

## **Why is the BRTB developing a transportation vision?**

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) has unanimously agreed on the need for an overall vision for transportation. The focus of this vision is to develop an integrated multi-modal regional network of transportation options that supports greater mobility and accessibility, livable communities, environmental stewardship and economic prosperity. This vision will serve as a guide for investments in the 2011 long-range transportation plan. Over the coming year, the BRTB will engage the public in a conversation about the future of transportation in the region.

## **Where do we begin?**

### Select a Consultant

BMC issued two requests for proposals (RFP) seeking the services of a qualified consultant or consultant team to assist in the public education and engagement component of the regional vision and long-range transportation plan (LRTP) process and to develop a regional economic and demographic outlook for 2060. The consultant will partner with BMC to develop a large-scale public engagement campaign to provide the people who live and work in the Baltimore region an opportunity to help shape the region's future.

### Participate in the Kick-off Workshop

The BRTB will host a one-day event to kick off the public education and engagement process in early Spring. Stakeholders will learn about the proposed process including:

- activities that will occur during the vision process,
- public participation techniques,
- the anticipated schedule, and
- an overview of scenario planning.

Participants should come away with specific information about the vision process and what their involvement will be.

### Establish a Starting Place

BRTB subcommittees are preparing core goal topic papers on some of the forces shaping the future of the Baltimore region. The topic papers are meant to educate and inform the

stakeholders about complex issues in the Baltimore region, and facilitate discussion. Topics include transportation, the environment, demographic trends and smart growth. Initial drafts will be available for review in February, and final papers should be available in March, 2010.

### **How will we develop a transportation vision for the Baltimore region?**

The BRTB proposes a 7-step process for developing the regional transportation vision, using scenario planning. Scenario planning is an inclusive, collaborative process that demonstrates how different development patterns could affect transportation, smart growth, the environment and economic development.

The seven steps are:

#### **1. Identifying Values**

Stakeholders will identify livability and quality of life factors that will be used in evaluating transportation and associated land-use scenarios. Values will help shape goals and policies that the BRTB can use in developing the 2011 long-range transportation plan.

#### **2. Identifying Trends**

The vision team will analyze trends in demographics, the economy and technology for changes that could affect demands for transportation.

#### **3. Refining Modeling Tools**

Values and trends will be incorporated into the GIS-based software and modeling tools that will be used to create scenarios.

#### **4. Conducting Scenario Planning Workshops**

Participants will explore the link between transportation and land use, and will have an opportunity to discuss both the benefits and consequences of transportation and land use decisions.

#### **5. Analyzing and Formulating Draft Scenarios**

The vision team will refine input from the planning workshops into several scenarios and analyze potential benefits and trade-offs.

#### **6. Evaluating Scenarios**

Stakeholders will review the outcomes of the analysis and compare, comment and then recommend a preferred scenario. The BRTB will then finalize the preferred scenario representing the stakeholder-driven vision.

## 7. Implementing the regional transportation vision

The vision will provide a strategic direction to guide the Baltimore regional transportation planning process.

### **How does this fit in with the metropolitan transportation planning process?**

- To prepare for the vision process, local and regional planners have been working to refine technical assumptions and analytical tools. The final vision could influence transportation planning in the Baltimore region for the next 20 to 50 years.
- Public input garnered from the vision process will assist in selecting transportation investments to be included in the 2011 long-range transportation plan.
- The final vision and 2011 long-range transportation plan will be in place by November 2011.
- Evaluation criteria will assure that transportation investments are consistent with the regional vision.