



A Plan to Connect Baltimore



LINKING YOU
MTA Maryland Maryland Department of Transportation



What is BaltimoreLink?

- **Improve** service quality and reliability
- **Maximize** access to high-frequency transit
- **Strengthen** connections between the MTA's bus and rail routes
- **Align** the network with existing and emerging job centers
- **Involve** riders, employees, communities, and elected officials in the planning process

Linking
Modes
Places
People

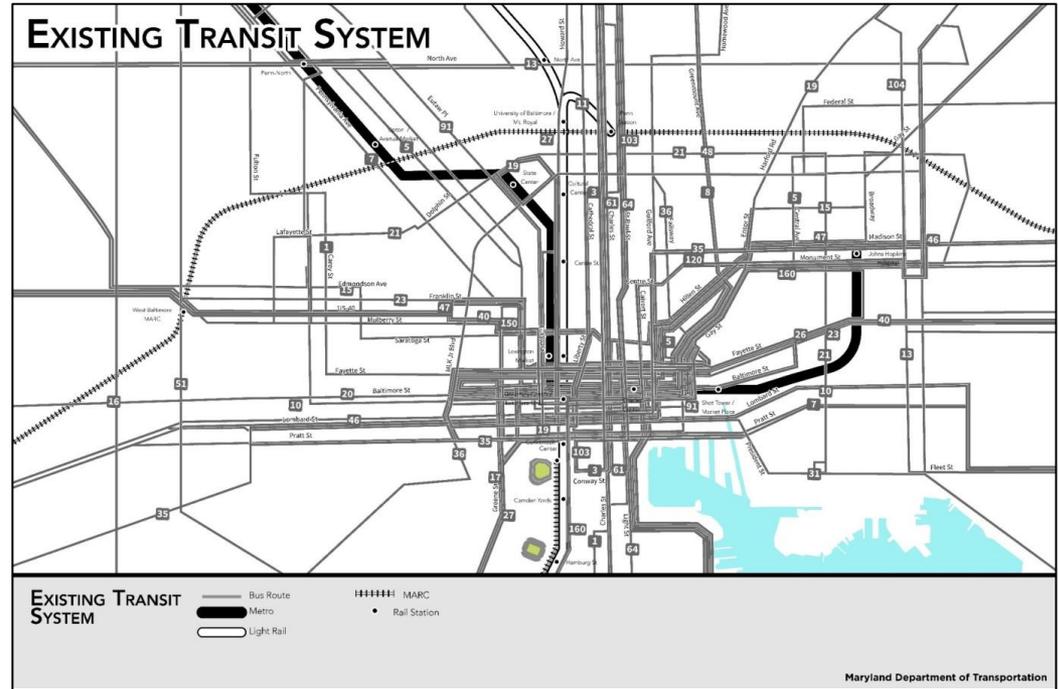
Improving
Safety
Efficiency
Reliability
Customer Service



Existing Service

We've heard the existing transit system is...

- Broken
- Disconnected
- Crowded
- Unclean
- Unreliable
- Not connected to jobs



Major Problems:

- **Lengthy Routes** – Long east-west and north-south routes
- **Highly Congested** – Buses bottleneck due to network design
- **Unreliable** – Network design hinders MTA's ability to provide reliable service



The Solution - The BaltimoreLink Network



- **High-frequency** routes into and throughout urban core
 - Color-coded routes
 - All lines access Downtown
 - 24 hours of service per day
 - Designed to connect to all other CityLink routes and to Rail Stations



- **Local** Routes connecting to CityLink routes
 - Neighborhood connectivity
 - Suburb-to-urban core connectivity



- **Limited stop** routes into urban core and suburb-to-suburb
 - Connecting to Regional Job Centers and Downtown

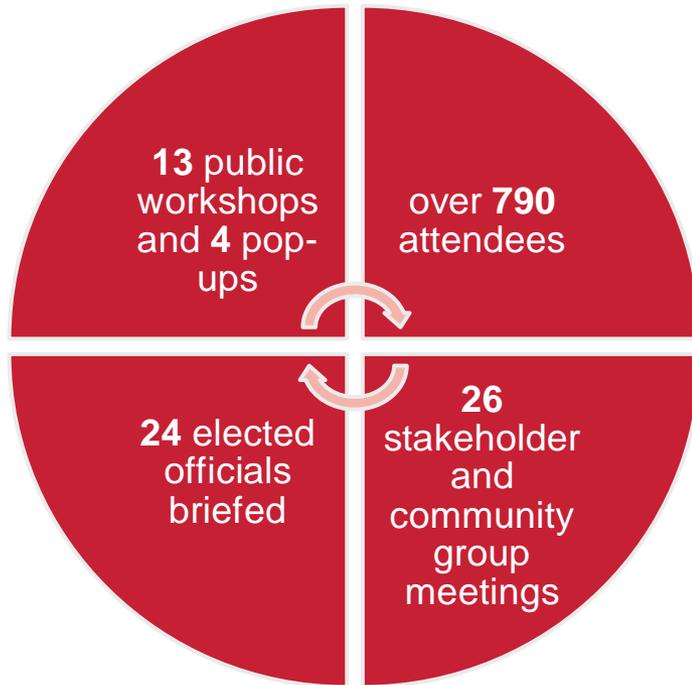
To be integrated seamlessly with:



1st Draft Outreach

October 2015 – February 2016

- BaltimoreLink Outreach built upon the effort accomplished as part of the 2013 Baltimore Network Improvement Project (BNIP)
- MTA gathered over 1,280 comments from 67 key events



1st Draft Outreach

Comment Submittal and Topic



61% submitted online
(mySideWalk or Survey Monkey)

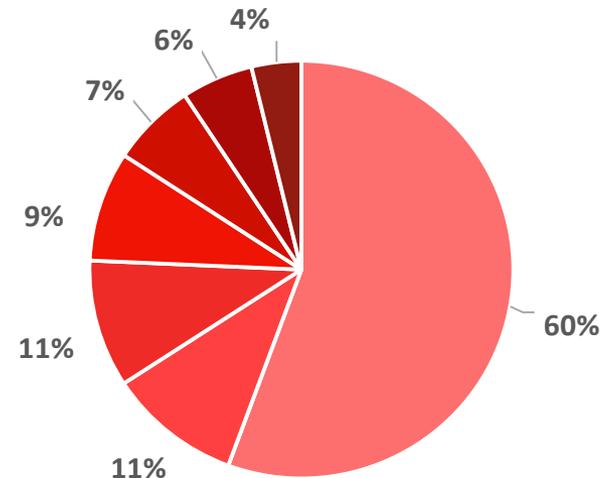


24% submitted comment form



15% submitted in other formats
(hotline, email, verbal, or other)

- The majority of comments were about specific routes, forced transfers, and safety/cleanliness of the proposal



- Specific BaltimoreLink Route Proposal
- Forced Transfer
- Safety/Cleanliness
- Information/ Resources
- New Service Area Request
- Schools/School Children
- Other



Public Impact on 2nd Draft

You spoke. We listened.

