



Maryland Department of Transportation
The Secretary's Office

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Pete K. Rahn
Secretary

September 16, 2015

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland
State House
Annapolis MD 21401-1991

Dear Governor Hogan:

The State Coordinating Committee for Human Services Transportation (the Committee) was established by Executive Order in 1997. The Governor's Executive Order 01.01.2010.10 expanded the membership and added a requirement for the Committee to provide an annual update to the Governor's Office on the Committee's progress. Specifically, the Executive Order directs that the Committee:

- "1. Examine the transportation needs of citizens who are elderly, who have disabilities, and individuals requiring transportation to access jobs, medical and health appointments, senior citizens programs and other programs requiring the transportation of individuals who qualify as transportation disadvantaged.*
- 2. Coordinate Maryland's efforts to provide quality human services transportation services by working with appropriate federal, State and local agencies, transit customers and transportation providers to develop a cooperative, coordinated human services transportation system;*
- 3. Devise a five-year human services transportation plan, which sets goals and objectives to help transportation disadvantaged citizens access jobs, education and training programs, healthcare services and other activities by providing cost-effective, affordable, high capacity, high quality, easily understood, safe and accessible transportation; and*
- 4. Serve as the clearinghouse for human services transportation coordination issues throughout the State of Maryland, identify and facilitate a resolution to local and statewide issues regarding human services transportation, participate in the identification of possible allocations of human services transportation resources during emergency evacuations, evaluate cost-savings measures, investigate the need for the establishment of standards for vehicles and drivers within the human services transportation program, and examine other appropriate areas that facilitate the development of a quality human services transportation system in Maryland."*

Since the Committee's September 2014 update submission, the group met twice as a full committee and various other meetings took place regarding the ongoing special projects outlined below. In January 2014, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) took over as lead agency for the Committee. Ms. Beth Kreider, Director, Office of Local Transit Support (OLTS), was appointed chairperson and staffs the Committee. At that time, the Committee decided to hold meetings on a quarterly basis and/or on an as needed basis when circumstances dictate.

Members of the Committee consist of requested representation from the following agencies per the Executive Order: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA), Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDoD), Maryland Department of Aging (MDoA), Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Department of Human Resources, Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council, and the Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

In the past year, the Committee has undertaken the following activities:

Created Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) Sub-Committee

- A Sub-Committee was created in January 2015. This Sub-Committee plays a significant role in the determination of funding received through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program for the private non-profit corporations that provide human services transportation.
- The Sub-Committee members received copies of all applications on Friday, March 27, 2015. They were then tasked with reviewing and scoring each application according to the established scoring criteria. The Sub-Committee met on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 to discuss, compile final scores, and rank each project in funding eligibility order. A final list of grantees was developed, and the applicants were notified of their award amount.
- Under the new Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) regulations, the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program provides funding for the activities previously authorized under two separate grant programs: the 5310 Program and the New Freedom Program. Projects under these programs include public transportation capital projects planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of seniors and people with disabilities when public transportation is insufficient, unavailable, or inappropriate. Public transportation projects that exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and alternatives to public transportation that assist people with disabilities with transportation.

Updating the Regional Coordinated Plans

- MAP-21 legislation continues the focus on coordinated transportation planning requirements for projects and services funded through the FTA's Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program. The KFH Group assisted the MTA and the Committee in 2015 to update the regional Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plans originally developed in 2007 and initially updated in 2010.

- The process began with hosting half-day regional workshops across the State where the current plans were reviewed. The unmet transportation needs and transportation services were discussed and updated. A review of the current demographic analysis was also conducted. Follow-up meetings were scheduled, and strategies and projects were discussed and agreed upon. These projects and strategies were included in the updated plans.
- The plans are currently in preliminary draft format and are anticipated to be completed by October 2015. These plans are developed to be “living” documents and may be reviewed and updated at any time. FTA legislation stipulates that the plans will be reviewed at least every five years.

Looking Ahead

As Committee Chair, Ms. Kreider will continue to focus on the initiatives outlined above as well as new projects for the year ahead. These include developing a five-year human services transportation plan that will establish goals and objectives for the committee.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the work of the Committee, please feel free to contact Ms. Beth Kreider at 410.767.3433 or by email EKreider@mta.maryland.gov. Of course, you may always contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pete K. Rahn', written over a white background.

Pete K. Rahn
Secretary

cc: Mr. Paul Comfort, MTA Administrator
Ms. Beth Kreider, Director, Office of Local Transit Support
Members of the State Coordinating Committee for Human Services Transportation