BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
RESOLUTION #17-24

AMENDMENT TO THE 2017 – 2020 BALTIMORE REGION
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, encompassing the Baltimore Urbanized Area, and includes official representatives of the cities of Annapolis and Baltimore, the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne’s as well as representatives of the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Maryland Department of Planning, the Maryland Transit Administration, and Harford Transit; and

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, approved the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program for the Baltimore region at its July 26, 2016 meeting, with federal approval on September 26, 2016; and

WHEREAS, federal regulations require that all transportation-related projects must be listed in the approved Transportation Improvement Program with accurate funding schedules in order to be eligible for federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program consists of projects included in, and in support of, the region’s long-range transportation plan and ongoing short-range planning efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Department of Transportation on the behalf of the Maryland Transit Administration has requested approval of an amendment to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program through the approved Transportation Improvement Program amendment process; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Transit Administration is requesting to add a Research, Development, Demonstration, and Deployment Projects Discretionary Grant for the Fixed Location Train Detection and Worker Warning System project (see attachment). The project will install a fixed deployment application of a system that will enhance the safety of track workers by notifying them of approaching Light Rail Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program, as amended, continues to display financial reasonableness and re-affirms the appropriate project selection criteria whereby all requirements for a Transportation Improvement Program in the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act are met; and
WHEREAS, the Interagency Consultation Group has determined that this project is exempt according to the Conformity Rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Transportation Improvement Program amendment was publicized for a 30-day review from Wednesday, May 9 through Friday, June 9 with a public meeting on Wednesday, June 7 at BMC. No comments were received on this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, approves the attached amendment to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program for the Baltimore region and finds it to conform to the applicable Maryland State Implementation Plan and requirements of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region approved the aforementioned resolution on June 27, 2017.

6-27-17
Date

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Clive R. Graham, Chairman
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board
Amendment:
This amendment adds the project to the FY 2017-2020 TIP utilizing a federal Section 5312 discretionary grant for research, development, demonstration, and deployment projects. The project utilizes $688,000 in federal Section 5312 funds along with $2,302,000 in matching funds for the construction phase. Matching funds include $2,004,000 from private sources, $18,000 from the state of New York to assist in the costs of implementation and sharing of information, and $280,000 from the state of Maryland. The total project cost is $2,990,000.

Description:
This project will install a fixed deployment application of a system (ZoneGuard) along the entire length of the MTA Light Rail line as part of a study that will analyze the effectiveness of such a system. The study will test the proof-of-concept of an electronic secondary warning system that warns work crews on the track of approaching Light Rail vehicles and railroad maintenance machines. The implementation will be Light Rail system-wide throughout the study and will remain for MTA use at its conclusion.

Included in matching funds are $2,004,000 from private sources, $18,000 from the State of New York to assist in the costs of implementation and the sharing of information, and $280,000 from the state of Maryland.

Justification:
Implementing the ZoneGuard fixed system will enhance the safety of track workers by notifying them of approaching Light Rail vehicles. When workers are within close proximity to the track and have the potential to be struck by a moving train or on-track equipment, tight headways are not conducive to setting up a portable system. In high population areas that are not permanently fixed out of the reach of the public, a portable setup may lend itself to vandalism and theft. In addition, portable setups may be too cumbersome to carry and setup regularly and over long distances.

Amendment: This amendment adds the project to the FY 2017-2020 TIP utilizing a federal Section 5312 discretionary grant for research, development, demonstration, and deployment projects. The project utilizes $688,000 in federal Section 5312 funds along with $2,302,000 in matching funds for the construction phase. Matching funds include $2,004,000 from private sources, $18,000 from the state of New York to assist in the costs of implementation and sharing of information, and $280,000 from the state of Maryland. The total project cost is $2,990,000.

Connection to Long-Range Transportation Planning Goals:
1.B Improve System Safety -- Apply safety-related management and operations techniques.
2.E Improve and Maintain the Existing Infrastructure -- Improve the condition of transit infrastructure and stations/stops.
# Fixed Location Train Detection and Worker Warning System

(Funding in Thousands)

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