

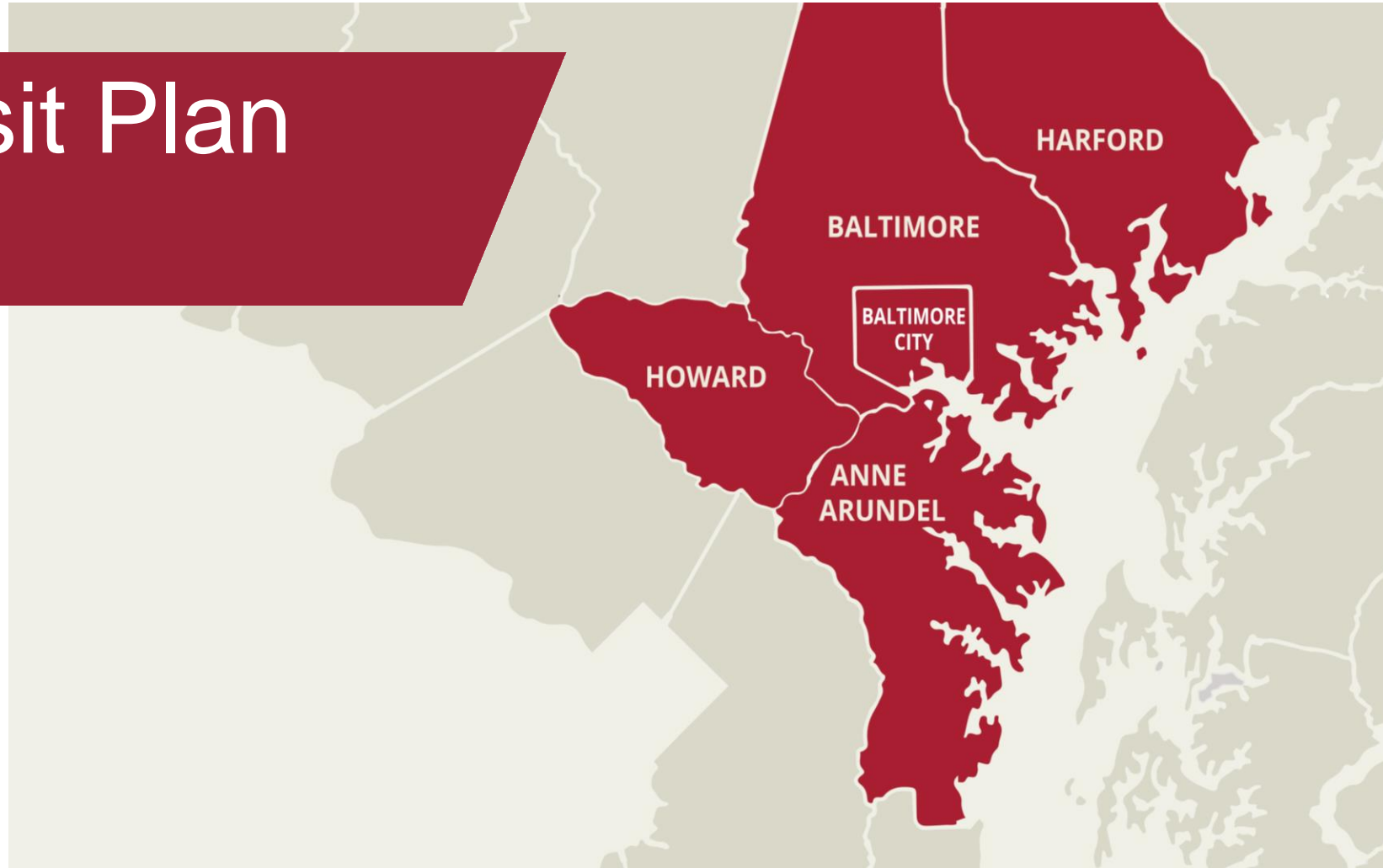


Connecting Our Future

A Regional Transit Plan for Central Maryland

Regional Transit Plan BRTC

January 17, 2025



Today's Meeting

- Orient Commission to Previous Plan Contents:
 - Process and Participation
 - Objectives and Strategies
 - Corridors
- Get BRTC Input on a few key questions:
 - Is anything missing from the current objectives?
 - Are there additional key factors that should be considered when re-analyzing Corridors?
 - Was there anything you hoped to see in the 2020 RTP that should be considered for addition?
- Lay out Schedule and Next Steps

2020 RTP



2020 RTP: Process and Participation



The RTP was intended to:

- 1) Lay out a 25-year vision for public transportation in the Central Maryland Region.
- 2) Identify ways to
 - i. Improve existing MTA transit
 - ii. Better coordinate transit region-wide and across providers
 - iii. Show places/corridors that would most benefit from new infrastructure investments
- 3) Provide an opportunity to coordinate transit planning with local land use and other statewide transportation planning efforts

2020 RTP: Process and Participation

The RTP was produced collaboratively

- The formation and involvement of a Commission was mandatory, and these meetings meaningfully informed plan goals objectives and methodologies
- LOTS, agency, and local government representatives were involved regularly, and have remained engaged through implementation
- Extensive public engagement informed both priorities and methodologies, setting a durable baseline understanding for the RTP and its planned updates

60+

Pop-Ups and Presentations



10

Regional Open Houses



8

Commission Meetings



5

Inter-Agency Meetings



3,426

Survey Responses



2020 RTP: Goals and Objectives

The RTP had three broad goals:

- **Optimize existing services**
- Plan for their **integration with future services**
- Enhance **fiscal sustainability**.

