

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

October 13, 2021  
9:30 to 10:41 A.M.

### MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Brian Ulrich, the Vice Chair, at 9:30 A.M.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2021 MINUTES

Mr. Ulrich asked for approval of the minutes from the September meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. Dan Janousek moved to approve the minutes with Mr. Graham Young seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

#### 2. RESILIENCE 2050: UPDATE

Ms. Regina Aris provided an update on the comment period that closed the day before for the Goals and Strategies that are the foundation for Resilience 2050. Using [PublicInput.com](https://www.PublicInput.com) to manage the comments, it was reported that there were 1,583 views of the material that yielded 157 comments. Key themes included the following: 1) improve safety for transit and pedestrians; 2) provide reliable and timely transit service, and 3) shift to sustainable modes, don't add additional highway lanes. Also of note, accessibility received the most comments followed by informed decision making.

Currently staff are collecting all comments into one file to place online and share with TC and BRTB members. Staff will initially review and make recommended changes that are in keeping with the direction from the BRTB. Ms. Aris will reach out to TC members to ask for a work session next week to prepare for the resolution in November.

#### ***[PowerPoint: Closed Comment Period for LRTP Goals & Strategies]***

Mr. Zach Kaufman summarized the most significant recommended updates to the scoring methodology for the upcoming LRTP, Resilience 2050. Mr. Kaufman presented the full scope of the updates at the September 14 Technical Committee meeting.

The recommended updates shift the amount of points devoted to the existing goals, particularly for transit projects. BMC staff recommend adding scoring criteria for transit projects where it had previously been absent in the areas of complete streets accessibility, safety, and security. Staff are also recommending reducing the points allocated to economic prosperity from 10 to 5 so that the point allocation for safety can be increased to 10 to reflect its importance as a regional goal. In addition, the recommended updates clarify definitions and

the allocation of points where they had previously been unclear. BMC staff also sought to make the scoring process less subjective by suggesting more quantitative methods focusing on how each project contributes to creating a complete transportation system. Finally, BMC staff recommend updating the scoring criteria to integrate impacts to Environmental Justice populations.

Mr. Kaufman then reviewed the distribution of technical scoring points for transit and highway projects. As recommended, transit projects would be eligible for a maximum of 55 technical scoring points while highway projects would be eligible for a maximum of 50 technical scoring points. Many of the comments on the Goals and Strategies focused on improving transit accessibility, reliability, and frequency and reducing the focus on cars and highways. Mr. Kaufman said that in an effort to begin to respond to those comments, BMC staff recommend leaving the technical scoring maximums for transit and highway projects as they are, with transit projects eligible for more points than highway projects.

Mr. Kaufman asked Technical Committee members if they agreed or had any questions on the recommended scoring methodology. No Technical Committee members had any additional questions. Ms. Aris then asked if there was a consensus among members to move forward with a BRTB resolution in November on the suggested scoring methodology. All members present agreed with this approach, with no members dissenting.

***[PowerPoint: LRTP Project Scoring Methodology]***

**3. DISCUSSION: BEGIN TO IDENTIFY FOCUS AREAS FOR THE UPCOMING UPWP**

Mr. Todd Lang opened by thanking the TC members that were able to attend the AMPO Conference. There were 300 registrants from over 80 regions in the country. There were a lot of interesting presentations that we can possibly learn from. Mr. Lang reviewed the timeline for development of the UPWP so that all members understood the process. From there Mr. Lang identified a number of topics for discussion:

- Connected/Automated Vehicles - CAV
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Advanced Air Mobility – Drones, etc.
- Cross MPO Border Study – BRTB/TPB/Wilmapco
- Defining Resiliency for the BRTB

As well as items from the MTA RTP Implementation LOTS Skills and Technology Assessment

- Defining Regional Data Standards and KPIs
- LOTS Information Exchange – Training (Asset Management, Software, Leadership)
- Microtransit Best Practices and Service Models
- Regional Fare Policy/Fare Free Policy Research
- Customer Communications Standards
- Regional Technology/Software Contracts

***[PowerPoint: Discussion of Potential FY 2023 Focus Areas]***

#### **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Lang announced that the elected officials meeting of the BRTB scheduled for October 29 has been canceled. It is anticipated that the elected officials will sit as the BRTB in January.

