

INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP

February 2, 2022
9:31 – 10:40 AM

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 A.M. by Ms. Nicole Hebert (BMC).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Hebert welcomed Interagency Consultation Group (ICG) members and guests to the meeting. Attendees were then asked to introduce themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2021 MINUTES

The members were asked to review the minutes of the January 5th ICG meeting. Ms. Virginia Burke (MDOT) made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Alex Rawls (BRTB) seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

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 meeting. Ms. Burke made a motion to approve the assumptions and methodology letter. Ms. Catherine Salarano (MDE) seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Hebert notified the group that based on the assumptions and methodology laid out in the letter, a table of conformity analysis inputs, inputs status, and inputs sources has been drafted and shared with MDE for confirmation. Ms. Marcia Ways (MDE) confirmed receipt of this table and that MDE aims to respond within the next week.

Ms. Hebert confirmed that BRTB jurisdictions and members are in the process of identifying projects for inclusion in the 2023-2026 TIP. As project submissions are received by jurisdiction/member, Ms. Hebert will submit to the ICG via email draft conformity project exemption recommendations on a jurisdictional/member basis. It was requested that any questions be shared with the group in response to this email so any needs to arrange project

presentations can be identified as soon as possible. The goal is to prepare for approval of the conformity exemption recommendations at the upcoming April 6th ICG meeting.

4. MEMBER UPDATES

ICG members were given the opportunity to provide updates.

- **BRTB** shared with the group that the Technical Committee approved the draft 2022-2023 UPWP to be released February 8th for public review. The UPWP includes a focus area regarding electric vehicle charging station siting. ICG members and meeting attendees were invited to follow up with any UPWP questions.
- **MDE** reminded the group that the second round of funding is open for light-duty EVSE installations using funds from the Volkswagen Mitigation Settlement. MDE will accept project proposals for the two frameworks until close of business on April 15th, 2022. For more information see:
<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Air/MobileSources/Pages/MarylandVolkswagenMitigationPlan.aspx>.
- **MDOT** provided a CMAQ program update regarding the reporting cycle. The FY 2021 benefit reporting will be submitted by MDOT to FHWA by March 1, and this data will be available publicly by July 1. The group was notified that by October 1 two CMAQ reports are due which will require BRTB action: the full period progress report summarizing progress over the last four years, and a baseline performance plan for the upcoming four years. Communications regarding these reports are in progress between MDOT, MDOT SHA, and BMC staff.
- **EPA Region 3** was unable to attend the meeting.
- **FHWA MD Division** echoed the MDOT CMAQ update, confirming that the agency is in communication with MDOT and MDOT SHA regarding TPM timelines.
- **FTA Region 3** did not have any updates.

5. PRESENTATION: OZONE SIP PLANNING

Mr. Tad Aburn (MDE) provided a presentation summarizing an overview of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) planning process, the status of each active criteria pollutant applicable to the Baltimore region, and an anticipated timeline of planning milestones for the upcoming 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards Bump Up SIP.

The presentation included a summary of criteria pollutant emissions health impacts, emissions sources, and progress in emissions reductions across the state of Maryland. It was shared with the group that EPA will be bumping up the Baltimore region ozone nonattainment designation from marginal to moderate, which will include the following requirements:

- Attainment demonstration by the end of the 2023 ozone season
- 15% reasonable further progress (RFP) over 6 years from 2017 to 2023
- An updated on-road mobile emissions conformity budget

- Contingency measures for failure to attain

An outline for how the requirements of a Bump up SIP will be met will be developed by MDE and submitted to EPA. MDE will need provision of on-road emissions data from MDOT, consultant, and BMC staff to complete the SIP.

It was discussed after the presentation that it is unknown at this time how the new conformity budget will impact submittal requirements for projects in the upcoming 2023 LRTP that is now under development. Monthly modeling discussions are ongoing between MDE, MDOT, consultant staff, and BMC to support conformity budget development. The modeling process can be completed using either the statewide model configurations or configurations specific to the Baltimore region. Testing will be needed to decide which configuration to utilize.

MDE noted that much of the ozone pollution reaching the Baltimore region is due to emissions carried in from upwind states. MDE is actively working on this issue, which is shared by the Washington DC-MD-VA region. Activity has included the filing of a petition in 2019 to the Ozone Transport Commission under Section 184(c) of the Clean Air Act, which has not yet been addressed by EPA. This petition calls for additional control measures to be applied in Pennsylvania within the Ozone Transport Region. It was highly recommended by MDE that a briefing on this issue be given to jurisdictional officials throughout the Baltimore region.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business that anyone had to share. Ms. Hebert reminded the group that the next ICG meeting is scheduled for April 6 at 9:30 A.M. The meeting ended at 10:40.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Kwame Arhin – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Maryland Division
Ryan Long – Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – Region 3
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
Virginia Burke – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Alex Rawls – Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB)

Staff and Guests

George (Tad) Aburn – MDE
Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Charles Baber – BMC
Ying-Tzu Chung – Michael Baker International
Lindsay Donnellon – FHWA
Nicole Hebert – BMC
Dan Janousek – MDOT
Zachary Kaufman – BMC
Mohamed Khan – MDE
Keith Kucharek – BMC

Todd Lang – BMC

Ayanna Miranda – MDE

Roger Thunell – MDE

Brian Ulrich – Anne Arundel County, Technical Committee Vice Chair

Marcia Ways – MDE