Six key Objectives were associated with these goals.

Objectives



2020 RTP: Strategies

Each of the objectives had strategies for its implementation

- Progress has been made on all strategies identified in the 2020 Plan's Five-Year Implementation Plan
- Of the 34 strategies in the Five-Year Implementation Plan:
 - 7 have been completed
 - Others are in progress or continual commitments
- *Please read through the plan and consider whether changing conditions, shifting priorities, or progress on parallel efforts mean additional strategies should be considered; MTA will do the same and this will be a topic of discussion at a further meeting.*



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A Regional Transit Plan for Central Maryland

Discussion Question: Objectives

**Provide Faster, More
Reliable Service**



**Improve the
Customer Experience**

Grow Ridership



Be Equitable

**Increase Access to Jobs
& Opportunities**



Prepare for the Future

**Is there anything important missing from these objectives?
Anything no longer relevant?**

Corridor Update

FLASH is coming to Howard County!

FLASH
US 29

Hours of Operation
5:00am – 9:00am
3:30pm – 8:00pm

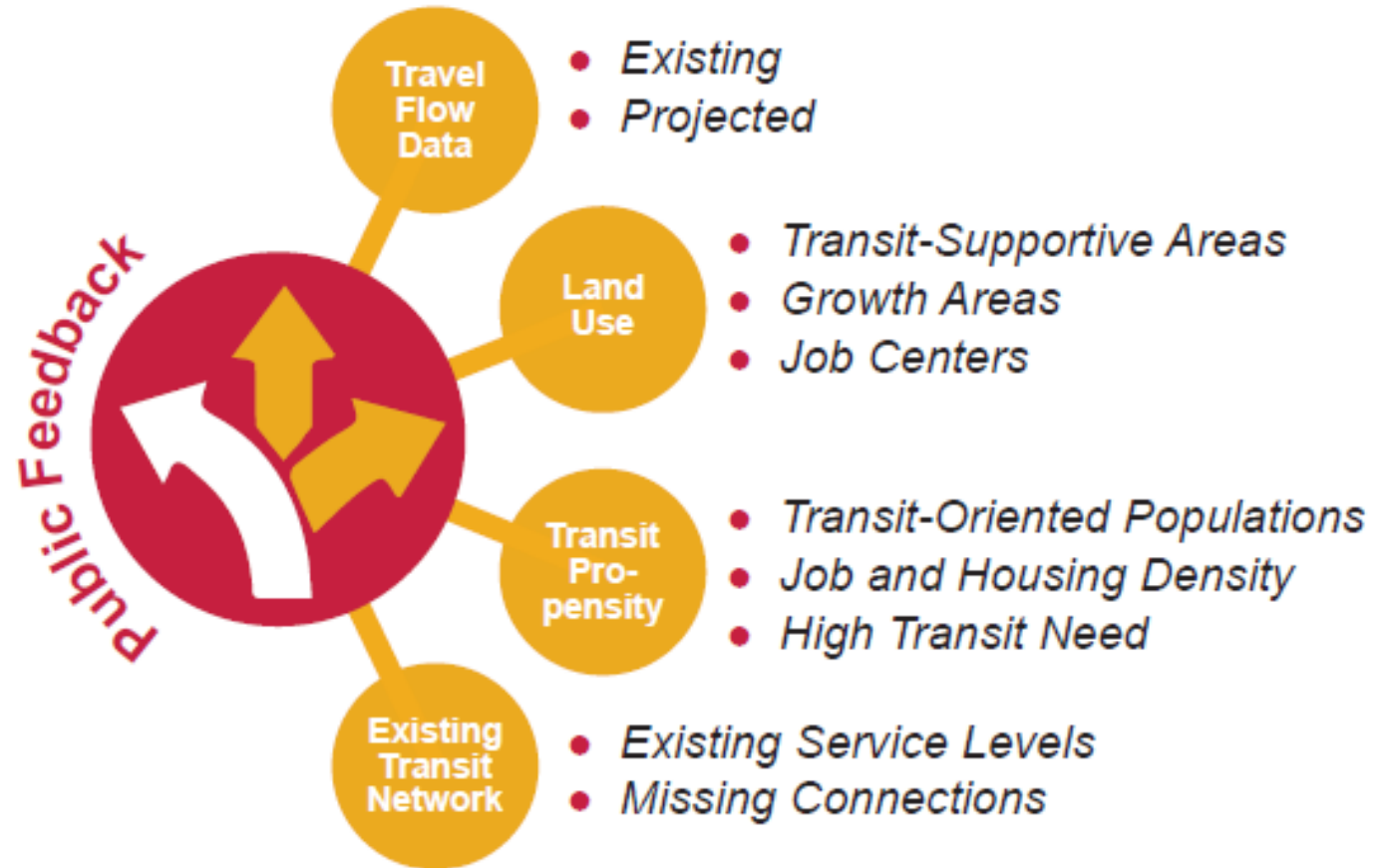
Map locations: HARPER'S CHOICE, WILDE LAKE, CLARKSVILLE, HICKORY RIDGE, SIMPSONVILLE, ARROWHEAD, ATHOLTON, GUILFORD, COLUMBIA, OAKLAND MILLS, LONG REACH, THE MALL IN COLUMBIA.



