

Request for Board of Commissioners' Action

From: Faye Hughes, County Administrator Date: _____

Subject: TSPLOST Resolution Item Number: _____

In order to establish the Regional Roundtable to begin the process for a TSPLOST referendum to be held in 2017 the following resolution must be adopted.

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 established the ability of each service delivery region in Georgia to levy a sales tax of one cent for the purposes of funding transportation infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, the South Georgia region consisting of Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brantley, Brooks, Cook, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Pierce, Tift, Turner and Ware counties implemented the requirements of the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 and voters considered but did not approve a sales tax referendum on July 31st, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Funding Act of 2015 was signed by Governor Nathan Deal on May 14, 2015 provided a mechanism for regions that did not pass the referendum in 2012 to reconsider the question upon adoption of a resolution by the governing bodies of a majority of the counties in the region; and

WHEREAS, all of the procedural requirements of the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 remain in effect regarding the creation of investment criteria, the establishment of the Regional Roundtable and Executive Committee, the development of a draft investment list, and public participation among other items; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners desire to initiate the process outlined in the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 for the voters of the South Georgia region to consider the imposition of a one cent sales tax for the purposes of funding transportation infrastructure improvements in the region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of their resolution shall be transmitted to the Director of Planning of the Georgia Department of Transportation, the South Georgia Regional Commission as well as the Boards of Commission of the counties of South Georgia.

Motion made to adopt THE RESOLUTION by _____

Second made by _____

Any discussion: _____

Votes _____ yes _____ no

Motion carried/ failed

Resolution

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This _____ day of April, 2017.

Cook County Board of Commissioners

Dwight Purvis, Chairman

Attest, County Clerk

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX

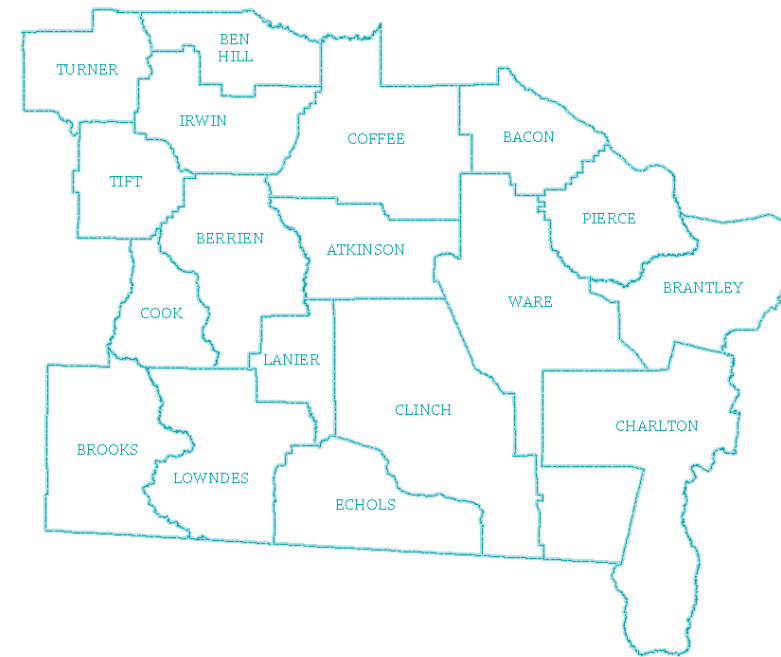
TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT OF 2010
AND
TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2015

