RED LINE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2026

Director's Corner

Director Caitlin Tobin

The Red Line had a busy summer. Our team connected with more than 4,000 community members sharing information about the three mode options for delivering the project, answering your questions, promoting our survey, and gathering valuable community input. Thank you to everyone who participated and those who took the time to complete our survey. We will share further details on the survey results and the outcomes of our outreach efforts overall later this fall.

I want to extend my best wishes to Holly Arnold, our former MTA Administrator, as she begins her next chapter. During her 13 years with MTA, including five years as Administrator, Holly served the agency with dedication and helped advance important transit initiatives across the region. We are grateful for her leadership and contributions and wish her well on her new journey.

Please join me in welcoming Tony Bridges as he begins his role as the new MTA Administrator this fall. A native of Baltimore, Tony was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates from 2019-2023, an assistant secretary for MDOT from 2023-2025, and most recently, deputy legislative officer to Governor Wes Moore in 2025-2026. The Red Line project team looks forward to working with Tony to move transit forward and bring the Red Line to completion.

Finally, congratulations to our high school and college interns for completing the Red Line High School Internship program, including the capstone project that focused on station area planning from the youth's perspective. We wish you all the best in the upcoming school year!

Community Advisory Team (CAT) Update

The Red Line project has hosted regular CAT meetings during our spring/summer engagement period, bringing together community representatives, project designers, engineers, and agency leadership to discuss project updates, provide feedback, and help guide project direction.

Topics discussed during CAT meetings included:

- Agency investments in West Baltimore,
- Legislative session coordination,
- Designing a nationally leading Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system,
- Engagement activities and community feedback findings, and
- Planning and priorities for a Peer City Tour of BRT systems and infrastructure.

To further broaden neighborhood representation, the project also welcomed five new CAT members from communities along the corridor during this time, representing Woodlawn, the Edmondson Corridor, Jonestown, Little Italy and Upper Fells.

In the Community

Summer Outreach Recap

This summer, project staff were hard at work talking with community members about the Red Line at almost 60 meetings and events along the 14-mile project corridor. We talked with all types of Baltimore area residents, including transit users, farmer's market patrons, bus operators, Orioles fans, community event attendees, community association members, and more.

We handed out project information, encouraged the public to fill out the Red Line survey, answered questions, and addressed concerns from community members. Our project engineers, planners, and designers continue to use the community feedback we gather to shape the future of the Red Line.

Our team heard questions about when the project will be completed, how much it will cost, and how the Red Line will connect to existing forms of transit and transportation. Thank you to everyone who asked us questions, shared comments, or stopped by our outreach tables!

Here are just a few of the places we visited:

- Savemart Supermarket in Bayview
- The St. Nicholas Greek Folk Festival in Greektown
- The Security Woodlawn Business Association Juneteenth Picnic in Woodlawn
- AFRAM in Druid Hill Park
- A Family Sunday Oriole's game at Camden Yards
- Edmondson Village
- Pratt St. and Light St.
- West Baltimore MARC Station
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Farmer's Market
- Charles Center Station
- Southwest Partnership's Summer Jam at the Poppleton Recreation Center
- Cooks Lane
- Security Blvd.
- The Woodlawn Community Appreciation Day and Cookout in Woodlawn

Red Line High School Internship Program Graduation

Congratulations to this summer's Red Line interns on completing the program!

Over six weeks, eight high school interns and two college assistants learned directly from Red Line team members about different aspects of planning, engineering, community engagement, transit operations, and other transportation careers. A major component of the internship was the capstone project which focused on station-area planning from a youth perspective, reimagining the Red Line Open House materials, and social media storytelling. At the end of the program, the students presented their work and participated in a graduation ceremony where they showcased their capstone work to family, school staff, program alumni, and members of the Red Line team.

While the students gained exposure to transportation planning and engineering, the Red Line team also had an opportunity to hear directly from young people who live and attend school along the corridor. Their unique perspectives help us think differently about how we plan, communicate, and engage around the project.

We wish them continued success in school, work, and beyond.

Back-to-School Drives

The project team was out in the community in August and September to celebrate and support Back-to-School events! Our team attended several events and provided school supplies to hundreds of students and families across the project area.

Did You Know?

October is Pedestrian Safety Month! Did you know that Marylanders complete an estimated 2.1 million walking trips each day, according to MDOT? While MTA makes getting around cities using transit quick and easy, sometimes walking is required to get to your destination. Here are a few safety tips:

- **Stay Alert:** Take off the headphones and put away your mobile phone while walking near active transit platforms and roadways.
- **Use Sidewalks and Designated Crossings:** Stick to walkways and sidewalks, and always cross tracks or busy corridors at designated public crossings. If none are available, face oncoming traffic and wear reflective or bright clothing.
- **Obey Signals:** Wait for the pedestrian "Walk" signal and never begin to cross with a flashing or steady "Don't Walk" indicator.
- **Look, Look:** Look both ways and over your shoulder for turning vehicles before crossing the street.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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