2020 RTP: Corridors

Corridors were identified through multiple inputs

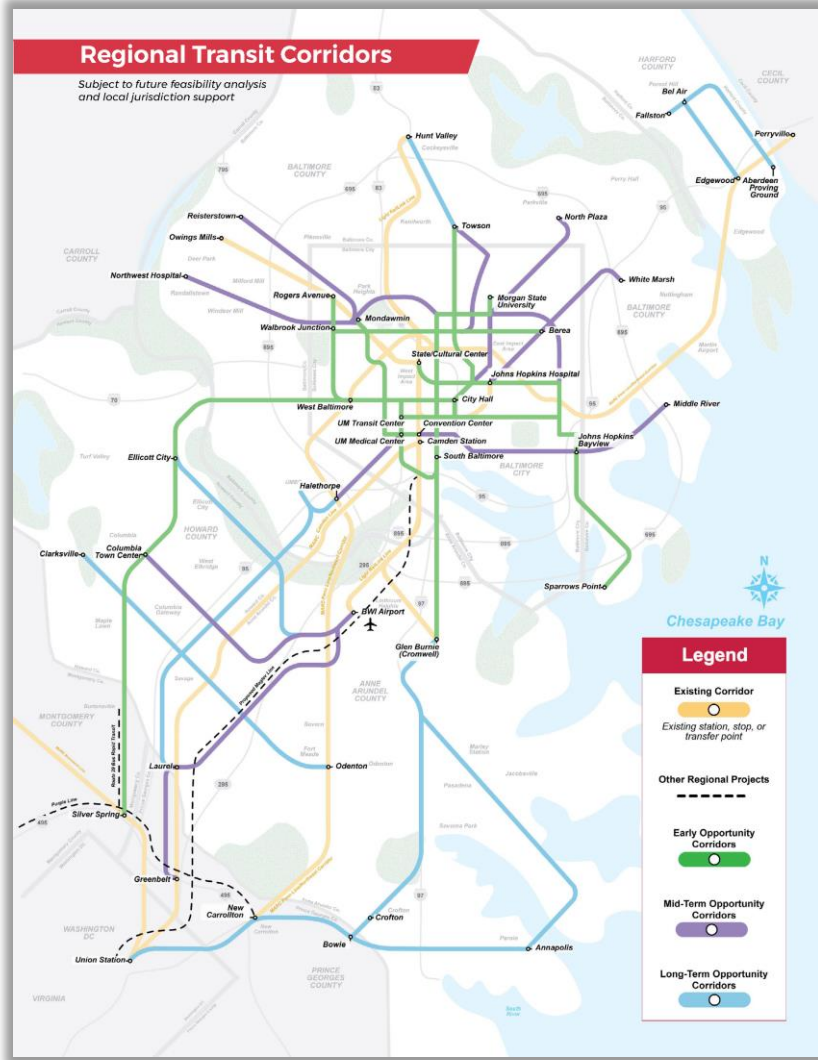
- Analysis of current and expected travel demand
- Analysis of current and expected land uses
- Analysis of transit propensities (demand)
- Analysis of existing transit services
- Stakeholder discussions & existing plans
- Refinement by RTP Commission



