Updating the Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan

December 3, 2019

Major Pieces of the Coordinated Plan

- Background

- Demographics Analysis

- Current Transportation Services & Resources

- Unmet Transportation Needs & Issues

- Strategies, Activities & Projects

- Approval of Applications

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Why is a Coordinated Transportation Plan Needed?

- Projects selected for funding through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program must be derived from a "locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan".

About the FTA Section 5310 Program

- Intended to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding available mobility options

- MDOT MTA serves as the designated recipient of these federal funds in most of MD

- Regional plans serve as the basis for selection of projects through a competitive process

- In MD eligible applicants are private non-profit corporations
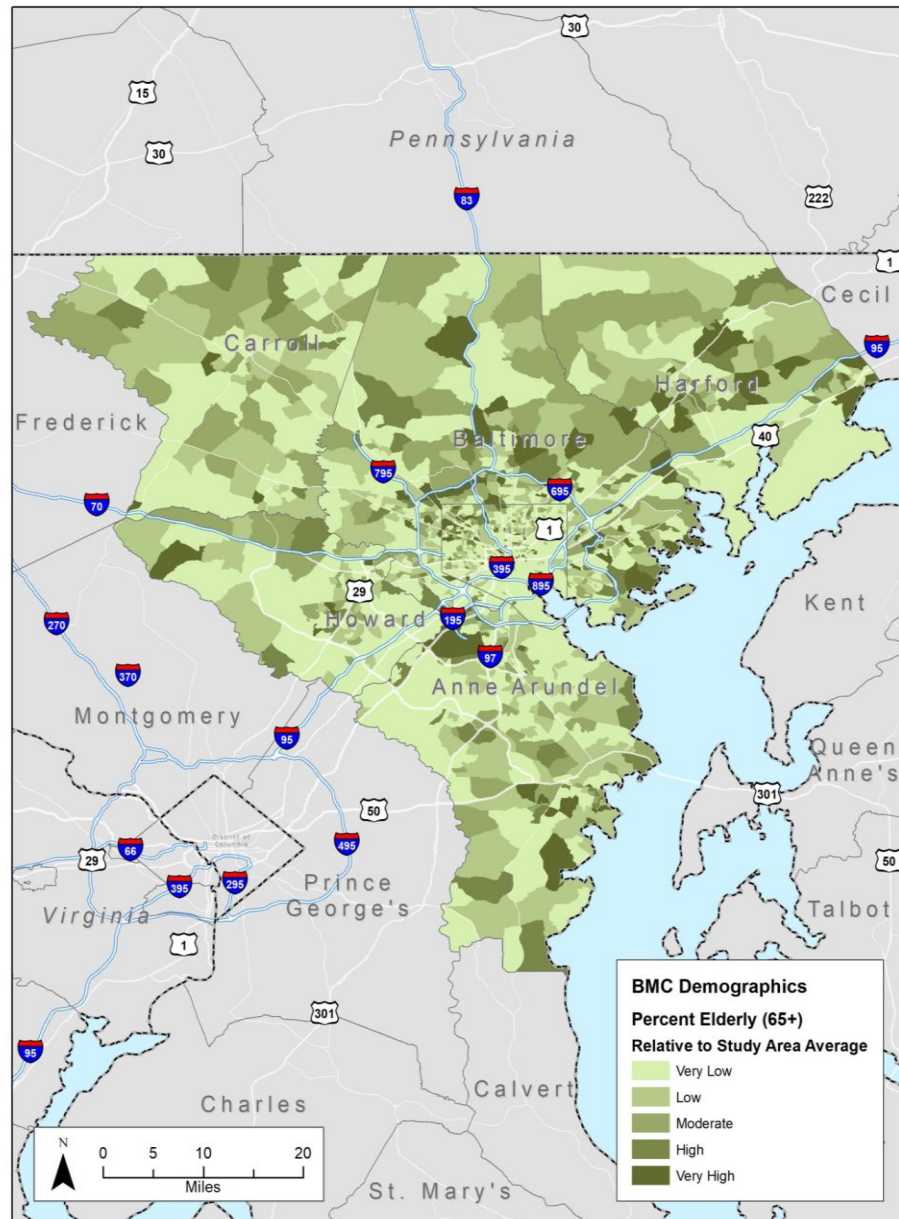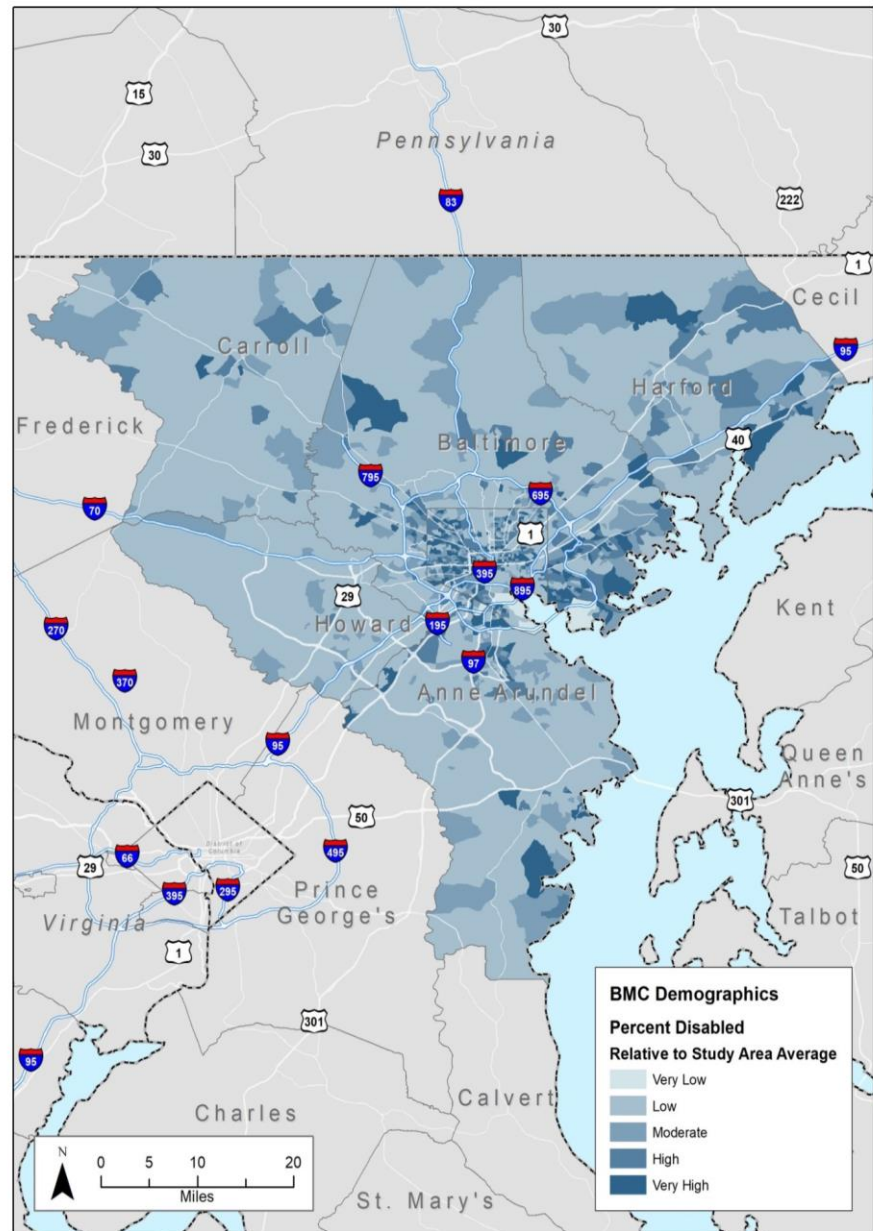
Figure 3-6: Older Adults

