

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

September 1, 2015

9:32 to 10:37 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 A.M. by Chair, Mr. Brian Muldoon.

1. APPROVAL OF JULY 7, 2015 MINUTES

Mr. Muldoon asked for approval of the minutes from the July meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. Tyson Byrne moved to approve the minutes with Ms. Martha Arzu McIntosh seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. MAXIMIZE2040: A PERFORMANCE BASED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Freeland presented information on the status of the 2015 long-range transportation plan, known as Maximize2040: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan. This included an overview of the structure of the plan; a look at the breakdown of estimated costs for system operations, preservation, and expansion; a discussion on the review of the draft plan by some of the committee members (selected by the Executive Committee); and a summary of upcoming public outreach events. The public outreach events include a series of “town hall” meetings, to take place between September 15 and October 8, and a “town call” scheduled for October 1.

Mr. Freeland also described an 11-by-17-inch, two-sided brochure handed out to each member. This brochure summarizes the information in the first four chapters of the plan: 1) requirements and policies, 2) goals and performance measures, 3) financial forecast, and 4) major projects and programs, with year of expenditure cost estimates.

The next steps toward plan approval include:

- A review of public comments
- Preparation of the BRTB response to public comments
- Preparation of the final plan and air quality documents
- BRTB approval of the final documents on November 24
- FHWA and FTA approval of the final documents (expected by January 2016)

- U.S. EPA's acceptance of the air quality conformity determination, to follow approval by FHWA and FTA.

[Handout and PowerPoint: Maximize2040: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan – The Draft Plan, Flyer: Maximize2040 Town Hall and Town Call dates]

3. “HOW FAR CAN WE GET” STUDY

Ms. Sara Tomlinson said that before she begins speaking about the study, she will provide an overview of the draft conformity determination of *Maximize2040* and the amended 2016-2019 TIP. The ICG has agreed to release the draft results of the emissions modeling for public review. The draft conformity determination, along with the TIP amendments and Plan are online today. The results show that emissions from the transportation system in the region, resulting from the projects in the plan and TIP are not expected to harm air quality or delay timely attainment of national ambient air quality standards. She also shared information about the draft plan section that discusses \$285 million to support transportation emission reduction measures (TERMs) in the region. She shared information on what the list of TERMS is, and that the ICG recommends the list provided.

Ms. Tomlinson then presented an update on the How Far Can We Get study. The study is now being finalized and the oversight committee has their last meeting on August 24th. Different aspects of the study were summarized, including the oversight committee decision making process, and the modeling that was involved. The study began in the fall of 2013, and is nearing completion. The oversight committee has developed a set of TERMS and related actions, which will be shared when the final report is complete. The recommended TERMS include measures such as support for future CAFÉ standards, educational programs for eco-driving, and promotion of electric vehicle use and idle reduction.

[Handout: Table 1. Oversight Committee Recommended TERMS and Related Actions]

4. BALTIMORE CITY WATER TAXI STUDY

Deferred until October Meeting.

5. ELECTION OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Mr. Byrne reported that the Nominating Committee, consisting of Ms. Valorie LaCour, Mr. Alex Rawls, and himself, came to a consensus on the slate of officers to offer to the TC. The slate of Officers recommended includes: Carroll County representative for Chair and the City of Annapolis representative for Vice-Chair. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Emery Hines motioned to close the nominations with Ms. McIntosh seconding the motion. Mr. Muldoon, asked for motion to vote for slate of officers for the FY 2016 TC Chair and Vice-Chair. The nomination was unanimously approved.

6. PROGRESS REPORT ON UPWP PROJECTS

- Regional Bike Map

Mr. Zach Kaufman gave an update on the regional bicycle map initiative, a regional subarea project in the FY 2016-2017 UPWP. The end result of this project will be an online web mapping application serving as a resource for regional on-street and off-street travel. The map will include implemented, planned, and proposed facilities. It will also identify inter-jurisdictional connections as well as gaps within jurisdictions.

The project will be a joint effort between the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group (BPAG) and the Baltimore Regional Geographic Information Systems Committee (BRGISC). Early efforts will seek to identify where data collection currently stands in each jurisdiction, including the status of an inventory of bicycle facilities. Working within these two groups, members from jurisdictions will also need to determine the types of facilities, layers, and attributes to include on the map along with standards for data collection and coverage.

Several BPAG members held an introductory meeting to begin discussion on the overall vision for the map as well as data needs. There was agreement that the focus should be on on-road bicycle facilities and off-road trails that aid in regional connectivity over short and localized trips. There was also discussion as to how we differentiate the product from others like the Google bike layer. Incorporating local knowledge of roads suitable for biking is one way to add value. Another concern was that mapping existing facilities alone will lead to a discontinuous and segmented map. One possible methodology to fill in gaps in existing bicycle facilities is to identify low traffic and/or low speed roads throughout the region. With this baseline, local experts can adjust the baseline ad hoc based on personal knowledge of local roads. Draft recommended layers include regional transit, park & rides, main bicycle routes, secondary bicycle routes, and trails providing regional connectivity. Draft attributes include type of facility (bike lane, protected bike lane, sharrow, etc.), posted speed limit, shoulder width, and several attributes specific to trails such as surface type and lighting.

The BRGISC is currently providing feedback on data availability based on the draft list of layers and attributes. BPAG will hold a work session to further discuss recommended data at their upcoming September 16, 2015 meeting.

[PowerPoint: Regional Bike Map Update]

- Baltimore Freight Finder

Mr. Bala Akundi provided a quick overview of the Baltimore Freight Finder (BFF) – a web-based GIS application that is based on a concept developed by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Council (DVRPC) for their Philly Freight Finder. This is a tool that will provide public access to freight facility locations and data to facilitate improved data sharing across public and private sectors and identify and justify freight investment priorities.

The primary elements of the BFF fall into these 5 major categories:

- Trucking/highways
- Freight rail
- Ports/waterways

- Airports
- Distribution centers

Existing/available data for each of these elements was collected from task force members and projects that had already been completed – like the SHA statewide freight implementation plan. The application was developed in-house using a flexible, lightweight platform that could be easily replicated and cost-effective.

BFF users can dynamically navigate through the map, turn various layers off and on and toggle between aerial imagery and Google maps. The application is undergoing multiple levels of testing and once completed will be made publicly available through BMC's website. Long term goals seek to expand the coverage to include all of Maryland, add live traffic feeds, downloadable data and additional analytical capabilities.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Todd Lang distributed flyers announcing a planning roundtable. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 A.M.

[Handout: 2015 Mid-Atlantic Regional Roundtable]

ATTENDANCE

Members

Tyson Byrne - Maryland Department of Transportation
Ken Choi – Maryland Department of Planning
Kwaku Duah – City of Annapolis Department of Transportation
Scott Graf – Carroll County Department of Land Use, Planning and Development
Michael Helta - Maryland Transit Administration
Emery Hines – Baltimore County Department of Public Works
Alex Kremasanka – Maryland Department of the Environment
Martha Arzu McIntosh – Anne Arundel County Office of Planning & Zoning
Brian Muldoon – Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning
Alex Rawls – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning
Jerry Smith – State Highway Administration (SHA)
Betty Smoot - Baltimore City Department of Transportation

Staff and Guests

Bala Akundi - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Regina Aris - BMC
Charles Baber - BMC
Robert Berger – BMC
James Gillece - MTA
Terry Freeland - BMC

Don Halligan - BMC
Zach Kaufman – BMC
Todd Lang - BMC
Jefferson Miller – Howard County Office of Transportation
Sara Tomlinson – BMC