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2020 RTP: Corridors



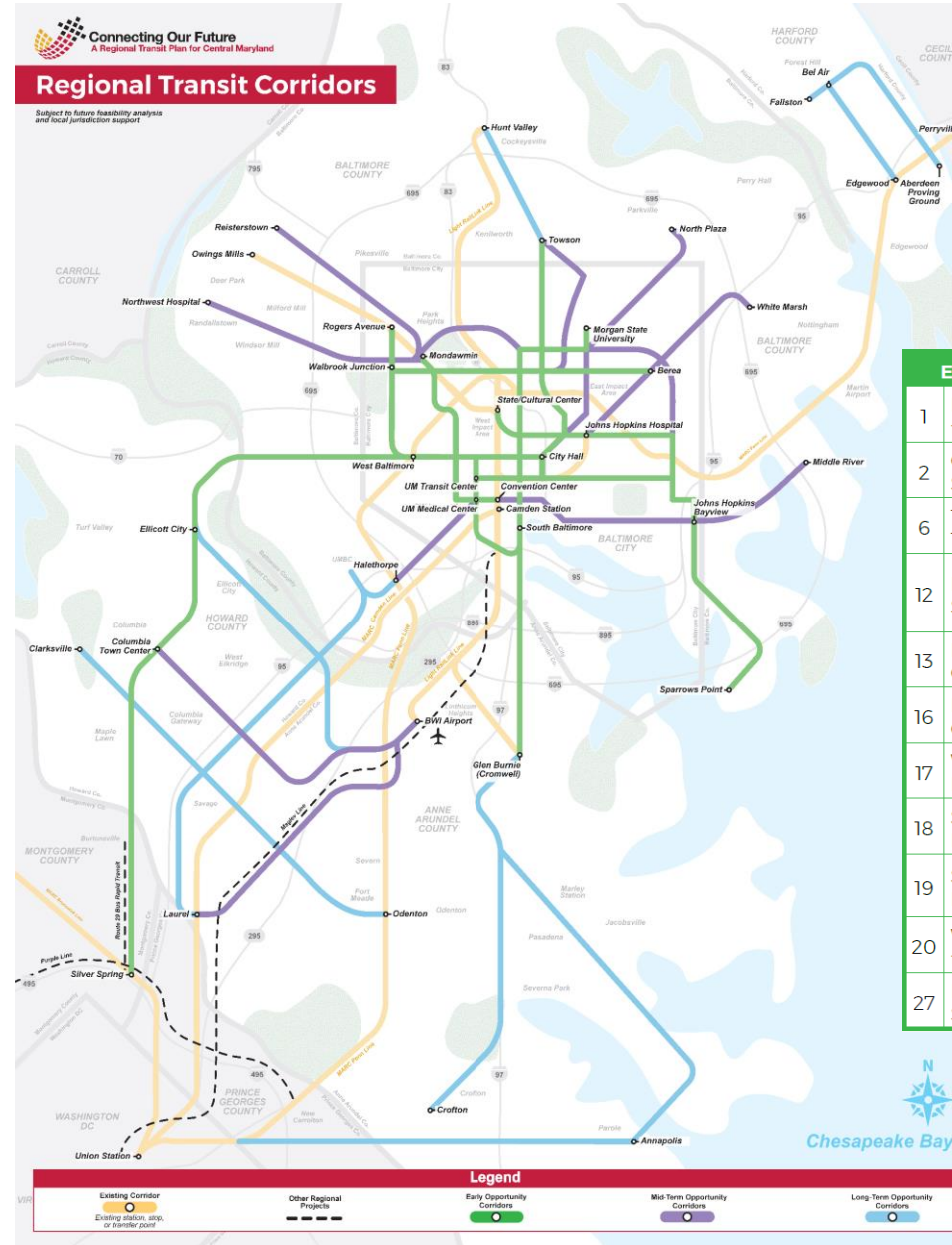
Early Opportunity	
1	Morgan State Univ. to South Baltimore
2	Glen Burnie to South Baltimore
6	Towson to UM Transit Center
12	Mondawmin to South Baltimore
13	Rogers Avenue to City Hall
16	Ellicott City to Convention Center
17	West Baltimore to Hopkins Bayview
18	Sparrows Point to Hopkins Bayview
19	State Center to Hopkins Bayview
20	Walbrook Junction to Bera
27	Ellicott City to Silver Spring

Mid-Term Opportunity	
5	Convention Center to Middle River
8	Towson to South Baltimore
9	North Plaza to UM Transit Center
10	White Marsh to Johns Hopkins Hospital
14	Mondawmin to Reisterstown
15	Mondawmin to Northwest Hospital
22	Mondawmin to Hopkins Bayview
23	Halethorpe to UM Transit Center
24	BWI Airport to Greenbelt
25	BWI Airport to Columbia Town Center

Long-Term Opportunity	
3	Glen Burnie to Annapolis
4	Glen Burnie to Bowie
7	Towson to Hunt Valley
11	Fallston to Aberdeen Proving Ground
21	Laurel to Halethorpe
26	Odenton to Clarksville
28	Annapolis to Union Station
29	Bel Air to Edgewood
30	Ellicott City to BWI Airport

2020 RTP Corridor Progress

- Early Opportunity Corridors have made progress since 2020
 - RAISE East-West (13,16)
 - Red Line (16, 17)
 - FLASH BRT (27)
 - East Baltimore County Access Study (18)
 - North-South Feasibility Study (1,6)
- Analysis conducted on some Mid- and Long-Term corridors through:
 - North-South Feasibility Study (7,8)
 - East Baltimore County Access Study (5)
 - BWI to Columbia Pilot Feasibility Study (25)



