

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
RESOLUTION #21-26**

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 Annapolis Transit; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Title VI 2020 Annual Report is to provide an update on implementation of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) Title VI Program, and will be appended to the most recently approved Title VI Program documentation, and

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, and

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, and

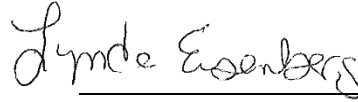
WHEREAS, On May 28, 2019 the BRTB approved, via BRTB Resolution #19–22, a Title VI Program. Documentation of the program details how the Board meets the requirements of the aforementioned authorities – in particular the requirements set forth in *FTA Circular C4702.1B* – in the MPO planning process for 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 May 25, 2021 meeting.

5-25-21

Date



Lynda Eisenberg, 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 2020. 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 2021.

1. Program Administration

- Reviewed EJ analysis methods utilized by other MPOs and reports from state and federal agencies throughout the calendar year.
- Evaluated DBE participation for FY 2019; and adopted DBE participation goal (31.7%) for FY 2021, via BRTB Resolution #20-14.
- Staff began convening an internal equity working group to discuss the topic, share resources, and collaborate on efforts to ensure non-discrimination and work towards equity. The group's first recommendation was to set up training for staff and BRTB members in 2021.

2. General Requirements

- Received no Title VI complaints.
- Continue to grow a list of DBE-qualified consultants that have been under contract with BMC or are on a list to receive notice of RFPs. Checking for DBE firms under relevant NAICS codes to add to the notification list.
- Provide a list of DBE's, and their portion of contract payments, twice per year to MDOT.

3. MPO-specific Requirements

- Explored updated EJ analysis methods enabled by the transition to the InSITE activity-based model. The activity-based model will enable EJ analysis at the person level rather than identifying entire TAZs as either EJ or not EJ. This will enable the EJ analysis for the next plan to avoid the use of a regional threshold to identify EJ areas.
- The EJ section of the 2021-2024 TIP includes more detailed data on EJ populations in the Baltimore region and a discussion of the methodology used to conduct EJ analysis for Maximize2045. The MPO continues to explore enhanced methods for evaluating the impact of preservation and operations expenditures in the TIP.
- In January 2020, BMC staff reviewed several reports that were highlighted during a 2019 AMPO session including the "Environmental Justice Unified Process and

Methodology Guide” prepared by the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University for MPOs in PennDOT District 8. BMC staff plan to utilize methods highlighted in this report to analyze bicycle and pedestrian crash rates in relation to the location of EJ populations at the census tract level.

- Staff participated in an AASHTO Center for Environmental Excellence webinar on data and environmental justice analysis on January 27. The webinar focused on EJ analysis capabilities with the Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) program.
- Included references to addressing the needs of vulnerable populations in the Corridor Study Template developed as part of the CMP Consultant project.

Planned Enhancements in 2021

- Staff worked with the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights to schedule a 4-hour Race in America training for BMC staff and BRTB members in March 2021. Additional opportunities for training will be scheduled for later in the year.
- Every Voice Counts is intended to be held in the fall of 2021.
- 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. BMC staff will also work with MDOT SHA to monitor these deployments. Look at early data around Uber and Lyft services.
- The Climate Change Resource Guide will address the need to consider vulnerable populations.