

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

November 2, 2021
9:31 to 10:13 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 A.M. by Mr. Joel Gallihue.

1. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2021 MINUTES

Mr. Gallihue asked for approval of the minutes from the October meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. Dan Janousek moved to approve the minutes with Ms. Mary Lane seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #22-6

Mr. Zach Kaufman presented Resolution #22-6 regarding endorsement of the regional goals and strategies for *Resilience 2050: Adapting to the Challenges of Tomorrow*. Mr. Kaufman summarized the nine regional goals and the comment period for the goals and strategies. The comment period extended from September 8 through October 12. People could comment via voicemail, text, email, fax, and an online survey. Thirty-six people submitted more than 150 comments. The comments are available on the BMC website.

Several themes emerged in the comments. Themes included an emphasis on improving safety for transit and pedestrians, a desire for reliable and timely transit service, and a recommendation to shift towards sustainable modes and away from adding highway lanes. Improve Accessibility received the most comments followed by Promote Informed Decision Making.

BMC staff recommended revisions to the goals and strategies based on the comments received. Several Technical Committee members met during the week of October 18 to discuss additional revisions based on public comment. The final recommended revisions are included in Resolution #22-6 and were shared with members via email. Comment responses will be sent to participants by November 16. Mr. Kaufman asked members of the Technical Committee to share the resolution with their BRTB member prior to the November 30 meeting.

Mr. Gallihue asked for a motion for approval and if there were any questions from the committee. Mr. Dan Janousek asked about the source of the comments received. Mr. Kaufman responded that most comments were submitted via the online survey. Mr. Kwaku

Duah motioned for approval, and Mr. Janousek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[PowerPoint: Resolution #22-6 Regarding Endorsement of Regional Goals and Strategies for Resilience 2050]

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #22-7

Mr. Kaufman presented Resolution #22-7 regarding endorsement of scoring criteria to assist with project selection for *Resilience 2050*. Mr. Kaufman summarized the two primary components of project scores, the Policy score and the Technical score. He also summarized the most significant recommended updates to the scoring methodology. Mr. Kaufman presented the full scope of the updates at the September Technical Committee meeting, with additional discussion at the October 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. 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. In an effort to begin to respond to those comments, BMC staff recommended leaving the technical scoring maximums for transit and highway projects as they are, with transit projects eligible for more points than highway projects. The Technical Committee agreed to this recommendation in October.

Mr. Gallihue asked for a motion for approval and if there were any questions from the committee. Mr. Janousek noted the importance of system preservation in addition to funding major capital projects. Mr. Duah echoed these sentiments and commented on the backlog for transit state of good repair. Mr. Janousek also asked about the process for LRTP project submittal. Mr. Kaufman said that BMC staff will update the project submittal form based on the project scoring methodology. The call for projects for the LRTP is scheduled for April through June of 2022, followed by BMC staff scoring through August of 2022. The Technical Committee and BRTB are scheduled to consider a resolution regarding the Preferred Alternative for *Resilience 2050* in late 2022. Mr. Janousek motioned for approval, and Mr. Duah seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[PowerPoint: Resolution #22-7 Regarding Endorsement of the Project Scoring Methodology for Resilience 2050]

4. EXPLORE FOCUS AREAS FOR THE UPCOMING UPWP

Mr. Todd Lang walked through a list of topics based on member input and suggestions from the AMPO Conference. The topics range from transit themes, to emerging trends, to equity issues. There are a range of topics, yet there will be one more week for members to bring additional topics to the table. After that, BMC will send a survey to the TC members to gauge priorities before moving forward. Ultimately, these topics will be considered by the BRTB and included in the FY 2023 UPWP Addendum.

[PowerPoint: Potential UPWP (FY 2023) Focus Areas]

5. OTHER BUSINESS

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

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Gallihue asked for a motion to open a Closed Session of the Technical Committee in order to discuss one proposed RFP. Mr. Brian Ulrich made a motion to open the Closed Session and Mr. Graham Young seconded the motion at 10:11 a.m.

Ms. Eileen Singleton provided a summary of proposed work focusing on climate change planning. She presented a short summary of the recently completed *Climate Change Resource Guide* and how the proposed tasks fit as a follow up to that work.

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

Mr. Gallihue asked for a motion to close the Closed Session of the TC. Mr. Janousek made a motion to close the session after discussion of the one proposed RFP. Mr. Ulrich seconded the motion to close the session. The Closed Session ended at 10:25 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Jade Clayton – Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA)
David Cookson – Howard County Office of Transportation
Kwaku Duah – Annapolis Department of Transportation
Joel Gallihue – Harford County Department of Planning
Dan Janousek – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Mary Lane – Carroll County Department of Planning

Lisa Sirota – Maryland State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA)
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment
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
Lindsay Donnellon – FHWA – Maryland Division
Monica Haines Benkhedda, BMC
Don Halligan – BMC
Vivek Hariharan – RS&H
Nicole Hebert - BMC
Victor Henry - BMC
Zach Kaufman - BMC
Keith Kucharek – BMC
Todd Lang, BMC
Sheila Mahoney - BMC
Charlene Mingus, BMC
Ines Nizeye – Tindale Oliver
Brian ten Seithoff – Camsys
Eileen Singleton - BMC