



Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MINUTES OF THE 230th MEETING OF THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD SEPTEMBER 27, 2011 9:00 A.M.

DRAFT

EMPOWERED MEMBERS

Jon Arason, Director
City of Annapolis Department of Planning & Zoning

Diane Franks, Manager, Air Quality Planning Program
Maryland Department of the Environment

Harvey Gold, Senior Transportation Planner
Anne Arundel County Office of Planning & Zoning

Pat Keller, Deputy CAO Statewide Service Development
Maryland Transit Administration

Jamie Kendrick, Deputy Director
Baltimore City Department of Transportation

Tony McClune, Deputy Director (Vice-Chair)
Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning

Mike Nixon (for Don Halligan, Director)
Office of Planning & Capital Programming
Maryland Department of Transportation

Ben Pickar, Acting Chief
Division of Transportation Planning
Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning

Jolene Sullivan, Director
Department of Citizen Services
Carroll County Government

David Whitaker, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Planning
Maryland Department of Planning

OTHERS PRESENT

Kwame Arhin, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Maryland Division
Regina Aris, BMC
Charles Baber, BMC
Jason Biernat, BMC
Dunbar Brooks, BMC
Tyson Byrne, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
John Cutonilli, Citizen
Terry Freeland, BMC
Joan Gorsuch, BMC
Scott Graf, Carroll County
Dami Kehinde, State Highway Administration (SHA)
Mike Kelly, BMC
Todd Lang, BMC
Jackie MacMillan, Baltimore County Planning Department
Alybra Matthews, Student
Birat Pandey, BMC
Alex Rawls, Technical Committee Chair
Michele Rosenberg, CAC Chair
Ted Rosenberg, Citizen
Sara Tomlinson, BMC
Heather Weir, Citizen
Jim Wilkinson, MDE

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 A.M. by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Tony McClune, in the absence of the Chair, Mr. Emery Hines.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A request for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2011 BRTB meeting was made by Mr. McClune. A motion was made by Mr. Jamie Kendrick to approve the minutes and seconded by Mr. Harvey Gold. The minutes were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY: There was no one from the public who wished to discuss transportation issues at this time.

REPORT ON PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ms. Regina Aris referred to a handout – Public Involvement Report – September 2011, and noted that there were no comments received to date on the first draft of the FY 2012 – 2015 TIP. In addition, she said that there were no public comments received as of September 26th on the US 40 (Pulaski Highway) Revitalization Project. Ms. Aris noted the schedule which is posted online for the 6 Public Meetings for *Plan It 2035*, the 2012 – 2015 TIP and accompanying Air Quality Conformity Determination in each of the jurisdictions.

REPORT FROM CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Ms. Michele Rosenberg noted that the CAC met on August 31st with a smaller than usual turnout due to various reasons. Several membership issues were addressed such as term limits and reapplying for membership. Ms. Rosenberg noted that she wrote to the Harford County Executive asking for assistance with nightly transportation into Baltimore City for one of the CAC members. With regard to the Membership Subcommittee, she noted that calls have been made to those members who have not been attending meetings. Those who have not responded to phone calls will be receiving a letter reminding them of the bylaws. Letters have also been sent to those who will be ending membership in 2011 reminding them of the need to reapply if they are interested in continuing on the CAC. A report was made on the Public Involvement Subcommittee and a suggestion was made to use a listserv which would allow people to sign up so they could receive information on hearings, meetings, legislation, etc. The Policy Subcommittee met and the group was analyzing their own methodology of rating project importance. Ms. Rosenberg said that she was not in agreement with having a Public Meeting at the same time as the CAC meeting on October 5th for various reasons. She asked why don't people attend public meetings and the CAC has discussed having conference calls and having meetings in different locations and nothing seems to work. She noted that she had emailed her questions to CSX concerning intermodal facilities but has not heard a reply. She has been sending copies of articles to members relevant to transportation issues, namely, "Baltimore, D.C. Among Nation's Smoggiest Cities." Ms. Rosenberg said that she has asked CAC members to become involved in other transportation issues besides their own meetings. She will be attending Rail-volution 2011 in Washington, DC for three days in October and will be attending several panels and will share the information learned at future CAC meetings.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Mr. Alex Rawls reported on the September 6, 2011 Technical Committee meeting. He noted a recommendation for approval by the TC of Resolution #12-4 which was requested by SHA and was forwarded to the BRTB for approval. He also noted a briefing by Cambridge Systematics examining sources of carbon along the US 40 corridor within Baltimore and Harford counties. The study began with 4 scenarios with a 5th scenario subsequently developed carrying forward policies from each of the initial four scenarios. There was an update on *Plan It 2035* and progress reports were presented on the 2035 Version 4.0 Sensitivity Analysis and an update on bike/pedestrian safety programs. MDOT reminded the TC of annual tours which have been scheduled.

APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2011 – 2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: Mr. Todd Lang introduced Resolution #12-4 in support of an amendment to the FY 2011-2014 TIP for the US 40 Revitalization project. The Maryland Department of Transportation, in conjunction with Baltimore County, received a \$130,000 grant (with \$33,000 in matching funds) under the Federal Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Discretionary Grant Program. The amendment was subject to a 30-day public review period with a public meeting in Baltimore County. Mr. McClune asked for a motion to approve Resolution

#12-4. Mr. Kendrick made a motion for approval and it was seconded by Mr. Mike Nixon. The resolution was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT TO JOIN THE CONSORTIUM PURSUING THE FY 2011 HUD SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT:

Mr. Mike Kelly, BMC, said that we now have a due date of October 6th so, rather than get a resolution from the Technical Committee, he is looking for a full vote from the Board to support this project. He noted that what BMC is applying for is the FY 2011 Federal Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant and these grants call for a large consortium from regions to apply to create a regional plan for sustainable development. He noted that our consortium is seeking to create a plan that is going to help the region better link housing, transportation and workforce development planning efforts. Mr. Kelly mentioned that the consortium has a certain number of required members including the central city and the largest jurisdiction, a regional non-profit (BMC), and the MPO. Last year, the MPO committed money to the program but, this year, BMC is not requesting that. He said that he is looking for a vote of the MPO to participate as a consortium member in this year's application. In response to a question, Mr. Kelly said that BMC is asking for \$5 million and, this year the pool for a region of our size is \$50 million. This year Mr. Kelly feels we are competing against probably 60 regions of our size. Mr. McClune asked for a motion to support this project. Mr. Jon Arason made a motion for approval and it was seconded by Mr. Kendrick. The motion was unanimously approved.

UPDATE ON PLAN IT 2035, THE REGIONAL LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION

PLAN: Mr. Lang stated that the draft Long Range Plan, the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program and the Air Quality Conformity Determination documents are now undergoing a public review period that ends Friday, October 21st. There are a series of six public meetings on these documents, the first of which was last night in Anne Arundel County. The public comments will be reviewed at the October 25th BRTB meeting with approval of these three documents scheduled for the November 14th BRTB meeting. The Executive Summary and the Draft Preferred Alternative was released to the public on September 15th. Subsequently, the entire draft plan, along with the draft TIP and Conformity document, have been posted online and distributed to libraries and planning offices throughout the region. The Long Range Plan documents proposed programming of approximately \$11.5 billion of combined federal, state and local transportation funds. Likewise, the draft TIP documents approximately \$1.6 billion in funding over the next four years. The conformity document which was briefly reviewed by the ICG indicates that the proposed TIP and Plan are under the budgets set forth within the approved SIP. Mr. Lang indicated that some of the displays for the public meetings have been set up in the back of the room. Ms. Aris noted that all of the documents displayed are online.

UPDATE ON POTENTIAL EPA RECLASSIFICATION OF THE BALTIMORE REGION AS SERIOUS NON-ATTAINMENT FOR 8-HOUR OZONE:

Mr. Diane Franks, MDE, presented information to the BRTB on the U.S. EPA's September proposal to "bump-up"

the Baltimore region's air quality nonattainment status for ground-level ozone pollution from "moderate" to "serious." If the reclassification is finalized, the state will be required to submit a revised air quality State Implementation Plan (SIP) to EPA. This plan will have to show how the region plans to reach attainment of the 1997 ozone standard by the new attainment date. EPA has proposed that the state submit this revised SIP by September 30, 2012. She noted that only one air quality monitor is responsible for the region not meeting the federal ozone standard. This monitor is located in Edgewood, and has noticeably higher readings than the next highest monitor. Comments on the Federal Register notice announcing the proposed "bump-up" are due to EPA by October 3, 2011. Ms. Franks also mentioned that EPA guidance states all SIP revisions must use the new mobile source emissions model, called MOVES. MDE is suggesting that the Mobile6.2 model be used to complete the "bump-up" related SIP revision requirements, rather than the new MOVES model. She asked for the BRTB to write a letter to EPA supporting MDE's request to use the Mobile6.2 model to complete the SIP revision requirements. Mr. Ben Pickar motioned to write a letter in support of MDE's request to EPA; Mr. Gold seconded this motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

[Handout: Maryland Department of the Environment Air Quality Update - September 27, 2011 – Baltimore Regional Transportation Board Meeting]

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Lang noted that the Executive Committee approved four administrative modifications in September and three involve fund transfers within areawide programs (congestion, environmental projects and bridge replacement/rehabilitation). Mr. Kendrick asked about funding for West Nursery Road and Mr. Lang responded that the Executive Committee wrote a letter to MDOT requesting the bridge replacement/rehabilitation money remain in the region. Mr. Kendrick also expressed concern with the late approval of the FY 2012 TIP. This will impact next year's construction season. FHWA and BMC will look at the schedule. The fourth involved a scope change for the FY 2012 Anne Arundel County UPWP Subarea B project.

[Handouts: Letter dated 9/19/01 to MDOT (Areawide Bridge Replacement); Letter dated 9/20/11 to MDOT (I-95 Maryland Welcome Center)]

Mr. McClune asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kendrick made a motion to adjourn with Mr. Gold seconding the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd R. Lang, Secretary
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board