



Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

Summary of Multi-Modal Planning Efforts

August 25, 2022



BRTB and UPWP

Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB)

- Federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- MPOs required for any urbanized area with population over 50,000
- Plans and Programs FHWA & FTA federal transportation funding
- BRTB made up of 10 voting members and 5 non-voting

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- Federally required annual work program for MPOs
- \$9 million +/- work program of planning activities
- 80% federal/20% local match
- Funding for BMC staff to serve the BRTB
- Funding for “Focus Areas” identified by the BRTB
- Draft in February (30 comment period), adopted in April

Studies of Interest in Previous UPWPs

Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment

- A GIS based tool to assist BRTB members in prioritizing sidewalk projects, identifying sidewalk gaps, and routing and modeling of the pedestrian network.

MTA/LOTS Bus Stop Coordination and Assessments

- Identified and analyzed 97 transfer locations between MTA and LOTs services and developed bus stop assessment tool

The Role of Development Review in Shared-Use Mobility

- Provided best practices in reviewing shared-use mobility (transit, taxis/limos, bike-sharing, car-sharing, ride-sharing scooters, etc.) and zoning/impact practices.

Capital Improvement Programs and Promoting Healthy Communities

- How best to allocate limited capital funds for transportation and how to promote healthy communities through the build environment.

Studies of Interest in Previous UPWPs

Patapsco Regional Greenway Plan

- Envisions a 40-mile, shared-use trail running through the Patapsco Valley from Baltimore's Inner Harbor to Sykesville in Carroll County. Funded three 30% segment designs.

Regional Travel Demand Model (InSITE)

- Computational tools to predict household, commercial vehicle, and freight travel under a variety of socioeconomic conditions and public policy scenarios to 2050. Validated to 2018/2019 data. Now includes Queen Anne's, York and Adams Counties.

Transportation Issues in Historic Town Centers

- The Baltimore region includes a number of small historic town centers that have developed with significant geographic constraints that experience challenges with parking management, wayfinding and multimodal access. Unless resolved, these challenges will continue to impact their safety and economic viability.

Studies of Interest in Previous UPWPs

Transportation and Crash Data Dashboards

- Create highly interactive electronic dashboards that engage users in a data-driven approach exploring observed and simulated data to analyze trends, uncover data relationships, and tabulate/summarize data for reporting.

Traffic Impact Studies – Review and Best Practices

- Review existing TIS practices and examine best practices for: multi-modal analysis, inclusion of safety analysis, post development audits, etc.

Planning Process Review

- Review how local government development planning and review processes function, with particular emphasis on how these processes consider and evaluate transportation impacts.

Transportation Land Use Connection Program

- fund certain small planning and preliminary design projects (up to 30%) at the community level that reduce traffic on roads and enable more people to easily walk, bike, and use transit

FY 2023 Focus Area Projects

- **SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH**
- **THIRTY PERCENT DESIGN FOR BICYCLE TRAILS**
- **RTP LOTS SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**
- **SUPPORT FOR EXPANDING ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **REGIONAL AND LOCAL CAV PLANNING**
- **CORRIDOR ACCESS MANAGEMENT (AM) PLANS**
- **VISION FOR INTEGRATED REGIONAL BICYCLE NETWORK**
- **TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE CONNECTION GRANTS - Round 2**
- **GROWING TRANSIT POST-COVID**
- **COORDINATION OF HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS**
- **PEER STUDY OF MPO/COG EQUITY BEST PRACTICES**
- **ASSISTING LOCAL UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLANS**
- **EVALUATION OF “FARES, FEES, AND FINES” FOR UNDUE BURDENS**
- **REGIONAL TRANSIT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION – CONTINUATION OF CORRIDOR ANALYSES**

SAFE SYSTEMS APPROACH

Purpose

- A review of best practices in the implementation of the Safe System Approach (SSA) and
- The development of guidelines for the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board and its members to further utilize the concept in safety planning.

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Literature review of SSA and case studies
- Summary of BMC processes and activities appropriate for SSA integration at member agencies
- Summary of BRTB member agencies' processes and activities amenable to SSA enhancements
- Guidelines, with recommendations and real-world examples, for utilizing SSA in the Baltimore region

SUPPORT FOR EXPANDING ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Purpose

- Support BRTB members in siting and establishing new public EV charging stations by developing a “vehicle charging infrastructure siting guide.”
- The guide will include:
 - Types of EVs and charging stations,
 - Existing EV charging station guidance, and
 - Public EV charging stations siting needs.
- Goal of this guide is to lay a foundation which could support future development of an interactive EV charging station siting tool for the Baltimore region.