FEBRUARY 22, 2017



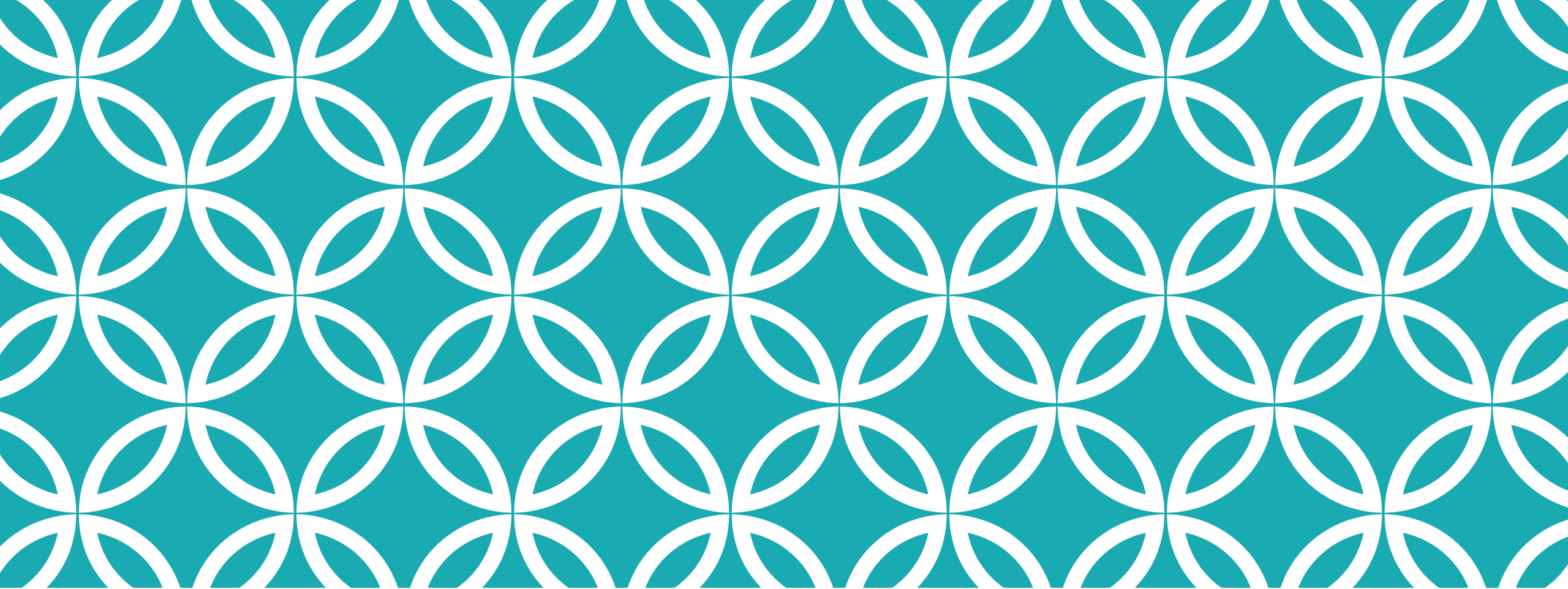
AGENDA

- Introductions
- Comments from Heart of Georgia TIA Region
- Single County Sales Tax Process
 - Overview / Refresher
- Regional Transportation Sales Tax Process
 - Overview / Refresher
 - Revenue Projections
 - Roundtable
 - Executive Committee
 - Investment Criteria
 - Timelines



KEY DOCUMENTS

- Transportation Investment Act of 2010 (HB277)
 - OCGA Title 48, Chapter 8, Article 5
 - Creates Regional Special Tax Districts.
 - Outlines process for the imposition of a regional transportation sales tax.
- Transportation Funding Act of 2015 (HB 170 and HB 106)
 - OCGA 48, Chapter 8, Article 5A
 - Allows majority of counties in region to trigger regional transportation sales tax process.
 - Allows individual counties to levy single county transportation sales tax after July 1, 2017 (except in Atlanta region).
 - Amendments to HB 170 that only apply to single county transportation sales tax.
- HB 134 (current session, NOT law)
 - If 10 of 18 counties pass resolutions for regional process, the single-county process is delayed until regional concludes
 - Bonding for transportation purposes



