and safety improvements** – Work with NCDOT and partners on rapid relief, short-term, SMART freeway, and comprehensive solutions and funding
- **Implement multiple Dynamic Left Turn intersections (DLTi)** – Work with NCDOT and area municipalities to rapidly implement DLTis and other low-cost intersection improvements to reduce delay and emissions

Organizational priorities

- **Grow RTA Leadership Team investments** – Support RTA major investors in their efforts to expand the RTA Regional Leadership Team, encourage upgrades, and promote additional member investments
- **Expand overall RTA membership** – Promote expansion of RTA organization by leveraging introductory pricing for small businesses (25 employees or less) that are already members of an RTA member chamber
- **Maintain RTA Leadership Team pricing for 24th consecutive year** – Retain RTA Leadership Team pricing (\$5,000 Silver; \$7,500 Gold; \$10,000 Sustaining Gold) to simplify member budgeting and promote value

RTA overview

A metropolitan private-public partnership that drives consensus and action, and the voice of the regional business community on transportation for more than two decades. RTA represents more than 100 leading companies and 28 member chambers of commerce across 13 counties. RTA is a regional program of the Raleigh Chamber.

RTA purpose

RTA believes that advancing mobility infrastructure is essential for quality of place and life for member companies, our members' associates and customers, and our region, and that applying business focus will accelerate solutions.

RTA advocacy approach

RTA works with our elected and transportation partners to advance key priorities, elevate opportunities, and accelerate results. We create essential focus through purposeful and sustained advocacy, support, regional collaboration, events, tours, research, synthesizing information, reframing issues, and targeted outreach.

Transportation projects will always take “forever.” RTA works with our partners to make them take “less forever,” ... which means less risk, more certainty, and faster, better solutions for our members and the region.

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Ongoing priorities and initiatives

- **Advance Southeast higher-speed intercity rail** – Support passenger rail from Raleigh to Wake Forest/ Richmond/Washington, new RTP station, and multimodal linkages with BRT
 - **Advance US 70 improvements** – Forge consensus on upgrading US 70 between west Raleigh and Durham to multimodal freeway/junior freeway, with BRT/transit priority, possibly using tolls to accelerate
 - **Create Triangle Bikeway system** – Create I-40/I-885/NC 54 bikeways parallel to freeways as backbone, develop regionwide higher speed bikeway network and multimodal hubs
 - **Cultivate business community members for board and commission roles** – Help identify, encourage, and support business leaders to join important transportation and mobility-related boards
 - **Continue strong RTA events** – RTA Annual Meeting/The State of Mobility 2026 will be held in January, the RTA Transportation Brunch held in August. RTA will add field visits, quick tours, etc. if/as need be.
 - **Strengthen member recognition initiative to promote electrification** – Elevate and support member efforts to increase awareness and further RTA organizational goals around sustainability
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RTA chair leadership

- Sarah Gaskill, FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies – *RTA chair*
- Jay Irby, First Citizens Bank – *RTA immediate past chair*
- Harold Hicks, RTI International – *RTA prior past chair*

RTA focus area chairs

- Alex Culpepper, The Sunrock Group – *commerce and logistics chair*
- Frederico Egli, IBM – *emerging technology chair*
- Avi Halpert, United Therapeutics -- *partnerships and outreach chair*
- Lilyn Hester, Google – *innovation chair*
- John Kane, Kane Realty – *real estate and mobility chair*
- Scott Levitan, Research Triangle Foundation of North Carolina -- *legislative and policy chair*
- Dana Martinez, Amgen – *sustainability and environment chair*
- Nicole Niwa, Novo Nordisk – *air service and infrastructure chair*
- Stelfanie Williams, Duke University – *regional transit chair*

RTA team contact information

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