# The Baltimore Red Line

Transit Choices | 10.26.2023





# Agenda

- Meet the Red Line Project Team
- Recap: Red Line Project Context
- Moving the Progress Forward
- Summer Outreach Activities & Take-Aways
- Developing & Evaluating Preliminary Alternatives
- Looking Ahead & Staying Engaged







# **Recap: Red Line Project Context**

- The Red Line project addresses a major gap in east-west transit service between Bayview and Woodlawn, through downtown.
- East-West Feasibility Study reaffirmed the needs along this corridor.
- Project relaunched in June 2023 by Governor Wes Moore.
- Building upon the extensive technical work and community engagement conducted prior to the cancellation of the project in 2015.





# **Moving the Project Forward**

- The project has been shaped by over 10 years of work and input:
  - **≻**Studies

➤ Environmental Analysis

Engineering

- **→** Community Participation
- Final design and construction timelines depend on project characteristics and funding availability.
- Near-term complimentary projects address corridor needs and are in coordination with Red Line.





# **Developing the Red Line Preliminary Alternatives**

MTA worked with jurisdictional partners, stakeholders, and the public to develop Preliminary Alternatives to explore:



### Transit mode

- Light Rail Transit (LRT)
- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)



## Alignment adjustments due to development changes

- Highlandtown/Bayview
- Canton/Brewer's Hill
- Downtown Baltimore
- Woodlawn



### Surface running vs. Tunneling

- Cooks Lane
- Downtown Baltimore





- West Baltimore
   United Reconnecting
   Communities Study
- RAISE East-West Priority Corridor project
- Frederick Douglass Tunnel: West Baltimore MARC Station



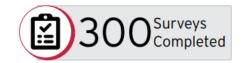
# Summer Engagement Activities & Take-Aways











### What We Heard

- Vocal support to get the Red Line built quickly
  - Support for creating dedicated transitway with vehicle separation
    - Strong support for Light Rail and interest in learning about the difference between Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and bus
    - Mixed opinions of tunneling vs. stations on the surface
    - Support for economic investment and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) around future stations
  - Desire to make seamless connections to existing transit to advance a regional transit network
- Concerns around safety (e.g., crossing to stations) and personal security (e.g., adequate lighting)



# **Preliminary Alternatives Under Consideration**

Six Preliminary Alternatives are under consideration, which combine three alignment options (mapped below) and two modes:

- Light Rail Transit (LRT)
- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

### Light Rail Transit (LRT)



Alternative 1 (LRT-Tunnel)



Alternative 2A (LRT-Surface North)



Alternative 2B

### **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)**



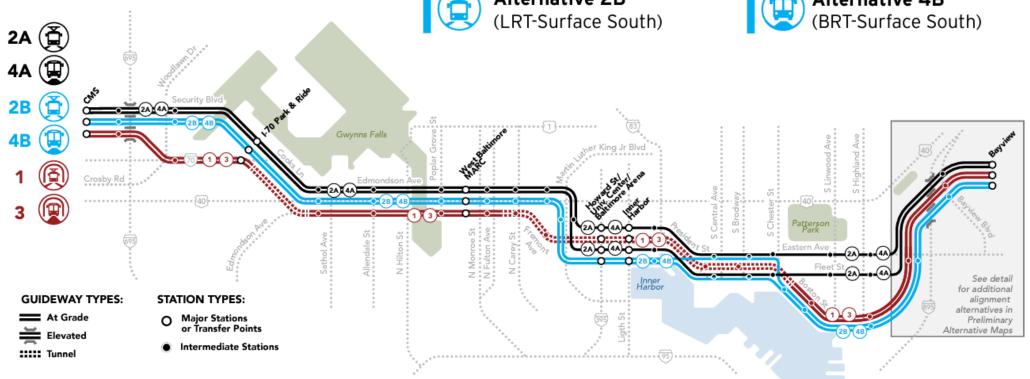
Alternative 3 (BRT-Tunnel)



Alternative 4A (BRT-Surface North)



Alternative 4B





# **Evaluating the Preliminary Alternatives**

- Different alternatives present their own benefits and challenges.
- Preliminary Alternatives' performance will be compared using quantitative and qualitative metrics, or Measures of Effectiveness.
- Evaluation results shared at open houses & website; survey Nov.1-Dec.1.

# Measures of Effectiveness Transit Connections Access Travel Time Reliability Ridership Implementation Time Costs to Build and Operate Impacts



# **November Open Houses - Join Us...And Bring A Friend!**

### **November 2, 2023**

6:00 - 9:00 pm

Woodlawn High School 1801 Woodlawn Drive, Baltimore, MD 21207 *Transit Accessible*:

CityLink Blue, LocalLink 31, 37, and 79

### November 8, 2023

6:00 - 9:00 pm

Greektown Square & Event Center 700 Quail Street, Baltimore, MD 21224 Transit Accessible: CityLink Blue and Navy, LocalLink 22

### November 4, 2023

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

University of Maryland, Baltimore SMC Campus Center Ballrooms A & B 621 W. Lombard Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 Transit Accessible: CityLink Brown, Navy, Orange, Yellow, LocalLink 69, 70, 73, 75 and 76

### November 9, 2023

6:00 - 9:00 pm

Edmondson Westside High School 501 N. Athol Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21229 Transit Accessible: CityLink Orange, LocalLink 38, 40, 77, and 78



For those who are unable to attend an in-person open house, the project team is creating a **narrated version of the boards and materials**, which will be available on-demand via the project website.



# **Look-Ahead Timeline**

- ✓ September | Shared Preliminary Alternatives
- ✓ October | Pop-up events & community meetings
- November | Conduct open houses and pop-ups along the corridor; survey to gather input
- Winter 2023-24 | Incorporate feedback to define preferences on trade-offs
- Spring 2024 | Reach a state preferred alternative that reflects current and future conditions and priorities

### **Process Timeline**





# **Stay Engaged!**

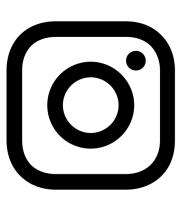








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# Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you – and a friend! – at an upcoming open house.

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