Enabling legislation

- “Regional commissions are created and established as public agencies and instrumentalities of their members” O.C.G.A § 50-8-32

- Commissions shall:
  - Function as planning entity
  - Review applications from within the region for federal, state or agency grants or loans
  - Promote regional planning and development
Regional Commission services

- **Planning**
  - Comp plans
  - Transportation plans
  - GIS services
- **Plan implementation/grant writing**
  (and administration)
- **Local government assistance**
  - Research & analytics
- **Champion regional cooperation**

- **Aging services**
- **Regional transportation**
- **Workforce development**
- **Small business lending**
- **Demographics / Census data affiliate**
### Issue – Perception vs. Reality

- **Some:** “I don’t get anything out of my Regional Commission”
- **Overall:** Satisfaction rates, based on member surveys:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Metro Atlanta</th>
<th>CSRA</th>
<th>Coast</th>
<th>GA Mtns*</th>
<th>HOGA</th>
<th>Middle GA*</th>
<th>NE GA*</th>
<th>NWGA</th>
<th>River Valley*</th>
<th>South GA</th>
<th>SW GA*</th>
<th>Three Rivers*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>88%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>96%</td>
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<td>85%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>82%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Regional planning leadership

**Bear Creek Reservoir**
(water resource planning)

**Metro OZ Prospectus**
(community planning)

**Encroachment Plan**
(BRAC planning)

**Regional Transportation Plan**

**Comprehensive Plan**
Funding

- Operating budgets range from $5.7 to 84 million
  - ~5% dues
  - Reimbursement-based business model – cash flow management

- Member dues provide base funding to match operating grants
Governance

Regional Commissions are governed by Councils, which have powers to:

- Appoint and remove executive director;
- Establish committees;
- Adopt annual work program;
- Adopt annual budget;
- Determine policies and programs to implement and to operate the regional commission; and
- Other general powers enumerated in §50-8-35.

Regional Councils currently range from 35-60 members.