



**Baltimore Regional Transportation Board**

*The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region*

## **INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP (ICG)**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2009  
Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
8:30 A.M.**

### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### **Members**

Regina Aris, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)  
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)  
Martin Kotsch, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3  
Theo Ngongang, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Tim Shepherd, MDE  
Howard Simons, MDOT  
Sara Tomlinson, BMC  
Russ Ulrich, BMC  
Jim Wilkinson, MDE

#### **Public**

Matthew deRouville, BMC  
Keith Kucharek, Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA)  
Barb Solberg, SHA

### **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:**

Ms. Regina Aris (BMC) called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

### **APPROVAL OF APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> ICG MEETING MINUTES:**

Ms. Aris asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 1<sup>st</sup> ICG meeting. Mr. Howard Simons (MDOT) asked for one change to the minutes. In the second to last paragraph on page 3, the word "interesting" should be changed to "useful for transportation planning purposes." Mr. Brian Hug (MDE) moved to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Simons seconded the motion. The minutes, as amended, were approved.

### **REPORT ON RECENT MEETINGS:**

#### **Technical Committee**

Ms. Aris reported on the April 7 and May 2, 2009 meetings of the Technical Committee. Highlights of the meetings follow:

- The TC approved the following resolutions:
  - Resolution #09-19 for Transportation Enhancement Program Projects

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MEMBERS: City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Harford County, Howard County, Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland Department of the Environment (Non-Voting), Maryland Department of Planning (Non-Voting)

- Resolution #09-20 Endorsing the Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget
- Resolution #09-21 for approval of the Administrative Modification to the 2008-2012 Baltimore Region Transportation Improvement Program to Include Funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- Resolution #09-22 for approval of the Amendment to the 2008-2012 Baltimore Region Transportation Improvement Program to Include Funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- Resolution #09-23 to amend the 2008-2012 TIP to include a change of scope for Boston Street and additional funds for a transit operations and maintenance facility.
- Resolution #09-24 to Approve I-795 ARDS

### **Baltimore Regional Transportation Board**

Ms. Aris reported on the April 28, 2009 meeting of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board. Highlights of the meeting follow:

- The BRTB approved the following resolutions:
  - Resolution #09-18 for Approval of Applications for Funding through the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Grant Program
  - Resolution #09-19 for Transportation Enhancement Program Projects
  - Resolution #09-20 Endorsing the Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program and Budget
  - Resolution #09-21 for approval of the Administrative Modification to the 2008-2012 Baltimore Region Transportation Improvement Program to Include Funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
  - Resolution #09-22 for approval of the Amendment to the 2008-2012 Baltimore Region Transportation Improvement Program to Include Funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- Mr. Frank Johnson, Carroll County empowered representative for the BRTB, presented a status report on regional transportation vision planning.

### **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING UPDATE:**

#### **a. Conformity Determination of FY 2010 -2013 TIP and *Transportation Outlook 2035***

Ms. Sara Tomlinson distributed copies of two tables showing emissions results for the draft conformity determination of the FY 2010-2013 TIP and *Transportation Outlook 2035*. The horizon years tested for conformity include 2013, 2020, 2030, and 2035. The results show that the implementation of TIP and Plan projects meets the conformity requirements. Emissions are below daily budgets for NOx and VOC (ozone precursors), CO, and yearly budgets for direct PM2.5 and NOx (PM2.5 precursors). These two tables also show emission reductions from projects that have been implemented or are planned for the region; they include ridesharing, bus replacements and bicycle/pedestrian improvements, the CHART program, and advanced truckstop electrification.

The budgets used to determine conformity were the 8-hour ozone RFP SIP budgets, the CO maintenance budget, the PM2.5 SIP budgets (awaiting EPA approval), and the PM2.5 interim emissions test. The interim emissions test was performed by comparing emissions of PM2.5 precursors with 2002 baseline levels.

Mr. Simons (MDOT) requested that reductions from CHART and advanced truckstop electrification be included in the tables for horizon years out to 2035.