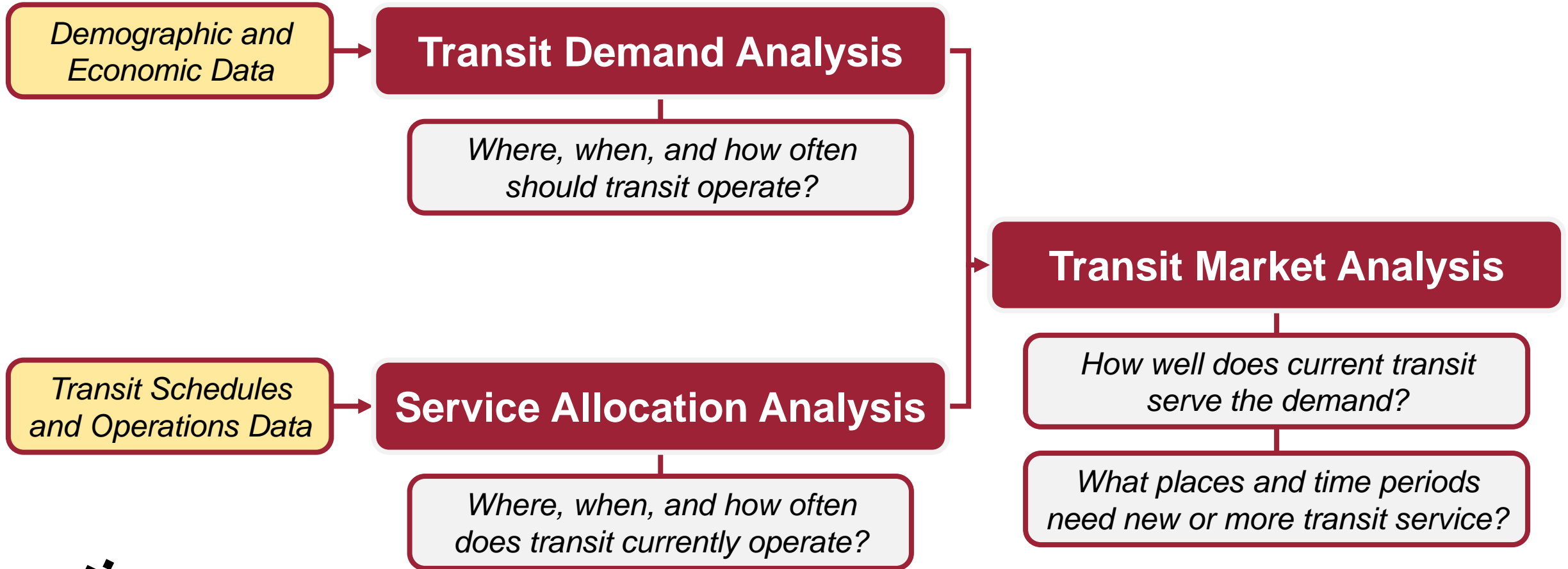
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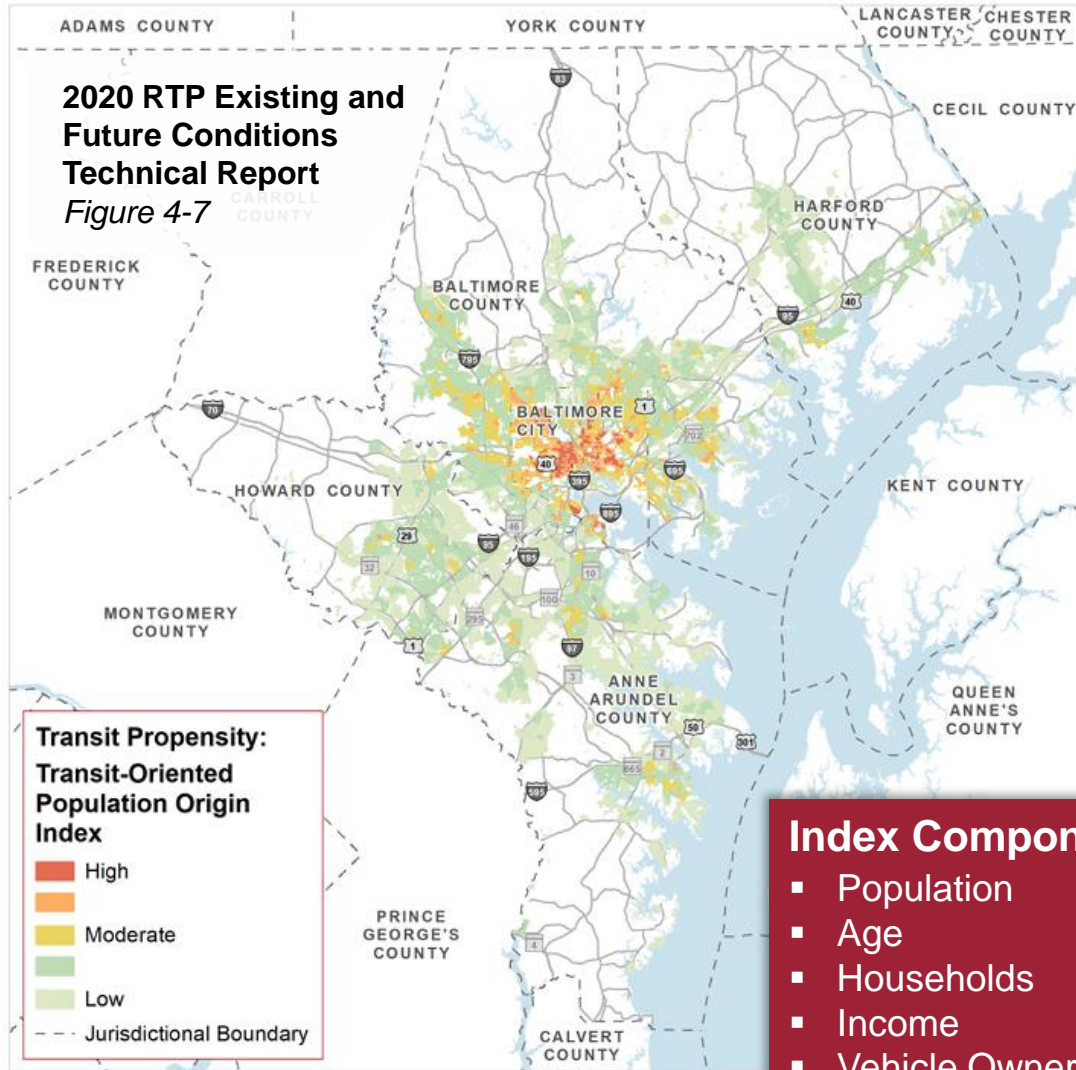
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RTP Corridors: Plan to Update

