What is the Baltimore Metropolitan Council?

**OUR MISSION**

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council is committed to identifying regional interests and developing collaborative strategies, plans and programs which will improve the quality of life and economic vitality throughout the region.

**WHO WE ARE**

BMC is the organization of the region’s elected executives. The BMC Board is composed of the Mayor of Baltimore, the executives of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Howard counties, and a member of the Carroll County Board of Commissioners. BMC’s staff works closely with the staffs of member jurisdictions.

**HISTORY**

BMC carries on a tradition of formal regional planning that began a half-century ago in 1956, when the Baltimore Regional Planning Council was created within the Maryland Department of Planning. In 1963, the Regional Planning Council (RPC) emerged as a separate state agency. In 1989 the name of the organization was changed to Baltimore Regional Council of Governments (BRCOG) to reflect the RPC’s resolve to serve as the regional voice of local government. In 1992, recognizing the need for a smaller, more efficient organization, the Maryland General Assembly dissolved BRCOG and created BMC as a private nonprofit organization of the region’s elected executives.
The Baltimore region is made up of multiple jurisdictions with unique identities. While we are proud of what makes our own communities special, we are all united by common needs, shared resources, and similar challenges that cannot be defined by boundaries on a map.

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council offers an invaluable forum for the elected executives of this region to work together and strengthen all of our communities in ways that none of us could accomplish by working alone. In recent years, by cooperating with one another, we have made significant progress in developing effective regional solutions to issues such as emergency preparedness, watershed protection, transportation planning, and collective energy purchasing.

I am honored to serve as chair of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, and I look forward to working with everyone here to make further progress on those issues. Together, we can create a better future for all of our communities by finding new ways to serve the people of our jurisdictions more effectively and efficiently.

Kevin Kamenetz,
Baltimore County Executive
visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
Do you drive to work alone? **Rideshare**, a regional commuter assistance program, helps commuters find their best transportation options. **Rideshare’s** website not only offers an online matching system to help find a carpool, but also provides information about mass transit and how a business can set up a telework program. There’s even a map of park-and-ride lots in the Baltimore region.

For commuters who regularly carpool, vanpool, bike, walk or take transit to work, **Guaranteed Ride Home** provides a **FREE** and reliable ride home when one of life’s unexpected emergencies arises.

Choosing an alternative mode of transportation has never been easier and provides many benefits for commuters, businesses, and communities alike: cost and time savings, reduced congestion, improved air quality, and less dependence on foreign oil.

For more information, visit [www.metrorideshare.com](http://www.metrorideshare.com).
The Baltimore Regional Cooperative Purchasing Committee (BRCPC) works to gain maximum value for each tax dollar in the region. Through regular meetings, the chief purchasing officers of the members strive to obtain appropriate quality for the best price.

The group reviews the status of the existing 50 regional contracts, and identifies potential new contracts to be established through a lead agency selected by the group. The result is annual savings of approximately $1.6 million in the region. The mission is enhanced by subcommittees for Energy, Public Works, Minority and Small Business, and Public Schools.

The Energy Board works with an energy consultant to control utility costs through a managed portfolio of electricity and natural gas. The group balances future fixed-price purchases with variable rates from the local utility company. This approach yields cost reductions in the multi-million-dollar range each year for the participants.
The Regional Information Center (RIC) at BMC, a branch of Baltimore City’s Enoch Pratt Free Library system, is a repository for regional and urban planning materials with a focus on local demographic information, economic development, transportation planning, land use and environmental issues. RIC also continues to provide staff support to BMC’s Building Permits Data System subscribers and BMC’s website content management needs.

Frequent users of the RIC include small and large businesses; nonprofit organizations and community groups; government agencies; students; and the media. In Fiscal Year 2011, the Regional Information Center responded to 1,950 requests for information, including approximately 240 customized demographic profiles and maps.

Contact the Regional Information Center at 410-732-9570 to request information or make an appointment. The Center is open to the public by appointment between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.
visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>BMC Offices Closed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The Baltimore region’s population increased overall by more than 150,000 people between 2000 and 2010. While this placed our region in the modest population growth category compared with other regions, our senior population increased by nearly 34,000 during the last decade. The school-age population (ages 5 to 19) actually declined by about 14,000 between 2000 and 2010, but there were more children under the age of 5 in 2010 than in 2000.

The Baltimore region will continue to grow due to immigration and natural increase. The ranks of the senior population will continue to swell as “Baby Boomers” move into their “Golden Years.”
visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
### Every May, BMC and its partners launch Clean Commute Month to remind people about the relationship between their transportation choices and our region’s air quality.