SINGLE COUNTY SALES TAX

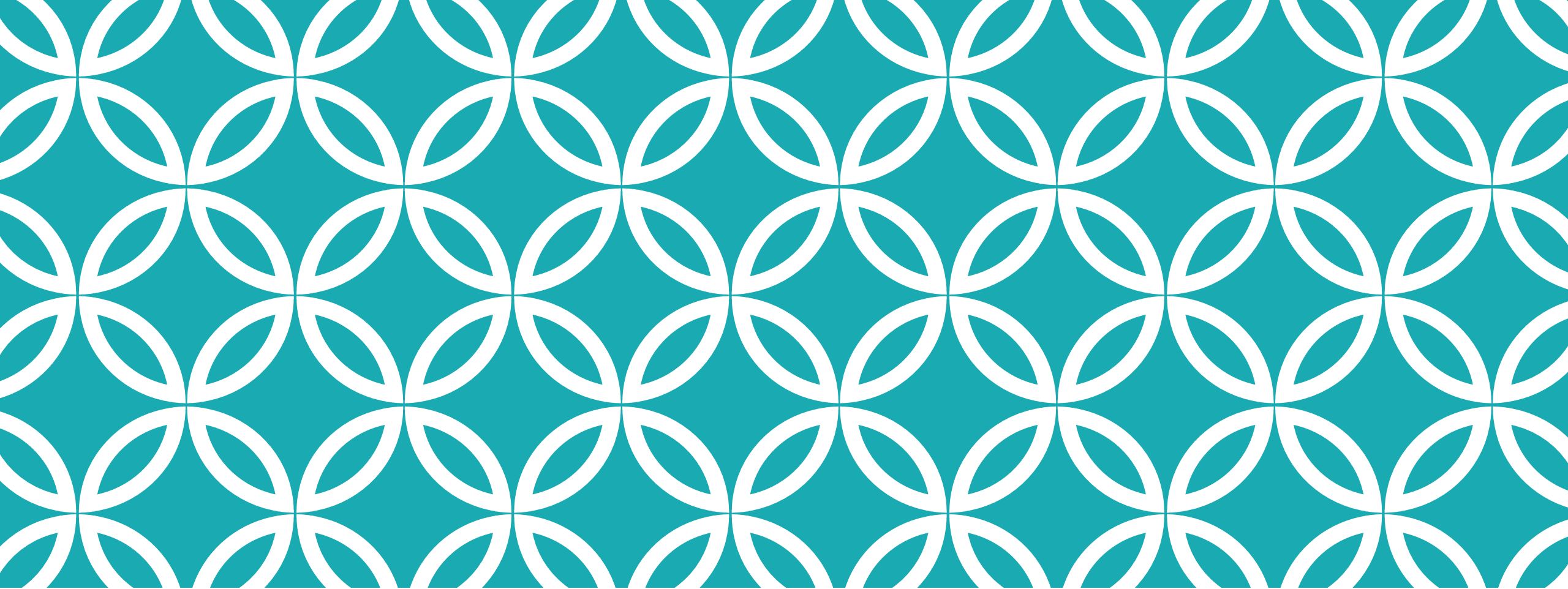
■ Overview

SINGLE COUNTY SALES TAX

- Levy of sales tax for transportation projects
 - Up to 1% (in .05% increments)
- 5-year tax, or until projected amount collected, whichever comes first
- Requires Counties to meet and confer with Cities
 - 30% of revenues must be spent on Statewide Strategic Transportation Plan projects
 - LMIG Match remains at 30%
- Transportation Defined
 - Broad – roads, bridges, freight/ logistics, airports, bike/ped facilities, safety improvements, transit, maintenance and operations. Includes professional costs – design, ROW acquisition, environmental, etc.
- Cannot have regional and county TSPLOSTs at the same time
- Passage requires a majority of votes cast by registered voters

SINGLE COUNTY SALES TAX PROCESS

- County initiates process with letter calling a meeting with Mayors
 - Meeting must occur at least 30 days prior to call for referendum
- If Intergovernmental Agreement signed maximum rate is 1.00%
 - Intergovernmental Agreement Includes (among other items):
 - Prioritized list of projects (30% from SSTP projects, see STIP/TIP)
 - Estimated project dollar amounts
 - Procedure/Schedule for distribution of proceeds, audits, finances, etc.
 - Document projects not fully funded by TSPLOST
- If Intergovernmental Agreement not signed by all then 0.75%
- Can coordinate with other counties through intergovernmental agreement (separate), each county still responsible for own process



REGIONAL SALES TAX

■ Overview

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX

- Process begins with 10/18 counties calling for the Regional Roundtable to be formed
 - Charlton County (2/2/17)
 - Ben Hill County (2/7/17)
- GDOT has asked that each county pass a resolution in support of or in opposition to forming a Regional Roundtable by late March/early April
- Initiation of process is not automatically a decision to call for the referendum

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX

- Levy of sales tax for transportation projects
 - Up to 1% (in .05% increments)
- 10-year tax, or until projected amount collected, whichever comes first
- If call for referendum issued by Roundtable, then passage requires a majority of votes cast by registered voters.
- If passed, LMIG Match goes to 10%
- Transportation Defined
 - Broad – roads, bridges, freight/ logistics, airports, bike/ped facilities, safety improvements, transit, maintenance and operations. Includes professional costs – design, ROW acquisition, environmental, etc.

