Maryland State Rail Plan

Project Update

Presented to: 
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board Freight Movement Task Force

Presented by: 
Harry Romano, MDOT OFM

Date: March 25, 2021
Agenda

» Introduction
» Background, Plan Outline, Schedule
» Vision and Goals
» Review Project Types
» Coordination and Outreach
» Next Steps
Real-Time Feedback Using Poll Everywhere

Join by Web

1. Go to PollEv.com
2. Enter MDOT253
3. Respond to activity

Text

1. Text MDOT253 to 22333
2. Text in your message
Poll Everywhere #1: In one word, what do you see as the greatest opportunity for rail in Maryland?

Poll Everywhere #2: In one word, what concept should not be left out of the Maryland State Rail Plan?
Poll Everywhere #1: In one word, what do you see as the greatest opportunity to improve rail in Maryland outside of the Washington/DC Metropolitan Areas?
Poll Everywhere #2: In one word, what concept should not be left out of the Maryland State Rail Plan?
Background, Plan Outline, and Schedule
Why Is Maryland Updating the State Rail Plan?

» Federal requirement per the 2008 Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA), affirmed in federal surface transportation bills, 4-year update per the FAST Act

» Positions the state and rail stakeholders for federal funding

» Outlines public and private investments and policies needed to ensure the efficient, safe, and sustainable movement of freight and passenger by rail
What Does a State Rail Plan Cover?

- Commuter Rail
- Freight Rail
- Intercity Passenger Rail
Background – Maryland’s Freight Rail Network

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<tr>
<th>Railroad</th>
<th>Miles Leased</th>
<th>Miles Owned, Operated</th>
<th>Miles Owned, Not Operated</th>
<th>Total Miles Operated (Except Trackage Rights)</th>
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<td><strong>Class I Railroads</strong></td>
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<td>Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad</td>
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<td><strong>Class III Railroads</strong></td>
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<td>Canton Railroad</td>
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<td>Winchester &amp; Western Railway</td>
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<td><strong>Total Class III Railroads</strong></td>
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Maryland’s Freight Rail Network
Traffic on Maryland’s Freight Rail Network – 2019 Tons

### By Direction
- **Inbound to MD**: 1.11M, 2%
- **Outbound from MD**: 4.51M, 9%
- **Within MD**: 12.24M, 25%
- **Passthrough**: 32.16M, 64%

### Terminating
- **Coal**: 500,000,000
- **Nonmetallic Minerals**: 1,000,000,000
- **Hazardous Materials**: 1,500,000,000
- **Transportation Equipment**: 2,000,000,000
- **Waste or Scrap Materials**: 2,500,000,000
- **Lumber or Wood Products**:
- **Food or Kindred Products**:
- **Chemicals or Allied Products**:
- **Misc Mixed Shipments**:
- **Clay, concrete, glass or Stone**:
- **Other**:

### Originating
- **Waste or Scrap Materials**: 500,000,000
- **Clay, concrete, glass or Stone**: 1,000,000,000
- **Coal**: 1,500,000,000
- **Pulp, paper or Allied Products**:
- **Metallurgical Ores**:
- **Misc Mixed Shipments**:
- **Hazardous Materials**:
- **Food or Kindred Products**:
- **Primary Metal Products**:
- **Transportation Equipment**:
- **Other**:

---

**By Direction**

- **Inbound to MD**
- **Outbound from MD**
- **Within MD**
- **Passthrough**

**Terminating**

- **Coal**
- **Nonmetallic Minerals**
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**Originating**

- **Waste or Scrap Materials**
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- **Coal**
- **Pulp, paper or Allied Products**
- **Metallurgical Ores**
- **Misc Mixed Shipments**
- **Hazardous Materials**
- **Food or Kindred Products**
- **Primary Metal Products**
- **Transportation Equipment**
- **Other**
Maryland’s Passenger Rail Network

Passenger Rail Network
- Amtrak Station
- MARC Station
- Amtrak & MARC Station
- Brunswick Line (MARC)
- Camden Line (MARC)
- Penn Line (MARC)