According to the Maryland Department of the Environment, motor vehicles generate about one-third of the emissions that cause our pollution. Single-occupant vehicles (SOVs) may account for as much as one-fifth of the total emissions in the Baltimore region. Considering the tens of thousands of SOVs on our roads daily, it’s clear that individual choices do affect everyone.

During Clean Commute Month, try a different way to get to work. Consider options such as riding public transit, ridesharing/carpooling, biking, walking, or teleworking.

Join BMC staff at the Towsontown Festival and other events during May. Visit [www.cleancommute.com](http://www.cleancommute.com) to learn more. Also remember that Friday, May 18, is Bike to Work Day, with rallies in each of BMC’s member jurisdictions. You can find out more at [www.bike2workcentralmd.com](http://www.bike2workcentralmd.com).
JUNE

visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
In 2009, 4,092 pedestrians were killed and an estimated 59,000 were injured in traffic crashes in the United States, accounting for 12 percent of all traffic fatalities and 3 percent of all injuries. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that on average, a pedestrian is killed every two hours and injured every nine minutes on our nation’s roadways.

The Baltimore region averages 1,700 pedestrian and 500 bicycle crashes each year, resulting in an average of 52 deaths. The Baltimore region represents 39% of the fatalities and more than half the crashes and injuries across Maryland.

StreetSmart is an annual education, awareness and enforcement campaign which emphasizes education of motorists and pedestrians through a combination of mass media, direct outreach, and targeted enforcement. BMC works with local governments and state agencies to build safer streets and sidewalks, enforce laws, and train better drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.
JULY

visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
The Baltimore Metropolitan Water Supply System furnishes drinking water to approximately 1.8 million people in Baltimore City and the five surrounding counties. The Prettyboy, Liberty, and Loch Raven reservoirs are fed from watersheds that cover 467 square miles. Although the system is operated by Baltimore City, the watersheds are located predominately within Baltimore and Carroll counties.

BMC hosts the Reservoir Watershed Management Program to coordinate watershed protection efforts through regional management. The program is based upon a 1984 agreement signed by each participating jurisdiction and the Maryland Secretaries of Environment and Agriculture.

The signatories agreed to cooperate and collaborate on land use and land management, and to implement Management Strategies that were developed and agreed to by the participating jurisdictions. The goal is to maintain the reservoir watersheds such that the system can continue to provide the high quality drinking water that area residents have come to expect.
### Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citizens Advisory Committee
5:30 p.m.

Anyone seeking demographic information at the community level can go to [www.baltometro.org/about-the-region/community-profiles](http://www.baltometro.org/about-the-region/community-profiles) for data on all 94 regional planning districts (RPDs) in Baltimore City and the five surrounding counties. BMC has organized the data in tabular form from the Census, the American Community Survey, its own Building Permit Data System and employment database, and socioeconomic projections from the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board’s Cooperative Forecasting Group.

Data headings include population, households, housing, labor force, employment, education, income, residential and commercial development and socioeconomic projections. Population, household and housing data is also broken down by census tract within the RPD.

Detailed maps showing census tracts and transportation analysis zones (TAZs) accompany the data, along with a representative photograph of the community. Community Profiles can be a useful research tool for businesses, organizations, developers, and marketing firms.
SEPTEMBER

visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
The Baltimore Urban Area Work Group (UAWG), a committee of emergency planners and first responders, meets regularly to evaluate the needs of the region and directs the use of federal Homeland Security funds for equipment, training and outreach. In 2011, new equipment included two fully equipped ambulance buses, which can be used for evacuations or mass casualty events.

In large events involving multiple jurisdictions, close coordination during response and recovery is critical. In 2011, BMC coordinated a daylong tabletop exercise for local, regional, state and federal agencies to discuss how they would manage debris resulting from a major weather event.

Through the UAWG’s Public Information Officers Subcommittee, BMC manages the Ready? Set? Good public outreach campaign. In 2011, household preparedness messages were broadcast on local TV and radio stations. The messages directed residents to www.readysetgood.org to learn more.
OCTOBER

visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities

2012
In October 2008, the BMC Board of Directors created the Regional Sustainability Committee (RSC). Through the RSC, the member jurisdictions of BMC, along with the City of Annapolis and Frederick County, are working to meet the present needs of the region without compromising our ability to meet those needs in the future.

Creating a sustainable region requires a comprehensive approach that addresses the region’s economic, social and environmental needs.

The goal of the Committee is to share information and coordinate sustainable efforts throughout the region in order to improve the quality of life for all of our citizens. It is about ensuring that the world our children and grandchildren inherit will be as good as or better than the world today.