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Percent Elderly (65+)

Relative to Study Area Average

- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

Figure 3-7: Individuals with Disabilities

What's Required in the Plan?

- An **assessment of available transportation services** that identifies current providers (public, private, and nonprofit)

- An **assessment of transportation needs** for individuals with disabilities and seniors

- **Strategies, activities, and/or projects** to address the gaps between services and needs, as well as opportunities to achieve efficiencies in delivery

- **Priorities for implementation** based on resources (from multiple program sources), time, and feasibility for implementing specific strategies and/or activities identified.

New Potential Projects: 2-1-1 Maryland

- Establish 2-1-1 MD as the designated Baltimore region information resource for transportation providers serving the elderly and individuals with disabilities. All providers will be encouraged to register their organization with 2-1-1 MD. The following considerations recommend 2-1-1 MD:
  - Offers information on a range of programs serving the elderly and individuals with disabilities, including transportation services.
  - Has high visibility in Baltimore region.
  - Has partnered with Maryland Access Point (MAP).
  - Many Baltimore region transportation providers who receive 5310 grant funding are already on 2-1-1 Maryland.
  - Clients may access information by phone or via the 2-1-1 MD website.

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New Potential Projects: MD Senior Rides

- Implement new or expanded volunteer driver program to provide transportation at needed times.

- Develop incentives to encourage and maintain volunteer involvement in program, including mileage reimbursement, insurance coverage, discounts, and stipends.

- Provide documentation of unmet travel needs, which can be presented to policy-makers so they can advocate for increasing the annual appropriation for the MD Senior Rides Program, which partially funds nonprofit organizations that coordinate volunteer driver programs. This project may benefit from collaboration among the Baltimore region and the State's other regions.

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Proposed Changes to the Draft Plan

Need/Issue	Current Language	Amended Language
Increase affordability of private transportation services (p 5-3)	• This could include creating programs that subsidize TNC rides. • Could also explore the feasibility of micro-transit services in the region.	• This could include exploring coordination with TNC rides. • Could also explore the feasibility of micro-transit services in the region.
First mile/last mile connections (p 5-4)	• Presence of e-scooters in Baltimore City, along with bike shares in Baltimore and other local jurisdictions	• Presence of e-scooters along with bike share in the Baltimore region. • E-scooters represent an opportunity if proper regulation can reduce safety hazards and nuisance issues.

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Coordination with Other Plans

- **Transportation needs and recommended improvements from other plans are incorporated**

- **In the region these include:**
  - Transit development plans
  - County Comprehensive Plans
  - BMC Plans and Studies
  - Others?

Types of Organizations that Receive 5310 Funding

- **Organizations that serve older adults:**
  - Action in Maturity, Inc.
  - Johns Hopkins Health System Corp. d/b/a/ Hopkins ElderPlus

- **Organizations that serve the disabled:**
  - The Arc of Carroll County, Inc.
  - Humanim
  - Mosaic Community Services
  - Prologue, Inc.
  - Providence Center, Inc.

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Types of Organizations that Receive 5310 Funding

- **Organizations that serve older adults and the disabled:**
  - Associated Catholic Charities, Inc.
  - Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc.
  - Easter Seals Serving DC, MD, VA
  - League for People with Disabilities, Inc.
  - Partners in Care
  - Progress Unlimited
  - Winter Growth, Inc.

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For More Information

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