

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region

# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT REPORT FEBRUARY 2023

## **★ OPEN COMMENT PERIODS ★**

#### COMMENTS SOUGHT ON ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR BRTB

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) is seeking comments on a draft work plan and budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 through **March 9, 2023**. The draft work plan, known as the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), budgets \$10,710,000 for FY 2024.



New Focus Areas proposed for FY 2024 UPWP include:

- Analyzing changing trends in employment, commercial real estate and housing, with an eye on potential long-term implications for land-use, travel demand and other aspects of development in the Baltimore region.
- Creating recommendations for improving viability of transit-oriented development in the Baltimore region.
- Developing best practices for implementing, operating and funding microtransit in the Baltimore region.
- Identifying ways to coordinate development of affordable housing and improved transportation networks in the Baltimore region.
- Assessing various inspection programs for traffic signal infrastructure and conducting field inspections to establish baseline conditions of traffic signal infrastructure in the Baltimore region.

Members of the public are encouraged to share comments on the UPWP by Thursday, March 9.

Learn more and comment at publicinput.com/2024UPWP

## **★ CLOSED COMMENT PERIODS ★**

## **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ALONG US 40**

Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), in partnership with Harford County, is developing a concept plan for bicycle and pedestrian improvements along a stretch of US 40 in Harford County.



As part of the process to develop this concept plan, three potential options were developed with two options selected to move forward for further study.

A second public comment period for feedback on the two refined options was held from **January 26 through February 22**. This feedback will be used to develop final recommendations and an implementation plan.

Learn more at publicinput.com/us40bikeped

# **★ COMING SOON!**★

#### TRANSPORTATION ISSUES IN HISTORIC TOWN CENTERS



Baltimore Metropolitan Council, on behalf of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, Howard County and Baltimore County, is conducting a multimodal transportation study for Ellicott City in Howard County and Oella in Baltimore County to address parking, wayfinding and multimodal access.

A public open house was held on December 8 with a public comment period running from November 17 through December 22. Nearly 100 comments were received between the Open House and comments received online. As part of the process to develop this study, the project team has developed reports on existing conditions and an analysis of initial recommendations.

The next phase is to develop final recommendations including parking management strategies and implementation guidelines, plans for multimodal improvements and wayfinding upgrades. A public meeting to present the recommendations will be held on March 21 with a public comment period running from **March 6 through April 5**. A presentation to the Technical Committee with final recommendations would follow the comment period in April 2023.

Learn more at publicinput.com/historictowncenters

## PATAPSO REGIONAL GREENWAY: GUINNESS TO SOUTHWEST AREA PARK

In 2017, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) approved a concept plan for the Patapsco Regional Greenway (PRG), which will be used by bicyclists, walkers, runners and (in some places) wheel chair users.

PATAPSCO REGIONAL
GREENWAY

GUINNESS TO SOUTHWEST
AREA PARK SEGMENT

To date, over 12 miles of the greenway have been completed. Now, the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, on behalf of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board and Baltimore County seeks public input on the preferred alignments and initial design for the Guinness to Southwest Area Park segment, which will add another approximately 6 miles to the greenway.

A comment period will run from **March 1 through 30**. Stay tuned to baltometro.org for more info!

## **★ BRTB INITIATIVES ★**

# **RESILIENCE 2050 EDUCATIONAL WHITE PAPER SERIES CONTINUES**

The tenth in a series of educational white papers and surveys has been released to share information on a range of topics related to the next long-range transportation plan, *Resilience 2050: Adapting to the Challenges of Tomorrow*.

The most recent white papers discuss the financial forecast and another explores resiliency and climate change. Along with each white paper, members of the public can share their thoughts through a project website at <a href="mailto:publicinput.com/resilience2050whitepapers">publicinput.com/resilience2050whitepapers</a>.



To date, we have had over 3,600 visitors to the project page and 51 participants have shared over 100 comments.