0 20 Miles

MARC Map Inset
Passenger Rail Ridership in Maryland

MARC Ridership by Station

Amtrak Ridership by Maryland Station

Source: Railroad Passengers Association
Plan Outline

Chapter 1: Role of Rail
Articulates state transportation goals and how rail fits in, how the state is organized to support rail

Chapter 2: State’s Existing Rail System
Summarizes freight and passenger rail infrastructure and services
Assesses the performance of rail lines
Identifies trends that will impact future

Chapters 3 and 4: Issues, Opportunities Initiatives Investments
Identifies top issues and opportunities
Identifies initiatives and strategies to address the issues and opportunities

Chapter 5: Service and Investment Program
Articulates vision, goals, and objectives
Lists projects
Provides prioritization and a funding plan

Chapter 6: Coordination and Review
Summarizes stakeholder involvement

Articulates state transportation goals and how rail fits in, how the state is organized to support rail
Summarizes freight and passenger rail infrastructure and services
Assesses the performance of rail lines
Identifies trends that will impact future
Identifies top issues and opportunities
Identifies initiatives and strategies to address the issues and opportunities
Articulates vision, goals, and objectives
Lists projects
Provides prioritization and a funding plan
Summarizes stakeholder involvement
### Plan Schedule

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<td>Chapter 3 - Proposed Passenger Rail Improvements</td>
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<td>Chapter 4 - Proposed Freight Rail Improvements</td>
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<td>Chapter 5 – Rail Service and Investment Program</td>
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<td>Chapter 6 – Rail Plan Coordination</td>
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Vision and Goals
Relationship between Vision, Goals, Objectives, Strategies

2015 Statewide Rail Plan Vision

“The State’s Shared vision for freight and passenger rail is to provide a well-maintained, sustainable and intermodal, linked rail transportation system that facilitates the safe, convenient, affordable, and efficient movement of people, goods, and services within and between population and business centers.”

Poll Everywhere #3: How do you feel about the 2015 Statewide Rail Plan Vision?
Poll Everywhere #4: What would you change?
Poll Everywhere #3: How do you feel about the 2015 Statewide Rail Plan Vision?

- Happy with it!
- Unsure
- Unhappy with it
Poll Everywhere #4: What would you change?
## 2015 Rail Plan Goals/2019 MTP Plan Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Goals</th>
<th>2019/2020 Goals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety and Security</td>
<td>Safety, Security, Resilience</td>
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<tr>
<td>System Preservation</td>
<td>Maintain and Modernize</td>
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<td>Quality of Service</td>
<td>Quality, Efficiency, Customer Experience</td>
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<td>Environmental Stewardship</td>
<td>Environmental Protection, Sensitivity</td>
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<td>Community Vitality</td>
<td>Transportation Choices and Connections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Prosperity</td>
<td>System Expansion for Economic Opportunity, Congestion Reduction</td>
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<td>Fiscal Responsibility</td>
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Review of Project Types
### Types of Projects Included in 2015 Plan

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Freight</th>
<th>Intercity Passenger Rail</th>
<th>Commuter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Double Stack Clearance Projects</td>
<td>NEC Bridge and Tunnel Replacement, Upgrades</td>
<td>Additional Tracks on Host Rail Lines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge Replacements</td>
<td>Station Additional Tracks/Platforms</td>
<td>Station Additional Tracks/Platforms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Main Line Trackage</td>
<td>Maglev</td>
<td>Other Station Improvements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Track Upgrades</td>
<td>NEC Additional Tracks</td>
<td>Replace Stations</td>
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<td>Yard Improvements</td>
<td>Other Station Improvements</td>
<td>New Stations</td>
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<td>New Connections</td>
<td>NEC Interlocking and Turnout Replacements</td>
<td>Ticketing Improvements</td>
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<td>Short Line Rehabilitation</td>
<td>Track Upgrades</td>
<td>Storage and Maintenance Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Line Upgrade to 286K</td>
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<td>Service Extension to Virginia</td>
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Poll Everywhere #5: What type of project(s) would you add?
Poll Everywhere #5: What type of projects would you add?
Coordination and Outreach
Background – Coordination with other Plans
State Rail Plan Advisory Committee