We adjusted **56 of the 65** first draft routes as a direct response to public feedback.

The **2nd Draft** BaltimoreLink network reflects some modifications that the public desires while maintaining the new hub and spoke, high-frequency core model



Public Impact on 2nd Draft – Significant Changes

- **Greenmount Ave.** (Current Route 8 and 48) – reintroducing CityLink Red to serve the entire corridor
- **Garrison Blvd. and Edmondson Ave.** (Current Routes 91 and 15) – reintroducing connection to downtown
- **Eastern Ave.** (Current Route 10) – reintroducing CityLink Navy to serve Eastern Ave. in Highlandtown
- **Express Services** Reintroducing current routes 103, 115, 119, 120 and 160
- **Falls Rd, Roland Ave., N. Charles St., and Philadelphia Rd.** (Current routes 27, 61, 11, 35) – reintroducing existing services
- **North Ave.** (Current Route 13) – Corridor-long CityLink Gold service
- **Harford Rd.** (Current Route 19) – reintroduced as LocalLink 19
- **Patapsco Station and Annapolis** (Current Route 14) – keeping a one seat ride
- **White Marsh Mall and Middle River** – (New LocalLink 61) New one-seat ride
- **Curtis Bay** (Current Route 64) – Improved transfers to Light Rail
- **Southwest and Northeast Baltimore** (Current Route 36) – Improved connections between CityLinks Yellow and Green



Measuring the New System

■ Partners:

- Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
 - Method: Regional travel demand model
 - Measured: Transfers, travel time and access to jobs
- Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)
 - Method: GIS mapping
 - Measured: Frequent Transit Network and population group access to human services



What Will Not Change

You spoke. We listened.



Minimal Change to Daily Transfer Rate

With the BaltimoreLink system, the average daily transfer rate in the region changes by less than 2%.



53% Of trips will require zero transfers.



35% Of trips will require one transfer.



12% Of trips will require two or more transfers.



Average Transit Travel Time of 52 Minutes

On average, a transit trip will take 52 minutes under BaltimoreLink, including time to access the bus stop, waiting time, time on the vehicle, and any necessary transfers. This is the same average transit travel time as on the current MTA system.

The transfer rate measurement is based off of ridership patterns and is driven by a projected increase in mid-day trips.

Additionally, the transfer experience under BaltimoreLink will be eased with better frequencies on many routes, increased reliability, and improved wayfinding.



What Will Improve

Increasing Access to Transit



33,600 More People with Access to Transit

Under BaltimoreLink, an estimated 33,600 additional people – a 4% increase over the existing system – will be within 1/4 mile of transit.



60,700 More People with Access to Frequent Transit

Under BaltimoreLink, an estimated 60,700 additional people – a 15% increase over the existing system – will be within 1/4 mile of the frequent transit network. **The Frequent Transit Network is defined as any BaltimoreLink (CityLink and select LocalLink) route that operates every 15 minutes or less during peak and midday periods.**



What Will Improve

Increasing Access to Jobs



Households will have Better Access to Jobs

Within the MTA service area, the average number of jobs accessible within 30 minutes on transit increases by 20%. The average number of jobs accessible within 45 minutes increases by 12%, and the average number of jobs accessible within an hour increases by 8%.



+20%

More jobs, on average, are accessible within 30 minutes or less.



+12%

More jobs, on average, are accessible within 45 minutes.



+8%

More jobs, on average, are accessible within 60 minutes.



34,400 More Jobs will have Access to Frequent Transit

Under BaltimoreLink, an estimated 34,400 additional jobs – a 14% increase over the existing system – will be within 1/4 mile of the Frequent Transit Network.



LINKING YOU
MTA Maryland Maryland Department of Transportation

BALTIMORE
LINK

What Will Improve

Increasing Access to Services



Better Access to Services in the Region

BaltimoreLink is designed to provide **more frequent transit** to those educational institutions and health services that people need the most.



+5
Hospitals



+56%



+7
Pharmacies



+6%



+12
Supermarkets



+24%



+15
Public Schools



+13%



+4
Libraries



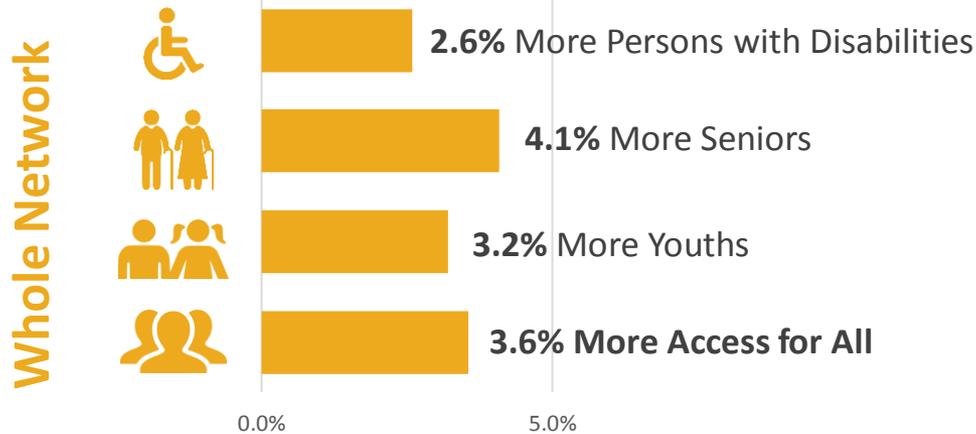
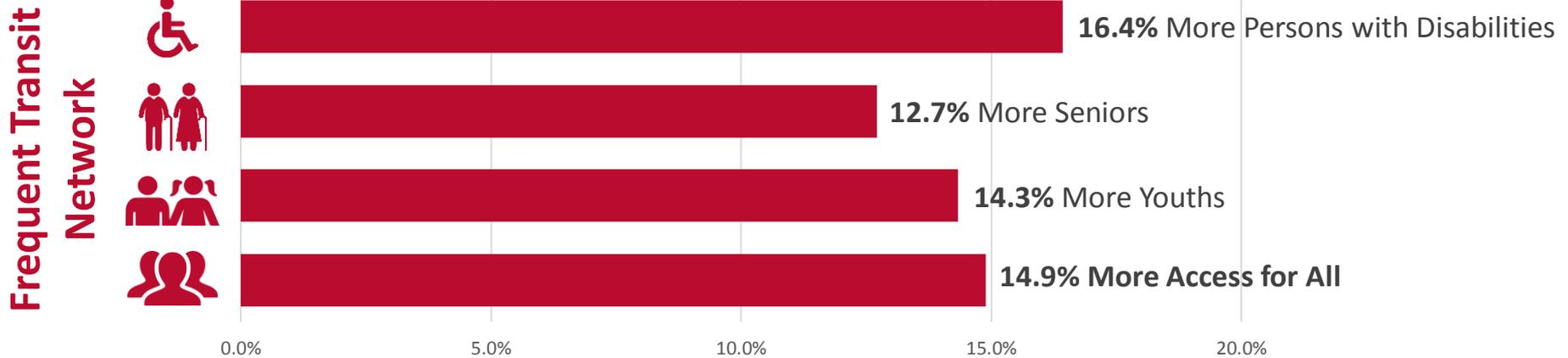
+22%



