

## **INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP**

February 3, 2021  
9:34 to 10:00 A.M.

Meeting held through webinar/telephone service only.  
Call-in information was available to the public.

### **MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 A.M. by Ms. Nicole Hebert (BMC).

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

Ms. Hebert welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Attendees were then asked to introduce themselves.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2021 MINUTES**

The ICG was asked to review the minutes of the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, ICG meeting. Mr. Alex Rawls (BRTB) made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Virginia Burke (MDOT) seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

***[Handouts: ICG January 2021 Minutes]***

#### **3. CONFORMITY DETERMINATION OF MAXIMIZE 2045 AND THE 2022-2025 TIP**

The ICG was asked to review the letter discussing the assumptions and methodology of the conformity determination of the long range transportation plan and TIP, which had been presented and discussed at the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, ICG meeting. Mr. Dan Janousek (MDOT) made a motion to approve the assumptions and methodology letter. Mr. Rawls seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Hebert reminded members of the Initiative to Simulate Individual Travel Events (InSITE) model, which was presented and discussed at the January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, ICG meeting. At the February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 of the Technical Committee they recommended to send Resolution #21-18 to the BRTB approval. Once approved by the BRTB, InSITE will be used as the traffic demand model during the upcoming and future conformity analyses.

***[Handouts: Methodology Letter for the Upcoming Conformity Determination, BRTB Resolution #21-18]***

#### **4. TIP AMENDMENT**

Mr. Keith Kucharek (BMC) presented a proposed TIP amendment involving the MD 173: Bridge Replacement over Rock Creek project which does not add capacity, but adjusts financial commitments. Ms. Hebert shared the staff recommendation that this TIP amendment is exempt from conformity requirements, because the project involves bridge reconstruction with no additional lanes and with pavement resurfacing and rehabilitation. These activities are considered exempt as per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rule.

Ms. Hebert requested a motion to confirm that this TIP amendment is exempt from conformity requirements. Mr. Janousek motioned and Mr. Rawls seconded

***[PowerPoint: TIP Amendment from MDOT SHA, Recommendation for Exempt/Non-Exempt]***

#### **5. MEMBER UPDATES**

Ms. Burke of MDOT shared with the group news that Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh has joined two state coalitions filing air quality related law suits mid-January 2021. One lawsuit challenges the Trump administration's decision to leave current National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter pollution unchanged. The other challenges the Trump administration's final rule attempting to block future regulation of industries responsible for more than half of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from stationary sources, including the oil and gas industry.

BRTB, FTA Region 3, FHWA Maryland Division, EPA Region 3, and MDE did not have any updates.

#### **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Hebert inquired approximately when the MDOT annual 2020 CMAQ report will be available and how to retrieve it. Ms. Burke clarified that the target date of finalization for the report is early March, and recommended downloading it from the CMAQ Public Access System.

Ms. Regina Aris (BMC) noted that with adoption of the InSITE model, which takes more time to run than the previous travel demand model, it will be imperative to ensure projects for inclusion in the 2022-2025 TIP are submitted to BMC in a timely manner. As such, BMC staff are working with BRTB members to track project submissions.

It was confirmed that the next ICG meeting will be April 7 at 9:30 A.M.

The members were asked if they had any other business to discuss. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### ***Members***

Lisa Nissley – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)  
Virginia Burke – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Alex Rawls – Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB)

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

Kwame Arhin – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Maryland Division  
Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)  
Ying-Tzu Chung – Michael Baker  
Lindsay Donnellon, FHWA, MD Division  
Nicole Hebert – BMC  
Dan Janousek – MDOT  
Zachary Kaufman – BMC  
Keith Kucharek – BMC  
Todd Lang – BMC  
Ryan Long – Federal Transit Administration, Region III  
Sara Tomlinson – BMC  
Brian Ulrich – Anne Arundel County  
Marcia Ways – MDE