

Howard County Office of Transportation

5/5/2026



Office of Transportation

Regional and Comprehensive Planning

- Managing Planning Studies
- MDOT & SHA Corridor Studies, Priority Projects
- Roadway Safety Plan & Monitoring Coordination
- Transportation Demand Management

Transit Service, Administration and Oversight

- Oversee Service Management Contract
- RTA Service monitoring and improvement
- Grant Administration and Reporting
- Jurisdictional Partners Coordination

Bike and Pedestrian Program

- Development and Implementation of Functional Masterplans
- Community Engagement on Planning Projects
- Capital Project Coordination



Accomplishments of FY 2026

Planning

- Grant award for the first Howard County Safe Routes to School Coordinator
- Designated Elkridge as a MDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Area
- Initiated BikeHoward update
- Initiated transportation master plan
- Initiated update up to DTC Transit Center study
- Initiated study on conversion of RTA fleet to clean fuel Zero Emission

Infrastructure

- Completed six miles of new bike lanes
- Completed bike lane projects on Old Columbia Road, Guilford Road, Eden Brook Drive and Phelps Luck Drive
- Completed Route 1 Safety Projects at Doctor Patel Drive and Rowanberry Drive
- US 29 Flash Stops-Design/**Construction**
- 50+bus stop upgrades completed
- Started implementation of US 1 Safe Streets for All Project

