

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
RESOLUTION #19-20**

ACCEPTING THE TITLE VI ANNUAL REPORT

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 purpose of the Title VI 2018 Annual Report is to provide an update on implementation of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) Title VI Program, and will be attached to the most recently approved Title VI Program documentation.

WHEREAS, as an MPO, the BRTB is required to convene its members, stakeholder organizations, interested parties and residents in order to conduct a cooperative, comprehensive and continuing (3C) transportation planning process. As a sub-recipient of federal financial assistance via the Maryland Department of Transportation, the BRTB is required to be compliant with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In particular, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

WHEREAS, The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 broadened the coverage of Title VI by expanding the definition of the term "programs or activities" to include all programs or activities of federal aid recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors, whether such programs and activities are federally assisted or not. In accordance with Title VI, the BRTB must submit a signed assurance to the United States Department of Transportation that it will not discriminate in the administration of its programs and activities. The BRTB must document its compliance with Title VI in accordance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) *Circular C4702.1B: Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients* (2012) – that placed a renewed emphasis on Title VI in the transportation planning process.

WHEREAS, On January 27, 2015 the BRTB approved, via *BRTB Resolution #15-19*, a Title VI Program. Documentation of the program details how the Board meets the requirements of the aforementioned authorities – in particular the requirements set forth in *FTA Circular C4702.1B* – in the MPO planning process for the Baltimore region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board accepts this Title VI Annual Report.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region approved the aforementioned resolution at its April 23, 2019 meeting.

Date

Michelle Pourciau, Chair
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

Attachment 1

The Title VI Annual Report provides an update on implementation of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board Title VI Program in calendar year 2018. It follows the format of the approved program documentation, with work activities reported in three sections: Program Administration, General Requirements, and MPO-Specific Requirements. The report finishes with an overview of work activities planned to enhance the Title VI Program in 2019.

1. Program Administration

Attended web-based training sessions such as “EPA’s New EJ Screening Tool and Equity Issues in Transportation Planning, “Getting More Voices into the Conversation,” and “Environmental Justice: A New Model for Planning in Underserved Communities.”

Evaluated DBE participation for FY 2018; and adopted DBE participation goal (31.7%) for FY 2019, via BRTB Resolution #18–14.

2. General Requirements

Links to Accessibility and Non-Discrimination elevated to the homepage to improve online access to Title VI-related information – such as the Title VI Notice to the Public and the Title VI Complaint Process / Complaint Form.

A link on the website can also be found under Transportation – About the BRTB – Non-Discrimination.

Received no Title VI complaints.

Successfully incorporated Queen Anne’s County as a voting member of the BRTB and updated the associated documentation throughout the planning program.

The Public Participation Plan was updated and approved by the BRTB on June 26, 2018 via Resolution #18-18.

3. MPO-specific Requirements

The BRTB endorsed socioeconomic data (Round 9) on June 25, 2018 via Resolution # 18-19 for use in regional planning and travel demand modeling.

Completed an update and expansion to the Vulnerable Population Index (VPI) that was released in July 2018. This tool is available to the public via online documentation and ESRI mapping. The VPI methodology was revised to address a concern of the PAC. New data was analyzed and new maps created along with a web application.

Analyzed language data for the upcoming Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Report and created a web application for use once the report is complete.

Used American Community Survey (ACS) poverty and race data to create equity maps for the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Continued administration of a contact relationship management (CRM) database in order to better connect with vulnerable populations / interested parties in the region. Work activities focused on the collection and addition of contact information for representatives of neighborhood associations in the most vulnerable communities.

Three staff attended National Highway Institute training for Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis Methods.

Following this training, staff worked in house to evaluate EJ analysis at other MPOs.

Created a Foreign Born Population map.

Attended a series of workshops at Johns Hopkins University on Social and Policy Inequality.

Following several PAC members' attendance at a FHWA-sponsored Every Voice Counts training session in DC during 2017, the PAC suggested to the BRTB that similar training should be pursued in this region. The first such event took place in April of 2018 and reached 45 members of the community, garnering positive feedback.

Planned Enhancements in 2019

EJ analysis will be enhanced for *Maximize2045* and Cambridge Systematics is developing a module for the new InSITE model to capture this analysis moving forward.

Every Voice Counts will move to Howard County in spring 2019 and possibly to Harford County in fall 2019.

Expand in-house non-discrimination training module.

Continue to enhance contact relationship management (CRM) database with spatial data to create a phase-one outreach dashboard (possibly utilizing Tableau).

Continue the advancement of an access-based benefits and burdens measure. Continue to advocate for research at the National Academies of Science for EJ analysis that extends to preservation and operations funding in the Plan and TIP.

As Connected and Automated Vehicles move toward deployment (as well as other technologies), monitor deployment in all areas, not just higher economic areas. Look at early data around Uber and Lyft services.

Participate in available training when offered by FHWA, FTA, EPA, or AMPO.