

## **PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, September 5, 2018  
Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
5:45 to 7:32 P.M.

### **MINUTES**

Ms. Tafadzwa Gwitira, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

#### **1. PRESENTATION: TRANSPORTATION CAMP 2018**

Ms. Jade Clayton, Chair of Young Professionals in Transportation Baltimore shared highlights of the first Transportation Camp in Baltimore on May 12, 2018. Transportation Camp is an “unconference” where professionals, techies, advocates, policy makers, and users of transportation come together to discuss transportation’s impact on every aspect of people’s lives: equity, education, jobs, economic development, recreation, sustainability, and overall access to opportunity.

Ms. Clayton shared a bit about the unconference format that has no predetermined sessions. Rather, attendees determine the topics and activities for the sessions. Unstructured, unscheduled chats are also encouraged. She also noted that the first Transportation Camp was held in Washington, DC prior to the annual Transportation Research Board (TRB). Sessions often included technology demo or hacks to get important feedback. Now, sessions have expanded to include panel discussions, presentations, games, vent sessions, brainstorming, and lightning talks.

Ms. Clayton reported that overall feedback was good for Baltimore’s inaugural event and planning is underway for the 2019 event. Ms. Clayton recommended members connect with [Young Professionals in Transportation \(YPT\) Baltimore](#), which helped organize the Baltimore Transportation Camp, to get updates on the 2019 Camp. YPT an organization for networking, education and professional development of young individuals in the transportation industry. YPT Baltimore does not recognize any definition of “young”. If you believe you would fit into our organization, then you qualify to participate.

**[Presentation – Transportation Camp 2018]**

#### **2. UPDATE TO THE PAC BYLAWS**

Ms. Haines Benkhedda reviewed the proposed changes to the PAC bylaws to reflect the mission of the PAC, including the promotion of equity and to make the Ad Hoc Equity

Subcommittee a standing subcommittee of the PAC, as recommended by the PAC in December 2017.

In addition, members updated the language under Article II, Section 3 to be in line with state nondiscrimination language, which is more inclusive. Staff also updated Article IV, Section 3 to be in line with the BRTB bylaws.

The PAC voted to approve the amended bylaws, as presented. Staff will share with the BRTB for their consideration in October.

***[Handout – Updated PAC Bylaws, September 2018]***

### **3. SUBCOMMITTEES REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS**

- **Transportation Equity** – Ms. Tafadzwa Gwitira reported the subcommittee drafted a statement on recent calls to scale back bus service to White Marsh and a letter by Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh requesting MDOT close stops at the Ferndale and Linthicum stations, and serve North Linthicum and the Cromwell Station/Dorsey Road terminus only during peak hours.

Although, the Governor has publicly rejected the request to cut Light Rail service in Northern Anne Arundel County, the subcommittee feels it is important to make a statement on maintaining transit access.

Members discussed the draft statement. Mr. Dick Ladd suggested the PAC reword the resolution to begin by praising the Governor for rejecting the call to close the light rail station. Other members noted that the statement does not mention community concerns about the light rail stations. Ms. Gwitira thanked the members for their feedback and agreed to revisit the statement with the subcommittee.

- **Policy and Legislation** – Mr. Will Cowan reported that the subcommittee members discussed via email and a conference call proposed amendments for two Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) projects: I-95: Express Toll Lane Northern Transition and I-95: Port Covington Access Improvements. He presented the subcommittees notes and votes for/against the amendments.

Members discussed the draft comments on each of these TIP/Plan Amendments and voted as follows:

- **I-95 Express Toll Lanes Northbound Extension project (TIP ID # 25-1801-41)** – The PAC does not endorse this project as presented (5 yea, 6 nay, 3 abstentions).
- **I-95 Port Covington Access Improvements (TIP ID # 22-1901-45)** – The PAC supports this project (6 yea, 5 nay, 3 abstentions) with the following comment: The PAC understands the intended mode split for Port Covington is 50% for modes other than single occupant vehicles (SOV). The PAC recommends that the BRTB approve the project with a caveat that the project have a commitment to incorporating multimodal transportation options, and that these options be developed by and with the community and key stakeholders.

**[PAC Resolution #2018 – 06: Amendments for two MDTA projects along I-95]**

- **Public Involvement** – Mr. Paul Kowzan reported that the subcommittee met by phone with the Equity committee to discuss ideas for potential partnering organizations and sponsors for additional Every Voice Transportation Academies in each of the jurisdictions in the region.

In addition, one of the ideas generated in a recent meeting with BRTB members about the PAC's equity framework is for staff to meet with local planning staff about their public involvement activities and polices, as well as any work they do around equity or outreach to vulnerable populations. As staff prepare for these meetings, staff asked PAC members to generate a list of the kinds of questions staff should be asking and topics to be covered. Staff asked members to review the drafts and provide additional feedback before the next meeting.

**[Handouts – Ideas for future Every Voice Transportation Academies; Questions for local public involvement staff]**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The PAC approved the August 2018 minutes.

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

- The BRTB did not hold a meeting in August. The next meeting is scheduled for September 25. Minutes and a list of upcoming events are online at [baltometro.org](http://baltometro.org).
- Mr. Terry Freeland reported that the Technical Committee will review BRTB Resolution #19-7: Financial forecast for *Maximize2045: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan* at their meeting on September 11. In addition, BRTB members have submitted their draft list of projects for *Maximize2045*. Staff are reviewing this list and will share with the BRTB committees and the public later this fall. Following this, the BRTB will conduct a prioritization scoring process of the candidate projects.
- This fall, BMC will host the next What's on Tap event at Diamondback Brewery featuring Mr. Michael Helta who will share information about the app "Transit" being used by the Maryland Transit Administration. Details will be posted on BMC's website.
- Ms. Haines Benkhedda announced that The Howard County Commission on Disabilities seeks public input on unmet needs of people with disabilities in Howard County. People with disabilities, caregivers, education professionals, providers and other members of the public are invited to attend the Howard County Accessible Transportation Forum on September 29 from 10 a.m. to noon at the East Columbia Branch of the Howard County Library System at 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia. In addition, a survey is available online at [www.howardcountymd.gov/disabilitysurveys](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/disabilitysurveys).

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

## ATTENDANCE

### **Members**

Michael Bishop – Resident, Baltimore City

*Proxy Designated by: M. Davis*

Will Cowan – South Baltimore Neighborhood Association

Janet Eveland – Resident, Baltimore City

Tafadzwa Gwitira – Resident, Baltimore City

*Proxy Designated by: B. Groff, E. Norton, J. Weeks, J. Weeks*

Yvette Hicks – Resident, Baltimore City

Mark Howard – Resident, Baltimore County

Paul Kowzan III – Broadway Area Business Association

Dick Ladd – Resident, Anne Arundel County

Mark Lotz – Resident, Harford County

*Proxy Designated by: R. Ossiander*

Daniel Yi – Resident, Howard County

### **Staff and Guests**

Jade Clayton – Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT)

Terry Freeland – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Monica Haines Benkhedda – BMC