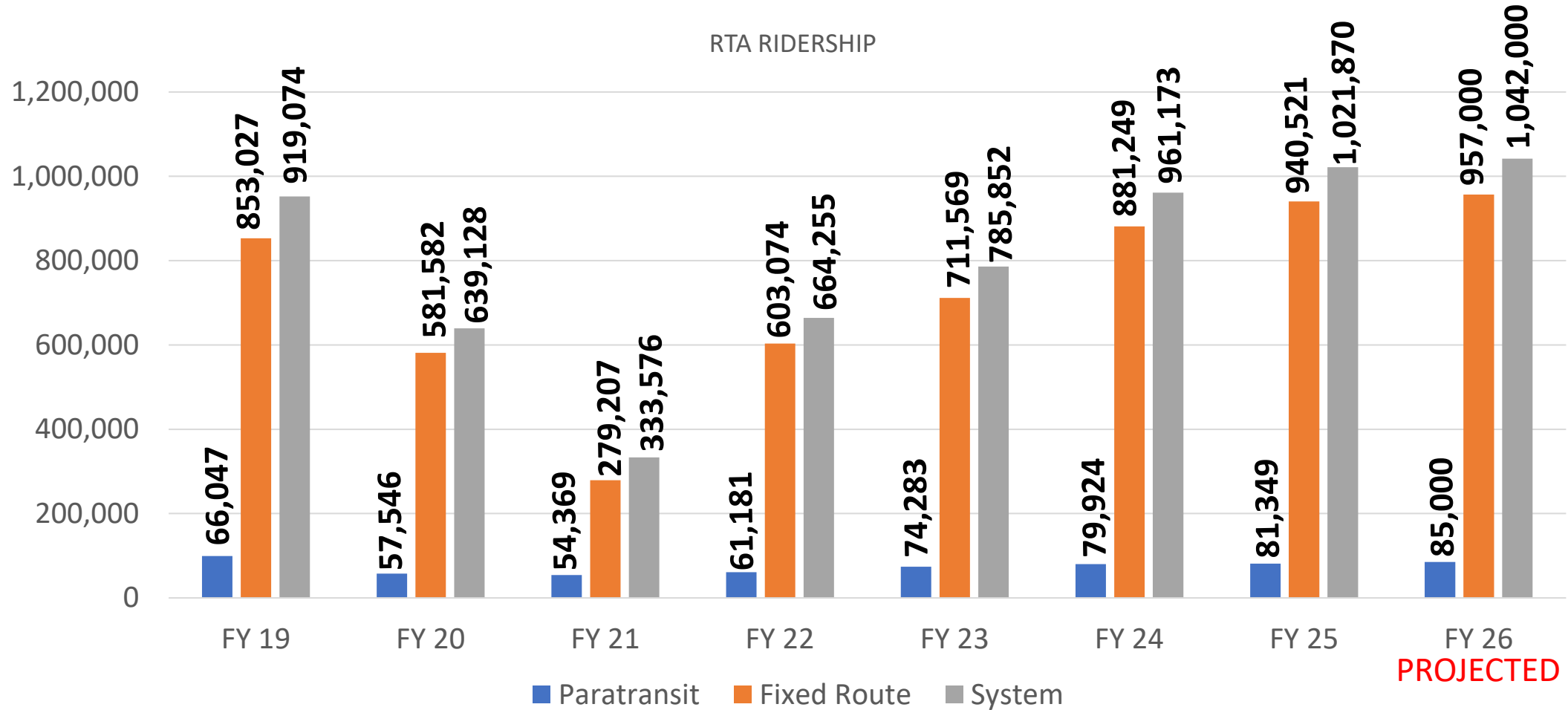
Operations

- Continued operating HoCo RapidRide - US 1 Micro-Transit Pilot Program, providing more than 20K trips in first year of operation
- Continued operating Old Ellicott City Trolley providing almost 4k trips
- Achieved and maintained an on-time fixed-route performance of 85% to support ridership growth
- Will meet goal to reach 1 million riders for second year in a row

Action Plan for FY 2027

- Plan and implement RTA Route 409 extension to Landsdowne
- Plan and implement US 29 Flash service to Columbia
- Continue to bring bus stops up to ADA standards and to improve the passenger experience
- Improve the bus hub at the Mall in Columbia
- Continue to improve fleet as capital grant funds become available
- Monitor the success of HoCo RapidRide to determine future service expansions
- Continue Countywide Transportation Master Plan and Bike Howard update
- Initiate construction of Dobbin Road pathway, South Entrance Trail & Patuxent Branch Trail projects
- Complete streets improvements on Tamar Drive and Harpers Farm Road
- Implement SS4A US 1 Project
- Implement the Bike Wayfinding project
- Continue partnership with HCPSS including new Safe Routes to School coordinator

FY 2026 Ridership



Fleet Reliability

| Vehicle Types | Vehicle Replacements Ordered, Received, and Planned | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|-----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|
| | FY 20 | FY 21 | FY 22 | FY 23 | FY 24 | FY 25 | FY 26* | FY 27 | FY 28 |
| Heavy and medium-duty buses | 8 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Light-duty cutaways | 0 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Sedans | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Vans | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 12 | 5 | 11 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 5 |
| * current year | Ordered and received | | | Ordered but not received | | | To be ordered | | |

43 vehicles have been added to the fleet or replaced since FY 20.

Five-Year Transit Plan

| FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 | FY 2027 | FY 2028 |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realignment of Route 405 • New Route 505 (Catonsville) • Extend Route 409 to Lansdowne | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Route – Columbia to HoCo BOE/Homewood /ARL (Connection to Clarksville (Phase 1)) • Microtransit Pilot along US 1 Corridor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend Route 501 to BWI area • New Route - Columbia-Elkridge • FLASH BRT Extension along US 29 to Downtown Columbia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Route - Columbia/Laurel to Ft. Meade • Extend Route between Columbia-HoCo/BOE /Homewood/ARL to Clarksville (Phase 2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Route – Laurel to Bowie • New Route - Columbia to Maple Lawn/Johns Hopkins APL |

RTA Route 409 Extension (Lansdowne)

- This extension provides a more direct connection to MTA MARC service at Halethorpe and MTA Local Link service for easier access to the greater Baltimore area.
- Improves connections along the US 1 corridor.



US 29 Flash Extension



- Fall 2026 Service
- Limited stop designed for faster, more reliable travel
- Enhanced stations
- Supports regional connectivity

