

# MARC Penn-Camden Connection

## Baltimore, Maryland

(November 2002)

### Description

The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) has proposed construction of a six-mile rail line to connect two of the Maryland Commuter Rail (MARC) lines, the Camden and Penn Lines, in southwest Baltimore. The Penn Line also serves the Amtrak Northeast Corridor. The Penn-Camden Connection will provide many operational benefits to the MARC system. These include: the opportunity to remove trains from the congested Camden line for reverse peak movements; access to the planned MARC maintenance facility to be located along the connection; and increased operating flexibility on both commuter rail lines, allowing redirection of MARC service during periods of CSX freight operations.

The Penn-Camden Connection is one of four MARC system improvements being undertaken by MTA. The project is estimated to cost \$30.8 million in escalated dollars, with a proposed Section 5309 New Starts share of \$12.4 million. Because the proposed New Starts share is less than \$25 million, the project is exempt from the New Starts criteria, and is thus not subject to FTA's evaluation and rating (49 USC 5309(e)(8)(A)).

<b>Summary Description</b>	
<b>Proposed Project:</b>	Commuter Rail Improvement
<b>Total Capital Cost (\$YOE):</b>	\$30.8 Million
<b>Section 5309 New Starts Share (\$YOE):</b>	\$12.4 Million (40%)
<b>Annual Operating Cost:</b>	N/A

### Status

FTA issued a Finding of No Significant Impact in October 1999. The project is currently in Final Design.

TEA-21 Section 3030(a)(41) authorizes the "MARC – Commuter Rail Improvements" for Final Design and Construction. Through FY 2002, Congress has appropriated \$0.8 million in Section 5309 New Starts funds for this effort.

### Locally Proposed Financial Plan

<u>Proposed Source of Funds</u>	<u>Total Funding (million)</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
<b>Federal:</b> Section 5309 New Starts	\$ 12.4	40.3 %
<b>State:</b> Transportation Trust Fund	\$ 18.4	59.7 %
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 30.8</b>	100.0 %

**NOTE:** Funding proposal reflects assumptions made by project sponsors, and are not DOT or FTA assumptions.  
Total may not add due to rounding.

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