

INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP

September 5, 2018

9:30 to 10:15 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Ms. Sara Tomlinson (BMC).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Tomlinson welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 2018 MINUTES

The minutes of the July 11th meeting were presented. Ms. Colleen Turner (MDOT) made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Alex Brun (MDE) seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. CONFORMITY DETERMINATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2019-2022 TIP AND AMENDED MAXIMIZE2040

Ms. Tomlinson said that there are two proposed amendments to the Plan and TIP, which Mr. Zach Kaufman (BMC) then described:

I-95 Access Improvements: The project is being proposed by MdTA. The project involves improving I-95 ramps along approximately seven miles of the highway and sections of Hanover Street, McComas Street, and Key Highway. This project will involve new ramps and ramp realignments.

I-95 Northbound ETL Extension: This expanded \$1.1 billion project will provide two express toll lanes for more than ten miles from north of MD 43 in Baltimore County to north of MD 24 in Harford County.

The ICG had previously determined that a new regional emissions analysis was required. This was performed and the results were shared with the ICG through email. The ICG, again through email, agreed to release the conformity results for the 30-day public review period. There were two comments related to air quality, which Ms. Regina Aris (BMC) described. This public review period is now complete.

The conformity determination addressed the 1997, 2008, and 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS. This is the first conformity determination for the Baltimore region that addressed the 2015 ozone NAAQS. The region was only recently designated “marginal” nonattainment for this NAAQS.

The conformity results show that the region maintains conformity to the SIP for the Baltimore nonattainment area, and that mobile source emissions are below the SIP motor vehicle emission budgets for 2020, 2030, and 2040.

Ms. Turner motioned to recommend BRTB approval of the Conformity Determination of the amended 2019-2022 TIP and Amended Plan for the two I-95 projects. Ms. Brun seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

[Handouts: Informational handout for I-95 Access Improvements; Map of I-95 Northbound ETL Extension]

4. CMAQ PERFORMANCE PLAN

Ms. Tomlinson presented on the BRTB CMAQ Performance Plan. This plan is up for approval by the BRTB at their September meeting. The BRTB is federally required to develop a CMAQ Performance Plan, to be submitted as an attachment to the State DOT baseline performance report, due October 1, 2018. The MPO CMAQ Performance Plan describes the baseline condition and MPO targets for three CMAQ-related performance measures:

- Peak hour excessive delay
- Percent non-SOV travel
- On-road mobile source emission reductions from CMAQ-funded projects.

In addition to describing the baseline information and targets, there is a table in the back of the document with a list of planned projects that are expected to result in emission reductions that will help the MPO to reach to 2-year and 4-year emission reduction targets.

Ms. Turner motioned to recommend BRTB approval of the BRTB CMAQ Performance Plan. Ms. Brun seconded the motion, which was approved.

5. STATUS OF OZONE SEASON

Ms. Brun briefly presented on the status of the ozone season in the Baltimore region. The season ends at the end of October. However, to date, the region is still meeting the 2008 ozone NAAQS, and is still marginal nonattainment levels for 2015 ozone NAAQS.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Terry Freeland (BMC) said that projects were recently submitted for consideration for the long range transportation plan. The last year of the plan will be 2045. The TIP, Plan, and conformity will be offered for BRTB approval in July 2019.

The members were asked if they had any other business to discuss. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M. The next ICG meeting is scheduled for November 7th.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Alex Brun – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
Colleen Turner - Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Staff and Guests

Kwame Arhin – Federal Highway Administration, Maryland Division (FHWA)
Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Terry Freeland – BMC
Gary Greening – Michael Baker/MDOT
Zach Kaufman - BMC
Sara Tomlinson – BMC