

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Baltimore Metropolitan Council
5:39 to 7:15 P.M.

MINUTES

Mr. Eric Norton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:39 P.M.

1. REGIONAL TRANSIT PLAN FOR CENTRAL MARYLAND

Ms. Holly Arnold, Director of MDOT MTA Office of Planning and Programming, briefed the PAC on Chapter 352, Act of 2018 (House Bill 372), the Maryland Metro/Transit Funding Act, that mandates the development of a Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan (RTP).

Covering a 25-year period, the RTP will define public transportation goals for Central Maryland, including Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Harford County, and Howard County. The plan will focus on seven topics: State of good repair; Funding; New mobility; Customer experience; Service quality and integration; Access; and Corridors of opportunity.

The Maryland State Legislature has defined a process for the development of the plan, which must be completed by October 1, 2020. This includes the formation of a Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan Commission composed of representatives of five jurisdictions as defined in the bill, the business community, MDOT MTA rider's councils, and other transportation organizations. The Commission will also work with MDOT MTA in the development of goals for the RTP and strategies for public involvement.

The first RTP Commission meeting is set for [Wednesday, March 27](#) from 9 a.m. to noon at the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. Commission meetings are open to the public and time will be designated at each meeting for public comments. In addition, comments are also welcome to be submitted by mail and online. MDOT MTA will also conduct pop-up events to collect feedback from the public and an online survey is available at rtp.mta.maryland.gov.

2. MAXIMIZE2045 UPDATE

Ms. Monica B. Haines Benkhedda shared a list of projects submitted to the BRTB for consideration in *Maximize2045: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan*. At this time, BRTB members continue to review 84 projects. Of these, 68 projects are road/bridge, 15 are transit, and one is a standalone bicycle/pedestrian project. Of the 84 submitted for consideration, 43 are in *Maximize2040*.

Staff continue to review this list to confirm all details and conduct a scoring analysis often called prioritization. Each project has two scores: a policy score and a technical score. The policy score is determined by the submitting jurisdiction/agency. High priority projects are limited to a maximum of five per agency and receive an additional 30 points. Medium priority have a maximum of four projects and receive 20 points. An unlimited number of low priority projects may be submitted with an additional 10 points. Finally, if a project has demonstrated MDOT financial support it can receive an additional 10 points.

Technical scoring is completed by BMC staff. Unless otherwise indicated, each project will receive 5, 3, or 1 points, depending on whether it addresses a problem or provides benefits at a high, medium, or low level (or 0 points for “not applicable”). The maximum technical score for transit and highway projects is 50 points. An example of a technical score for the goal of accessibility would be the degree to which project delivers safety / accessibility benefits for all modes (ADA improvements, improved bike facilities, etc.) – total population first, then EJ population – per mile benefits.

Overall, a project can receive a maximum total technical + policy score of 90 points. Once the scoring process is completed, the BRTB will consider the mix of projects and release the list of projects along with a draft plan for public review in May.

[HANDOUT: Draft list of projects submitted for Maximize2045]

3. DISCUSSION: UPWP FY2019 BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Ms. Jennifer Weeks reported that the subcommittee met via conference call to discuss the FY 2020-2021 UPWP and prepared some draft comments for PAC consideration. She went on to present three studies the subcommittee recommends being added to the UPWP:

- Ride Sourcing as a Supplement and/or Alternative to Traditional Paratransit Services
- Study of Revenue Options for Electric Vehicles
- Study of the Effects of Adopting Automation and Connectivity on the Port of Baltimore

The PAC voted to approve PAC Resolution #2019-01 recommending additional studies.

[PAC Resolution #2019-01 – Comments on FY 2020-2021 UPWP]

4. PAC SUBCOMMITTEES & CURRENT ACTION ITEMS

The following subcommittee reports were given:

- **Policy** – The subcommittee will begin holding regular policy meetings on the fourth Thursday at noon via conference call. The next meeting will focus on reviewing preliminary project information for *Maximize2045*.
- **Public Involvement and Transportation Equity** – Mr. Norton reported that the subcommittee held a joint meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming Every Voice Counts Transportation Academy. The group is working to finalize a date and location for April in

Howard County and Fall in Harford County. The subcommittee will host conference calls this month to continue planning for the event. PAC members were asked to assist in soliciting sponsors and identifying potential participants and organizations to partner with to promote the event and find participants.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The PAC approved the February 2019 minutes.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

The following announcements were made:

- [New Mobility Transportation Forum](#) on Wednesday, March 13 – Innovative services that capitalize on mobile communications, cash payments, artificial intelligence, and big data – such as applications for ride-hailing; car, scooter, and bikeshare; and trip planning – are changing how we travel. Come hear national and local experts on the forces of change and recent technological and social trends that are impacting the way people and goods move and are propelling changes to public policy, regulations and site and curb design. Meet transit, auto, shared mobility, freight, and IT leaders to discuss opportunities and challenges and share state-of-the-art strategies that might help the Baltimore region's transportation network better serve the region.
- The next [Transit Choices](#) meeting on Thursday, March 14 at Impact Hub features Michelle Pourciau, Director, Baltimore City Department of Transportation, on a comprehensive multi-modal transit plan for Baltimore City. Ms. Renata (Ren) Southard, will also present recommendations from the Transit Choices Dockless Scooters and Bikes Committee and suggestions for the improvement of the Dockless Vehicle Pilot Program.
- [Mid-Atlantic Trails and Greenways Summit](#) organized by East Coast Greenway is set for April 4-6 in Philadelphia – The East Coast Greenway Alliance's inaugural Mid-Atlantic Greenways & Trails Summit will bring together leaders and advocates of active transportation and greenway and trail development to advance bicycling and walking innovations across the region.
- [Bike to Work Day](#) – BMC is excited to celebrate the 22nd annual Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 17, 2019. The celebration will feature hundreds of cyclists at over 45 events throughout the region. Registration is open.
- [Transportation Camp Baltimore](#) is set for Saturday, May 18th at the University of Baltimore Merrick School of Business. This transportation unconference, led by attendees, is an engaging forum about transportation to the people who use, plan, design, build, advocate for, hack, or just feel passionate about transportation.
- The February 26 BRTB meeting featured a presentation by MTA on their Transit Asset Management Plan and an overview of funding for Job Access Reverse Commute and MD Bikeways/Rec Trails programs. The March meeting of the BRTB is cancelled.

- The BRTB, through its Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Group (BPAG), recently launched the Regional Bicycle Facilities Map to enhance planning for bicycle commuting. The map contains all existing bicycle trails and lanes in the Baltimore region. The focus of the data is on commuting, rather than recreational cycling, to enable planners to identify gaps in connectivity among existing bicycle trails and lanes. The new data can be accessed through an online mapping application. For planners and advanced data users, the raw GIS data is available through BMC's Open Data website. View the interactive map at baltometro.org.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Celeste Chavis – Morgan State University

Liz Cornish – Bikemore

Michael Davis – Resident, Carroll County

David Drasin – Member, Howard County Multimodal Transportation Advisory Board

Kira Gardner-Marshall – Neighborhood Housing Services Baltimore

Ben Groff – Resident, Baltimore City

Nicole Katsikides – Resident, Baltimore County

Attended by phone

Bruce Kinzinger – Bike Harford

Paul Kowzan – Broadway Area Business Association

Mark Lotz – Resident, Harford County

Eric Norton – Central Maryland Transportation Alliance

Proxy Designated by: Taffy Gwitira

Arthur Peterson – Resident, Baltimore City

Matt Peterson – Resident, Baltimore County

Taneeka Richardson – Resident, Howard County

Audrey Sellers – Accessible Resources for Independence, Inc.

Derrick Sexton – Resident, Baltimore City

Sharon Smith – Partners In Care

Michael Thompson – Turner Station Conservation Teams

Jennifer L. Weeks – Resident – Baltimore County

Cynthia Wyatt – Resident – Anne Arundel County

Daniel Yi – Resident – Howard County

Staff and Guests

Monica Haines Benkhedda – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Don Halligan – BMC