Ms. Aris asked for concurrence from ICG on the conformity emissions results. Mr. Hug (MDE) said that MDE's modeling results are consistent with BMC's modeling results. ICG expressed consensus on the results.

***[Handout – TABLE II-9 DRAFT Emissions Results – Ozone and CO Standard (tons/day); TABLE II-10 DRAFT Emissions Results – PM2.5 Standard (tons/year)]***

#### b. BRAC TIP Amendments

Mr. Keith Kucharek from SHA presented information to the ICG on BRAC intersection improvement projects. He discussed 6 intersections improvements planned for Aberdeen Proving Ground and 5 intersection improvements planned for Fort Meade. Some of the intersection projects in Fort Meade fall under the 175 corridor study.

For the APG improvements, there are three intersection improvements planned on MD 22. He described the projects and said that through-capacity is not being added. Also for APG, two intersection improvements are planned on US 40.

After Mr. Kucharek described the projects, Mr. Hug stated that MDE is comfortable that the planned projects will not require a regional emissions analysis. It was the conclusion of ICG that these projects are exempt from conformity.

### **TRANSPORTATION MODELING UPDATE:**

#### a. Results from MTA Transit Survey

Mr. Matthew deRouville (BMC) provided the ICG with an overview of the results of the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) Transit Survey, performed as part of the model development for the Red Line. The survey was conducted by NuStats in spring 2007-spring 2008. Over 13,000 completed and usable surveys resulted. The results show data related to time-of-day use, trip purpose, trip mode, income, transfers, fare type, age, as well as other information. The results show that the purpose of most transit trips is to travel from home to work and back. They also show that most transit trips are made by bus. In addition, many of the commuter rail trips were made by higher income riders. Staff will be determining how the survey findings compare with modeled output.

***[Handout – Onboard Transit Survey: General Findings]***

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

#### A. EPA's Proposed Endangerment Finding:

Mr. Martin Kotsch (EPA Region 3) mentioned that the EPA greenhouse gas endangerment finding is out for public comment. After public comment is complete, EPA

will make a final determination. EPA would be able to draft possible legislation for congress.

A regulatory approach would be more complicated than congressional legislation. Regulations cannot be written until the endangerment finding is final. In the short-term there is no immediate impact to the transportation sector, except on automobiles. Mr. Tim Shepherd (MDE) said that the new federal CAFE standard will take effect in 2012. Maryland's Clean Car standards take effect with model year 2011.

It was mentioned that issues of carbon dioxide from transportation will likely come into play with reauthorization of federal transportation legislation.

B. MOVES:

Ms. Tomlinson mentioned the recent release of the draft MOVES motor vehicle emissions model by EPA. Staff is reviewing the model and its related documentation, and becoming familiar with it. Mr. Kotsch mentioned that the EPA is working on data converters. The model is scheduled to become official in the first quarter of 2010. There were discussions regarding when the MOVES model will be used for emissions modeling. The general thought was that the use of this model will likely need to begin in 2010.

C. Clean Commute Month:

Mr. Russ Ulrich (BMC) provided the ICG with an overview of Clean Commute Month activities. Bike to Work Day, on May 15, had a record registration of over 1000 people. He also mentioned the Clean Cars for Clean Air Campaign.

D. SIP Status Update:

Mr. Hug said that in December 2008, the EPA notified Maryland that the 8-hour ozone SIP was in jeopardy because of current ozone data. They did not think the Baltimore region would reach attainment of the standard in time. EPA decided to propose SIP disapproval for the Baltimore region. They have not made a final disapproval. MDE is determining how to move forward. He described different options that MDE can choose from, including applying for extensions or applying for a change in nonattainment status to "serious."

Mr. Kotsch mentioned that MOVES training is being offered in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C., as well as other locations.

Ms. Tomlinson asked if any of the members had any other business to discuss; hearing none, she asked for the meeting to adjourn. The meeting concluded at 10:30 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>.