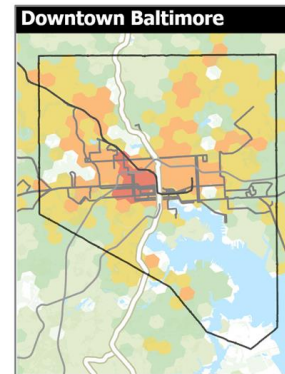
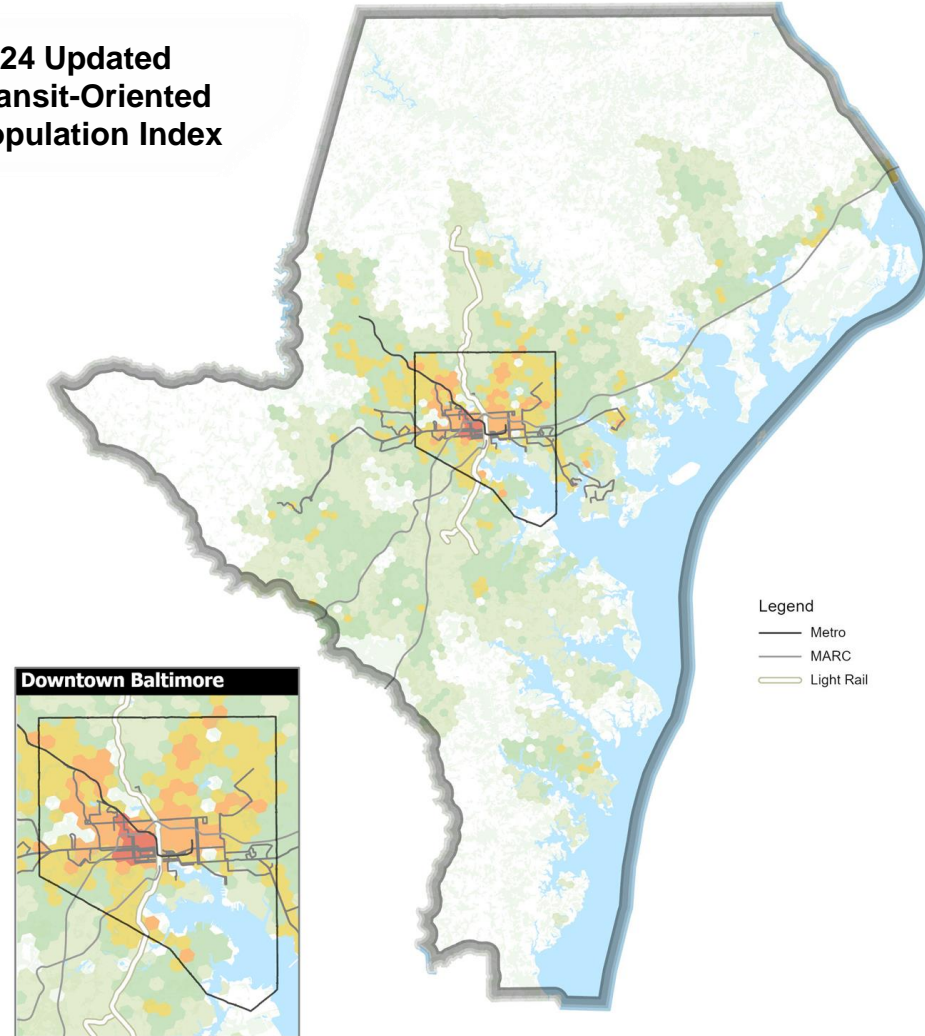
There have not been drastic changes in transportation and land use in the region since 2020, but it is still worthwhile to update our understanding of the transit market