USE OF REGIONAL SALES TAX PROCEEDS

- 75% for Projects on the Investment List

- Projects on the Investment List selected by the Executive Committee and approved by Roundtable (sole decision).
- 30% of funds must go to projects in the SSTP (see STIP/TIP for ideas)

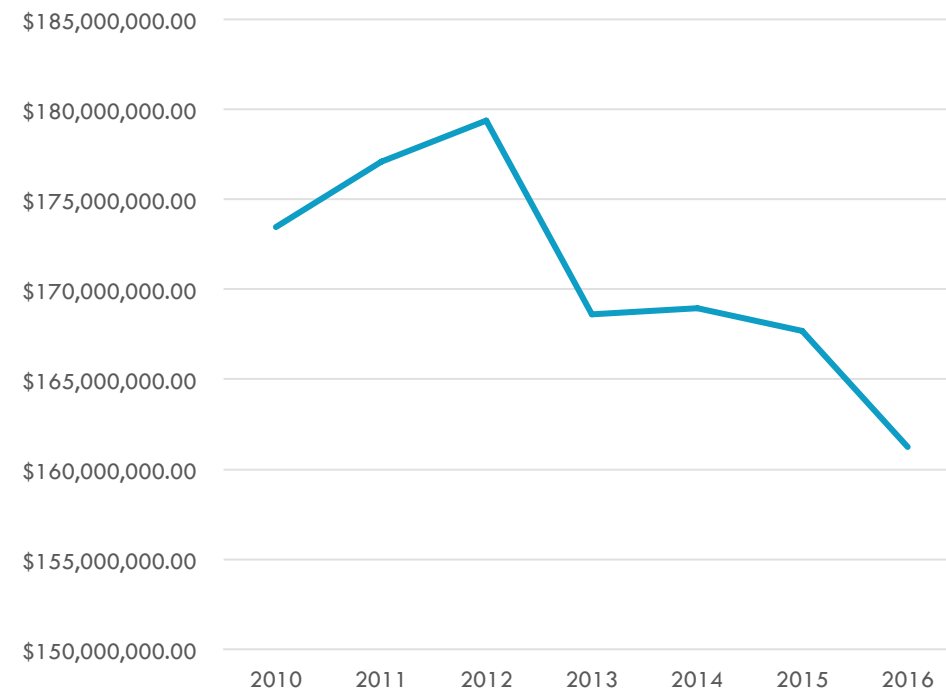
- 25% for Local Governments

- Distributed to cities and counties based on jurisdictions road mileage (4/5), and population (1/5) in the region.
- Can be used for any type of transportation improvements.
- Project list does not have to be developed during the regional process.
- Project list does not require approval from any other agency.