The Committee is focusing its efforts on coordinating regional sustainability programs, fostering cooperation among state and local governments, and maximizing partnerships with public, private and quasi-governmental agencies.
visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
The Greater Baltimore Region is Maryland’s leading goods movement center. Each year more than 307 million tons of freight valued at nearly one trillion dollars move over Baltimore’s highway, rail, port, and airport facilities, serving domestic and international demand for a wide range of goods. Baltimore’s inland advantage provides the most cost-effective supply chain routing to the Mid-Atlantic area and points west compared with other East Coast ports. The Port of Baltimore generates considerable economic impact to the region with about 50,700 jobs from cargo and vessel activity, which translates to $3.7 billion in personal wages and salary income. The cruise business at the Port of Baltimore also set a new record in 2010 with 90 home-port cruises and more than 207,000 passengers.
DECEMBER

visit www.baltometro.org for a current schedule of meetings and activities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council serves as staff to the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB), which is directly responsible for conducting the continuing, cooperative and comprehensive (3-C) transportation planning process for the Baltimore metropolitan region. The BRTB is an 11-member policy board consisting of the cities of Annapolis and Baltimore; Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties; and the Maryland Departments of Transportation, the Environment, and Planning; and the Maryland Transit Administration. The mission of the BRTB is to serve as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for transportation planning and policy making in the Baltimore region. The BRTB provides policy direction and oversight in the development of the federally mandated Long-Range Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the transportation element of the State Air Quality Implementation Plan (SIP). Using Census, building permit, and travel data, BMC helps the BRTB plan for the region’s growing demands.
In Fiscal Year 2011, total revenue increased by $45,400 while expenses declined by $86,548, resulting in retained earnings of $175,000. Contributions from local governments and revenue from special grants both increased modestly, while revenue from federal and state transportation grants remained flat.

The amount passed directly to local governments by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) increased by $175,000, although spending on transportation planning programs and expenses declined.

Operating costs increased by $474,000, which reflects expenses related to BMC’s move to Locust Point in September 2010.
BMC Publications

- **Annual Report 2010 (2011 Calendar)**
  December 2010

- **Baltimore Region FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program for Transportation Planning**
  April 2011

- **Baltimore Region Transportation Improvement Program 2011–2014**
  July 2010

  June 2010

- **BRCPC Annual Report 2010**
  Spring 2011

- **Clean Commute Month 2010**
  2011

- **Commuters and Commuting in the Baltimore Region**
  November 2010

- **Conformity Determination of Transportation Outlook 2035 and the FY 2011–2014 Transportation Improvement Program**
  July 2010

- **A Glance at Priced Roadways in the Baltimore Region Through the Transportation Model**
  January 2011
  Illuminates the technical properties of BMC’s toll model, and demonstrates the potential toll analysis scenarios and toll summary reports that can be produced with it. Online at [www.baltometro.org/reports/Toll-Model-Properties.pdf](http://www.baltometro.org/reports/Toll-Model-Properties.pdf).

- **Travel Differences by Age, Gender and Lifecycle in the Baltimore Region**
  April 2011
  Using data from the Household Travel Survey for the Baltimore region conducted by BMC in 2007–2008, this brief report shows that the most basic characteristics of individuals and households influence how, when, why and how often they travel. Online at [www.baltometro.org/reports/HHTS2007-Age-Gender.pdf](http://www.baltometro.org/reports/HHTS2007-Age-Gender.pdf).
And the winners are ...

As part of the imagine 2060 initiative in 2010, BMC and the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board asked residents of the Baltimore region—Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties—to pull out their cameras and capture images of what they value about our region.

Photos could be submitted in four categories: Transportation, Community, Natural Environment, and Prosperity. A winner was chosen in each category, as well as an overall winner and runner-up.

BMC is pleased to present the winning photos in its 2012 calendar.

OUTSIDE FRONT COVER: OVERALL RUNNER UP

Working in the Snow, by William R. "Butch" Schuler, Carroll County

AUGUST: COMMUNITY WINNER

Water Jet Kids, by George G. Miller, Baltimore County

OCTOBER: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WINNER

Fall on the Bay, by Ronald Cushing, Baltimore County

NOVEMBER: PROSPERITY WINNER

Domino in the Dark, by Ronald Cushing, Baltimore County

DECEMBER: TRANSPORTATION WINNER

Key Bridge Sunset, by Ellen Christianson, Anne Arundel County

INSIDE BACK COVER: OVERALL WINNER

View From the Cheap Seats, by Ellen Christianson, Anne Arundel County

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to everyone who submitted photos for sharing their favorite views of the Baltimore region.