

History of MDOT MTA and LOTS

(147)

Baltimore Region Transit Funding and Governance Study

January 26, 2021



Perry Hall

Bradsl

(150)

Bowleys Quarters



Today's Agenda

Study Overview

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- 2 History of MDOT, MTA, LOTS
- **3 Goals, Metrics, and Evaluation**
- 4 Peer Review Approach
- 5 Feedback and Insights

Study Overview

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Our proposed schedule is detailed below, with estimated project completion at the end of June 2021.

ECTION		DESCRIPTION					î	021				
SECTION		DESCRIPTION	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE		
1	Study Purpose & Approach											
	1.1	Internal Project Kickoff Meeting		КО								
	1.2	Research, Data Collection and Analysis										
	1.3	Prepare Technical Memo										
	1.4	BRTB Meeting (Materials Agenda, and Faciliation)		SI								
	1.5	Public and Community Engagement (Website, Virtual Town Halls)					Virtual Town Hall		Virtu	al Town Hall		
2	History of MDOT MTA and the LOTs System											
	2.1	Collect and Compile Data										
-	2.2	Prepare Technical Merno										
	2.3	BRTB Meeting (Materials, Agenda and Meeting Facilitation)			S2							
		Current Status										
3	3.1	Collect and Compile Data										
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4	Financial I	Collect and Compile Data										
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		Peer Agencies/Regions										
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2	5.3	Organize and Convene Panel Discussion										
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	5.4	BRTB Meeting (Materials, Agenda and Meeting Facilitation)						33				
		Transit Funding Measures										
6	6.1	Collect and Compile Data										
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7	Options fo	or Governance & Funding										
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8	8,1	Draft and Final Report										

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History of MDOT, MTA, and LOTS

History and Development of Transit in the Baltimore Region



How did the state end up running Baltimore's transit system?

SETTING THE STAGE The Role of the State

Creation of the State Roads Commission to build a road network-members appointed by the Governor

1910

Creation of the Public Service Commission to regulate transportation (fares and services) statewide—including Baltimore

CITY

The 1950s Transit Becomes an Issue





Post-war transit ridership declines lead to strikes, rate cases, official inquiries into adequacy of service

Context

Context: the privately-owned (National City Lines) Baltimore Transit Company serves Baltimore City, portions of Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County

Its rates and services are regulated by the Maryland Public Service Commission





Baltimore City Mayor D'Alesandro calls for either new local owners or public ownership by the City

CITY

The 1960s Baltimore Turns to the State

Transit

Proposal



City council and business community _____ reject City ownership, issues continue

MTA 🏁

1961

Legislation introduced into the General Assembly for Legislative study commission commission members appointed by the Governor



1963

Streetcar operation ends

Bill passes creating the Metropolitan Transit Authority (the first MTA), includes Baltimore City, Baltimore County but not Anne Arundel

The MTA takes over regulation of BTC and suburban bus companies







- Developed by Mass Transit Steering Committee appointed by the Governor
- 71-miles, \$1.7 billion
- Anticipated federal contribution of 2/3 of capital cost

CITY

¹⁹⁶⁸⁻⁷³ State Takeover, Plan for Rapid Rail Emerge



1973-2017 MTA Develops As a Multi-Modal Agency



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MDOT-MTA Today

TRIPS

FIXED-ROUTE BUS: CityLink, LocalLink, ExpressLink

LIGHTRAILLINK

METROSUBWAYLINK

2,992,499 **MOBILITYLINK**

MARC COMMUTER RAIL 9,180,885

MTA COMMUTER BUS

*All trip FY19

How did the Locally-Operated Transit Systems (LOTS) develop?