What Will Improve

Increasing Accessibility

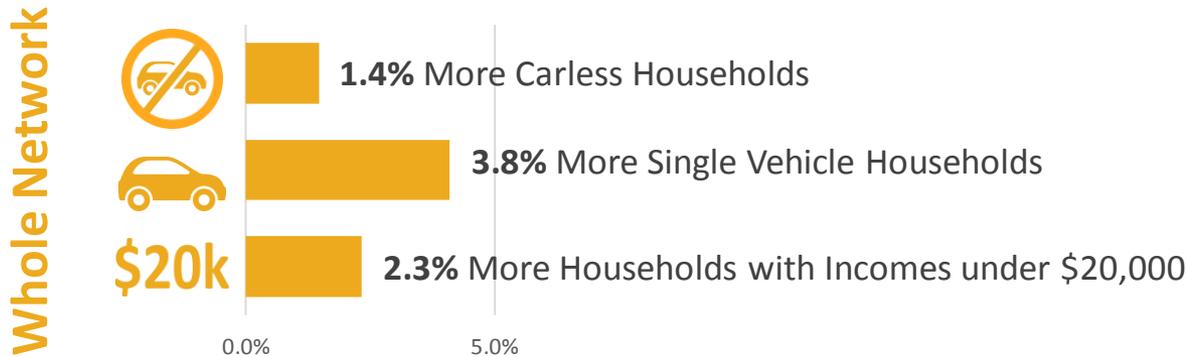
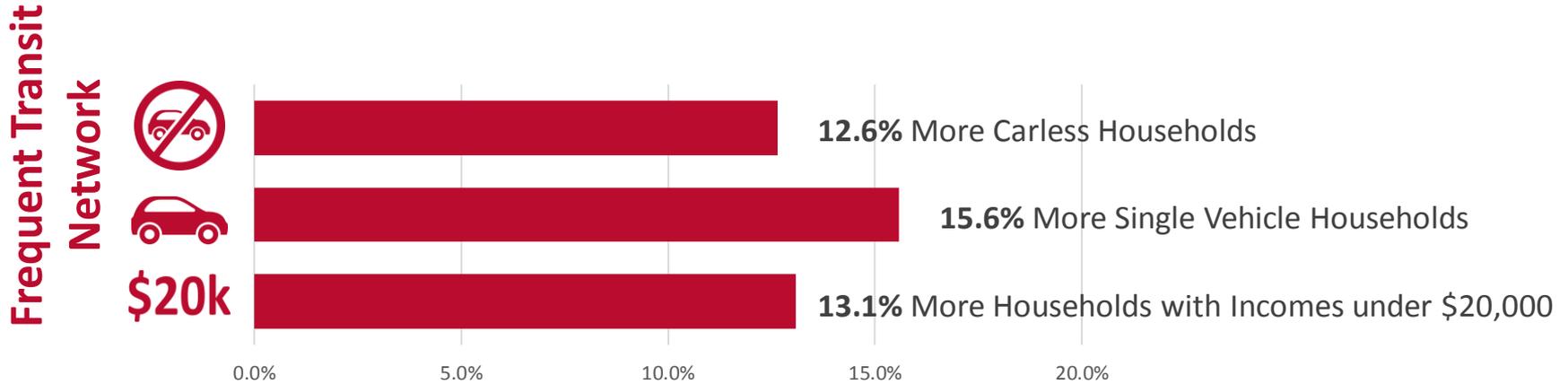
CHANGE IN PERCENT OF POPULATIONS WITHIN ¼ MILE OF BALTIMORELINK



What Will Improve

Increasing Accessibility

CHANGE IN PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS
WITHIN ¼ MILE OF BALTIMORELINK



What Will Improve



Preserving Daily Transfer Rate and Travel Times



33,600 More People with Access to Transit



Households will have Better Access to Jobs



Better Access to Services in the Region



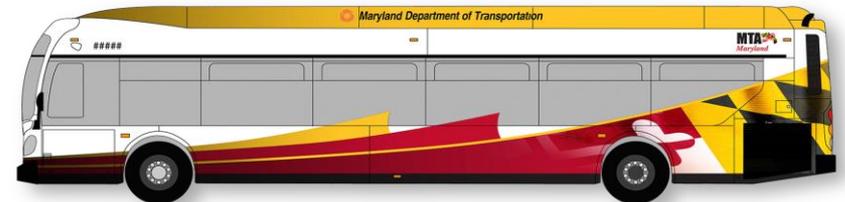
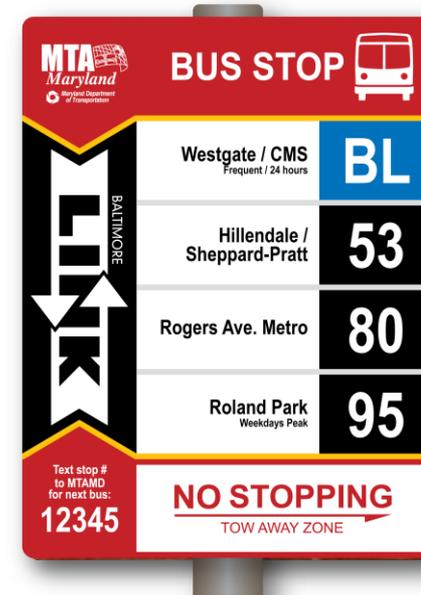
What Will Improve

