COOPERATIVE FORECASTING GROUP
August 23, 2017
Baltimore Metropolitan Council
10:07 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Acting Chair Ms. Jamie Williams, called the meeting to order at 10:07 A.M.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Following a round of introductions, Mr. Dan Rooney moved the approval of the Cooperative Forecasting Group (CFG) minutes of the June 28, 2017 meeting. Mr. Jeff Bronow seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE STATISTICS OF INCOME MIGRATION DATA – KEVIN PIERCE, IRS

Mr. Kevin Pierce, an economist at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Statistics of Income Division, provided a remote audiovisual presentation of the IRS Statistics of Income Migration Data. Mr. Shawn Kimberly scheduled the presentation in response to questions CFG members had raised about the source of migration data that the Census Bureau used in its Population Estimate Program (PEP) methodology. Mr. Pierce explained that IRS migration data shows the movement of individuals, via the address listed on their 1040 Forms over a two-year period. The data are available at the state or county level for both inflows and outflows. He explained the history of the process as well as the method employed to match filers. In addition, he shared a series of charts that compared the income distribution of the migration population for calendar years 2011 and 2012.

[Handout: Statistics Of Income Migration Data Presentation, IRS]

3. BMC COHORT COMPONET MODEL – CHARLES BABER

Mr. Charles Baber briefed CFG members on the cohort component model that BMC staff is developing for scenario testing. The model is a spreadsheet that allows users to manipulate birth, death and migration data to generate jurisdictional and regional forecasts. During the initial stages of its development, Mr. Mark Goldstein (former MDP demographer) and several CFG members (MDP, Baltimore City, Howard County and Harford County) previewed the spreadsheet and provided valuable input subsequently incorporated into its form and function. This “work in progress” is a tool for causal investigation of how variations in observed data sets (census, vital statistics, IRS migration) affect population forecasts (the conditions that must be true to produce desired outcomes). Mr. Baber
opened the spreadsheet model and demonstrated the mechanics of its use. At the close of his presentation Mr. Kimberly invited CFG members with further interest in the model to contact him.

4. ROUND 9 UPDATE – CFG MEMBERS

Mr. Rooney anticipates meeting the November 30th deadline for submission of the Harford County Round 9 small area population forecast. He does not see significant variation from the previous round.

Mr. Bronow reported that he is on track to meet the deadline for the Howard County Round 9 small area submission. Control totals for population and employment will not vary significantly from the previous round but he does not expect employment to grow at the previously anticipated higher rate.

Ms. Kui Zhao reported that the August 2016 Baltimore County comprehensive zoning update is the major component of her analysis. She continues to follow the methodology she submitted last year and needs some additional time to generate TAZ level data. She plans to meet the target date for the small area submission. She indicated an interest in using the cohort component model to inform her forecast.

Ms. Williams reported that Baltimore City is on track to meet the small area submission deadline. They reviewed their population and household data carefully and will spend the coming months fine-tuning employment numbers.

Mr. Darby Metcalf reported that reorganization of staff responsibilities have slowed Carroll County’s progress. He thanked Mr. Kimberly and Mr. Al Sundara for their assistance reviewing the data sets and discussing methodology. He anticipates that, through their assistance, Carroll County will meet the November deadline.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Zhao congratulated Mr. Kimberly on his successful completion of the AICP examination. Mr. Sundara announced that updated household and population projections are now available on the MDP Website. Mr. Kimberly announced that Mr. Todd Lang has informed BRTB representatives that Mr. Robert Berger will contact CFG members next month to elicit input into the BMC household travel survey. Additionally, he reminded CFG members of the census training (Local Employment Dynamics) scheduled at BMC on Tuesday September 19, 2017.

Next meeting – October 25, 2017
ATTENDANCE

**Members**
Jeff Bronow - Howard County Department of Planning
Darby Metcalf – Carroll County Department of Planning
Dan Rooney – Harford County Department of Planning
Alfred Sundara – Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)
Kui Zhao - Baltimore County Department of Planning
Jamie Williams - Baltimore City Department of Planning

**Staff and Guests**
Krishna Akundi – MDP
Charles Baber - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Victor Bonaparte - BMC
Chris Davis – Baltimore County Department of Planning
Shawn Kimberly - BMC
Sanghyeon Ko – BMC
Kevin Poerce - Internal Revenue Service