

# Advancing the Plan Committee

July - August 2023



At the July meeting, Committee members reviewed peer region research to discuss lessons learned and identified preferred transit functions for regional collaboration. *See below for a summary and the [back page](#) contains [brief talking points](#) to share with your networks.*

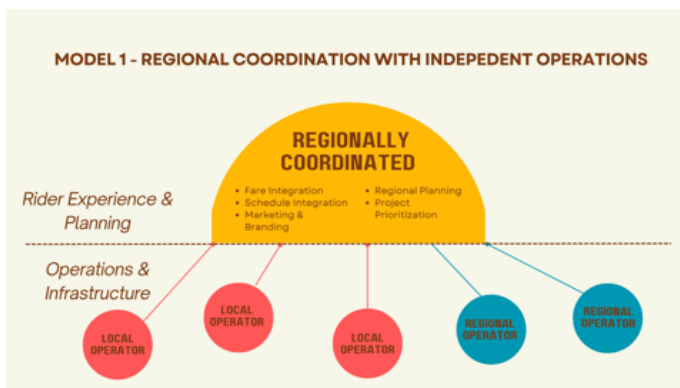
## Guiding Principles for Regional Collaboration

In addition to [CONNECT Beyond's Guiding Principles](#), the Advancing the Plan Committee recognizes the following as [key reasons](#) for regional collaboration:

- Strengthen **Economic Competitiveness** of our Region
- Increase **Investment**
- Increase **Local Input**
- Improve Regional **Service** and **Connections**
- Improve **Access** and System **Efficiencies** for the traveler

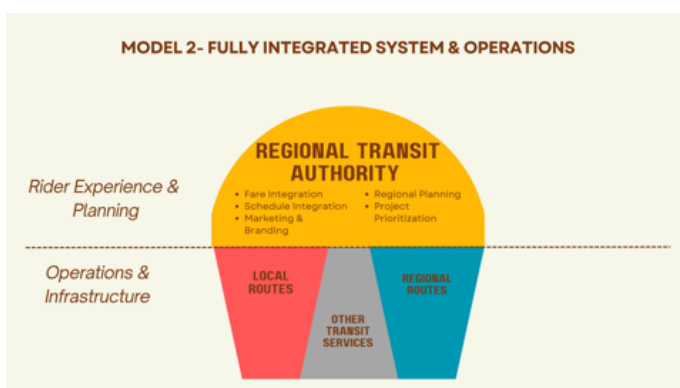
## Peer Regions: Models for Transit Functions

Committee members reviewed two models of regional collaboration based on peer research:



Model 1 focuses on regional collaboration of **rider experience and planning** related to transit functions. *Includes [Atlanta](#), [Tampa](#) and [Nashville](#) (partially).*

Committee members identified many transit functions of this model for **implementation in the short term** (0-5 years).



Model 2 represents a more **fully integrated model** with the regional entity delivering infrastructure and operations. *Includes [Minneapolis](#), [Phoenix](#) and [Seattle](#).*

Most Committee members identified transit functions of this model for **implementation in the longer term** (5+ years).

## Talking Points from the July Meeting:



### Reviewed Current CONNECT Beyond Implementation Activities:

CONNECT Beyond's project team is making progress on:

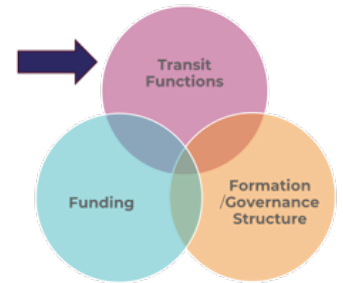
- Development of a **regional Transportation Demand Management plan** to increase knowledge and access of travel options
- **Seamless CONNECTIONs** activities continue to increase transit agency coordination



### Identified Transit Functions of a Regional Governance Structure:

Building blocks for a regional model include: (1) transit functions, (2) governance and (3) funding.

Committee members identified a preference for advancing regional collaboration of **rider experience and planning related transit functions** in the short term (0-5 years). These activities include marketing, shared branding, fare integration/schedule coordination and regional planning. Committee members will discuss **options for a governance approach** to oversee these activities at the next meeting.



### Continued Outreach about Benefits of Regional Collaboration:

It is important to continue to provide **communications and outreach about the importance of regional collaboration**. This work helps to lay the foundation for sharing the Committee's recommendations later in the year.

Please visit our new [Advancing the Plan Committee page](#) for all current and past meeting resources.

## For Next Meeting:

- 📌 **Report Back and Share:** Members should provide an update on the Committee to their jurisdiction and/or relevant mobility organizations. Also, feel free to like or repost [this update](#) within your [Linked In Network](#)
- 📌 **Homework:** Please be on the lookout for homework related to reaching out locally to your economic development partners to educate about CONNECT Beyond and this Committee's work.
- 📌 **Virtual Peer Roundtable Late August/Early September:** Centralina will be scheduling an upcoming virtual meeting with peer regions for further discussion.
- 📌 **Next Meeting:** Friday, September 22, 2023 | 8:30am-10:30am, 8:00-8:30am for refreshments and networking