Bus Stop Signage

- New signage will provide better destination information in a clear, easy-to-use fashion

Bus Vehicle Branding

- New buses with BaltimoreLink branding will make the system more uniform with cohesive design and color elements



What Will Improve

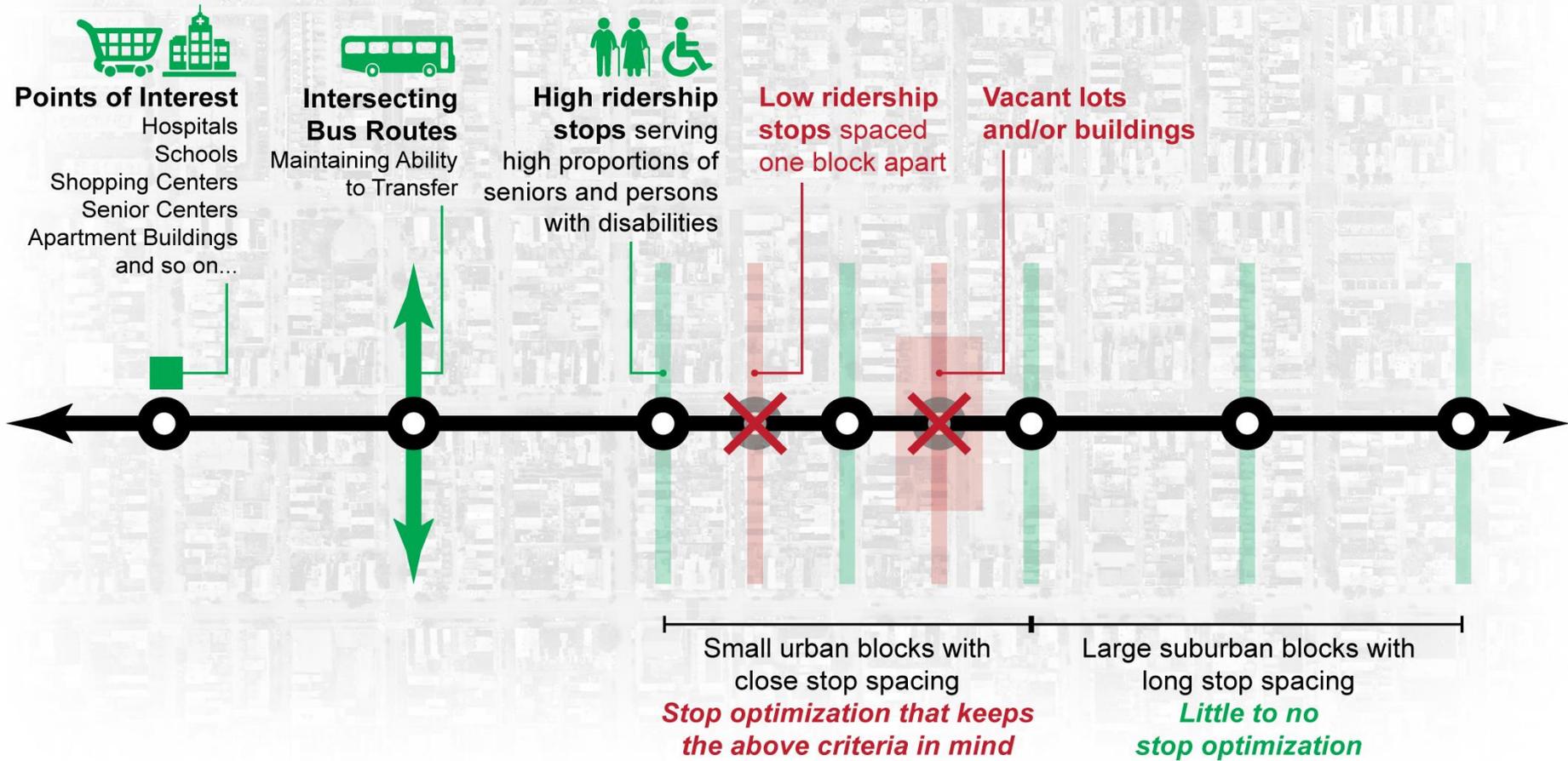
Bus Stop Optimization

- Spacing
 - Industry standards corresponding with density, land use and route type
 - Exceptions based on trip generators (medical centers, assisted living facilities, etc.)
- Pedestrian Safety
 - Examining curb ramps, crosswalks, sidewalks, lighting, etc.
 - ADA Compliance
- Amenities
 - Shelters
 - Collaboration with partners (City for benches, SHA for trash cans)

MTA is currently performing field assessments of existing and proposed bus stops. Pending network modifications, a final list will be available this fall.



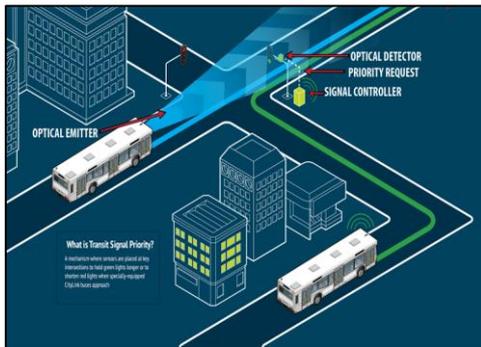
What Will Improve Bus Stop Optimization



What Will Improve Capital Investments

- ✓ Making the System More Reliable
- ✓ Helping Buses Move More Efficiently
- ✓ Improving the Customer Experience

Transit Signal Priority



- Hardware and software to enable active priority for buses
- Approaching buses can trigger a shorter red light or longer green light
- Focusing on CityLink corridors and major pinch points

Dedicated Lanes



- Red painted lanes and “BUS LANE” striping
- Focusing on corridors with multiple CityLink routes to keep people moving

