

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

August 6, 2024
9:30 to 10:31 A.M.

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF JULY 2024 MINUTES

Mr. Dan Janousek asked for approval of the minutes from the July meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. David Cookson moved to approve the minutes with Mr. Brian Ulrich seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #25-7

Ms. Anna Marshall introduced Resolution #25-7, which was the recommendation to approve the BRTB CMAQ mid-performance report for the second performance period. If approved, it will be included in the MDOT report. The MDOT report is due to FHWA on October 1, 2024. Next, Ms. Marshall summarized where the State and MPOs are in the process. The performance period is a 4 year period, from 2022-2025, and the mid performance looks at the two year targets and if the region met the targets.

There are 3 measures for the CMAQ program. The Annual Peak Hour Excessive Delay (PHED) 2 year target for Baltimore was 14.8 hours, and the 4 year target was 15.7. Performance showed that the region met the 2 year target, at exactly 14.8, and it was coordinated with MDOT to increase the 4 year target to 16.9, based on performance trends and projections. The 2 year target for percent Non-SOV (percent of non-single occupancy vehicle trips) was 25.3% and the 4 year target was 25.5%. There will be no changes to the 4 year target, because the region exceeded the target, meaning that there are fewer single occupancy vehicle trips than anticipated. In 2022, non-SOV travel was 30.7% of the region. The final measure looks at emissions of precursor pollutants for ozone, NOx and VOCs. The region met the two year targets, and actually exceeded reductions for both NOx and VOC emissions. There will be no changes made to the 4 year targets.

There were no questions about the performance or targets. Mr. Cookson made the motion to approve the BRTB mid performance report, and Mr. Steve Cohoon seconded it. The resolution was unanimously approved.

[PowerPoint: CMAQ Second Performance Period – Mid Performance Targets]

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #25-8

Mr. Darren Bean, MDOT SHA, indicated that Howard County has requested a change of functional classification for a segment of Ten Oaks Road: Triadelphia Road to Brighton Dam Road to move from a local road to a major collector. The request follows FHWA guidance for 1) system continuity, annual average daily traffic, and 3) highway design. The request would align the current function of the roadway to the associated functional classification.

Once the BRTB gives approval the change will be sent to FHWA for concurrence. After that SHA Data Services Division will update the roadway database to reflect the change.

Mr. Janousek asked for a motion and a second. Mr. Cookson offered the motion and Mr. Ulrich made the second. There were no questions from the members or guests. The members approved the requested change to the functional classification.

[PowerPoint: Functional Classification Change: Ten Oaks Road]

4. PRESENTATION: BMORE BUS

Ms. Elizabeth Gordon, MDOT MTA, provided an update the short-range planning activity titled: [BMORE BUS](#). Essentially the effort is a short-range transit plan (5-10 years) that will recommend bus improvements based on public priorities and travel data and will inform MTA's Annual Service Planning and will identify improvements that could be possible with additional resources. This effort focuses on core bus service area plus connections to broader Central Maryland region.

MTA is considering at least four improvements: 1) more frequent service, 2) longer hours of operation, 3) new or modified routes to serve new destinations and connections, and 4) new services like limited-stop routes and on-demand transit.

MTA began the study in the spring with a visioning task followed by draft recommendations during the summer. This fall MTA will release the final recommendations in the BMORE BUS Transit Plan. Once complete, the plan will inform the annual updates that MTA makes to bus service each fall.

Ms. Gordon also described a robust public engagement effort with media, presentations at organizations and in jurisdictions as well as pop-up events. The public was able to learn the basics of bus service planning and then respond to a survey that ranked priorities.

[PowerPoint: Bmore Bus Stakeholder Presentation]

5. UPWP UPDATES

Mr. Todd Lang shared with the members how to access the new AMPO tool called the MPO Institute. There will be online training programs for staff, BRTB and Technical Committee members. Currently there are two featured courses: MPO 101 and Federal Funding. AMPO will be adding additional content over time. The classes are fairly rigorous with modules that could

total 11 hours of learning, recommended to take place over a few weeks. If folks are AICP planners you can earn continuous maintenance credits.

We are hoping to add local generated videos such as how to submit a project to the TIP. This will build out over time. BMC purchased 40 licenses to allow folks to learn from these tools.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting will be virtual on September 3, 2024. There was no other business. A motion to close the meeting at 10:13 was made by Mr. Cookson with a second from Mr. Cohoon.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Janousek asked for a motion to open the closed session. Mr. Kwaku Duah made a motion which Mr. Sam Kahl seconded. The Technical Committee began the closed session at 10:14 A.M. to discuss upcoming Requests for Proposals.

CRP/PROTECT RFP: Ms. Eileen Singleton and Ms. Marshall provided an overview of the proposed Request for Proposals (RFP) for the *Program Scoring and Project Identification for the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program* task. The purpose of this task is to develop a pipeline of eligible regional transportation projects for the CRP and PROTECT programs. It is anticipated that the work will include four tasks and that the RFP will be issued by mid-September. The budget for the task is \$200,000. Members supported the proposed approach, therefore the RFP will move forward.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Janousek asked for a motion to end the closed session. Mr. Cookson made a motion which Mr. Duah seconded. The Technical Committee ended the closed session at 10:31 A.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne’s County Department of Public Works
David Cookson – Howard County Office of Transportation
Angelica Daniel – Baltimore County Department of Public Works & Transportation
Kwaku Duah – Annapolis Department of Transportation
Albert Guiney Engel – MDOT Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA)
Brooks Phelps – Maryland Department of Planning
Dan Janousek – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Tavon Hawkins – MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA)
Clare Stewart – Carroll County Department of Planning
Sam Kahl – Harford County Department of Public Works
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment

Brett Thorne (for Stu Sirota) – Baltimore City Department of Transportation
Brian Ulrich – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation (OOT)

Staff and Guests

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Darren Bean – MDOT SHA

Monica Haines Benkhedda - BMC

Cindy Burch - BMC

Sophia Cortazzo - MDOT

Rebecca Deibel - BMC

Ndemazea Fonkem - BMC

Louisa Glazanova – BMC

Elizabeth Gordon – MDOT MTA

Candice Ifill - BMC

Andrea Jackson - BMC

Todd Lang – BMC

Anna Marshall - BMC

Md. Mokhlesur Rahman - BMC

Eileen Singleton – BMC

Marium Sultan – BMC