

WEST BALTIMORE UNITED: A PLAN TO RECONNECT COMMUNITIES



West Baltimore United

Stakeholder Workgroup
Meeting #4
October 22, 2024



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Today's Agenda

- RCP Grant application
- Group discussion
- Next steps



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Reconnecting Communities Pilot
Project Narrative

West Baltimore United Construction

PHASE 1

Reconnecting communities impacted by US 40
For a thriving West Baltimore

September 2024



West Baltimore United Phase 1 RCP Application

\$ 200M project budget:

\$100M	RCP funding request
\$60M	Other federal match
\$40M	Local match



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Deconstruction of Ramps Over MLK Jr Blvd



- The Project will deconstruct the existing entry and exit ramps on the eastern terminus of US 40.
- “Daylights” MLK and will create greater connectivity between West Baltimore and Downtown.
- Unlocks potential for transit-oriented development (TOD) at eastern edge of highway corridor and new Red Line Station near MLK.

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Highway Cap

- The Project will construct an initial cap over US 40, spanning a single block in the center of the Project area.
- The surface level of the cap will include:
 - Public park or plaza
 - Pedestrian walkways,
 - Landscaping and public art
 - Entry to the planned Red Line light rail station.
- Potential for new mixed-use development along a portion of the Franklin St. greenway



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Additional Key Elements

- Complete Streets and Safety Improvements
- Engineering Design and NEPA
- Community Benefits Package

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Community Feedback and Grant Application Incorporation

Feedback Categories	Incorporation in the Grant Application
Using the project as a catalyst to create new development opportunities	The grant application begins to catalyze change through the proposed design and construction of the cap, pedestrian safety improvements, traffic calming measures, and other Community Benefits which will make way for new development opportunities, additional community green space, and neighborhood beautification as well as creating the foundation for future phases of the project.
Commemorating and honoring the history of the communities of West Baltimore	The grant application includes specific features to be added to the single block cap including interpretive markers and public art that commemorates the story of West Baltimore.
Inclusion of eastern sections of the Project Area into the project discussion- specifically the roadways and communities adjacent to MLK Jr Blvd.	The grant application directly incorporates this feedback by including the deconstruction of the ramps over MLK. In addition, Complete Streets and safety improvements will be incorporated at any impacted intersections.

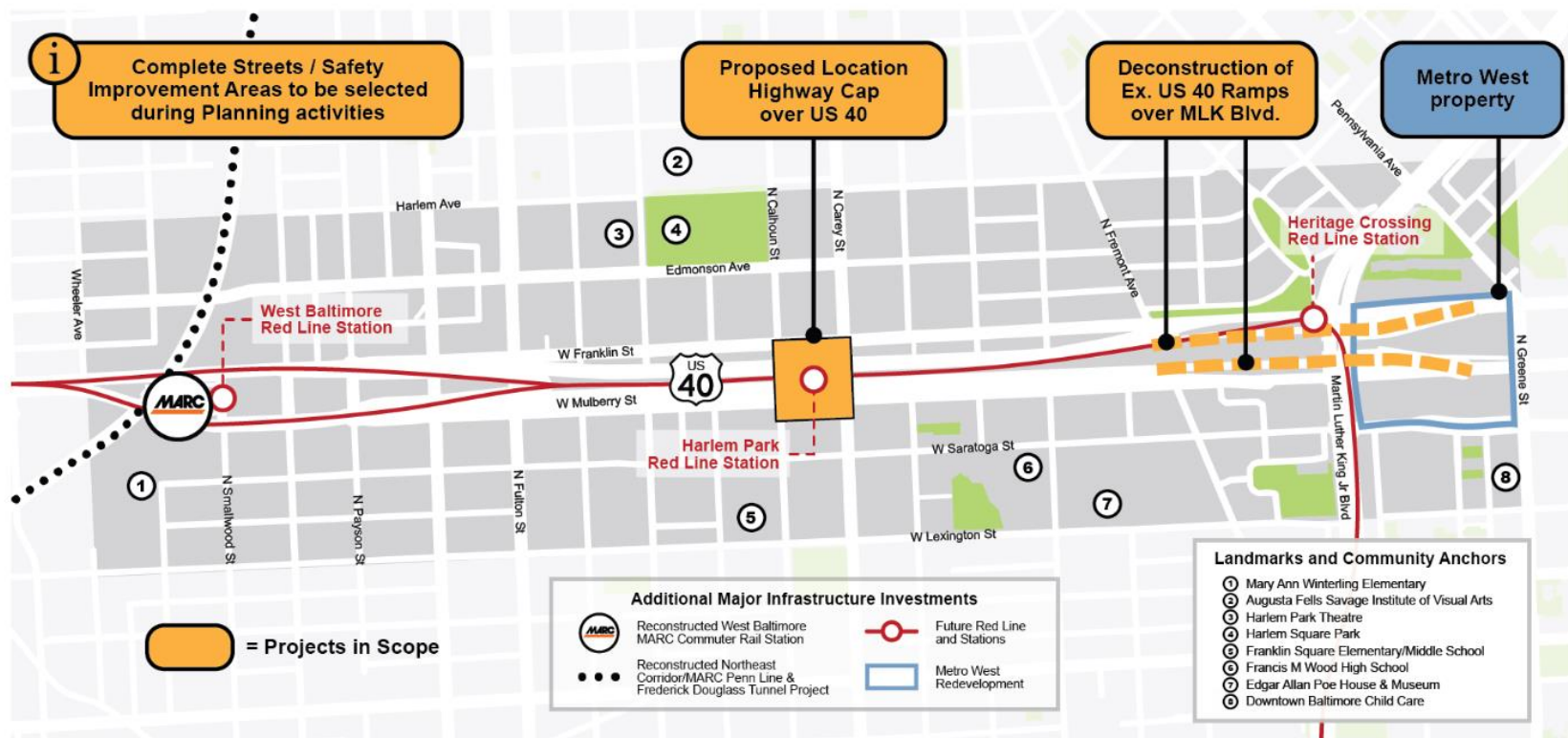
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Community Feedback and Grant Application Incorporation

