

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

RESOLUTION #09-15

**APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN
ADVISORY GROUP**

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, and includes official representatives of the cities of Annapolis and Baltimore, the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard, the Maryland Departments of Transportation, the Environment, and Planning; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board establish a Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Group that is governed by its own set of Bylaws, subject to review and approval by the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board; and

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Group has updated its own set of Bylaws and approved these updated bylaws at its January 7, 2009 meeting as described in Attachment A; a letter supporting the changes can be found as Attachment B and

WHEREAS, the amended Bylaws for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group were presented to the Technical Committee and the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board for consideration at their February meetings; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board approves the amended Bylaws of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region approved the aforementioned resolution at its February 24, 2009 meeting.

Date

Carl Balsler, Chairman
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

BYLAWS OF THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP (BPAG) TO THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

I. MISSION

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group (BPAG) provides advice and assistance to the Technical Committee and is responsible for the update and evaluation of the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The group also provides public information and facilitates technology transfer and information sharing, as it relates to state and local programs.

II. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The BPAG shall advise and assist the Technical Committee and/or Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) on all aspects concerning bicycle and pedestrian issues. The BPAG will brief the Technical Committee as necessary. The BPAG shall consider and make recommendations to the Technical Committee concerning bicycle and pedestrian projects, as well as accommodation of bicycles and pedestrians in relation to other transportation projects, in order to ensure coordination of procedures and standards between local, regional and state planning agencies and the transportation planning process. In addition, BPAG shall consider and make recommendations concerning any other matters referred to it by the Technical Committee.

III. MEMBERSHIP

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group shall be made up of twelve (12) voting members appointed by the members of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board. The BPAG shall be composed as follows: one (1) member from each of the local governing bodies; the City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, City of Baltimore, Carroll County, Harford County, Howard County, one (1) member from the Maryland Department of Transportation, one (1) member from the Maryland Department of the Environment, one (1) member from the Maryland Department of Planning, and one (1) member of the public representing bicycle interests, and one (1) member of the public representing pedestrian interests. The State Highway Administration and Maryland Transit Administration will sit on the advisory group as non-voting members.

The citizen members must have a sincere interest in serving the bicycle and pedestrian communities and must have time to review pertinent materials and attend meetings of the group. The BPAG will recommend appointment to the BRTB after reviewing applications. The citizen members will serve a 2 year term.

IV. TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The BPAG shall hold regular meetings every other month or as deemed necessary by either the members or the BRTB. Meetings will be held at the Baltimore Metropolitan Council office, unless BPAG business requires remote location, and are subject to the Baltimore Metropolitan Council inclement weather policy.

V. OFFICERS

Officers of the BPAG shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and one Secretary. The Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson shall not be a representative of the same agency. Terms of office shall be for one year, from January 1 to December 31. There shall be no term limit; however, the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. If a vacancy occurs in the office of an officer, a successor shall be elected by BPAG members to complete the unexpired term. The election shall be held at a regular meeting of the BPAG.

The BMC staff representative shall be Secretary of the BPAG. The Secretary is a non-voting member of BPAG.

Duties of Officers

The Chairperson of the BPAG shall preside at all meetings, appoint all subcommittees, and shall perform such duties as the BPAG may, from time to time, determine.

The Vice Chairperson shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, and shall assist the Chairperson.

VI. VOTING PROCEDURES

The voting members shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote. A quorum shall consist of one (1) more than half of all voting members. Action shall be moved with one (1) more than half of the quorum; action shall die in the event of a tie.

VII. STAFF

The Director of Transportation Planning of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council shall appoint a staff member as Secretary to the BPAG. The Secretary shall serve as the custodian of all records of the BPAG and shall keep accurate minutes of the meetings of the BPAG. The Secretary shall work in coordination with the Chairperson to develop meeting agendas. The Secretary shall disseminate minutes and agendas of the BPAG meetings to members of the BPAG as well as to non-member jurisdictions, groups and individuals on the BPAG mailing list. The Secretary shall also maintain the official copy of the Bylaws of the BPAG, and shall enter upon such official copy all duly adopted modifications and amendments.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

All meetings of the BPAG shall be open to the public. Regional citizen, transportation, environmental, and other interested advocacy groups will be included on the BPAG mailing list. Groups not on the list may request that the BPAG add them to the list. At the discretion of the BPAG Chairperson, individuals may also be recognized and given the opportunity to speak at BPAG meetings within the allotted time constraints.

IX. AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended pursuant to the following procedures: the approval of one (1) more than half of quorum of members shall be required, and a proposal to amend the Bylaws introduced at a regular meeting of the BPAG shall be recorded in the minutes. These Bylaws shall be reviewed as part of the first meeting of the calendar year.

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ALFRED H. FOXX, Director
417 E. Fayette Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

January 20, 2009

Technical Committee
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAG) would like to expand its voting membership by including citizens who represent pedestrian interests. BPAG would like to take this action due to

- Over-representation of the cycling community currently established on the committee, the current citizen voting member represents cycling interests
- Provide a more well-informed presentation of pedestrian issues
- The desire to include the public more as BPAG improves active transportation throughout the Baltimore Metropolitan area

Recent developments in our region have more segregated bicycle issues from pedestrian issues. From an infrastructure standpoint, bicycles are encouraged to share roadway space with vehicles while pedestrians remain mostly on sidewalks. This segregation has lead bicyclists to address issues such as driver education and added bike lanes. Pedestrian issues have become more focused on sidewalk connectivity, walkable communities and street crossing improvements. Having the added representation of the pedestrian community will enable BPAG to address these issues and provide BRTB will a more-balanced contribution.

BPAG hopes that the BRTB will look favorably upon this request and grant the added voting citizen member representing pedestrian issues.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Nate Evans
BPAG Chairman
Bike & Pedestrian Planner for the City of Baltimore

Visit Our Website@www.baltimorecity.gov