

## COOPERATIVE FORECASTING GROUP

April 24, 2019

Baltimore Metropolitan Council

10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

### MINUTES

Ms. Kui Zhao, Chair of the Cooperative Forecasting Group, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Following a round of introductions, Ms. Zhao asked for approval of the minutes from the February meeting of the CFG. Mr. Arco Sen moved to approve the minutes with Mr. Jeff Bronow seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

#### 2. HOLDING CAPACITY ANALYSIS - METHODOLOGY

Ms. Margaret Kaii-Ziegler introduced the presenter, Mr. Mehdi Khan, Program Manager for the GIS Section of the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning. She explained that Mr. Khan had made a series of revisions to the county's holding capacity methods and created a mapping application making the holding capacity analyses easier to perform and interpret. Mr. Khan began by noting that the tools they have developed are intended to provide a general idea of what the holding capacity is, and not to provide a determination of what can or cannot be built, adding that the results are more reliable when larger geographies are selected.

Mr. Khan described the holding capacity analysis as a three-step process: finding and tabulating vacant and under-developed lands in the county; finding and eliminating lands that are undevelopable (due to natural features, state and local policies etc); and calculating potential buildable units based upon the inventory of developable land, applicable zoning codes, and estimated yield factors (based upon historical performance). Mr. Khan provided technical detail supporting each of the steps in the process, emphasizing the use of GIS in the modeling and data processing. The analysis is run every two years to determine the current holding capacity of the county. Mr. Khan then gave a live demonstration of the holding capacity analysis "quick app" he had developed to assist county staff in their planning work.

***[PowerPoint: Holding Capacity Analysis in Anne Arundel County]***

### **3. ROUND 9A – STATUS UPDATE**

Mr. Shawn Kimberly, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), stated that updates to Round 9 (to be called Round 9A) are due to Baltimore Metropolitan Council from participating jurisdictions by November 30. Mr. Kimberly asked that each jurisdiction report on their plans for Round 9A. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler said that Anne Arundel County will be submitting updates to Round 9 employment, and might submit revisions to population households.

Mr. Al Sundara, Maryland Department of Planning, reminded the group that the Census Bureau had revised the methodology used in the Population Estimates Program to determine population growth via international migration. The result of the revision, for Maryland (and many of its jurisdictions), is lower population growth than had been reported in previous vintages of the data set. Mr. Sundara suggested this would be a good opportunity for the CFG members to check population forecasts, in light of the updated Census data.

Ms. Jamie Williams said that Baltimore City plans to submit revisions for population, households, and employment forecasts. Ms. Zhao stated that Baltimore County will be submitting an update to the employment forecasts, but they are uncertain if revisions will be made to population and households. Mr. Arco Sen said that Carroll County does not plan to submit revisions to be included in the Round 9A update, noting that growth in the county has been stagnant. Mr. Dan Rooney reported that there no plans at this time for Harford County to submit revisions to their forecasts. Mr. Bronow stated that Howard County plans to submit minor adjustments. Mr. Steve Cohoon said that Queen Anne’s County would submit only minor adjustments based upon Census data, if any revisions are submitted at all.

### **4. NEW U.S. CENSUS BUREAU POPULATION ESTIMATES PROGRAM DATA**

Mr. Kimberly explained that the Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program is an annual data release that provides information on the components of population change over time. He noted that population change can only occur through natural increase (births minus deaths) and migration (domestic and international migration). The Census Bureau estimates this component change and adds it to the last decennial census to produce population estimates each year. These estimates are used in the allocation of federal funds to state, county, and local governments, and serve as control totals for several federal surveys.

Mr. Kimberly then presented a series of four charts for the state, the Baltimore region, and for each jurisdiction in the region (all detailing population growth over the 2010 to 2018 timeframe): the first showing year-over-year population growth; the second showing births, deaths, and net natural increase; the third showing net international, net domestic, and total net migration; and the fourth displaying net natural increase, net migration, and annual population change. He pointed out that while net migration rates vary across jurisdictions, domestic migration has been negative for the region in all but one year (2012) of the eight-year time period. Also of note was that while natural increase remains positive across all jurisdictions in the region, it has been in decline, making it unsustainable as a primary driver of regional population growth, should current rates of births and deaths continue. Both the aging

of the large baby-boomer generation and recent trends in fertility rates and family formation preferences were cited as contributors to the decline in the rates of natural increase. Mr. Kimberly added that the Census Bureau Population Estimates Program will be releasing population estimates by age, sex, and race and Hispanic origin characteristics in July.

***[PowerPoint: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates: Jurisdictional Level Components of Change – V2018]***

## **5. CENSUS 2020 PSAP - STATUS UPDATE**

Ms. Mara Kaminowitz stated that BMC has received the completed PSAP submissions from all but two of the region's jurisdictions. All PSAP materials are due to BMC by May 1. The next step is for BMC to complete a technical validation of the PSAP materials. Once this is complete, the materials will be submitted to the Census Bureau. Mr. Rooney reported that in some cases, the PSAP software was not automatically producing updated block group or tract numbers when splits were created. Ms. Kaminowitz said that she would follow-up with the Census Bureau about the issue. Responding to a question from Mr. Bronow about the review process, Ms. Kaminowitz said that the Census Bureau will review what has been submitted, then send back an updated file for local review. This is the opportunity for local jurisdictions to make any final changes to their recommended boundary adjustments.

## **6. MARYLAND CENSUS 2020 GRANTS PROGRAM**

Mr. Kimberly displayed a list of the recipients of the Maryland Census 2020 Grants Program, highlighting the local governments in the Baltimore region that had received awards. Ms. Zhao, CFG Chair, offered congratulations to all local jurisdictions that received awards. Mr. Sundara collected the contact information for each of the local jurisdiction's 2020 Census Complete Count Committees.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Kaii-Ziegler asked to speak with any CFG members with experience working with database management systems in their permitting process. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler also asked if committee members had observed any errors with ACS data in 2014, specifically related to the presence of mobile homes.

Mr. Kimberly said that the Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan Commission held its first meeting at BMC in March. The plan will include a 25-year vision of mobility for the region and define public transportation goals. The implementation phase of the plan is scheduled for 2021. The next meeting of the committee is tomorrow at BMC, and attendance and participation are welcome. Mr. Kimberly also explained that BMC office space will be undergoing renovation from June through September. As such, CFG meetings held during this time will need to occur offsite. Mr. Kimberly requested that local jurisdictions check to

see if they have meeting space available for committee use during this time. Finally, Mr. Kimberly announced that the ACS data users conference is to be held May 13 and 14 in Washington, DC.

The meeting adjourned at 12:12 P.M.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### ***Members***

Krishna Akundi, Maryland Department of Planning  
Jeff Bronow, Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning  
Steve Cohoon, Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works  
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning  
William Kiskowski, Maryland Department of Planning  
Dan Rooney, Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning  
Arco Sen, Carroll County Department of Planning  
Al Sundara, Maryland Department of Planning  
James Wilkerson, Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning  
Jamie Williams, Baltimore City Department of Planning  
Kui Zhao, Baltimore County Department of Planning

### ***Staff and Guests***

Charles Baber, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)  
Blake Fisher, BMC  
Greg Goodwin, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
Mara Kaminowitz, BMC  
Shawn Kimberly, BMC