

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

October 3, 2017

9:35 to 10:35 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M. by the Chair, Mr. Kwaku Duah.

1. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 MINUTES

Mr. Duah asked for approval of the minutes from the September meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. Alex Rawls moved to approve the minutes with Mr. Steve Cohoon seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. MDOT'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES/TARGETS

Ms. Meredith Hill, MDOT-SHA, provided an overview of the MAP-21 and FAST Act Transportation Performance Management (TPM) requirements with a specific focus on PM 1 – safety. There are 6 elements under TPM: 1) national goals, 2) national measures, 3) targets, 4) plans, 5) reports, and 6) accountability and transparency.

National goals include: safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and reduced project delivery delays. PM 1 is related to safety and includes the following five key measures: 1) number of fatalities, 2) number of serious injuries, 3) fatalities/100 million vehicle miles traveled (vmt), 4) serious injuries/100 million vmt, and 5) non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries.

States were required to set targets for these 5 measures by August 31, 2017. Ms. Hill noted that Maryland submitted targets for the 5 measures to FHWA under the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). FHWA established the following guidelines for MPOs: 1) All MPOs must set a target for each of the 5 HSIP safety PMs, 2) MPOs may adopt State's targets, develop their own, or use a combination, 3) MPOs must establish targets by Feb 27, 2018, 4) MPOs report their targets to the state DOT, and 5) state targets are assessed annually for significant progress. MPOs targets are not assessed.

Mr. Tom Gianni, Chief, Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO), encouraged local jurisdictions to develop local Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSPs) to focus local efforts toward meeting the state goals.

Mr. Tim Kern with the University of Maryland National Study Center (NSC) outlined the methodology that the state used to develop targets for the five measures. The Maryland SHSP had adopted the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) vision with a goal of reducing the 2008 fatalities and serious injuries in half by the year 2030. An exponential trend line is used to develop interim goals. So, for example, the fatality goal for is 430 for 2017, 417 for 2018 and 393 for 2020.

[PowerPoint: Transportation Performance Management, PM 1 - Safety Coordination with Metropolitan Planning Organizations]

3. BALTIMORELINK UPDATE

Mr. Michael Helta gave an overview of the status of the BaltimoreLINK project. This included: 1) an overview of project goals, 2) a summary of the effects of changes in routes and service, including increased access to important destinations, 3) an update on improvements at the West Baltimore MARC transfer facility, 4) a status report on dedicated bus lanes (installation complete on Baltimore, Lombard, Pratt, and Fayette streets and on Guilford and Hillen avenues; installation is underway on Charles and St. Paul streets, 5) a status report on transit signal priority (TSP) pilot corridors, 6) an update on improved bus stop signage and on bus stop optimization changes, 7) a summary of activities undertaken prior to launching the project, including public outreach, operator inreach, MTA training exercises, 8) reminders about challenges faced by the implementation team in the weeks preceding and following launch, 9) a summary of after-launch revisions to schedules, 10) an overview of continuing efforts to get input from the public and operators, and 11) a summary of planned fall and winter service changes.

[PowerPoint: Launching the Network Redesign]

4. VEHICLE PROBE DATA UPDATE

Mr. Ed Stylc gave a presentation on holiday travel advisories. Mr. Stylc compared Labor Day traffic in 2016 to 2017 on US 50 utilizing crowd sourced vehicle probe data. The discussion showed that speed data on the return trip from the Maryland beaches showed almost double the delay in both distance and duration. One of the potential explanations discussed was the fact that schools opened after Labor Day in 2017.

Mr. Cohoon expressed interest in potential cooperation in a future study on Bay Bridge travel times during holidays. Mr. Stylc agreed that it was something he would be interested in collaborating with the county on. Mr. Rawls asked if BMC was analyzing I-95 during these travel advisories. Mr. Stylc said that BMC is primarily focused on travel to the Maryland beaches on summer holidays but takes an extensive look at I-95 on Thanksgiving travel week through Harford County.

Mr. Stylc also mentioned that *The Baltimore Sun* has interviewed him several times over the past year and feels these advisories are a positive way for getting the agency's work noticed by a wider audience. He also gave credit to the Maryland Transportation Authority, I-95 Corridor Coalition and University of Maryland Center of Advanced Transportation Technology for providing data assistance on the travel advisories.

[PowerPoint: Labor Say Travel Comparisons]

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Duah reported on the Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) conference that had taken place in September. A highlight of this conference was a presentation from the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) titled “The Emerging Transit Landscape.” This presentation contained information on changing demographics and changing markets for transit.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Ian Beam – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Alex Brun – Maryland Department of the Environment
Ken Choi, Maryland Department of Planning
Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne’s County Department of Public Works
David Cookson – Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning
Kwaku Duah – City of Annapolis Department of Transportation
Michael Helta – Maryland Transit Administration
Martha Arzu McIntosh – Anne Arundel County Planning & Zoning
Tara Penders – MD State Highway Administration (SHA)
Alex Rawls – Harford County Department of Planning
Graham Young - Baltimore City Department of Transportation

Staff and Guests

Bala Akundi - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Regina Aris – BMC
Nancy Camara - MHSO
Terry Freeland - BMC
Tom Gianni – Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO)
Don Halligan - BMC
Meredith Hill – SHA
Tim Kearns – National Study Center
Sanghyeon Ko - BMC
Melissa Kraschik - SHA
Todd Lang – BMC
Sara Tomlinson – BMC
Mark Wall - MHSO