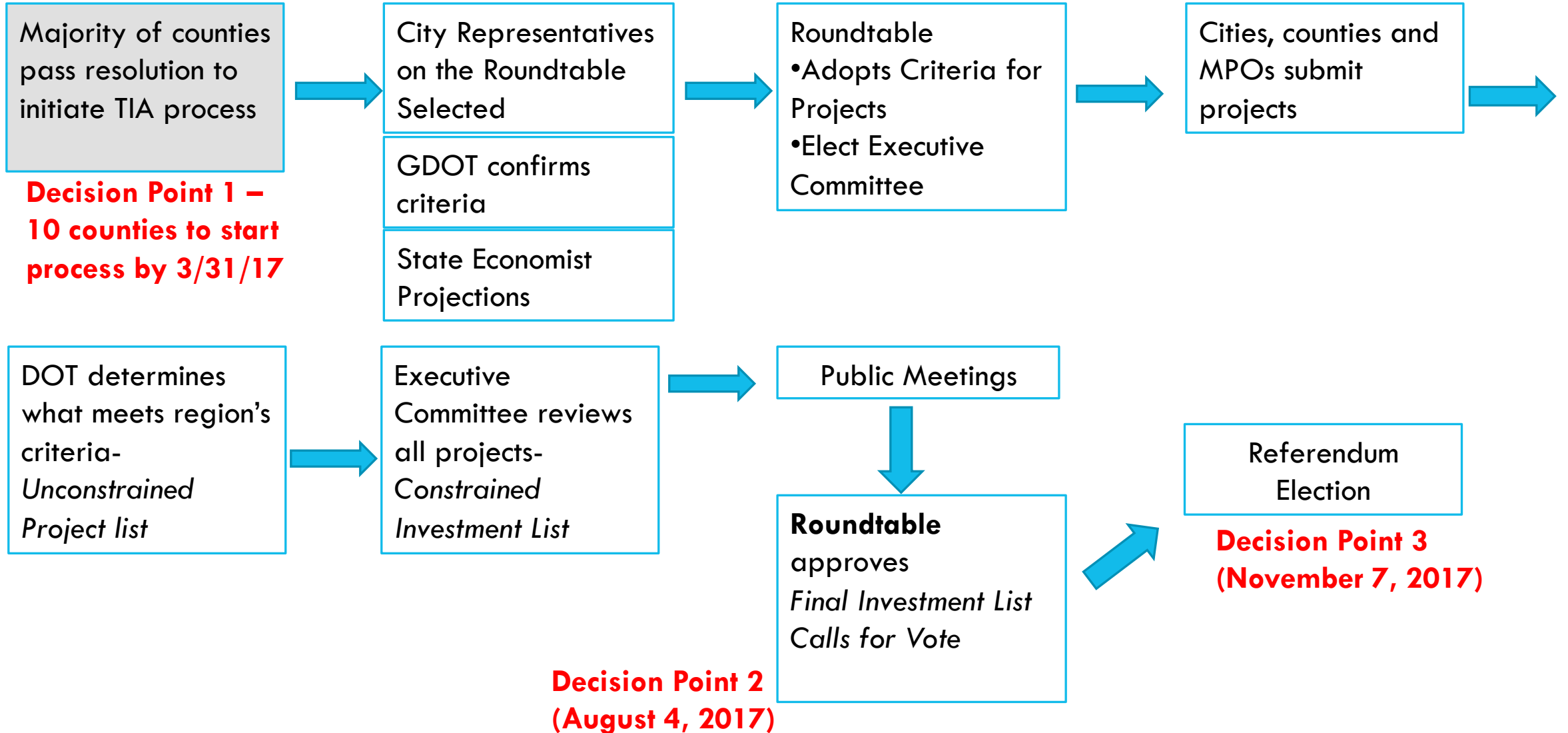
REVENUE PROJECTIONS

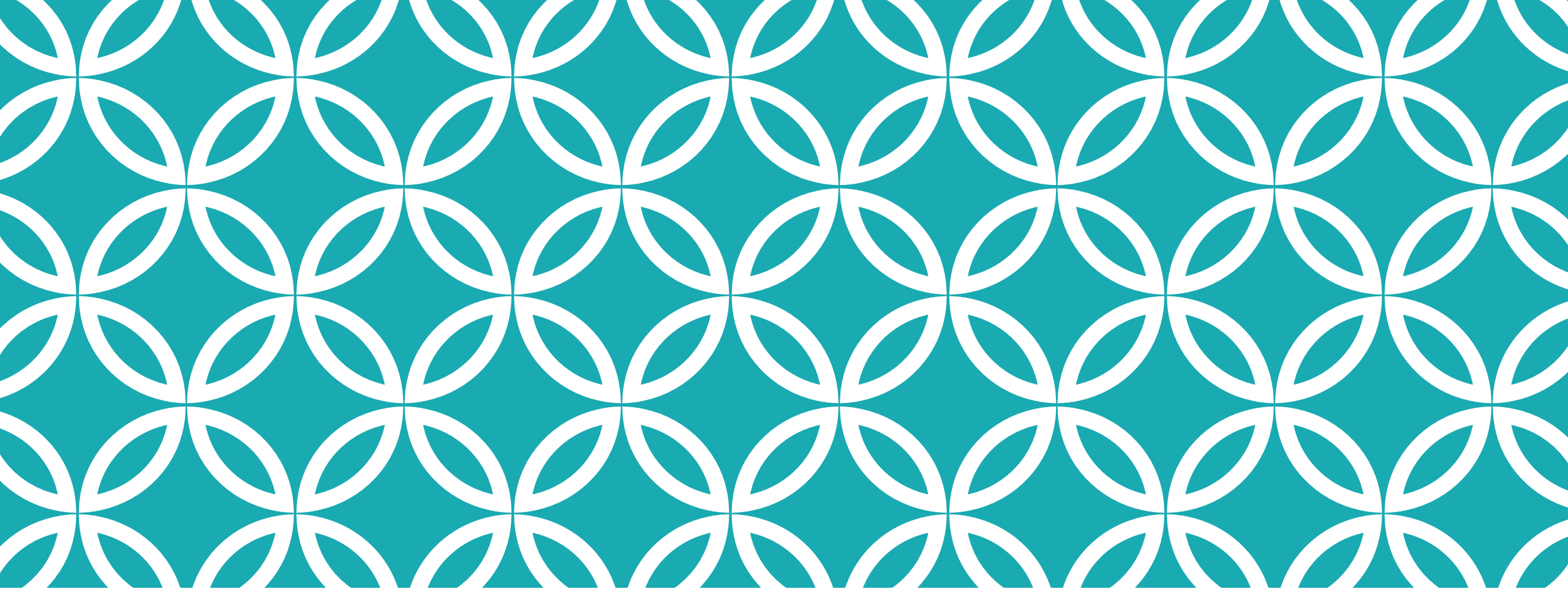
- State economist will need 3-6 weeks to develop and review
- Estimated collections in 2012
 - \$670,985,360 Total
 - \$503,239,020 Regional (75%)
 - \$167,746,340 Local Discretionary (25%)
- Region-wide collections are down about 7.5% since 2010 (based on disbursements from GA DOR)