Transfer Facilities



- Transit facilities, transfer areas, layovers, and optimized bus stops
- Improved or new signs, schedules, trash bins, benches, shelters, canopies, TVMs, and other amenities



What Will Improve Capital Investments

Transfer Facility Locations

- West Baltimore MARC station
- North Ave between Charles and St. Paul
- Penn-North Metro Station
- Courthouse (Broadway/Harford)
- Bayview Hospital
- Charles Center Metro Station
- Lexington Market (Eutaw St)
- Penn Station
- State Center
- North Ave Light Rail Station

Possible Amenities



Streetscape improvements for pedestrian safety



Improved signage to facilitate wayfinding and ease transfers



Real Time Information Signage so riders know when buses will arrive



Sheltered waiting areas to protect riders from the elements



Ticket vending machines to allow riders to pre-purchase fare cards



Improved bicycle storage



Enhanced lighting and ornamental fencing to increase safety and security



Closed-circuit television cameras to increase rider safety



Trash receptacles

Note that photos are for illustrative purposes only and do not necessarily represent actual transfer facilities.



What Will Improve

Increasing Transportation Options



Bike Share – Baltimore City’s Bike Share provider, Bewegen, will be rolling out Bike Share as early as September 2016 with locations at or adjacent to about 10 MTA rail facilities. Additionally, MTA is improving bike parking at all rail stations.



Car Share – To be added to more than 20 MARC Train, Light RailLink, and Metro SubwayLink parking facilities

Commuter Bus – 3 new routes that connect Baltimore City residents to regional employers

- New service between Baltimore and Aberdeen Proving Ground
- New service between Baltimore and Annapolis/Kent Island
- New service between Baltimore and Columbia/Howard County



Locally Operated Transit Support – Increasing funding where improved, local connections are needed.

- **Charm City Circulator** – Increased funding for three years
- **Fort Meade Shuttle** – Additional funding for the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) to operate a shuttle connecting the Savage and Odenton MARC Stations.



Microtransit – A pilot program of this emerging, scaled down version of mass transit that provides a shared, on-demand, and tech-enabled ride.



Local Analysis – Current 35

Current Service:

MTA 35:

UMBC or Blind Industries to
White Marsh

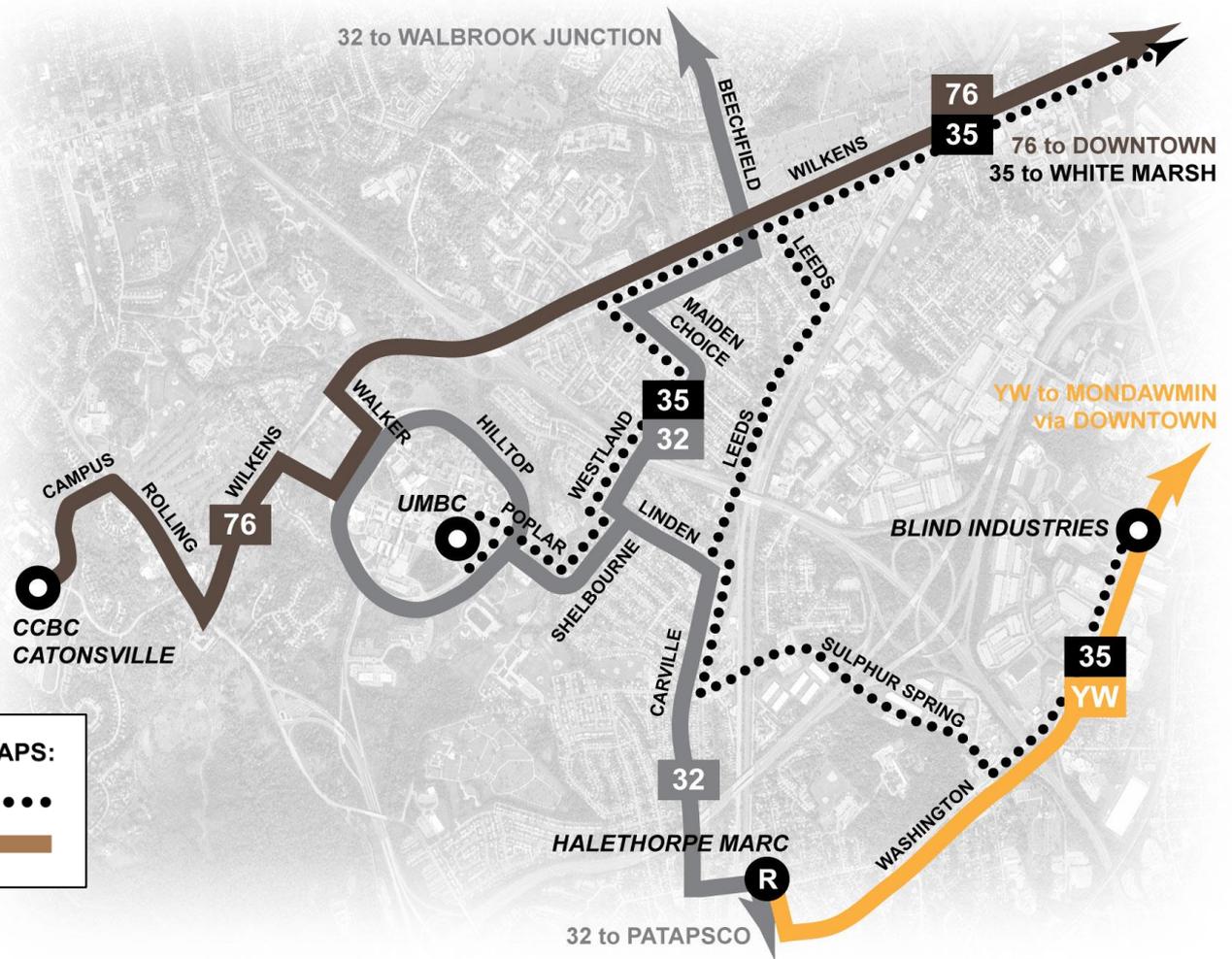
Proposed Service:

MTA 35 → LL 76 and LL 56:

LL 76: CCBC Catonsville to City
Hall via Crossroads Business
Park

LL 56: City Hall to White Marsh

*(The 35's infrequent Blind
Industries branch would be
replaced by the more frequent
CL Yellow via Washington Blvd.)*



LEGEND FOR LOCAL ANALYSIS MAPS:

