

■ 2.0 Overview of Transportation Planning Agencies

Maryland offers its citizens a range of modal choices, with MDOT retaining responsibility for capital investments as well as operating and planning activities that reach across all modes of transportation. The Transportation Secretary's Office (TSO) establishes transportation policy and oversees five Transportation Business Units: the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA), the Maryland Port Administration (MPA), the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA), and the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). To ensure close coordination of State transportation policy, the Secretary of Transportation also serves as Chairman of the Maryland Transportation Authority, an independent State agency responsible for Maryland's eight toll facilities and for financing new revenue producing projects.

Federal highway and transit statutes require, as a condition for spending Federal highway or transit funds in urbanized areas, the designation of MPOs. MPOs are responsible for planning, programming, and coordinating Federal highway and transit investments. The MPO decision-makers include local elected officials, state DOTs, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)/Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Maryland's metropolitan areas are divided into the following seven MPOs, with some boundaries extending into neighboring states including Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia:

- Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB);
- Calvert - St. Mary's Metropolitan Planning Organization (C-SMMPO);
- Cumberland Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO);
- Hagerstown-Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization (HEPMPO);
- National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB);
- Salisbury/Wicomico Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (S/WMPO); and
- Wilmington Metropolitan Planning and Coordinating Council (WILMAPCO).

Figure 2.1 illustrates the jurisdictions of Maryland's MPOs.

Figure 2.1 Maryland's Metropolitan Boundaries

