

## BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

January 22, 2019  
Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
9:02 to 11:00 A.M.

### MINUTES

The 305<sup>th</sup> meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M. by the Chair, Ms. Valorie LaCour.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A request for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2018 BRTB meeting was made by Ms. LaCour. A motion was made by Ms. Holly Arnold to approve the minutes and seconded by Mr. Alex Rawls. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

There was no one from the public who wished to address the BRTB.

#### 3. REPORT ON PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Monica Haines Benkhedda reported there are no public comment periods scheduled in January. BRTB members however are hosting the following public meetings: 1.) Clarksville/River Hill Streetscape Project public meeting on January 31 in Clarksville/River Hill; and 2.) Open House on I-695 from I-70 to MD 43 "TSMO" project on February 4 at Ridgley Middle School.

Staff are gearing up for the following comment periods and events in 2019:

- BRTB Budget and Work Program (FY 2020-2021 UPWP) from February 12 - March 14
- Every Voice Counts Transportation Academy – one event in Howard County in April and one in Fall 2019 (location TBD)
- *Maximize2045* and TIP – Comment period is open from May 9 - June 18 with the BRTB hosting one meeting in each jurisdiction during this time. If any BRTB members would like to choose a date for the meeting in their jurisdiction, they may contact staff to hold the date and coordinate transit and ADA accessible locations.

Lastly, Ms. Haines Benkhedda shared two sponsorship opportunities: 1.) BMC is working with local planners to organize over 40 events throughout the Baltimore region for Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 17, 2019; and 2.) Sponsors are sought for Every Voice Counts Transportation Academy which provides information and tools for emerging transportation leaders and other stakeholders who have limited experience with the transportation decision-making process.

***[Handout: Public Involvement Report for January 2019]***

#### **4. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Ms. Haines Benkhedda reported the following from the January PAC meeting:

- The PAC welcomed new members to the PAC. Staff and the PAC Chairs conducted an orientation for new members and non-voting alternates.
- PAC members split into subcommittees to discuss subcommittee meeting schedules, upcoming activities, and a work plan for 2019. The primary focus in the first six months of the year is to help plan and coordinate the Every Voice Counts Transportation Academy and supporting efforts related to *Maximize2045: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan* as well as the *2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*.
- The February PAC meeting will focus on the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and a presentation on equity, Title VI, and environmental justice.

#### **5. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Mr. Terry Freeland reported the following from the December TC meeting:

- Resolution #19-16: BMC provided an overview of the safety performance measures and the target-setting methodology used by the State and adopted by BRTB in January 2018. MDOT set new targets in August 2018, therefore BRTB targets must be set by February 26, 2019. There was a discussion related to the recent increase in traffic fatalities. There also were some questions related to law enforcement collaboration among agencies for reducing impaired driving and the development of a new regional pedestrian and bicyclist safety campaign. The committee voted to recommend sending Resolution #19-16 to the BRTB for approval.
- Resolution #19-17: This relates to application(s) for statewide funding in the Large Urban category of the FY 2020-2021 FTA Section 5310 Program. BMC staff provided comments on 17 applications, including 15 applications submitted for the Baltimore Urbanized Area (UZA) and 2 applications submitted for the Bel Air – Aberdeen UZA. Staff noted that Baltimore UZA requests totaled \$4,497,950 while available funding is \$3,753,012. Likewise, Bel Air – Aberdeen UZA requests totaled \$485,031 while available funding is \$289,031. Staff recommended 16 applications for approval and recommended that one application be denied. Of the 16 applications recommended for approval, 11 were for full funding and

five were for partial funding. The committee approved sending Resolution #19-17 to the BRTB for approval.