Dotted black lines indicate existing routes ●●●●●●

Solid color lines indicate replacement BaltimoreLink routes ————



LINKING YOU

MTA Maryland Maryland Department of Transportation



Local Analysis – Current 36

Current Service:

MTA 36:

Riverview or Monroe Street to Belvedere Square

Proposed Service:

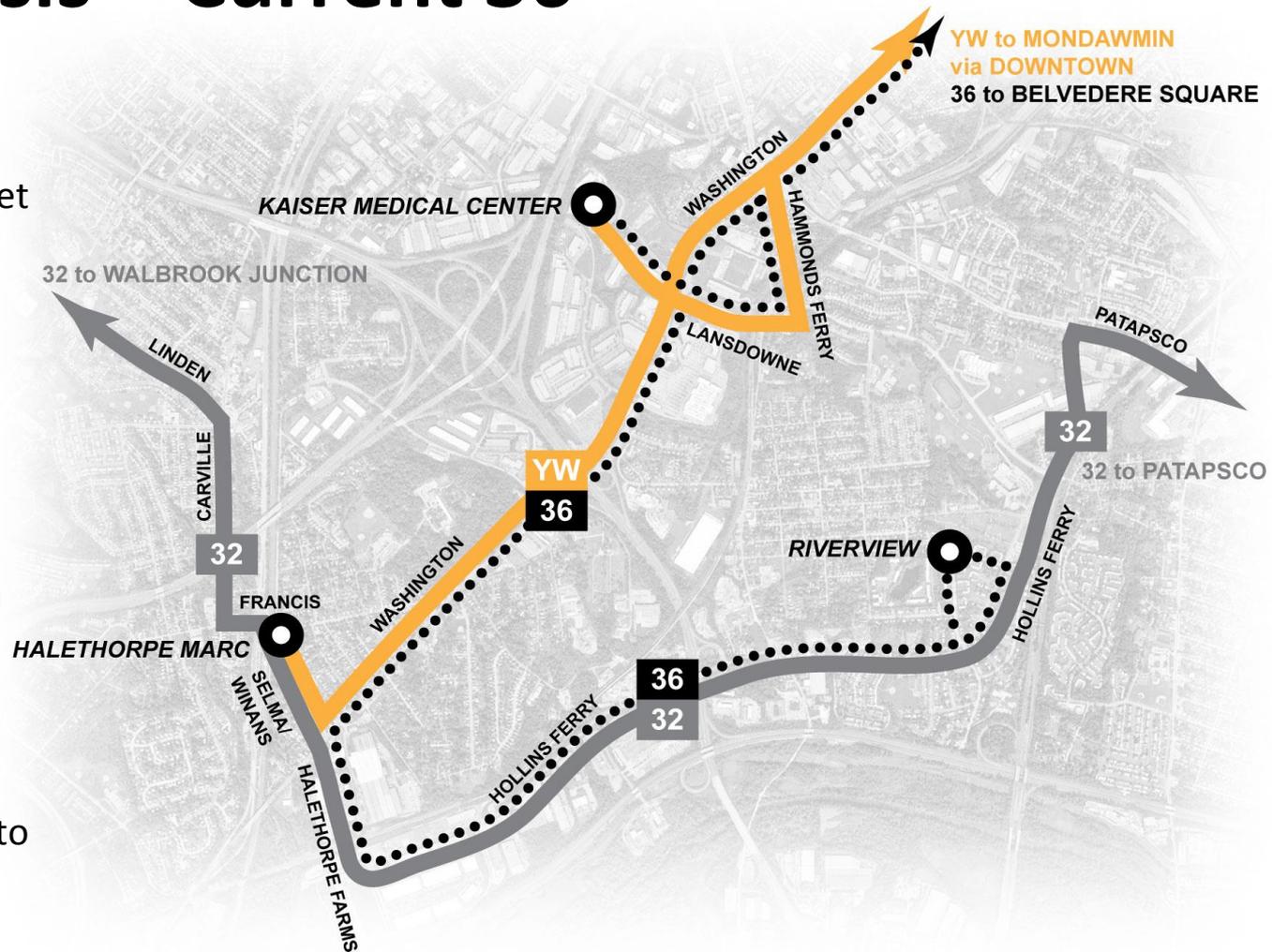
MTA 36 →

CL Yellow, LL 53, LL 32:

CL Yellow: Halethorpe MARC or Kaiser Medical Center to Mondawmin via Downtown

LL 53: North Avenue LR to Goucher & Taylor or Sheppard-Pratt

LL 32: Walbrook Junction to Patapsco



Local Analysis – Current 77

Current Service:

MTA 77:

