



TRANSPORTATION

UPWP: Frequently Asked Questions

FY 2022 - 2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Q WHAT IS A UPWP?

A The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a work program and budget that outlines how a metropolitan area will use federal transportation planning funds to accomplish activities covered in the Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Programming Rules and Regulations.

Q HOW OFTEN DO YOU DEVELOP A WORK PROGRAM?

A Metropolitan areas have the option to develop either 1-year or 2-year work programs and budgets. The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) utilizes a 2-year work program. The FY 2022-2023 UPWP is year 1 of a 2-year document. In the Baltimore region, the fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. In year 2 only the budget is updated.

Q WHY CHOOSE A 2-YEAR WORK PROGRAM?

A Most of the tasks and activities in the UPWP lend themselves to a cycle longer than one year. For example, staff members regularly engage in such continuous activities as determining if programmed and planned transportation projects conform to air quality



standards, monitoring traffic conditions as part of the regional Congestion Management Process, and running the regional travel demand model to determine the effects of programmed and planned projects. These activities promote efficient operation of the transportation network and help the region meet federal requirements. The BRTB recognizes this continuity and hopes to use it to its advantage in making Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) operations as efficient as possible.

Q WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

A Based on a formula, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provide funding which requires a 20 percent match from the Maryland Department of Transportation or from member jurisdictions.

Q WHAT IS THE PROPOSED BUDGET?

A This UPWP includes a budget for FY 2022 of \$9,000,000 and an estimated FY 2023 budget of \$6,290,000.

Q IS THE MONEY ALL FOR BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL STAFF?

A No, the UPWP includes funding for BMC staff, consultants, and to support staff from local jurisdictions. A breakdown of funding sources for FY 2022 and FY 2023 is displayed below.

**Note: FY 2023 is estimated since federal funding is not known at this time.*

	FY 2022	FY 2023*
BMC Staff	\$5,850,000	\$5,850,000
Consultants	\$2,730,000	\$440,000
Local Support	\$420,000	\$0
Total	\$9,000,000	\$6,290,000



Q WHAT ARE THE PLANNING PRIORITIES FACING THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD?

A Several important tasks include the following:

- engaging the public and other interested parties in the regional transportation planning process
- coordinating regional safety and security efforts
- maintaining and improving a congestion management process
- working with the Maryland Department of the Environment to make sure programmed and planned transportation projects conform to air quality standards
- upgrading analytical tools and capabilities, including applying an equity lens, to help planners determine the potential effects of programmed and planned transportation projects
- developing elements of the next long-range regional transportation plan
- preparing a short-range Transportation Improvement Program.

Q ARE MEMBERS SUPPORTED FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THESE ACTIVITIES?

A The member jurisdictions receive some support on topics that utilize consultants to improve processes in the region. In the FY 2022 members will be supported on the following activities: Implementation of RTP Recommendations – Corridor Analysis, Follow-up on Transportation Impact Study Guidelines, Local Planning Process Review, and Online Transportation Dashboards.

B'MORE INVOLVED – SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

The public is invited to provide feedback on these proposed regional transportation planning activities through **Thursday, March 11, 2021**.



Please send all comments in writing to:

MAIL	FAX	TWITTER
The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board Attn: Public Involvement Coordinator 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300 Baltimore, MD 21230	410-732-8248	@BaltoMetroCo @BmoreInvolved #BRTBlistens
ONLINE	EMAIL	
bit.ly/BRTBcomment	comments@baltometro.org	

At the beginning of each meeting of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) members of the public have an opportunity to make comments. This is a very important, regular, on the record opportunity to be heard by BRTB members.

This guide gives you a series of questions that will help you determine if making comments at BRTB meetings is your most effective strategy for getting your message heard, and will give you hints about how to make the most impact.