Feedback Categories	Incorporation in the Grant Application
A desire to revitalize the community and provide direct community benefits.	Single-block cap; streetscaping and beautification; tree planting and beautification; pedestrian level lighting, street art and furniture installation, and additional wayfinding.
Improving Transit Capacity and Accessibility	One-block cap and gateway to Red Line station; complete streets elements; access to the West Baltimore MARC Station and several MTA bus stops.
Improve multimodal transportation safety for pedestrian, cyclists, and vehicles	The grant application directly incorporates this feedback by including Complete Streets improvements to address pedestrian, cyclists, and vehicle traffic safety.

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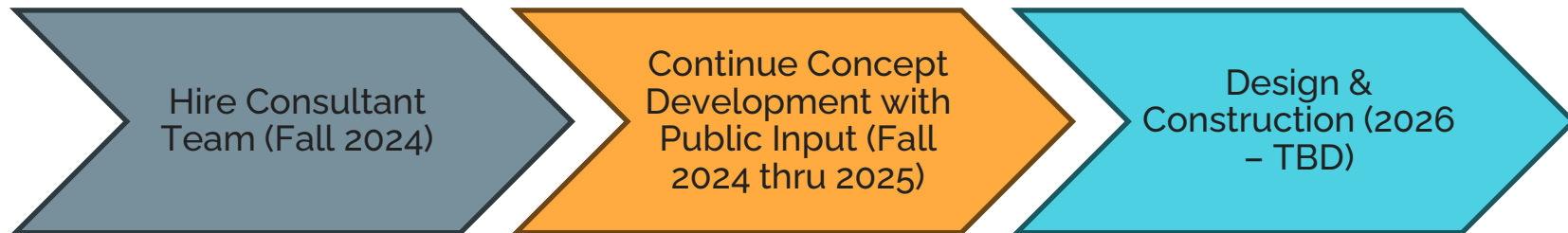
Discussion



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Next Steps



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THANKS & STAY CONNECTED

- Visit the project website and subscribe for project updates :
StreetsOfBaltimore.com/Reconnecting-Communities-In-West-Baltimore
- Share your thoughts or ask a question by e-mailing:
westbaltimoreunited@baltimorecity.gov
- Call: **410-396-6802**
- We post all of our upcoming meetings on the main DOT website
Transportation.BaltimoreCity.gov/upcoming-public-meetings
- Follow us on Social media at [@BmoreCityDOT](https://twitter.com/BmoreCityDOT)

