



---

# 2024-2027 TIP Amendment: Aberdeen Train Station Transit Oriented Development & Station Square Improvements

February 27, 2024





## Presentation on Station Square improvements

Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development

# Aberdeen Train Station



- Rail Service on the northeast corridor right-of-way is utilized by Amtrak, MARC, Norfolk Southern and CSX.
- Amtrak owns the train station and tunnels, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration owns the pedestrian and vehicular overpasses, and MDOT Maryland Transit Administration manages the train station, tunnel, security and owns several of the parking areas.
- APG Road is owned and maintained by Aberdeen Proving Ground; improved in FFY 2016/2017.
- Aberdeen MARC/Amtrak Train Station – Amtrak monthly ridership for June 2019 was 1,521 riders on and 1,478 riders off; MARC average daily ridership for 2019 was 200.
- Harford Transit LINK ridership is 7,500 monthly riders at the train station.

# Aberdeen Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

## - Station Square concept



- Designated June 2010 by Governor Martin O'Malley
- Aberdeen TOD Master Plan and TOD Boundary adopted March 2012
- Aberdeen Station Square Feasibility Study completed November 2012
- Maryland Sustainable Community Designation April 2022



Station Square Plaza  
West Bel Air Avenue and US 40



# Existing pedestrian overpass



- Constructed in 1982 and owned by MDOT State Highway Administration.
- Created a physical and economic barrier separating City residents from US 40 and downtown.
- A socioeconomic and racial disparity exists, which amplifies the separation created by the conditions of the physical barrier.
- The pedestrian overpass is not ADA compliant and is a challenge for residents, commuters and visitors.

# Station Square Vision



## Elements of the improvements

- Removal of the existing pedestrian overpass and land acquisition to make the future accessibility improvements
- Construct a new Pedestrian Underpass with amenities
- Seek funding for the US 40 “Green Boulevard” at Station Square
- Improve safety, security, visibility and handicap accessibility by constructing the pedestrian underpass and terraced plazas to connect the west and east sides

Station Square Plaza  
West and East Views





# East Bel Air Avenue Plaza



# Next Steps

- Estimated cost of improvements, based on 2012 Aberdeen Station Square Feasibility Study is \$36.0M. These costs included preliminary engineering and design, geotechnical and environmental analysis, site acquisition and construction costs. We have received updated project cost estimates of \$55M.
- City of Aberdeen has acquired 6 properties in the TOD area for the purpose of land-banking and future mixed-use development. Additional properties are needed for the Station Square improvements. Three of the six properties acquired are in the Station Square area to further the effort for this project.
- The City staff has briefed Amtrak, MDOT SHA, and MDOT MTA on the proposed Station Square improvements. We have sent several letters to the MD Secretary of Transportation requesting to be included in the FY 2022-2025 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This is pending since we received federal funding.



# Next Steps

- The City has applied for Fiscal Years 2021, 2022 and 2023 to U.S. Department of Transportation grant programs for the Aberdeen TOD - Station Square improvement project; including Reconnecting Communities, RAISE and CRISI.
- The City is the recipient of Fiscal Year 2023 Congressionally Directed Spending funding for \$4,000,000 and the Aberdeen Station Square project was included in the FY 2023 Appropriations Bill signed by President Biden on December 29, 2022. We are working with the U.S. Department of Transportation and MDOT MTA on the phasing and funding for this project. These funds will be used for 30% preliminary engineering, design, geotechnical and environmental studies and meeting the NEPA requirements.

# For More Information

---

**Phyllis Grover** | Director of Planning and Community Development  
410-272-1600 ext. 216 | [phyllis@aberdeennmd.gov](mailto:phyllis@aberdeennmd.gov)