Region-wide Current SPLOST/ESPLOST Collections
2010-2016



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX PROCESS



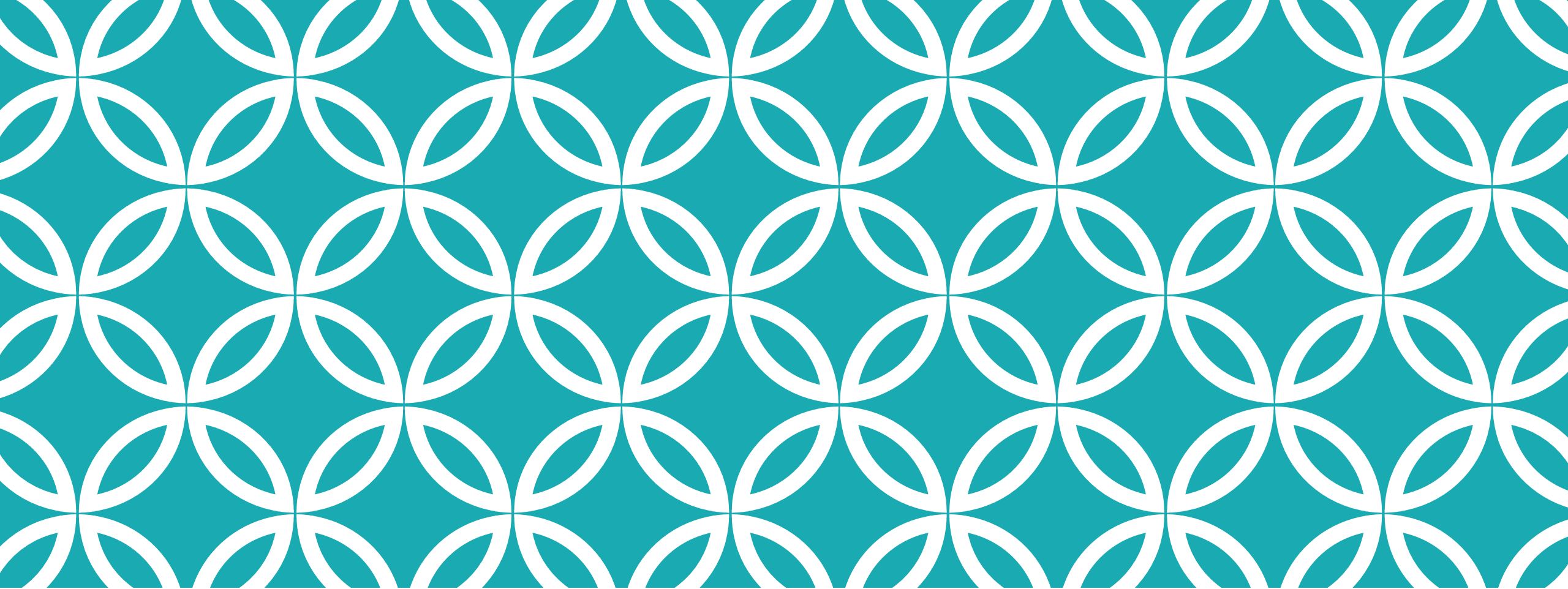


REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE

■ Roles and Responsibilities

REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE

- Two (2) from each county (REQUIRED by TIA 2010)
 - 36 members; County Chair and Mayor Representative (elected by Mayors), no proxies/designees
- No requirement for Chair of Roundtable to be elected
 - Previous process did
- Conduct two meetings (REQUIRED by TIA 2010)
 - Elect Executive Committee and adopt Investment Criteria
 - Approve / Amend / Reject Investment List and call for referendum (if desired)
- Other meetings are **not** prohibited
- No quorum (minimum number to conduct business) set in TIA 2010
- Voting requires majority vote of members **present** at the meeting (REQUIRED by TIA 2010)