Updating the Corridors: Demand Analysis



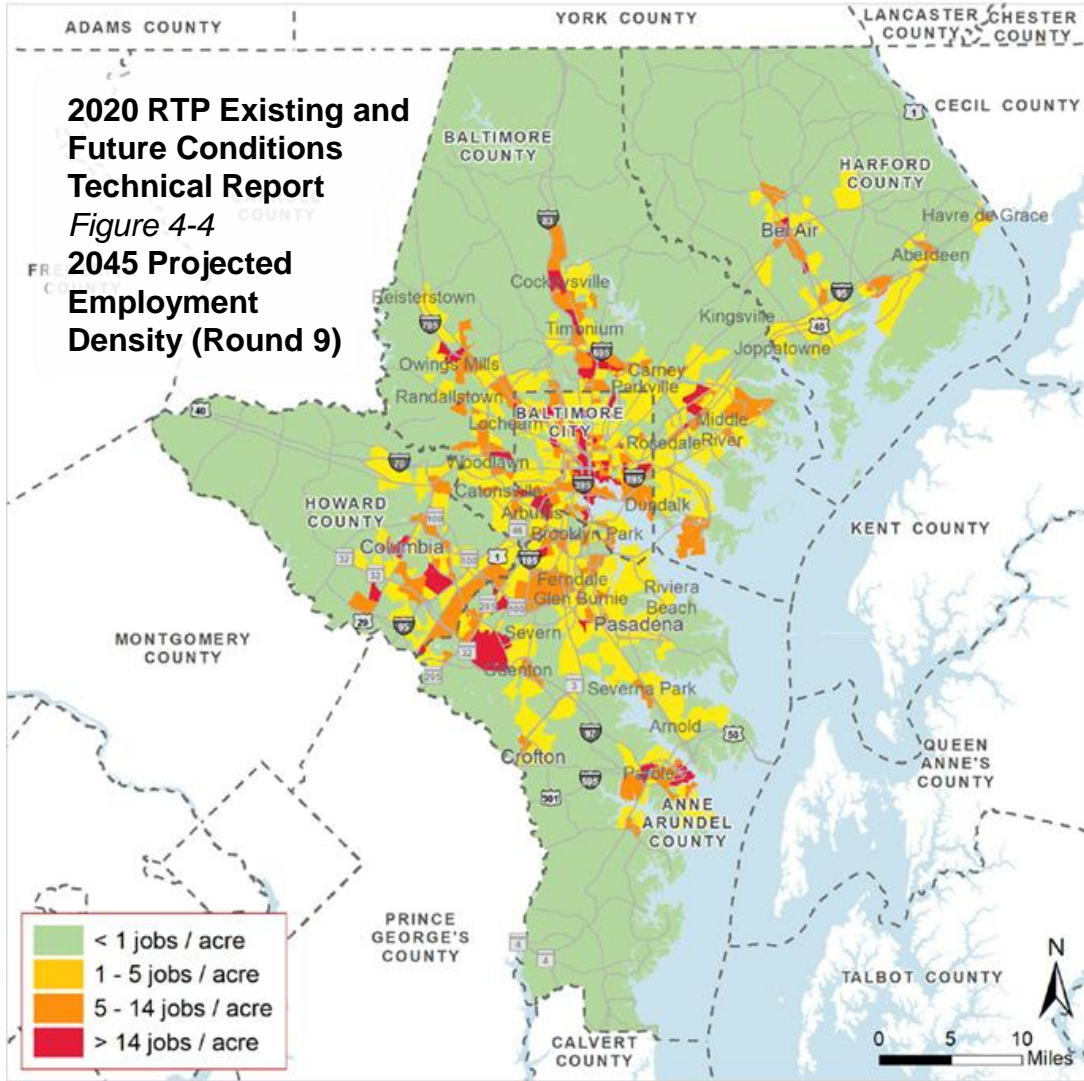
2024 Updated Transit-Oriented Population Index



