

## **INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP**

November 8, 2018

9:40 to 10:20 A.M.

### **MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 A.M. by Ms. Sara Tomlinson (BMC).

#### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Tomlinson welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2018 MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 5th meeting were presented. Ms. Alex Brun (MDE) made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. David Cookson (BRTB) seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

#### **3. TIP AMENDMENT**

Ms. Tomlinson said that there is one proposed amendment to the TIP, which Mr. Zach Kaufman (BMC) then described:

**Small Urban Transit Systems – Capital Assistance:** This amendment increases the amount of funding for this project. These funds will be used for one small cutaway replacement bus in Carroll County, two medium buses and mobile radios in Anne Arundel County, and two heavy duty replacement buses in Howard County. The ICG had previously determined that this project is exempt from conformity. CMAQ funding is not used for this project.

The ICG members determined that this project remains exempt from conformity requirements. The project does not result in a substantial increase in the fleet of buses.

**[Handouts: Small Urban Transit Systems TIP Sheet]**

#### **4. MAXIMIZE 2045: A PERFORMANCE BASED TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Ms. Tomlinson presented information on the development of the next long range transportation plan for the Baltimore region. Much of the project scoring has been done, but it is not 100% complete to date. Copies of the list of projects submitted for consideration for the

plan were distributed. A total of 82 projects were submitted for consideration, 67 of which were roadway/bridge projects, 14 were transit, and one was bicycle/pedestrian project. Out of the total number of projects submitted, 43 are in the current long range transportation plan and 39 are not. Many of the submitted roadway projects are widenings. Much of the transit projects are new transit service.

Information was distributed regarding the scoring methodology for the projects. Ms. Tomlinson discussed the details of the scoring methodology for two of the scoring categories: (1) effects on ecologically significant lands/historical properties and (2) emissions and greenhouse gas reductions.

***[Handout: List of Projects Submitted for Maximize 2045]***

## **5. CONFORMITY DETERMINATION OF MAXIMIZE 2045 AND THE 2020-2023 TIP**

Ms. Tomlinson presented a tentative schedule for the Conformity Determination of next long range transportation plan for the Baltimore region, and the next TIP. The conformity determination of the plan and TIP will occur simultaneously, and is planned for BRTB approval in July 2019. The public comment period will likely be 40 days, which will mean that certain milestones in the conformity determination process will need to happen slightly earlier than usual. ICG meetings will be scheduled accordingly to accommodate the milestone dates.

The TIP project submissions will be due at the end of February, to give the ICG time to evaluate the projects for exempt/non-exempt/regionally significant status. ICG will be scheduled to approve the draft conformity results for public release on May 1, 2019.

Members discussed a draft letter describing the methodology and assumptions for the upcoming conformity determination. A fourth horizon year is being added for travel demand and emissions modeling. Now, 2045 emissions will be estimated, in addition to 2020, 2030, and 2040 emissions. This is due to the last year of the long range transportation plan being extended from 2040 to 2045, with the new transportation plan. The SIP budgets used will be the same as the past couple of years. It is the 2012 Reasonable Further Progress SIP budget to address the 1997 ozone NAAQS. This is the most recent approved or adequate budget for the Baltimore area.

The travel demand model used for the upcoming conformity determination will not be the activity based model; however, the activity based model will likely be run simultaneously, to compare the emissions results for each approach.

Members provided positive feedback on the draft letter. Ms. Alex Brun (MDE) said that the emissions model used should be changed from MOVES2014a to MOVES2014b. Staff asked for feedback on the letter within the next two weeks, before the letter is mailed to FHWA, FTA, and EPA at the end of November.

Ms. Regina Aris (BMC) said that the BRTB approval Round 9 socioeconomic data earlier this year, which is the latest data to use for the conformity analysis. ICG members will be emailed the presentation made to the TC on this topic.

***[Handout: Draft Conformity Methodology and Assumptions Letter]***

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was some discussion regarding the expected EPA finalization of the 2015 Ozone NAAQS Implementation Rule. Once this occurs, there will be more information available regarding whether or not the 2008 ozone NAAQS will be revoked.

The members were asked if they had any other business to discuss. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A.M. The next ICG meeting is scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### ***Members***

Alex Brun – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

David Cookson – Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB)

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

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Zach Kaufman - BMC

Sara Tomlinson – BMC