

WHEREAS, Maryland has statewide transit funding needs that should be addressed using a statewide approach that is equitable for all regions; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) The Maryland Department of Transportation shall provide an analysis of operating and capital funding needs for transit in the State over a twenty year horizon. The analysis shall include a comprehensive, financially unconstrained review of potential needs. Projections should provide detail on operating and capital assumptions, including baseline growth, system preservation, service expansion, and system expansion including all new transit projects currently under study. To the extent practical, the analysis shall consider previous studies or approved service expansion plans for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), Maryland Transit Administration services (Metro, Light Rail, Bus, Commuter Bus, and MARC), and locally operated transit systems.

(b) The Maryland Department of Transportation shall conduct a review of how transit services are funded across the country and in select cities outside the United States with large transit systems. The review should providing a list of revenue sources used, examples of the mix of sources applied, and other detailed information helpful to considering transit funding strategies. This review should consider state, regional, and local approaches to funding transit systems, including capital expansion projects. The study may discuss the policy considerations of potential revenue sources not currently used in Maryland.

(c) The Maryland Department of Transportation shall identify State funding strategies to take advantage of potential new federal funding for WMATA that could be authorized by pending federal legislation.

(d) (1) There is a Transit Funding Study Steering Committee.

(2) The Steering Committee shall meet periodically to provide guidance and direction to the Maryland Department of Transportation in conducting the studies and analysis required under this section.

(3) The Steering Committee shall consist of the following members:

(i) Three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(ii) Three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(iii) The Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

and

(iv) The Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee.