

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
**March 3, 2010**  
**BMC Conference Rooms A & B**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**DRAFT**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members**

Carolina Arbelaez – Baltimore County Department of Public Works	410-887-3554
Iain Banks – City of Annapolis Department of Transportation	410-263-7964
Kimani Choi – Maryland Department of Planning	410-767-8876
Harvey Gold – Anne Arundel County Planning & Zoning	410-222-7440
Scott Graf – Carroll County Department of Planning	410-386-2145
Charles Grant – Maryland Transit Administration	410-767-3906
Derek Gunn – State Highway Administration	410-545-5642
Jessica Keller – Baltimore City Department of Transportation	410-396-6856
Theo Ngongang – Maryland Department of Transportation	410-865-1308
Ben Pickar – Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	410-313-4360
Alex Rawls – Harford County Department of Planning	410-879-2000
Jim Wilkinson – Maryland Department of the Environment	410-537-3240

**Staff/Guests**

Charles Baber – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-0500 x1056
Robert Berger – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-0500 x1037
Jamie Bridges – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-0500 x1053
Dunbar Brooks – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-9574
Tyson Byrne – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-0500 x1048
Danielle Edmonds – State Highway Administration	410-545-8516
Todd Lang - Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-9566
Vimal Kumar – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-0500 x1035
Jody McCullough – Baltimore Metropolitan Council	410-732-0500 x1049
Venu Nemani – State Highway Administration	410-545-5641
Bradley Smith – State Highway Administration	410-545-8698

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 A.M. by the Chair, Mr. Ben Pickar.

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2, 2010 TC MINUTES:** Mr. Pickar asked for approval of the minutes of the February 2, 2010 Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Derek Gunn moved for approval of the minutes with Mr. Theo Ngongang seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**REPORT ON FEBRUARY 23, 2010 MEETING OF THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD:** Mr. Dunbar Brooks reported that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) met on February 23, 2010 and approved Resolution #10-16, revising the process for the BRTB to select applications for federal CMAQ funding. An amendment to the 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program to include funding from the Jobs Bill of 2010 – Stimulus II – was withdrawn from the agenda as a result of Congressional inaction. There was an update on the development of the Fiscal Year 2011 UPWP and a presentation on transportation-related initiatives of the 2010 Maryland General Assembly. The BRTB was updated on progress towards a regional transportation Vision as well as an Advanced Notice of Funding Availability for a new Partnership for Sustainable Communities.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #10-15:** Mr. Tyson Byrne introduced Resolution #10-15 to amend the Plan and TIP to include two capacity projects. The first project, in Baltimore City, is New Vail Street which Ms. Jessica Keller briefly described and answered some minor questions. The project will extend existing Vail Street 1,200 feet into the Duke property going over the CSX tracks to create better truck access to the property and better access for the Port of Baltimore. The second project addresses operational issues at US 40 and MD 715 in Harford County. This project also addresses access to Aberdeen Proving Ground by widening MD 715 from 2 to 4 lanes in each direction from US 40 to the gate. Mr. Alex Rawls added that the project addresses safety issues by eliminating an unsafe u-turn on US 40. Mr. Pickar asked for a motion to approve Resolution #10-15. Mr. Ngongang made a motion for approval that was seconded by Mr. Rawls. The Technical Committee approved the motion, and Resolution #10-15 was recommended to the BRTB for adoption.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #10-17:** This agenda item was withdrawn by MDOT due to the unlikelihood of the Jobs Bill – Stimulus II being passed with capital dollars still attached to it.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #10-18:** Ms. Jody McCullough introduced Resolution #10-18, endorsing the Preferred Alternative for MD 175 from MD 295 to MD 170. She said that as part of the BRTB Congestion Management Process, BMC staff participates in the Maryland State Highway Administration's Interagency Review Committee. Ms. Danielle Edmonds, SHA, presented an overview of the preferred alternative for the project describing access to Fort Meade, the interchange configuration, project design to minimize property takes in Odenton, NEPA considerations, and the design of the bicycle and pedestrian components of the project. The MD 175 roadway segment provides primary access to Fort Meade and Odenton in Anne Arundel County, a distance of approximately 5.5 miles. Mr. Pickar asked for a motion to approve Resolution #10-18. Mr. Harvey Gold made a motion for approval that was seconded by Mr. Kiman Choi. The Technical Committee approved the motion, and Resolution #10-18 was recommended to the BRTB for adoption.

***[Handout: MD 175 Project Planning Study – SHA preferred Alternative]***

**VISION PLAN FOR THE BALTIMORE REGION:**

**2060 Outlook Workshop:**

Mr. Jamie Bridges provided an update on the consultant activities aimed to generate a regional economic outlook (REO) for 2060. Despite the snow-induced slowdowns of February, the consultant team is on-track to provide the final deliverable on time. After a kick-off event on February 5, the consultant team refined the planning tools and assumptions to provide the draft deliverable. Upon staff review, the draft deliverable will be distributed to the appropriate partners for review. The final REO for 2060 will be produced in April.

**Vision “Kick-Off” Workshop:**

The BRTB hosted a one-day event to kick off the public education and engagement process in early spring. Stakeholders learned about the proposed process including activities that will occur during the vision process, public participation techniques, the anticipated schedule and an overview of scenario planning. Participants were provided specific information about the vision process and what their involvement will be. Speakers included the Honorable Ken Ulman, Howard County Executive, Tom Weyandt, Atlanta Regional Commission, and Rich Josephson, Maryland Department of Planning. Attendees participated in breakout sessions to help define future activities in the process.

**Transportation Topic Paper:**

Mr. Robert Berger described recent work to develop a transportation topic paper to be used in the public outreach phase of the vision process. At the last meeting, individual committee members had agreed to review specific sections of the document as follows: highway – Ben Pickar; transit – Theo Ngongang; pedestrian – Jessica Keller; and bicycle – Iain Banks. Mr. Berger distributed the transit and pedestrian sections to the reviewers. The highway section is expected shortly. The bicycle and pedestrian sections may be combined. Mr. Berger also discussed the content and style of the document. Each section is formatted as follows: Trends, Opportunities, and Constraints. He then summarized key points of the transit and pedestrian sections. The style of the topic paper, which is written for the public, is magazine style, and emphasizes graphics and simple prose.

**PROGRESS REPORT ON UPWP PROJECTS:**

**2008 GPS Household Survey:**

Mr. Vimal Kumar presented an update on 2007/2008 GPS Household Survey Data Analysis. Mr. Ngongang asked about the several area types listed in one of the slides for the Baltimore region. Mr. Kumar explained how the area types are determined by taking into consideration household and employment densities. He also asked about what exactly are the OBO (other-based other) trips, to which Mr. Baber explained that these trips are neither home-based nor work-based but these trips are based off from locations/stops in between home and work to other intermediate locations/stops before finally culminating to home or work locations. On being asked about the goals of the household survey, Mr.

Baber explained several aspects of household travel survey data collection and also how it is used during various steps of the four-step modeling process by the BMC staff. Mr. Pickar commented on the usefulness of the GPS data collection / emergence of new methodologies and technologies to enhance the data collection and modeling processes in the region. Mr. Baber and Mr. Kumar also explained the limitations of such data for analysis purposes, the data being a biased sample and only pertaining to motorized trips. Mr. Choi commented on developing VMT (vehicle miles traveled) estimates from the data by area types and possibly comparing this data analysis with other household survey data collected in prior years. This will help us to understand the changes in the trip patterns in the region. Mr. Henry explained that further analysis is in progress to identify such changes in trip-making behavior of residents in the Baltimore region.

***[Handout: GPS Household Travel Survey Progress Update]***

*Report on Round 7-C Socio-economic Forecasts:*

Mr. Dunbar Brooks made a presentation on the submission of Round 7-C socio-economic forecast updates. Mr. Brooks reported that five of the region's six jurisdictions provided updates to the Round 7-B forecasts. He stated that changes to population and employment were fairly modest. Similar to Round 7-B, Mr. Brooks stated that these new forecasts still continue to show employment growing faster than population and households during the 2000 – 2035 period. He indicated that two jurisdictions, Harford and Howard counties, reduced their expected near-term growth (2010 – 2015) in population and employment to reflect the effects of the current "Great Recession." However, both jurisdictions' forecasts begin to approach or exceed the Round 7-B forecast figures by 2020. He mentioned that Anne Arundel County's Round 7-C forecast for employment now reflects expected new jobs associated with "slots" legislation passed by the Anne Arundel County Council earlier this year. Mr. Brooks also presented two maps, one for population growth and one for employment growth that highlighted where new increments of growth are expected spatially over the next 30 years.

***[Handouts: DRAFT Local Jurisdiction Submissions – Round 7-C and Round 7-B Cooperative Forecasts Differences – Population, Household and Employment Controls; DRAFT Local Jurisdiction Submissions: Round 7-C Cooperative Forecasts – Population, Household and Employment Controls; Map Population Growth 2000-2035 Draft Round 7C]***

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

*Partnership for Sustainable Communities:*

Mr. Bridges briefed the Committee on the Partnership for Sustainable Communities. The Partnership, a collaboration between HUD/DOT/EPA, was formed in March 2009 in order to coordinate federal policies, plans and programs to deliver livable communities. This year, the Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities was established with HUD to lead the Partnership. On February 19, the Partnership held a video conference listening session in order to further refine the specifications of both the Partnership work plan and one fund source for implementation – the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program. Mr. Bridges provided a more detailed presentation with handouts on the Partnership as part of the February 23 meeting of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board.

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Pickar asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and have a Closed Session to discuss proposed Request for Proposals (RFPs). Mr. Scott Graf moved for adjournment, with Mr. Gold seconding the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M.