» Members
  ▪ 16 members
  ▪ Represent Class I, short line, and passenger railroads, state agencies (MDOT MTA, MDOT SHA, MDOT MPA, MDP, Commerce), and MPO’s

» Role
  ▪ Provide strategic direction
  ▪ Ensure the plan is grounded
  ▪ Help identify key stakeholders
  ▪ Vet vision and goals
  ▪ Identify issues, needs, and opportunities
  ▪ Inform the rail investment program
  ▪ Recommend draft policies, programs, projects

» Two meetings
  ▪ December 16, 2020
    • Present Rail Plan Update and request feedback on Goals, Objectives, and Strategies
  ▪ May 19, 2021
    • Present proposed projects and service and investment plan for review and comment
Railroad Surveys

» Class I
  ▪ Norfolk Southern
  ▪ CSX

» Short Lines
  ▪ Georges Creek Railroad
  ▪ Western Maryland Scenic Railroad
  ▪ Winchester & Western Railroad
  ▪ Maryland Midland Railway
  ▪ Walkersville Southern Railroad
  ▪ Canton Railroad
  ▪ Tradepoint Rail
  ▪ Maryland & Delaware Railroad
  ▪ Delmarva Central Railroad

» 100% Response

» Identify projects, concerns, and opportunities for updated rail plan
### Feedback So Far – Railroad Surveys

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Feedback</th>
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<tr>
<td>Projects on the NEC (e.g., Susquehanna Bridge Project) can benefit freight, although NEC freight operations are limited</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transload facilities enable increased access to rail</td>
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<td>Need for better marketing of rail in state, potential rail-served sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Better zoning could help rail-served industrial development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freight rail supports retention of good jobs, helps to keep trucks off the road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short line rail needs</td>
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Topical Meetings

» Class I / Metropolitan Freight  (February 10, 2021)
  ▪ Norfolk Southern
  ▪ CSX
  ▪ Canton Railroad
  ▪ Tradepoint Rail

» Short Line / Rural Freight  (February 24, 2021)
  ▪ Short Lines from outside Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan Area
  ▪ Local economic development officials
  ▪ Shippers

» Intercity and Commuter Passenger  (March 9, 2021)
  ▪ Amtrak
  ▪ MARC / MDOT MTA

» Meetings also include Advisory Committee members, state agencies, MPO’s, and other stakeholders
Online Public Survey Feedback

» **Passenger**
  » When asked to rank priorities for Amtrak, more respondents preferred new service off Northeast Corridor
  » Proposed extensions of MARC service: Eastern Shore, Waldorf area; Newark DE; Westminster
  » Respondents wanted more frequent MARC service, particularly on Brunswick Line
  » An integrated passenger fare system was identified as a popular strategy to improve customer experience

» **Freight**
  » Concern with blocked highway-rail grade crossings in rural areas and hazmats
  » Rail access including access to the Port, TradePoint Atlantic, and direct access to industrial sites
  » Add capacity to rail lines for freight and passenger rail
  » **The three most valued freight options for the Rail Plan Update were:**
    » Enhanced rail access to the Port of Baltimore
    » New intermodal facilities (e.g., truck to rail)
    » Rail-served industrial and commercial sites
Questions/Comments?
Next Steps

» One-on-One Interviews: April 2021
» Next Advisory Committee Meeting: May 19, 2021

Contacts:

Harry Romano, Rail Program and Policy Manager, MDOT, 410-684-7063, hromano@mdot.maryland.gov
Alex King, Principal Consultant, WSP USA, Inc., 860-815-0288, alexander.king@wsp.com
Rail Plan Web page: https://bit.ly/MD_StateRailPlan