



Baltimore  
Metropolitan  
Council

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## **BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD APPROVES MAXIMIZE2040**

**BALTIMORE, MD (November 24, 2015)** – The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) unanimously approved the final version of [\*Maximize2040: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan\*](#), after two years of planning and discussions with key stakeholders, as well as several rounds of public review.

“The coordination of transportation planning is vital to our quality of life in the Baltimore region, so I’m pleased that the BRTB is able to move forward with our next long-range regional transportation plan,” said Howard County Executive Allan Kittleman, BTRB chair. “This document will help the Baltimore region execute its transportation plans for the next 25+ years, ensuring that our region will continue to thrive.”

### ***Maximize2040: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan***

*Maximize2040* contains a list of the major surface transportation projects the region expects to implement. This plan, a federal requirement for surface transportation, will serve as the blueprint for fiscally constrained transportation planning in the Baltimore region from the years 2020 through 2040. The plan also establishes the region’s broad transportation goals and performance measures, which will serve as guiding principles as the region plans and carries out projects.

*Maximize2040* is a carefully selected mix of projects, developed over a two-year period, which takes into account anticipated funding levels through 2040, and future trends and demographics. They promote transportation safety, improve accessibility and mobility, encourage investments in existing communities, and maintain or improve air and water quality.

### **B’More Involved**

The BRTB developed *Maximize2040* with local, state, and federal agency transportation professionals, area business leaders, community advocates, and many other interested individuals and organizations. The public planning process for *Maximize2040* launched

in March 2014 with a look at broad regional transportation goals and strategies that agencies can apply during the next 25 years.

In summer 2014, the BRTB considered how the region could make informed decisions about the future. The BRTB sought out opinions from the public and regional experts. More than 200 people throughout the Baltimore region participated in a survey that asked about the social, economic, technological, environmental and political forces that could play a role in long-range transportation planning. The input from the survey helped the BRTB develop scenarios about possible futures. About 40 people participated in workshops to discuss how these scenarios might lead to dramatic changes in lifestyles and travel patterns during the next 25 years.

The BRTB also solicited about 1,150 project ideas from individuals and organizations through an extensive outreach process in the fall of 2014. The level of participation overall in the regional planning process shows that people care about the future of transportation in our region. As the public comments demonstrate, the Baltimore region has a diverse set of needs and expectations - including more reliable commuting, more effective freight movement, and more choices in transportation alternatives for everyone in the region.

The BRTB will engage the public to address the future of transit in the region, with the potential to add other projects as amendments to *Maximize2040*. The final version of *Maximize2040* considered these public ideas as well as additional comments from the BRTB's Public Advisory Committee.

The BRTB is the federally recognized metropolitan planning organization for transportation in the region. BMC provides the BRTB with staff support.

The BRTB operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, or national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable laws. Appropriate services can be provided to qualified individuals with disabilities or those in need of language assistance who submit a request at least seven days prior to a meeting. Call [410-732-0500](tel:410-732-0500).

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*The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) works collaboratively with the chief elected officials in the region to create initiatives to improve the quality of life and economic vitality. BMC, as the Baltimore region's council of governments (COG), hosts the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB), the federal metropolitan planning organization (MPO), and supports local government by coordinating efforts in a range of policy areas including emergency preparedness, housing, cooperative purchasing, environmental planning and workforce development.*

*BMC's Board of Directors includes the Baltimore City mayor, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard county executives, a member of the Maryland State Senate, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and a gubernatorial appointee from the private sector.*