

Board of County Commissioners

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Carroll County Government

225 North Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-386-2043; 1-888-302-8978
fax 410-386-2485
MD Relay 711/800-735-2258

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lynda Eisenberg
410-386-5145

Regional Transportation Plan Meeting Clarified

Westminster, MD, Wednesday, June 5, 2019 – In light of some citizen questions regarding a recently publicized public meeting for a regional transportation plan, Carroll County Government would like to clarify the difference between this meeting and plan and the local transportation priorities.

The public meeting tomorrow, June 6, 2019, is hosted by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council's (BMC) Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB). This meeting is one of several (8) meetings hosted by the BMC to discuss federal and state plans for key transportation projects planned in the **Baltimore region** over the next 25 years. This plan is called: Maximize2045: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan. According to the [BMC website](#), the BMC is a link between federal funds and regulations, state and regional decision-makers, transportation planning entities, project and initiative stakeholders and the public. The forum and resources BMC provides allows for regional planning efforts of short- and long-term projects. The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Baltimore region. The BRTB is responsible for making sure that any money spent on existing and future transportation projects and programs is based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive (3-C) planning process. All transportation projects and programs that receive federal funding in our region go through this planning process.

This plan differs from the Carroll County Transportation Priority Letter which outlines only projects affecting Carroll County and identifies the Carroll County Board of Commissioner's state road transportation project priorities. The most recent letter to the state highlights the county's continued focus on critical projects that will provide the greatest enhancement to economic development and redevelopment opportunities for the county and asks for Carroll County's transportation project priorities to be considered for possible inclusion in the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) FY2020-2025 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP).

The letter promotes categories such as Highway Capacity Enhancement Projects, Urban Reconstruction ("Streetscape") Projects and Bicycle/Pedestrian/Trail Projects and includes

CARROLL COUNTY

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projects such as: 1. MD 32 (MD 26 south to Carroll County line); 2. MD 97 (Bachmans Valley Road to MD 140 in Westminster); 3. MD 26 (MD 32 east to Liberty Reservoir); 4. MD 31 - New Windsor Main Street/High Street (High Street to Church Street/Coe Drive to Main Street); 5. MD 851 - Sykesville Main Street/Springfield Avenue (Cooper Drive to South Branch of the Patapsco River); 6. Transit Projects; 7. Governor Frank Brown Trail (formerly known as the Freedom Area Trail Network); 8. Westminster Community Trail; and others.

Please note, the meeting on June 6th is a BMC public meeting, seeking comment only on the [Maximize2045: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan](#) and does not include discussion of the local state transportation priorities. The BMC meeting is June 6, 2019 at 6:00 PM in Room 003 of the County Office Building, 225 N. Center Street in Westminster.

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