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Literature review and case studies
- Guidelines, with recommendations and real-world examples, for siting EV Charging infrastructure in the Baltimore region

REGIONAL AND LOCAL CAV PLANNING

Purpose

- Develop customized recommendations for the region and local jurisdictions on preparing for connected and automated vehicles.

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Support a project Steering Committee
- Literature review and case studies
- Report with recommendations and guidelines for local jurisdictions and the MPO on a variety of policy, legal, capital, operating and maintenance issues
- Report user guide
- Executive summary of effort and findings

VISION FOR INTEGRATED REGIONAL BICYCLE NETWORK

Purpose

- Develop a vision for a network of bicycle and shared-use facilities that improve regional connectivity, safety, and mobility.

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022
- Establish a vision and goals for the regional bicycle network
- Assess existing regional bicycle network for connectivity, access, and equity

Expected Deliverables

- Develop a regional bicycle network plan that closes identified network gaps and expands the network of regionally significant trails
- Identify corridors for priority funding.
- Support public outreach efforts

GROWING TRANSIT POST-COVID

Purpose

- After a dramatic drop in transit ridership during the pandemic, this task will engage focus groups and study best practices for retaining and gaining regular transit passengers for all public transit services throughout the region.
- This study will document best practices by peer providers in retaining and increasing transit ridership and also engage focus groups on how to grow transit ridership in the region

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Documentation of best practices of peer transit providers.
- Recommendations to develop access metrics for access improvements.
- Recommendations for multi-modal incentives that may be applied regionally.
- Recommendations for regional public outreach.

COORDINATION OF HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

Purpose

- Evaluate the potential for a consortium among human services transportation providers and identify opportunities to provide service connections and/or joint capital projects to improve mobility for older adults, people with disabilities, people with lower incomes and others with limited access to transportation.

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Compilation and interpretation of surveys and/or workshops with human services transportation providers and related health service providers.
- Recommendations for potential service expansion through coordination of services and/or capital projects, which may include fleet maintenance, driver training, vehicle sharing, route coordination, etc.
- Recommendations for increased or streamlined use of technology to implement recommendations.
- Estimates of potential costs savings and/or allocations.

EVALUATION OF “FARES, FEES, AND FINES” FOR UNDUE BURDENS

Purpose

- Identify and document the impact of transportation fees, fines and fares on the residents of the Baltimore region, particularly on low income residents and [vulnerable populations](#).

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issued in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Identify and Assess the impacts of key fees, fines, and fares on equitable access to the transportation system for low income individuals and vulnerable populations;
- Summarize the transportation revenue sources in the region and how they are distributed within the transportation system;
- Identify and evaluate strategies that alleviate the financial burden on lower-income individuals;
- Identify and make recommendations on potential tradeoffs between affordability strategies and ensuring the transportation system generates sufficient revenue, including from its users to sufficiently meet the needs of system operators and owners; and
- Recommend policy changes to reduce inequitable financial impacts experienced by vulnerable populations in the region

REGIONAL TRANSIT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

– CONTINUATION OF CORRIDOR ANALYSES

Purpose

- Continue the feasibility studies of 30 Regional Transit Corridors as identified in the Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan (Central MD RTP). This task will evaluate transit needs and identify mode, alignment and routing, and may include an early screenings of selected corridors against potential state and federal funding sources to determine future project viability.

Contractors Milestones

- RFP expected to be issues in fall of 2022

Expected Deliverables

- Corridor analysis of CMRTP identified corridor in the Baltimore region

REGIONAL TRANSIT & GOVERNANCE WORKGROUP

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) will convene a Transit Funding and Governance Workgroup to identify ways to improve transit funding and governance in the Baltimore region.

Established by BMC's Board of Directors at its July 15th meeting, the workgroup will be chaired by BMC board member, Delegate Tony Bridges and include appointed representatives from around the Baltimore region.

The workgroup has two objectives. First, the workgroup will prioritize one or more governance models identified in the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board's 2021 Baltimore Regional Transit Funding and Governance Study. The 2021 study researched and identified five potential governance and funding structures for the region's transit services, as well as a sixth option of maintaining the status quo. The workgroup will review options detailed in the 2021 study and make a formal recommendation to the BMC Board of Directors, Maryland General Assembly, and Governor.

For More Information

Todd Lang | Director of Transportation Planning

410-732-9566 | tlang@baltometro.org | www.baltometro.org

Don Halligan | Senior Transportation Planner

410-732-0500, ext. 1002 | dhalligan@baltometro.org | www.baltometro.org



@BALTOMETROCOUNCIL



@BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL



@BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