Old Court to Patapsco

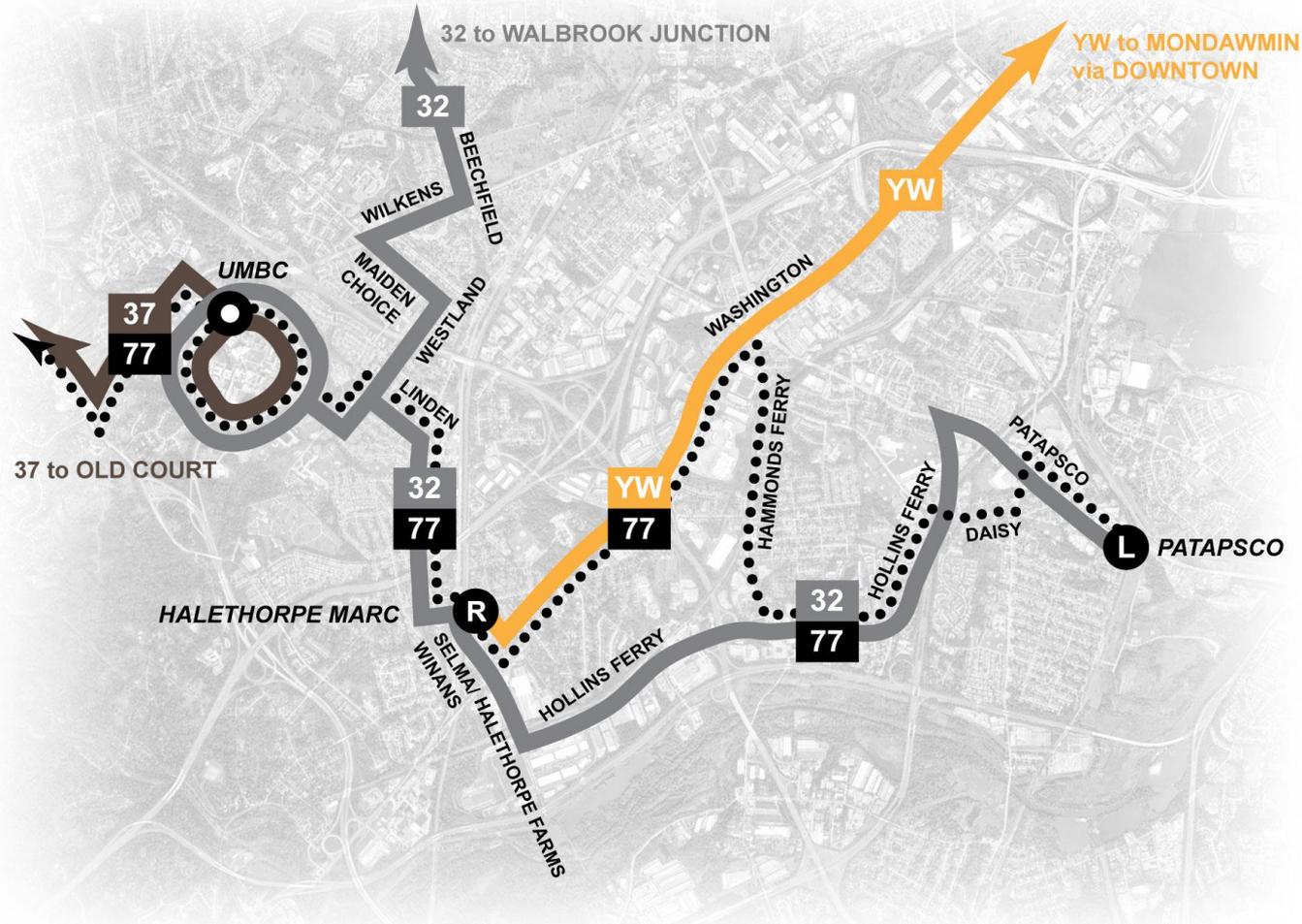
Proposed Service:

MTA 77 →

LL 37 and LL 32:

LL 37: Old Court to UMBC

LL 32: Walbrook Junction to Patapsco via UMBC



LINKING YOU

MTA Maryland Maryland Department of Transportation



Local Analysis – Former 99

Current Service:

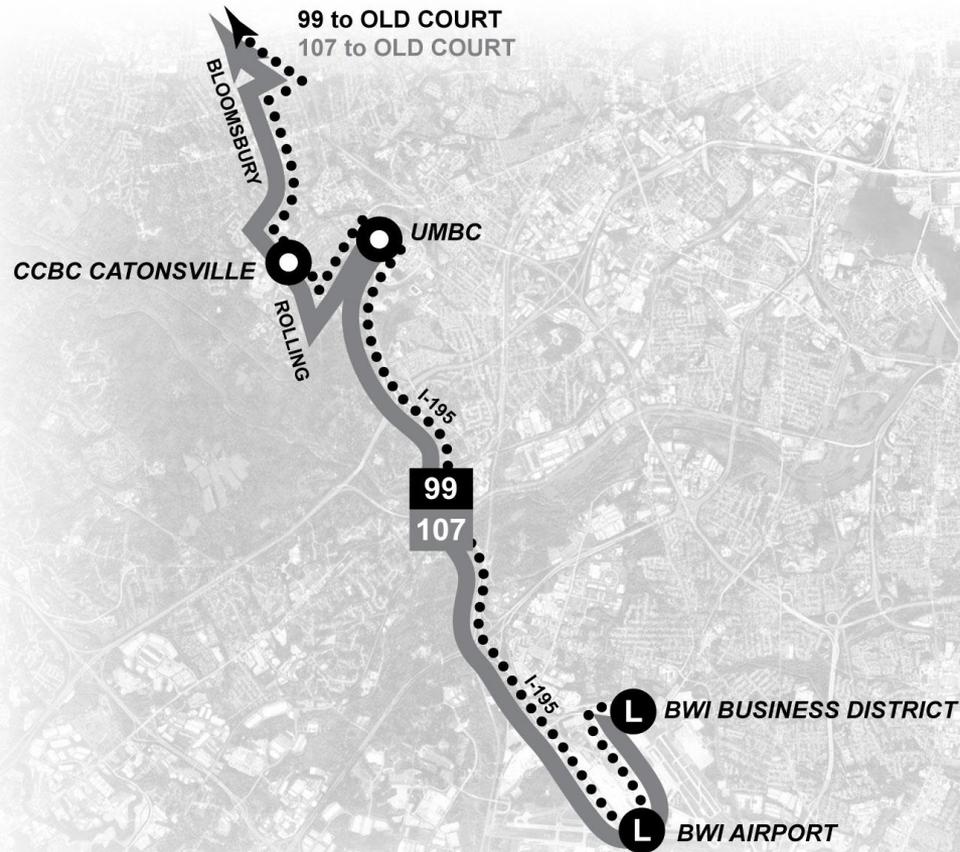
MTA 99:

Old Court to BWI Airport

Proposed Service:

MTA 99 → EL 107:

Old Court to BWI Airport



LINKING YOU

MTA Maryland Maryland Department of Transportation

BALTIMORE
LINK

Local Analysis – Frequency Improvements

Improvements upon existing MTA service:

- LL 76 would extend a little further west than the current 35 (from UMBC to CCBC Catonsville)
- CL Yellow would offer frequent service further south than the current 36 (from Monroe Street to Kaiser Medical Center)

Route	Peak Frequency (min)	Midday Frequency (min)	Evening Frequency (min)
Existing 35	30-40 per branch	20-30	30
Proposed LL 76	20	20	20
Existing 36	15 to 30 south of Monroe	30 south of Monroe	40 south of Monroe
Proposed CL Yellow	20 south of Kaiser	30 south of Kaiser	40 south of Kaiser
Existing 77	20	30	40-60
Proposed LL 37	20	30	30
Proposed LL 32	30	30	60