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

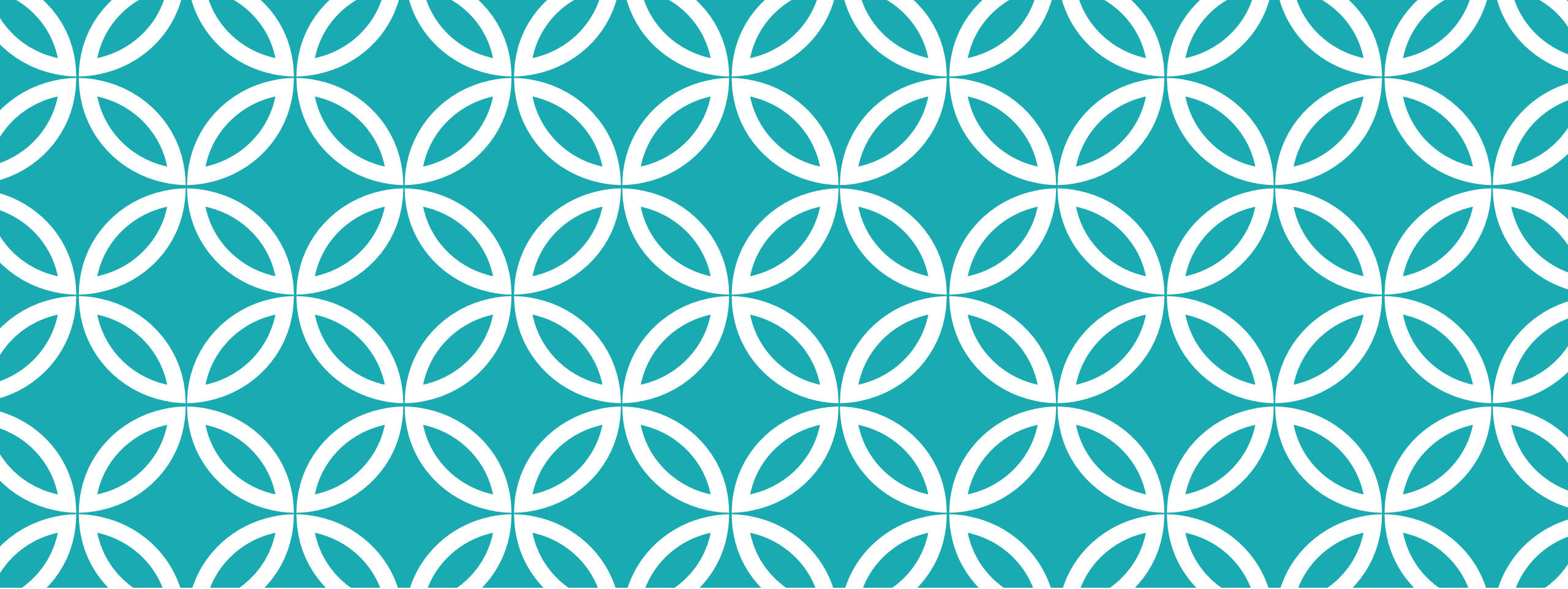
Roles and Responsibilities

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Elected by Roundtable
- Voting members
 - Five Roundtable members
 - No method for how Executive Committee members are elected in TIA 2010
 - Suggested: Nominations/Volunteers from the floor, secret ballot (due to timeliness)
- Non-Voting Members
 - Two State Representatives (appointed by House Transportation Committee Chair)
 - One State Senator (appointed by Senate Transportation Committee Chair)
- Previous process had Roundtable Chair as Chair of the Executive Committee
- No quorum (minimum number to conduct business) set in TIA 2010
- Voting requires majority vote of members **present** at the meeting (REQUIRED by TIA 2010)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DUTIES

- Receive the Unconstrained Project List from GDOT
 - Call for Projects from Cities/Counties/MPO/GDOT
- Develop Draft Fiscally Constrained Investment List
- Host two public hearings on Draft Constrained Investment List
- Present Final Investment List to Regional Roundtable