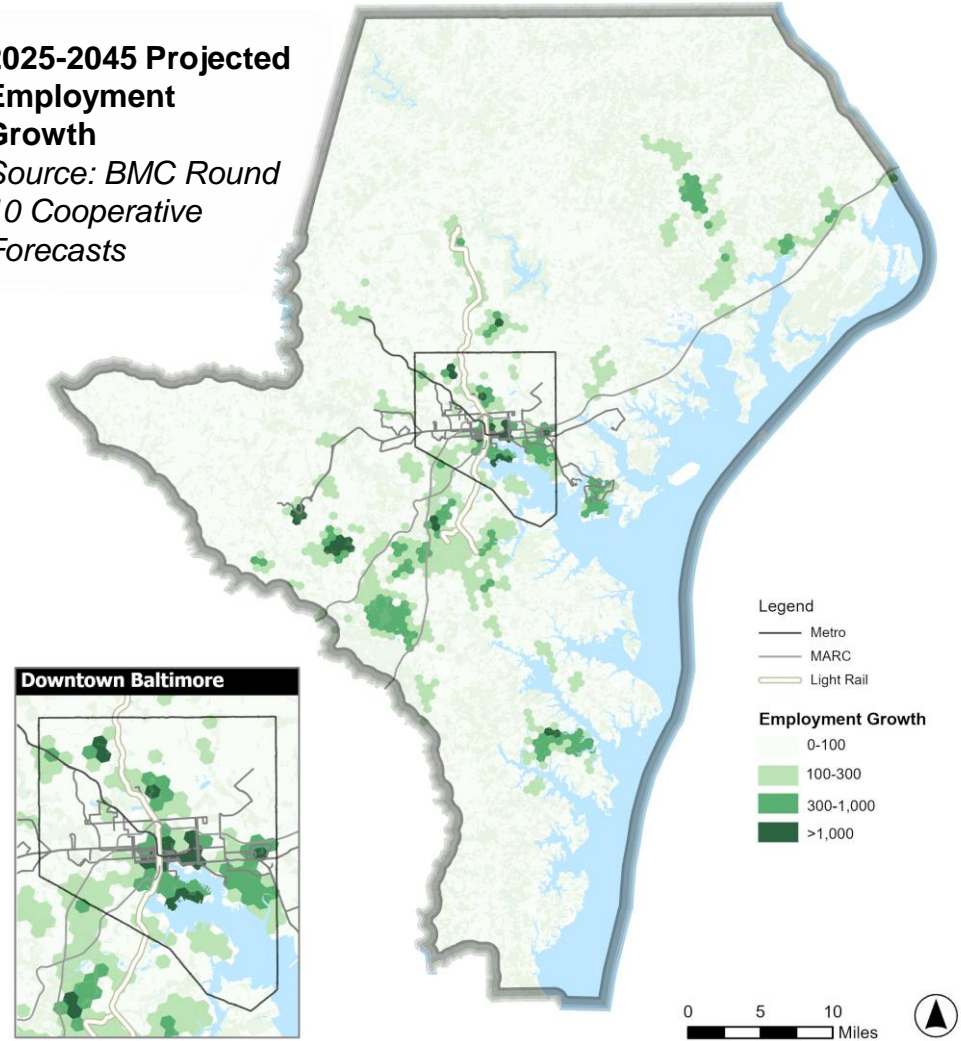
Index Components

- Population
- Age
- Households
- Income
- Vehicle Ownership
- Disability Status

Updating the Corridors: Demand Analysis



2025-2045 Projected Employment Growth
Source: BMC Round 10 Cooperative Forecasts



Discussion Question: Updating Corridor Analysis

In addition to the factors mapped on previous slides, the 2020 analyses to identify the Corridors included:

- Density and growth of population
- Density of employment and other destinations
- Travel flows for work and non-work trips
- Existing transit frequency and span of service
- Existing transit ridership and growth trends

Destinations Analyzed

- Employment
- Retail & Restaurant
- Healthcare
- Social Assistance
- Education
- Government

Are there additional factors we should consider while giving the corridors a fresh look?

Schedule and Next Steps



Schedule: Project Activities

Winter 2024-25

- Document progress on RTP strategies and corridors
- Update transit market and demand analysis



BRTC Meeting 1

Spring 2025

- Confirm and prioritize RTP corridors
- Assess modal feasibility of RTP corridors



BRTC Meeting 2 & 3

Summer 2025

- Develop service improvement phasing
- Identify updates to RTP strategies
- Draft RTP update document



BRTC Meeting 4

Fall 2025

- Finalize plan document
- Present finalized plan to BRTC for adoption
- Publish adopted plan



BRTC Meeting 5 & 6

We are here



Connecting Our Future

A Regional Transit Plan for Central Maryland

Schedule: BRTC Meeting Topics

Meeting 1: January 17, 2025

- Orient to the Plan
- ? Objectives and Corridor Analyses

Meeting 2: March 7, 2025

- Market and Demand Analysis
- ? Corridor Confirmation and Prioritization
- ? Mode Suitability Assessment

Meeting 3: May 2, 2025

- Corridor Confirmation and Prioritization
- Mode Suitability Assessment
- ? Service Improvement Phasing

Meeting 4: July 11, 2025

- Service Improvement Phasing
- ? New or Revised Strategies
- ? Plan Development

Meeting 5: September 5, 2025

- **Draft Plan Document**
- ? Document Refinements

MTA's RTP Due Date: October 1, 2025

Meeting 6: October, 2025

- Final Plan Document

Legend

- Present Information to BRTC
- ? Seek Input from BRTC

Dates subject to change according to BRTC schedule

Next Steps Corridor Confirmation and Prioritization

- Refine the results of the Market and Demand Analysis Update and begin the Corridor Confirmation and Prioritization
 - Incorporate BRTC input into Objectives and Market/Corridor Analysis methodology
- Next BRTC meeting in March will:
 - Present final results of Market and Demand Analysis
 - Introduce Corridor Confirmation and Prioritization
 - Solicit feedback on Mode Suitability Assessment approach

Open Discussion: Reflecting on the 2020 Plan

Having seen the 2020 plan and our intended process for updating it: is there anything you hoped to see in the 2020 RTP that should be considered for addition to the update?