- *Maximize2045* update: BMC handed out a preliminary list of candidate projects with total scores and year of expenditure costs. It was noted that only six of the 82 projects scored fall “below the line.” Staff explained that two of the projects that were originally below the line were moved up since they were in the 2015 plan. Committee members were asked to review the list and let staff know about any comments or concerns.
- Definitions of TIP project phases: BMC shared with the members that definitions for project phases will be included in the TIP to ensure consistency and to streamline FHWA/FTA approval.
- FY 2020 focus areas: A list of potential focus areas for the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was distributed. The topics reflect input from committee members via an online survey. This list of potential focus areas was discussed at the joint BRTB/Technical Committee retreat held at Tradeport Atlantic on January 9.
- Other Business: BMC distributed a notice of funding available (NOFA) from US DOT initiative called INFRA. This is for large projects, with applications due March 4, 2019. Criteria include project readiness and require 20 percent match or greater.

## **6. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #19-16**

Resolution #19-16 is to establish updated safety performance measure targets for the region. Ms. Cindy Burch provided an overview of the safety performance measures, of which there are five, and the target-setting methodology used by the State and adopted by BRTB last year. Ms. Burch also explained how the performance measures are incorporated into several statewide planning documents including MDOT SHA’s Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), MDOT MVA-MHSO Highway Safety Plan (HSP), and the MDOT Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). Per federal regulations, MPOs are required to adopt targets for the five safety measures within 180 days of the state setting targets; MDOT set targets in August 2018 and BRTB targets must be set by February 26, 2019.

Several members of the committee asked questions related to safety efforts and data collection. A detailed explanation of serious injuries was provided; that is gleaned from the police crash report data based upon an officer’s impression of the level of injury. There was a discussion related to the recent increase in traffic fatalities; while it’s been seen nationwide, research has indicated that it is due to many factors of which economic changes and increases in vehicle miles traveled are two. With regards to local safety initiatives, the development of a new regional pedestrian and bicyclist safety campaign was discussed. Further discussion related to *Maximize2045* goals and strategies related to safety and how they will be used to achieve these targets. There was a request to share separate numbers of non-motorist fatalities and serious injuries with the Board.

Ms. LaCour asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Tyson Byrne motioned to approve and Ms. Lynda Eisenburg seconded the motion. The BRTB voted to approve Resolution #19-16.

***[PowerPoint: Safety Performance Targets Updated]***

**7. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #19-17**

Resolution #19-17 is in support of applications for statewide funding in the Large Urban category of the FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2020-2021. After a brief introduction to the 5310 Program, including the four program criteria, Mr. Robert Berger shared BMC staff recommendations on 17 applications, including 15 applications submitted for the Baltimore Urbanized Area (UZA) and 2 applications submitted for the Bel Air – Aberdeen UZA.

Mr. Berger noted that Baltimore UZA requests totaled \$4,497,950 while available funding is \$3,753,012. Likewise, Bel Air – Aberdeen UZA requests totaled \$485,031 while available funding is \$289,031. Staff recommended 16 applications for approval and recommended that 1 application be denied. Of the 16 applications recommended for approval, 11 were for full funding and 5 were for partial funding.

Ms. LaCour asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Greg Carski motioned to approve the motion and Mr. Byrne seconded the motion. The BRTB voted to approve Resolution #19-17. The application will now advance to the state coordinating committee for human services transportation.

***[PowerPoint: Section 5310 Grant Program]***

**8. UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM INFORMATION EXCHANGE FORUM**

Ms. Eileen Singleton provided an overview of the Unmanned Aerial Systems Information Exchange Forum that was held on December 4, 2018, and targeted public works, GIS, and procurement staff. The event was supported by three BMC/BRTB committees: Baltimore Region GIS Committee, Transportation & Public Works Committee, and Baltimore Region Cooperative Purchasing Committee. There were over 150 attendees from the public and private sectors, academia, non-profits, and local, regional, state and federal agencies. The all-day event included presentations on local, state, and federal UAS projects; how to get a UAS pilot license; and the future of UAS technology. The event concluded with a facilitated panel discussion that identified key points of the day from the perspective of public works, GIS, procurement, and the private sector.