INVESTMENT CRITERIA

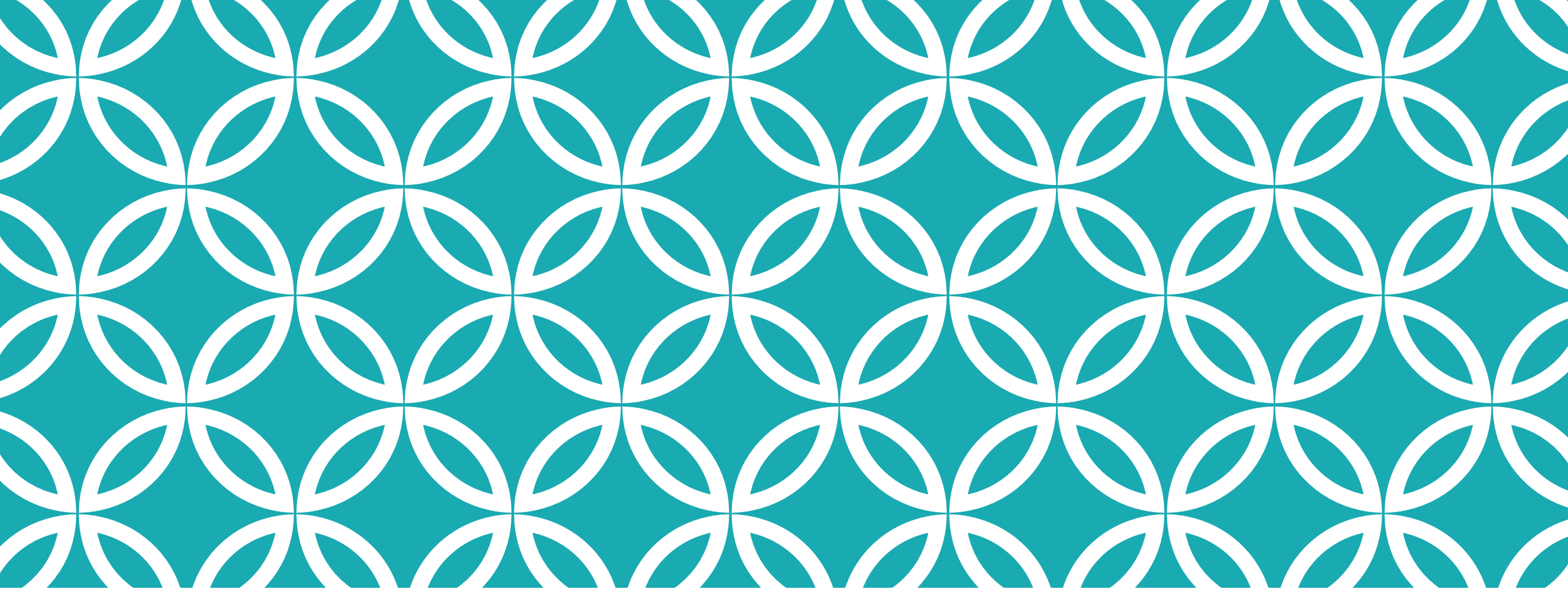
75% Regional Project List

INVESTMENT CRITERIA

- What are they?
 - TIA 2010 requires that the Regional Roundtable establish investment criteria
 - governs what **types** of projects could be funded through a regional transportation sales tax.
- How are they developed?
 - Originally drafted by GDOT Director of Planning
 - Comments solicited from local governments and MPOs
 - GDOT Director of Planning provided Revised Draft Criteria
- Who adopts the Investment Criteria?
 - Regional Roundtable

PROJECT TYPES (FROM 2012 TIA)

- Roadway Capital
- Roadway and Bridge Maintenance
- Safety and Traffic Operations
- Freight and Logistics
- Aviation
- Bicycle and Pedestrian
- Transit Capital
- Transit Operations and Maintenance



TIMELINES

POTENTIAL ELECTION DATES

Estimated Date for Call for Referendum (Roundtable)	Election Date	Tax Period Would Begin
August 4, 2017	November 7, 2017	April 1, 2018
February 21, 2018	May 22, 2018	September 1, 2018

POTENTIAL SCHEDULE

(ASSUMING 10 COUNTIES PASS RESOLUTIONS TO FORM ROUNDTABLE)

■ March 2017

- GDOT Director of Planning Develops Investment Criteria, solicits input from locals/MPO
- Ask State Economist to Develop Revenue Estimates (3-6 weeks for delivery)

■ April 2017

- Mayoral Selections for Roundtable
- Initial Roundtable Meeting; Elect Chair, Appoint Exec. Comm., approve Investment Criteria
- State Appointments to Executive Committee
- Call for Projects (30-45 days)

■ May 2017

- Project Validation by GDOT
- Delivery of Unconstrained List by GDOT to Executive Committee

■ June 2017

- Executive Committee Meetings (anticipate at least 1 per week)

■ July 2017

- Public Hearings
- August 4 Roundtable Meeting to accept/reject list; Call for the Referendum Election