RED A LINE

NEWSLETTER

June/July 2024



DIRECTOR'S CORNER The Public and Experts Agree: Light Rail is the Right Choice for the Baltimore Region

Hello, Baltimore Region, Charm City, and future home of the Red Line! It has been 15 years since I first worked on the Red Line and, after the historic relaunch last summer, the team and I have made significant progress on moving the project forward with our State, Local, and Federal partners. Based on MTA's projected ridership, investment in the Red Line will connect thousands of Marylanders to essential services such as grocery stores, medical facilities, and educational opportunities as well as access to employment opportunities and entertainment. This is a generational opportunity to link communities and create a more connected transit system.





Both the technical and public engagement findings support Light Rail Transit (LRT) as the preferred mode for the Baltimore Red Line Project! Watch the Logo reveal trailer at youtube.com/watch?v=lcljaGxnbvU.

Community engagement is key to the success of any project. I'm delighted that more than 200 community members throughout the Red Line corridor expressed interest in joining the Community Advisory Team—a group that will help inform our engagement efforts moving forward. The CAT will bring voices and perspectives from the full range of groups and neighborhoods living, working, and investing along the Red Line transit corridor. We announced the selected members in May and held our first meeting in mid-June. Visit redlinemaryland/cat to learn more about the members.

MTA is excited to announce the relaunch of the Red Line High School Internship Program, commencing this summer as a pilot program at Edmondson-Westside High School. The aim of the Intern



Program is to engage students residing and studying within the Red Line corridor, providing them with insights into the Red Line Transit Project and exposing them to careers within the transportation industry.



A Look Into The Future

We know how challenging it can be to imagine what a modern Red Line could look like in our communities. Our team created some conceptual renderings of what the Red Line may look like once complete. While these images are for visualization purposes only, we think they help spark the conversation around how the project can best meet the needs of our communities. We'll continue to refine the design and features based on your input and technical analysis. Check out <u>redlinemaryland.com</u> for additional renderings.







People of the Red Line



Della R. Moore, Ph.D., CE Red Line Environmental Manager

Della began her engineering career as a Civil and

Environmental Engineer with Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR), including several years serving as its Western Regional Engineer and Critical Maintenance Engineer, where much of her work concentrated on rehabilitations, capital projects, renovations, and revitalizations throughout Washington, Allegany, and Garrett counties. Later, she entered the private sector, working on DC Water's stormwater management projects, Virginia Department of Transportation Highway systems projects, and as a member of the (previous) Baltimore Red Line Rail Transit Design Team, before joining the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to serve as its Division Environmental Officer. Read Della's full bio at redlinemaryland.com/ project-team.



Ken Melton, APR Red Line Director of Communications and Engagement

Ken's professional career spans more than 20 years, including time spent serving in both military and civilian roles. Following a 12 year tenure in the United States Marine Corps as a Public Affairs Specialist, where he honed a diverse set of communications skills, he worked for the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service as an Internal Communications Manager and as a Communication Specialist for the USDA's Farmer's Market, Science and Technology, IT, and Livestock and Poultry programs. Prior to joining the Red Line Project Team, Ken spent several years as the Communications Strategist for the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, where he successfully guided executive and senior leadership teams through various communications challenges; a position that honored his unwavering commitment to effective and impactful communication. Read Ken's full bio at redlinemaryland.com/project-team.





Did You Know?

Myth: Nobody rides the existing transit, so we don't need the Red Line!

Fact: More than 300,000 daily trips are taken across MTA's entire bus and rail system. In addition, one in every three Baltimore households do not have access to a car. Public transportation is a primary means to accessing jobs, healthcare and necessary amenities. The proposed Red Line corridor is one of the Baltimore region's highest-ridership corridors. Based on current estimates, the proposed Red Line light rail would attract between 28,500 and 35,500 trips every day.



Staying Engaged

This summer you can find the Red Line team at fairs, festivals, and events in your community. Please be sure to check out the **Staying Engaged redlinemaryland.com/staying-engaged** section of the website and our social media channels to find out where you can catch us out and about. If there are events or community happenings that you'd like us to be a part of, or if you have any questions, please reach out to the team at **outreach@redlinemaryland.com**.

Property Access Notification

As part of advancing the Baltimore Red Line and to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), MTA will conduct field work on some properties along the project corridor. This process will gather information about the location of underground utilities, property boundaries, environmental features, and other features that may affect design without disturbing or altering properties. If you live along the Red Line corridor you may receive a letter informing you of this work.

I have more questions. Who can I ask? Email us at <u>outreach@redlinemaryland.com</u> or call 443-475-0687.

Future of Transit

Our youth today are the Red Line transit riders of tomorrow! We hope to see our own kids riding it in the future. It's never too early to get involved with the future of the project and we encourage youth to attend open houses and community events. No matter what your age, coloring can be a relaxing and calming activity. Here's a coloring page for all to enjoy. Visit redlinemaryland.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/red-line-coloring-page.pdf to download the image from our website!





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