# Connecting Our Future: A Regional Transit Plan for Central Maryland

Project Overview March 2019







# PROJECT OVERVIEW

March 2019



#### **RTP Background**

Develop a 25-year Regional Transit Plan for Central Maryland to meet the transit needs of the core service area:

- Anne Arundel County
- Baltimore City
- Baltimore County
- Harford County
- Howard County



# Legislation Overview

- Define the goals to be achieved through the provision of public transit
- Identify options for:
  - Improvements to the existing transportation assets
  - Leveraging non-Administration transportation options available to public transportation
  - Corridors for new public transportation assets
- Prioritize corridors for planning of new public transportation assets
- Ensure consistency with local land use and transportation plans
- Work in consultation with the Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan Commission





# **CMRTP** Commission







# Composition of the Commission

Central Maryland Regional Plan Commission comprises 11 members:

Designees from:

- Anne Arundel County Executive
- Baltimore City Mayor
- Baltimore County Executive
- Harford County Executive
- Howard County Executive
- Appointees representing a business or transportation organization from:
  - Senate President
  - House Speaker

6

Appointees from the Governor representing:

- Central Maryland business organization
- MDOT MTA Citizens Advisory Council
- Disabled riders group
- MARC Riders Advisory Council



#### Roles & Responsibilities

- Participate in developing the Plan's goals
- Participate in developing a meaningful public involvement strategy
- Provide a regional view
- Focus on economic development
- Foster cross-jurisdictional buy-in
- Convene every two to three months



# **Regional Transit Plan**







# **Plan Considerations**

#### • How to:

- Integrate service across providers
- Understand and use new technologies
- Identify opportunities to improve corridors
- Balance differing regional priorities
- Taking into account national trends:
  - Declining transit ridership
  - Increasing demand for paratransit service
  - Increasing competition for riders





#### Seven Focus Areas

- State of Good Repair
  - Funding
  - Customer Experience
    - Service Quality and Integration
    - Access
    - Corridors of Opportunity
    - New Mobility





#### State of Good Repair



- Identify the level of investment needed to maintain the existing transit assets in Central Maryland
  - Proactive maintenance
  - Comprehensive asset management





# Funding



- Develop funding and financing strategies to support regional mobility services, based on best practices and regional analyses
  - Innovative financing and funding tools
  - Regional investments that compliment state funding
  - Private partnerships





#### **Customer Experience**



- Improve the experience of using transit from planning a trip to reaching a destination
  - New technologies
  - Improved amenities
  - Better customer service





# Service Quality & Integration



- Evaluate existing transit services and determine potential improvements to make it easier to travel in the Central Maryland region
  - Aligning service across different providers
  - MDOT MTA as a mobility manager for the region
  - Improving the existing network's performance





#### Access & Land Use



- Work with local partners to ensure the areas served by transit are safe, comfortable, and convenient for people who use the region's transit options to live, work, and prosper
  - Using all options for first and last mile needs
  - Leveraging existing transit
  - Economic development opportunities





# **Corridors of Opportunity**



- Identify existing and potential corridors that could benefit from additional transit investment
  - Improving existing service
  - Integrating existing service across providers
  - Embracing first and last mile solutions





### **New Mobility**



- Embrace changes in transport, technology, and mobility that are altering how we move about
- New mobility options
  - Bikeshare
  - Scootershare
  - Carshare
  - Rideshare
  - Microtransit



Connecting Our Future A Transit Plan for Central Maryland

17

# Public Engagement







#### Public Engagement Approach

- Proactive and inclusive
- Open and transparent
- Information presented in an easy-to-understand format



19

#### Initial Public Engagement Activities

- Project website <u>rtp.mta.Maryland.gov</u>
- Online survey
- Pop-up outreach events at transit hubs, activity centers, etc., throughout the region
- Public open houses







#### Commission and **Outreach Schedule**



MARYLAND TRANSIT

# **Questions & Discussion**





