



Baltimore
Metropolitan
Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BRTB SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON \$2.71 BILLION IN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

BALTIMORE, MD (May 23, 2016) – The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Baltimore region seeks public comments through **Friday, June 24** on three transportation-related documents – the draft *2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*, an amendment to *Maximize2040: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan*, and the associated Air Quality Conformity Determination.

The BRTB is scheduled to vote on these documents on **Tuesday, July 26**.

2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The draft *2017–2020 TIP* is a listing of transportation projects requesting funding that includes about \$2.71 billion in proposed federal, state and local money for highway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian projects throughout the region during the next four years. The funding will go towards maintaining, operating and expanding the transportation system.

Please view the draft *2017-2020 TIP* or project highlights [online](#) or through BRTB's [interactive project map](#).

Maximize2040 Amendment to MD 32 Widening Project

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) also seeks public comments for one amendment to *Maximize2040: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan* for the Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) **MD 32 Widening Project**.

Maximize2040 is the region's long-range transportation plan developed by the BRTB. *Maximize2040* serves 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 now serve as guiding principles as the region plans and carries out projects.

Please learn more about the [BRTB's summary information](#) of the project.

Air Quality Conformity Determination of the 2017-2020 TIP and Amended Maximize2040

The Baltimore region has been designated as not meeting National Ambient Air Quality Standards and, as a result, the BRTB must review its current transportation plan and program to ensure conformity with the state plan to meet these standards, known as the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The air quality conformity determination report details a comprehensive analysis of effects of the draft 2017-2020 TIP for the Baltimore region and the long-range projects in Maximize 2040 (as amended). The report addresses the following criteria pollutants: ozone and fine particulate matter.

The conformity results show that implementation of these projects will not worsen the region's air quality or delay the timely attainment of national air quality standards. The draft air quality conformity determination is available in PDF format [for download](#).

Public Comment Information

BRTB will host the following public meetings:

- **Wednesday, June 1, 4:30-5:30 p.m.**, during the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) policy subcommittee meeting at the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, located at the Offices @ McHenry Row, 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300, Baltimore, MD 21230
- **Wednesday, June 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, at the Baltimore County Public Library Woodlawn Branch, located at 1811 Woodlawn Drive, Woodlawn, MD 21207
- **Thursday, June 9, 5-7:30 p.m.**, in conjunction with the SHA MD 32 planning study public meeting at the Sykesville Freedom District Fire Department Legacy Hall, located at 6680 Sykesville Road Sykesville, MD 21784
- **Tuesday, June 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, at the Baltimore County Public Library Essex Branch, located at 1110 Eastern Boulevard, Essex, MD 21221

To share your thoughts and ideas, send all comments in writing to:

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board
Attn: Public Involvement Coordinator
Offices @ McHenry Row
1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21230

Fax: 410-732-8248

Email: comments@baltometro.org

Twitter: [@BaltoMetroCo](#) and [@BmoreInvolved](#) using the hashtag #BRTBlistens

The public participation process for the TIP will also meet the FTA public participation requirements for the MTA's Program of Projects (POP).

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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 executives of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Howard counties, the mayor of the City of Baltimore, a member of the Carroll County Board of Commissioners, a member of the Maryland State Senate, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, and a gubernatorial appointee from the private sector.