1974-2020

MDOT-MTA Development of the Statewide Program



Public Transportation Development Division begins administering statewide transit grant program



Federal Section 18 rural transit program initiated, administered by MTA



MTA reorganized, statewide program now in Planning and Program Development Division

1975 Interagency Committee on Specialized Transportation created by Governor , MTA administers Section 16(b)2 program providing funding to local non-profits

1980

MTA reorganized, statewide program under Program Development Division



Statewide Specialized Transportation Assistance Program (SSTAP) provides state funding to counties, administered by MTA



1974-2020

MDOT-MTA Development of the Statewide Program



Evolution of the LOTS in Baltimore Region

- Except for City of Annapolis, LOTS origins are in locally-provided human service transportation (primarily transportation for seniors and persons with disabilities)
 - Baltimore CountyRide operated by County Office on Aging until July 2020
 - Anne Arundel Department of Aging and Disabilities comes under Office of Transit in 2018
 - Queen Anne's County Ride still operated by county Department of Aging
 - $_{\odot}\,$ Carroll County also began under Bureau of Aging
 - Harford transit begins in Office on Aging, 1989 begins public routes
 - Howard transit has origins in private non-profit URTA
- Unique situations:
 - Transit service in new city of Columbia evolves into today's RTA after efforts at developing a regional system to link eastern Howard, western Anne Arundel and northern Prince George's counties
 - $_{\odot}\,$ Baltimore City identifies needs for specialized circulator and ferry service
 - $_{\odot}~$ The independent system in the City of Annapolis is continued
- Larger fixed-route systems developed where MDOT-MTA service has been limited—Howard, Harford



LOTS in each jurisdiction

TRIPS

- 413,457 Annapolis Transit
- 295,177 Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation
- 1,400,238 Baltimore City Charm City Circulator
 - 332,561 Harbor Connector
 - 38,533 Baltimore CountyRide
 - 161,867 Carroll Transit
 - 358,500 Harford Link
 - 751,434 RTA
 - 26,662 Queen Anne's County Ride

Findings and Implications

Historical Insights

- The strong state role in Maryland is historic, it has developed over nearly one hundred years
- State involvement created stability for transit services
- Local transit services have developed with state support, but are driven by local needs
- Two key expansions in MTA scope:
 - Statewide programs—administrator of federal and state funds provided to local systems
 - Provider of regional services beyond the Baltimore region—MARC commuter rail, commuter bus



Findings and Implications



Different Approaches to Governance

- Dual approach—state run vs. local services
- Fragmented transit network
- Different funding models a challenge for governance
- State provision of non-federal share for MDOT-MTA services a major benefit to regional governments
- Level of funding and priorities determined by a state agency under the executive with limited local input

Goals and Evaluation Framework

Goals and evaluation framework

How will we measure and evaluate new models?





BRTB Goal setting exercise

What are the most important reasons for doing this study?



BRTB Goal setting exercise

What should a potential new governance structure accomplish?





Setting measurable goals

Address state of good repair needs

Reduce traffic congestion

Improve safety

Improve service quality

Improve service reliability

Create seamless intermodal and intersystem connections

More regional connectivity

Improve regional coordination on mutual transit needs

Reduce sprawl with TOD investment

Prioritize state transit investment

Support economic development

Provide equitable funding

Address climate change

Address historic underinvestment

Support economic justice

GOVERNANCE & FUNDING GOALS



Improve Coordination

Support local planning efforts Improved regional planning



Regional Connections

Better meet regional travel needs Seamless connections between services



Improve Service

More service hours and frequency Better transit reliability Better service quality



Enhance Decision Making

More local input and support More regional decision-making framework Promote transparency & accountability



Increase Investment

Address State of Good Repair needs Invest in major transit infrastructure Increase funds for transit operations



Ensure Equitable Investment

Expand funding sources Consider distribution of funding Improve cost effectiveness of delivering se

Sample Goals & Metrics

		Current	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
ש ע' א ג	Improve Coordination				
© ,	Improve Service				
\$ \$	Increase Investment				
*	Regional Connections				
• ● • i≟i	Enhance Decision Making				
-0-	Ensure Equitable Investment				

Peer Review Approach

Why do a Peer Review? Helps to understand relative performance and think about what's possible. Two-step approach:





2 Then, refine to ensure relative likeness to the Baltimore region (population, land use, etc.)





Thank You!





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