

Message from the Secretary of Transportation:

“The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) is responsible for building, operating, and maintaining a safe and seamless transportation network that links Maryland both internally, and with the rest of the country and the world. To accomplish this, the [2009 Maryland Transportation Plan](#) establishes a 20-year vision through Statewide goals and objectives that address all methods of transportation and respond to critical issues such as:

- How MDOT can best serve Maryland's residents, businesses, and visitors;
- Safety, which is the State’s highest commitment to its customers;
- Maintenance and preservation of our transportation infrastructure;
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and a coordinated response to climate change; and
- Providing mobility choices for the efficient movement of people and goods.

MDOT must keep up with increasing demand for the movement of people and freight by wisely investing precious tax dollars. Accordingly, the Department will be held to a high level of accountability through a performance measurement process that reports on how well the goals and objectives of this Plan are being met.

The 2009 Maryland Transportation Plan is the result of extensive outreach and coordination with State agencies, local jurisdictions, and the public. The Plan reflects the priorities of the people of Maryland and has the support of many partners whose collective efforts will be needed to fully realize the Plan's vision for transportation. MDOT is committed to deliver on the promise of this Plan.” (page 1)

Objective: Provide Balanced, Seamless, and Accessible Multimodal Transportation Options for People and Goods

“Traveling in Maryland is a daily necessity and should be convenient and uncomplicated for as many people as possible. MDOT strives to provide travel options for passengers and goods that are easy to access, use, pay for, and understand.

MDOT provides a range of transportation options across transit, highway, air, marine, and non-motorized travel methods. MDOT’s objective is to provide balance among those options, such that residents, visitors, and businesses have choices available for as many trips or shipments as possible. The ability for travelers to access BWI Marshall Airport by automobile, regional transit, and intercity rail provides a model for how to provide options to travelers.

Balance also means considering all options when making transportation investment decisions. MDOT is working with private railroads and Federal partners to identify potential improvements to the freight rail system in Maryland. The Howard Street Tunnel in Baltimore is a key

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chokepoint that limits the ability to move intermodal containers by rail through Maryland. Intermodal containers are one of the fastest growing segments of international shipping. Investing in the private rail system may be appropriate if there are significant benefits to the residents and business of Maryland in the form of reduced truck traffic on the highway system or economic growth in the State.

MDOT will continue working to integrate services across travel methods and identify the most cost-effective transportation investments to provide a balanced transportation system for the future.” (page 29)

Future Strategies:

“MTA and MDOT are working to ensure that new development activity as a result of BRAC incorporates high density and pedestrian elements, and is transit-friendly.” (page 20)

Future Strategies:

“MDOT will continue to implement the 20-Year Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Master Plan, in conjunction with SHA and local jurisdictions.” (page 29)