With no other business, Mr. Ulrich asked for a motion to close the TC meeting. Mr. Janousek made a motion which Mr. Duah seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 A.M.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Ulrich asked for a motion to open a Closed Session of the Technical Committee in order to discuss two proposed RFPs. Mr. Dan Janousek made a motion to open the Closed Session and Mr. Rawls seconded the motion at 11:16 a.m.

Mr. Charles Baber provided the proposed scope of work for a task for which an RFP is currently under development, online transportation, and crash data dashboards. The online dashboards build on the FY 2018 Jurisdiction Transportation Data Books and BMC's COVID recovery dashboards. The project objective is to create interactive and engaging dashboards that allow users to monitor trends, explore data relationships, and output/save data for reporting. Public and private data sources along with broad dashboard topics are identified. The selected consultant is required to develop a user guide and a maintenance guide. The final web-based product would be housed on BMC's website.

Several TC members, (Brian Ulrich, Mary Lane, Graham Young, David Cookson, and Sam Snead) volunteered to review the RFP and review/score received proposals.

The RFP will be released in October with consultant selection in November. Consultant work should begin in January 2022 with completion expected no later than December 2022.

Technical committee members agreed with the project scope and agreed to move forward.

Mr. Don Halligan provided the proposed scope of work for a task for which an RFP is currently under development, the Planning Process Review task. He stated that each jurisdiction has somewhat different processes for reviewing land development proposals and building permits and specifically how each evaluates transportation impacts. He noted this task builds on prior work by the BRTB looking at the development process to understand how transportation impacts are considered, previously how shared mobility is considered, and examining the TIS processes across the region.

Mr. Halligan stated that this effort will:

- Ask how the review processes for land development and building permits assesses impacts to the transportation systems in the region;
- Map the process for clear understanding and possible comparisons; and,
- Document findings and practices, identify best practices and recommend a set of feasible improvements.

Mr. Halligan mentioned that member jurisdictions will provide staff support and time toward completion of the task and be provided funding for their participation. The balance of the funding will go toward consultant services, approximately \$180,000.

Mr. Halligan noted that local staff will be interviewed as a means to document current thresholds for development review processes, the development review processes from notification of application to final plan approval including permits processes, and any required community notification/input.

Mr. Halligan noted that the study will document the Boards and/or Commissions and their role in the process, any waiver/exemption processes focusing on transportation items. It will also describe any software used by jurisdictions in the planning process including in the permit process and provide an opportunity to compare and review and permit fees across the region.

The RFP will be released in October with consultant selection in November. Consultant work should begin in January 2022 with completion expected no later than December 2022.

Mr. Ulrich asked if the effort could build in time for consultants to present their findings to local bodies (i.e. Planning Commissions and County Councils). Mr. Halligan stated that they could add a subtask seeking these services into the RFP.

Mr. Janousek discussed his support for the activity and mentioned he felt it could serve as a basis for ongoing research into related topics of development, transportation and related issues the BRTB is trying to address.

Technical committee members were in agreement with the project scope and agreed to move forward.

Mr. Ulrich asked for a motion to close the Closed Session of the TC. Mr. Duah made a motion to close the session after discussion of two proposed RFPs. Mr. Rawls seconded the motion to close the session. The Closed Session ended at 10:41 a.m.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### ***Members***

Jade Clayton – Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA)  
Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne’s County Department of Public Works  
David Cookson – Howard County Office of Transportation  
Kwaku Duah – Annapolis Department of Transportation  
Alex Rawls (for Joel Gallihue) – Harford County Department of Planning  
Dan Janousek – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Mary Lane – Carroll County Department of Planning  
Pete Regan – Maryland State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA)  
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment  
Sam Snead – Baltimore County Department of Public Works & Transportation  
Brian Ulrich – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation (OOT)  
Ken Choi – Maryland Department of Planning  
Graham Young – Baltimore City Department of Transportation

***Staff and Guests***

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Charles Baber - BMC

Cindy Burch - BMC

Rebecca Deibel, BMC

Monica Haines Benkhedda, BMC

Don Halligan – BMC

Vivek Hariharan

Victor Henry - BMC

Zach Kaufman - BMC

Keith Kucharek – BMC

Todd Lang, BMC

Charlene Mingus, BMC

Brian Ryder, BMC