

# Maryland Department of Transportation The Secretary's Office

Larry Hogan Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford Lt. Governor

Pete K. Rahn Secretary

August 15, 2017

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

### Dear Governor Hogan:

The State Coordinating Committee for Human Services Transportation (Committee) was established in 1997 by Executive Order. 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."

The Honorable Larry Hogan Page Two

Since submitting the September 2016 update, the full Committee met four times, and various other meetings took place on the ongoing special projects in the attached report.

If you have further questions or concerns regarding the work of the Committee, please feel free to contact Mr. Kevin B. Quinn, Jr., Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration, (MDOT MTA) Acting Administrator, at 410-767-3943. Of course, you may always contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Pete K. Rahn Secretary

cc: Mr. Kevin B. Quinn, Jr., Administrator, MDOT MTA

Members of the State Coordinating Committee for Human Services Transportation

Ms. Sarah Albert, Mandated Reports Specialist, DLS (MSAR 8881)

A Report to the Governor
regarding
The State Coordinating Committee for Human Services Transportation (Executive Order 01.01.2010.10)
The Maryland Department of Transportation
September 2017
September 2017

#### **Introduction**

This report was prepared in response to Executive Order 01.01.2010.10 established in 1997 that states the State Coordinating Committee for Human Service Transportation (Committee) shall provide an annual report to the Governor by September 1st of each year outlining its progress. Specifically, the Executive Order directs 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.

This year's quarterly meetings featured discussions on various topics including presentations from several keynote speakers relating to Human Service Transportation. Topics discussed over the last year centered on how to more effectively remove transportation barriers across the various State jurisdictions, and how to better use transportation funding from each of the member organizations more effectively, especially as it relates to Non-Emergency Medical Transportation.

Members of the Committee consist of representation from the following agencies pursuant to the Executive Order: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA), Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transportation Authority (MDOT 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.

## **Committee Business:**

#### **Human Service Providers (HSP) Grant Funding**

- A sub-committee of the 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 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) for the private non-profit corporations that provide human services transportation.
- The sub-committee recommended and MDOT MTA awarded approximately \$6.25 million in Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) funding to 45 private non-profit organizations/Human Services Providers (HSP) in the State of Maryland. Requests totaling approximately \$9.8 million were made by various organizations.
- The MDOT MTA Senior Rides Program (SRP) awarded \$187,000 to eight (8) private non-profit HSP organizations for FY 2018. The requested grant amount was \$330,000.
- The awards are determined on a competitive scoring basis for both programs.

#### **Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM)**

- The Transportation Association of Maryland, Inc. (TAM) is a Statewide professional Association that is dedicated to improving mobility for all Maryland citizens. TAM is a viable and effective advocate for its members and provides professional development, training, and forums for the pursuit of excellence in public transportation by public, private, and specialized transportation providers. One of TAM's goals this year is to increase their HSP membership.
- The MDOT MTA will conduct a mandatory training session for all providers receiving Section 5310 funding thru the MDOT MTA during the annual TAM Expo being held in Ocean City, MD in September 2017. This training will center on federal procurement procedures and maintenance requirements. This is the second year this training will be provided at no cost.
- The Committee supports these outreach activities of TAM to help develop additional opportunities in 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.

#### **Looking Ahead:**

The KFH Group was contracted by the MDOT MTA to continue to work on the update of the Committee's Five-Year Human Services Transportation Plan. The Committee has been asked to "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."

#### **Produce Draft Five-Year Plan and Make Appropriate Presentations**

A draft Five-Year Plan is currently with the Committee for review and the final plan is expected by December 2017. The final plan will include:

- 1. An updated inventory of Maryland Human Service Transportation Programs and Services:
- 2. A compilation of information and data from Regional Coordinated Transportation Plans and other relevant plans and studies; and a
- 3. A listing of future opportunities and recommendations for inclusion in later versions of the plan.

In consultation with the Committee, the draft Five-Year Plan will be presented to appropriate decision-makers and groups. The objective of these presentations is to obtain buy-in and policy adoption. This will be an important step in the update of the Five-Year Plan, as the Committee will need to determine the level within State government at which the plan will be reviewed and adopted.