***[PowerPoint: UAS Forum Brief]***

**9. REGIONAL BICYCLE MAPPING APPLICATION**

Ms. Mara Kaminowitz shared that the regional bicycle facilities project originated with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group as part of the FY 2016-2017 UPWP. The project was completed in October 2017 and the first annual update was finalized in December 2018. The goal of this project is to enable better transportation planning, especially a way to look at gaps

in facility connectivity. The project includes existing, planned, and programmed bicycle facilities. Facility types include bike lanes, sharrows, and off-road. Complimentary data such as trail name, road ownership, and speed limit are also part of this data set. The data is available as raw GIS data as well as through an online data viewer. Up until now the data has been available to BMC's local jurisdictions and state government but has been restricted to internal use only. In November 2018 BPAG voted to make the existing trails available to the public. This data will be available as a download on BMC's Open Data Site and through an online data viewer. The data will be released at the end of January 2019.

***[PowerPoint: Preview of the Regional Bicycle Map]***

## **10. NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN: VISUALIZE 2045**

Mr. John Swanson began with an overview of the region and the Transportation Planning Board membership. Mr. Swanson described the framework for the plan which was a departure from previous plans. The plan includes what the region "must do" to meet federal requirements as well as what the region "can do" with current levels of funding. What is new is that the members also included what the region "aspires to do" if more resources were available. The financially constrained portion of the plan includes more than 100 major projects with an additional 500 smaller projects. An outline showed the increase in roadway miles, managed lanes and high-capacity transit.

Mr. Swanson also touched on several projects that overlap with the Baltimore region, including the MARC Growth & Investment Plan and MD 3 Corridor Improvements. Also covered was regional expenditures, air quality conformity and a performance overview. The purpose of the aspirational element was due to the previous plan not able to provide satisfactory future performance nor move the region close enough to the region's goals. After two years of work the TPB agreed on a range of initiatives, not specific projects. The initiatives include: Bring jobs and housing closer together, Expand bus rapid transit and other cost-effective transit, Move more people on Metrorail, Telecommuting and other commuting options, Expand express toll lanes, Improve walk and bike access to transit, and Complete the National Capital Trail.

Mr. Swanson closed with a discussion of the public involvement initiatives undertaken to support development and approval of the plan. In a nod to BMC staff, Mr. Swanson gave credit to discussions with Ms. Haines Benkhedda for inspiring some of the strategies that were used.

***[PowerPoint: Overview of Visualize 2045 – The New Transportation Plan for the Metropolitan Washington Region]***

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business shared.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

***Members***

Holly Arnold, Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA)  
Tyson Byrne, (for Heather Murphy) Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Mike Filsinger, (for Greg Carski) Baltimore County Department of Public Works  
Steve Cohoon, Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works  
Valorie LaCour, (for Michelle Pourciau) Baltimore City Department of Transportation  
Lynda Eisenberg, Carroll County Department of Planning  
Sally Nash, City of Annapolis, Department of Planning  
Alex Rawls, Harford County, Department of Planning  
Ramond Robinson, Anne Arundel County, Department of Planning & Zoning  
Bihui Xu, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)

***Staff and Guests***

Regina Aris, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)  
Charles Baber, BMC  
Robert Berger, BMC  
Cindy Burch, BMC  
Kathy Falk, Kimley Horn  
Terry Freeland, BMC  
Monica Haines Benkhedda, BMC  
Don Halligan, BMC  
Dan Janousek, MDOT  
Mara Kaminowitz, BMC  
Zach Kaufman, BMC  
Todd Lang, BMC  
John Swanson, MWCOG  
Lisa Sirota, MDOT SHA  
Eileen Singleton, BMC  
Rebecca Smith, BMC  
Sara Tomlinson, BMC

Respectfully submitted,

Todd R. Lang, Secretary  
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board