



BRTTC

BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSIT COMMISSION

Presentation to the BRTB
1/23/2024



About BRTC

Request, review and comment on the following efforts and progress of:

1. The MTA Capital Needs Inventory Report;
2. Updates to the Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan;
3. Annual operating and capital budget requests for the Baltimore Region; and
4. Information from the Annual Attainment Report and MTA including performance goals and metrics, evaluate any other measures of the performance of the Baltimore region transit system
5. Review Locally Operated Transit System (LOTS) plans and services to ensure coordination between local and MTA transit services;
6. Endeavor to ensure that MTA's plans, budgets, decisions, policies, goals, priorities, operations, and services address the public transit needs of residents and businesses in the Baltimore region;
7. Provide input and engage in advocacy for the Baltimore region public transit systems maintained by MTA; and,
8. Accept public comments, keep meeting minutes and records of all Commission activities, and report findings and recommendations to MTA, the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1st of each year.

The Commission is composed of sixteen (16) members, Eight (8) members are selected by the Governor and seven (7) by County Executive and Mayor. Specifically representation and voting is as follows :

- 1 Six (6) members, three (3) from the Governor and Mayor representing Baltimore City and each having a vote ;
- 2 Four (4) members, two (2) from the Governor and Mayor representing Baltimore County and each having a vote ;
- 3 Two (2) members, one each from the Governor and County Executive representing Anne Arundel County;
- 4 Two (2) one each from the Governor and County Executive representing Howard County;
- 5 One member designated by the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation who may vote to break a tie; and
- 6 One member designated by the ATU who does not vote.



BRTC background

The Baltimore region has been the only large metropolitan area in the nation with a transit system operated by a state agency without a board or commission oversight. Local stakeholders have lacked influence on how our regional transit network is planned, built, operated and funded. There were repeated efforts to create a transit Authority in the region that did not pass in the State Legislature intended to address this issue.

Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) determined it needed to study how it might address this issue and released the recommendations of the Baltimore Regional Transit Governing and Funding Workgroup. The workgroup was formed by the BMC Board of Directors in July of 2022 to develop recommendations for the future of transit in our region.

The workgroup included more than a dozen leaders from local community groups, planning agencies, businesses and unions. Senator Mary Washington (Baltimore City, District 43) represented the State Senate on the workgroup. Members met monthly through fall 2022 to develop the recommendations, hearing public comments at each session.

The Maryland General Assembly took up the recommendations in the 2023 Session. The result was HB 794 that created the Baltimore Regional Transit Commission.



BRTC agenda

The Baltimore Regional Transit Commission will have it's first meeting on February 2nd 2024 in the BMC Offices at 10 AM.

Their immediate attention will be to:

- Elect a Chairman to focus the group and run the meetings.
- Immersing themselves into the task of understanding the issues facing transit in the region, which include:
 - The largest provider in the region, the MTA and it's various modes, systems, issues and challenges; and
 - Understanding how funding for the regions largest provider works and is being impacted by reductions in funding to support these systems.
- Organizing the group and develop bylaws
- Hear from stakeholders and the public.



BRTC Year 1 Agenda

The BRTC in its first year are expected to:

- Organize themselves
- Understand transit in the region
- Examine the resources available to the MTA and LOTS
- Examine performance - both successes and challenges - of the MTA and LOTS.
- Examine key plans and programs
- Begin to identify and examine critical issues facing transit in the region, and
- Advocate for improvements to transit system in the region.



For more info:

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