

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE
FY 2020-2021 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)
BY THE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) OF THE BRTB**

WHEREAS, the BRTB, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region responsible for transportation planning and policy making for the Baltimore region; and

WHEREAS, the PAC serves as an advisory body to the BRTB, charged with providing independent, region oriented citizen advice to the BRTB on issues related to the development of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Plan, Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and amendments that affect the region's conformity with federal air quality requirements, the public involvement process, regionally significant land use issues, and other regional transportation-related issues, as appropriate, promotes public awareness and participation in the regional transportation planning process and promotes equity in the regional transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the PAC has reviewed and discussed the draft FY 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for transportation planning;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, the PAC submits the following recommended additional studies be added to this document that specifically address the growing importance of advances in transportation services, vehicles and infrastructure that will have profound impacts on the Baltimore regional transportation system in the near and long term future:

- **Ride Sourcing as a Supplement and/or Alternative to Traditional Paratransit Services** – The PAC recommends that the BRTB study the potential to serve paratransit customers and trips with trips provided by Ride Sourcing companies (also known as Transportation Network Companies), such as Uber and Lyft. The study should focus on the potential for increased efficiencies and cost savings in paratransit while also studying the costs and benefits to paratransit customers. A number of cities in the United States have initiated contracts with Uber and Lyft for these purposes. This study would draw lessons learned from those examples and consider the specific service needs and conditions of Maryland Locally Operated Transit Systems and the paratransit communities within the Baltimore region. The report would identify specific recommendations for the Counties and City of Baltimore transit systems based on what is learned, and include any recommendations for statewide legislation or other policy modifications, as appropriate.
- **Study of Revenue Options for Electric Vehicles** – The PAC believes that the conflict in policies at the State level that both support ownership and operation of Electric Vehicles (EV) and the continued use of the gas tax collected from operators of vehicles with internal combustion engines (ICE), including hybrid vehicles, as the principle source of revenue for the Maryland Transportation Trust Fund should be addressed. Specifically, they propose a study that examines different alternatives for capturing revenues from all types of vehicle owners and operators while maintaining the current

policies favoring the purchase and operation of clean fueled vehicles. The study should do a comprehensive assessment of the costs of providing EV specific infrastructure as well as the share of general costs that this small portion of operators contributes today and could contribute under different scenarios of EV and ICE ownership and operation. The study should similarly examine different revenue options and estimate their potential contributions towards the Transportation Trust Fund in the State of Maryland.

- **Study of the Effects of Adopting Automation and Connectivity on the Port of Baltimore** – This study would address the potential benefits and costs of adopting connected and automated vehicle technologies on the freight activity at and to/from the Port of Baltimore. The Port is a critical transportation resource that includes multimodal access to and from the Port in the transfer of good to and from markets in the Baltimore region and beyond. This study would at a minimum examine the following:
 - Potential applications of automation at the Port of Baltimore
 - Potential impacts on congestion
 - Potential impacts on communities adjacent to the Port
 - Air quality and other environmental considerations.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the PAC thanks the BRTB for this opportunity to participate by sharing comments on these amendments. The PAC thanks the BRTB staff for facilitating its participation.

Submitted by:

Eric Norton, Chair, BRTB Public Advisory Committee