



Goal 5: Increase transportation funding for sustainable modes of travel

While our existing infrastructure is in dire need of maintenance and repair, the capital and operating costs for new transportation projects are extremely high. Still, Baltimore has a strong foundation as a compact city. The high density of residences, combined with distributed commercial services, can support high quality transit services. While up-front expenses are high, sustainable transportation projects are ultimately far more economical over time than building or expanding freeways.

KEY FACTS AND RELATED EFFORTS

- * Baltimore City Department of Transportation's FY2010 operating budget for **cleaner greener forms of transportation** was \$6,819,320. This includes the Charm City Circulator, Water Taxi Harbor Connector, Red Line, and Bicycle/Pedestrian programming.
- * The City of Baltimore received ARRA transportation funds in 2009, much of which were dedicated to sustainable transportation uses. Approximately \$1.5 million in **ferry boat funding** will help the City to construct docks and purchase two all-weather vessels to move commuters from Canton to other areas of the City connected with the Downtown Circulator. This free service for commuters will run all year and withstand seasonal weather conditions. Additional ARRA funding was allocated to make major improvements to the **West Baltimore MARC Center**.
- * In September 2009, the State of Maryland announced a \$30 million surplus availed through savings generated in highway and transit contracts. More than \$17 million will be invested to rehabilitate the **Mondawmin Transit Center** in Baltimore, the MTA's aging bus maintenance facilities, and electrical systems critical to the operation of the Baltimore Light Rail system.
- * The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) introduced the new **QuickBus 48 route** along the York Road/Greenmount Avenue corridor in August 2009. This corridor was chosen in part based on the role they play connecting people to major employment centers downtown, along York Road, and Towson. QuickBus service is intended to be used along high-volume transit bus routes where limited stops and other enhancements have the potential to reduce travel times and increase ridership.

AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2009, THE STATE OF MARYLAND HAD AWARDED A TOTAL OF *59 highway contracts, representing an investment of \$189 million.*

ARRA-FUNDED TRANSIT PROJECTS AWARDED TO THAT DATE REPRESENT *an investment of \$99 million.*

*Source: The Office of Governor Martin O'Malley

2 STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

- Show your support for transit projects by using them
- Urge your elected officials at all levels to support sustainable transit projects