

Baltimore's Transit Future - July Update

Greetings,

Thank you for your support of the [Baltimore's Transit Future](#) campaign – we are off to a strong start. We plan to share monthly updates with you about the campaign's progress, key updates and decision points, and ideas for how you can help champion Baltimore's transit future as we work towards a transformative agenda for change in 2023. This is a team effort, so please share updates we miss and any creative ideas to extend our collective reach.

Featured Supporter



**BALTIMORE'S
TRANSIT FUTURE**

"I applaud the Greater Baltimore Committee and the Greater Washington Partnership for shining a spotlight on the need for transformative improvements to public transit in Baltimore. This goal is vital for advancing equity and opportunity for families and workers throughout the region, and also critical for our future growth and competitiveness. I welcome the business community and employers both large and small lending their voices to deliver this important message. I remain committed to advocating for a better public transit system for Greater Baltimore."

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin
Maryland

 GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE  GREATER WASHINGTON PARTNERSHIP

In case you missed it: Check out Baltimore County Executive [Johnny Olszewski](#) and Johns Hopkins University's [Alicia Wilson](#) video messages sharing why transit is essential to this region and their respective missions.

What's New with the Campaign's Strategic Priorities?

Priority 1: Address MTA Repair Backlog & Operator Shortage

- The [2022 Capital Needs Inventory](#) (CNI) shows MTA is continuing to reduce their State of Good Repair and Maintenance Backlog
- MTA was forced to [reduce light rail service](#) to weekend frequencies due to a lack of operators

Priority 3: Support Regional Coordination, Decision Making, and Funding

- ***BIG MOVE*** BMC is launching a regional workgroup to align behind preferred coordination, decision making, and funding structures for the region's transit system, with expected delivery of recommendations this coming December. This is a huge step forward: the region's chief elected officials, through BMC, are working collaboratively to identify their preferred transit

governance and funding model recommendations that can be delivered to the incoming governor in 2023. Regional alignment and coordination is essential to a better transit system, and we commend BMC and our region's elected leaders for taking this important step. (see action item #3 below to show your support).

Priority 4: Implement a 10-Year Rapid Transit Expansion Program

- [East-West Transit Corridor](#) comments on 7 alternatives due August 1 (see action item #1 below).
- North-South Transit Corridor Phase 1 Study expected soon

****If you need a refresher, the other priorities for the [campaign](#) include: 2 – Frequent Reliable Bus Service to all Regional Job Centers; 5 – Prioritize Regional Rail Investments; and 6 – Equitable Development at Transit and Rail Stations.*

How to Champion Baltimore's Transit Future This Month

1. Check out our East-West Transit Corridor Study [comment letter](#) and [fill out MTA's Comment Survey on the 7 Alternatives](#) by August 1.
2. Show your support for the Campaign by sharing the [campaign website](#) with your constituents and engaging your elected leaders.
3. Thank [BMC](#) and its [Board of Directors](#) for launching a regional workgroup to align behind preferred regional funding and coordination mechanisms and tag your local elected legislators (see Priority 3 above for more information).
4. Invite GBC & the Partnership to present to any local trade/professional organizations to which you belong.

In the News

- [Campaign website](#): with more than 30 organizations signed on as supporters of the campaign
- [Baltimore Sun](#): "Baltimore's business leaders launch campaign to push for public transportation improvements"
- [The Daily Record](#): "GBC, Greater Washington Partnership launch transit campaign"
- [Maryland Matters](#): "Baltimore Must Embrace Transit Vision While the Feds Are Flush With Funds, Groups Say"
- [Planetizen](#): "Baltimore Leaders Call on City To Think Big on Transit"
- Mention in [Baltimore Sun Editorial Board](#): "Maryland's transportation future may be decided by this year's election | COMMENTARY"
- Arun & Bill's [Op Ed in Baltimore Sun](#): "The time is now to build better transit for Greater Baltimore | GUEST COMMENTARY"

Thank you for your continued support and for helping to champion Baltimore's Transit Future. We are stronger by working together. Let's accelerate progress to create a more inclusive and economically thriving Greater Baltimore region.