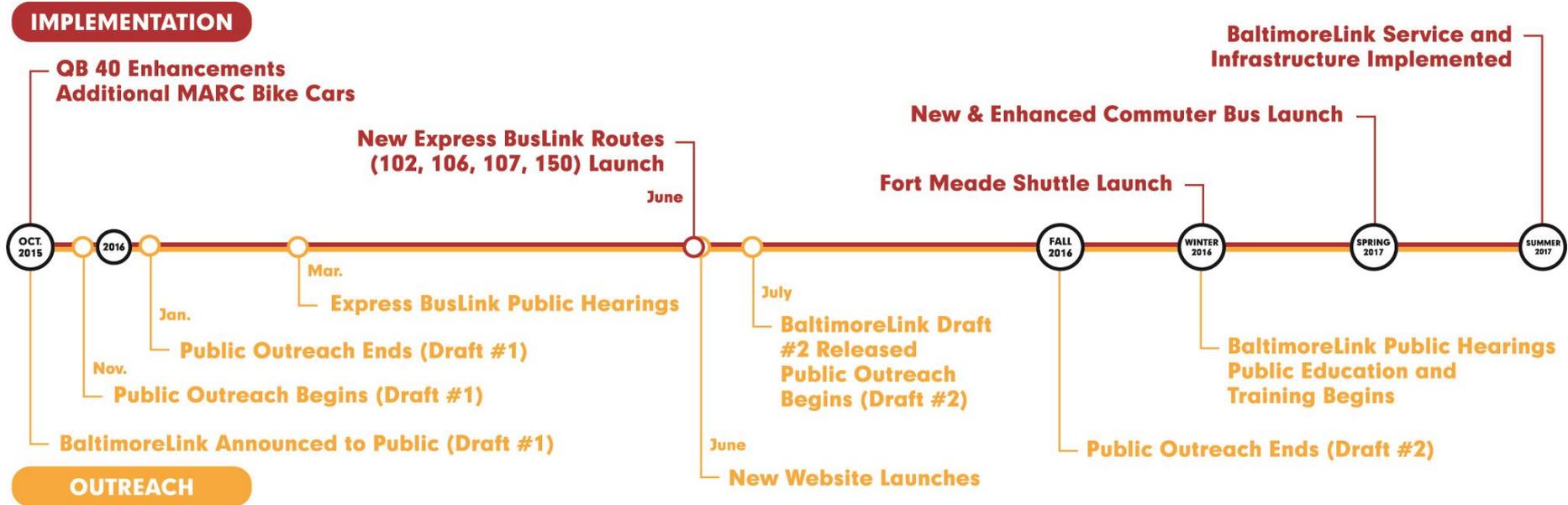
Local Analysis – Changes to First Draft

How we modified the first draft in response to Your Feedback:

- Reduced the number of transfers between the routes replacing the current 77.
 - ✓ In the first draft, the 77 was replaced by several shorter routes requiring multiple transfers. We've reduced this to a single transfer between LocalLinks 37 and 32 at UMBC. Ridership patterns showed that travel was mostly between either Old Court and UMBC or UMBC and Patapsco.
- Reintroduced downtown service from Washington Blvd (current 36).
 - ✓ In the first draft, the CityLink Yellow skirted downtown by following MLK Blvd and Madison/Monument Streets to Broadway-North. We've modified the Yellow to serve downtown via Eutaw Street.
- Reintroduced downtown service from Wilkens Ave (current 35).
 - ✓ The first draft's CityLink Gold has been reconfigured as LocalLink 76 and brought back downtown via Pratt and Lombard Streets.
- Reintroduced service through Crossroads Business Park via LL 76 (current 35).



BaltimoreLink Project Timeline



More Ways to Learn About Your Route

You spoke. We listened.

DRAFT	
Route	Green
Type	CityLink
From	Towson Town Centre
To	Westbelt, near MARC
Span	Weekday 4:00am - 8:00pm Saturday 6:00am - 8:00pm Sunday 8:00am - 8:00pm
Frequency (minutes)	Weekday: Early AM Peak Midday PM Peak Evening Late Night Sat Day (8:00am - 8:00pm) Other Times Sun Day (8:00am - 8:00pm) Other Times
Rail Stations Served	Metro University Center Light Rail University Center MARC West Belt
CityLink Transfers	
Points of Interest Served	Towson Town Centre Morgan State University USF Research
Current Routes	

LEGEND

PROPOSED CITYLINK GREEN	
Rail Stations	Connecting Routes
Light Rail/Link	CityLink
Metro Subway/Link	Local/Link
MARC	Express Bus/Link
Proposed Alignment	MARC
Light Rail/Link	Other
Subway/Link	Proposed Rail/Streetcar Routes
Other Roadways	

What is a Route Sheet?

- Route specific information on route alignment, levels of service and other valuable information

What details are provided?

- Route name
- Route type
- Route end points
- Span of service
- Service frequency (M-F, Sat & Sun)
- Connections to rail and CityLink services
- Points of interest served
- Current routes
- Route Map

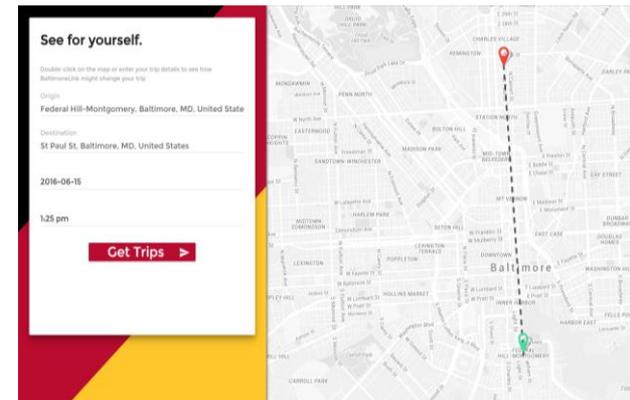


More Tools to Help You

You spoke. We listened.

Trip Planner

- Compare existing street routing for a given route side-by-side with its BaltimoreLink replacement. Double-click on the map for origins and destinations, or type these in manually



Google Map

- Interactive Google system map allows you to zoom in on the updated network and view various routes and their frequencies

New Website

- Access BaltimoreLink information easier by reading project updates, finding events in your area and downloading presentations and reports



How to Get Involved

1. Attend a public workshop
2. Call the Hotline: 410-454-1998 and leave us a message
3. Engage in discussions on mtamaryland.mysidewalk.com
4. Compare your transit trips with the BaltimoreLink comparative trip planner
5. Submit a comment on BaltimoreLink.com
6. Spread the word!

