MDOT MTA Regional Transit Plan Corridors Update

Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

November 30, 2021
Agenda

1. Corridor Study Process
2. Engagement Activities Conducted
3. Corridor Goals
4. Preliminary Alternatives
5. Measures of Effectiveness
6. Public Engagement
7. Schedule
8. RTP Related Projects
Transit Corridor Studies

- Begin with no pre-determined routes or modes in mind
- Ongoing studies will narrow down each corridor to 2-3 options to receive further engineering analysis
Corridor Study Process

Existing Conditions Analysis
- Review previous studies and current plans
- Develop market analysis

Goals and Objectives
- Develop draft Goals and Objectives
- Refine Goals and Objectives based on stakeholder and public input

Alternatives Development
- Develop alternatives (range of alignments, modes, and station locations)

Evaluate Alternatives
- Travel demand modeling
- Quantify and qualify benefits, cost and impacts of the alternatives under consideration

Compare Alternatives
- Screen alternatives based on measures derived from Goals and Objectives
- Public Input

Identify 2-3 Alternatives to move forward to more detailed study

Winter 2020
Spring 2021
Summer 2021
Fall 2021
Spring 2022
Summer 2021
Winter 2020
Spring 2021
Summer 2021
Fall 2021
Spring 2022
Engagement Activities Conducted

- Corridor Study Kick off Discussions (Spring 2021)
  - Elected Officials
  - Local Jurisdictions
- Public Survey (May 2021)
- Touchpoint 1 (May/June 2021)
- RTP Implementation Team (Quarterly)
  - BMC Coordination
  - Jurisdiction Team
- Transit Caucus (July 2021)
- Regular Jurisdiction Coordination (Monthly)
Corridor Goals

East-West

1. Improve the **connectivity and operations** of the existing transit network
2. Expand the **reach and connectivity** of the regional transit network
3. Prioritize the needs of existing transit riders and **transit-critical populations**
4. Maximize the **economic and environmental benefit** of a major transit investment

North-South

1. Increase **mobility and access** to jobs, services, and other opportunities in the region
2. **Center equity** as a core consideration
3. Create **strategic connection** to local and regional multi-modal transportation options
4. Support the region’s **economic competitiveness** and strategic growth
5. Support the region’s **sustainability** goals
Alternatives Development

- Alternatives should test different options
- Different modes, treatment, alignments, and station spacing
- Results of “testing” used to select alternatives to move forward to the next phase
- Next phase may combine elements of these alternatives
E-W Preliminary Alternatives

Analyzing 7 preliminary alternatives

Modes under consideration

• 2 Light Rail Transit alternatives
• 4 Bus Rapid Transit alternatives
• 1 Heavy Rail mixed with BRT alternative

Range of Alternatives

• Red Line alignment (LRT & BRT)
• Termini options (CMS/Ellicott City and Bayview/Essex)
• Transit Street in Downtown (2 BRT alternatives)
• Tunneling / Elevated (2 LRT & 1 Heavy Rail + BRT)
• Studying options to connect between Downtown, JHH, and Bayview
Analyzing 7 alternatives

Modes under consideration

• 2 Light Rail Transit alternatives
• 4 Bus Rapid Transit alternatives
• 1 Heavy Rail alternative

Range of Alternatives

• 5 alternatives on York-Greenmount Road
• 2 alternatives on Loch Raven
• All 7 include stops / stations in Towson
• Termini options (Lutherville/Towson and Downtown/Harbor East/Port Covington/Otterbein)
• Tunneling (1 LRT + 1 Heavy Rail)
## Measures of Effectiveness

What are the relative strengths and weakness of each preliminary alternative?

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<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>Transit Accessible Jobs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ridership</td>
<td>Total Daily Ridership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
<td>Low-income population within ½ mile of a transit station</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of minority communities within ½ mile of a transit station</td>
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<td>Number of households with no car within ½ mile of a transit station</td>
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<td>Cost</td>
<td>Capital costs</td>
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<td>Operations &amp; Maintenance Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>System Impact</td>
<td>Total Network Transit Travel Time Savings</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reliability</td>
<td>Dedicated Guideway</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Trips Shifted to Transit</td>
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<td>Connections to Frequent Bus Service</td>
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<td>Connections to LOTS</td>
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<td>Travel Time</td>
<td>Key Destination Travel Time</td>
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<td>Savings</td>
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<td>Access</td>
<td>Transit Accessible Households</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transit Access for LEP, Seniors, Disabilities, Student Populations</td>
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Public Engagement

- Touchpoint 2A
  - Roundtable Meetings with Jurisdictions

- Touchpoint 2B
  - Informational video

- Touchpoint 3
  - Interactive website for comparisons/feedback
  - E-W launch – April 2022
  - N-S launch – June 2022
  - Outreach – Spring/Summer 2022
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Milestone</th>
<th>E-W Corridor</th>
<th>N-S Corridor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BMC Modeling Complete</td>
<td>November 2021</td>
<td>January 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation Complete</td>
<td>January 2022</td>
<td>March 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jurisdiction Coordination</td>
<td>February / March 2022</td>
<td>May 2022</td>
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<td>Webpage Launch</td>
<td>April 2022</td>
<td>June 2022</td>
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<td>Public Comment</td>
<td>April / May 2022</td>
<td>June / July 2022</td>
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<td>Feasibility Study Final Report</td>
<td>June 2022</td>
<td>August 2022</td>
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<td>Begin Alternatives Analysis</td>
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<td>Fall 2022</td>
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Related RTP Projects

East-West Corridor (MTA / BCDOT Partnership)

• Awarded $22M in 2021 RAISE funding to create a $50M Transit Priority Corridor Project
• Focus on CityLink Blue & Orange Routes (Woodlawn to Essex)
• Project items include dedicated bus lanes, transit signal priority, ADA upgrades at bus stops, pedestrian safety improvements, electric vehicle charging and more

North-South Corridor

• York Road Vision Study (BCDOT Led)
  • Winter 2021 Public Engagement Effort
  • Project Limits: Northern Pkwy – 43rd Street

• Fast Forward Program
  • $43M for Dedicated Bus Lanes, Bus Stops & Transit Hubs, Wayfinding & the Customer Experience, and Bike & Shared Mobility
  • York Road Improvements (Bellona – Radnor):
    • Six Month Pilot Project targeting a Spring 2022 Implementation