

BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

March 24, 2015

Baltimore Metropolitan Council

9:00 to 10:41 A.M.

MINUTES

The 269th meeting of the BRTB was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by the Chair, Mr. George Cardwell.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A request for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2015 BRTB meeting was made by Mr. Cardwell. A motion was made by Mr. John Powell to approve the minutes and seconded by Mr. Tony McClune. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

There was no one who wished to address the BRTB.

3. REPORT ON PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Regina Aris stated that there are two proposed amendments to the 2014-2017 TIP out for review. Harford County is requesting to add a bridge replacement for Stafford Road Bridge and MTA is requesting to add a demonstration project for which they have received a grant for Hybrid Bus Efficiency Improvements. The comment period is open from Friday, March 6 through Wednesday, April 8 with a Public Meeting on Wednesday, April 1 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at BMC.

Ms. Aris also shared that the comment period for the FY 2016-2017 Work Program and Budget has closed with no comments from the public. The comment period extended from Tuesday, February 17 through Thursday, March 19.

An announcement was made that registration for Bike to Work Day is open for May 15, 2015 with events and rides across the region.

[Handout: Public Involvement Report, March 2015]

4. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Greg Shafer reported the following from the March PAC meeting:

- The PAC discussed the UPWP and had several comments. BMC staff was going to respond prior to the April 1 meeting to allow the PAC to conclude whether they wanted to submit comments to the BRTB.
- PAC also is working on updating their Bylaws to reflect the name change and to make several other minor changes to bring to the BRTB in May.
- The Public Involvement Subcommittee is also discussing materials to introduce regional transportation planning to the general public. Discussions on audience and type of materials were discussed.

5. REPORT FROM THE INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP

Ms. Sara Tomlinson reported the following from the March ICG meeting:

- ICG looked at two proposed TIP amendments including: Stafford Road Bridge #24 over Deer Creek and MTA Bus Efficiency Enhancements Research and Demonstrations. The ICG determined that both projects are exempt from conformity requirements.
- ICG discussed a draft resolution endorsing the motor vehicle emission budgets for the 2008 8-hour ozone state implementation plan (SIP). The ICG decided to hold off on this for a month or two to allow members to agree on wording.
- The ICG reviewed the conformity methodology that will accompany the 2016-2019 TIP. The testing years are 2017, 2025, and 2035 and the new EPA MOVES 2014 emissions model will be used.

6. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Ben Pickar reported the following from the March TC meeting:

- Staff discussed progress on reviewing the eighteen Section 5310 grant applications but was not ready to present recommendations.
- The resolution identifying motor vehicle emissions budgets for the 8-hour ozone SIP was not discussed since the ICG did not agree on all of the content.
- The members were briefed by Carroll County on their requested stormwater management project that had received partial funding from the BRTB earlier in FY 2015. Based on the presentation the TC will recommend to the BRTB to fully fund the federal portion of the request.
- BMC presented an overview of the updated Activity Center definitions, which had been accepted as submitted by the CFG which had been charged with the task of updating the definitions of the region's Activity Centers for use as evaluation criteria for projects in the proposed Long Range

Plan. The updated definitions include two new center categories, Anchor Institutions and Transit Corridors, and incorporate Round 8A into the development of the center boundaries.

- Staff shared the status of project submittals for both *Maximize2040* and the 2016-2019 TIP. Minimal submittals have come in which is starting to impact the timeline. Staff also shared information on SHA operations and preservation amounts broken down in the plan according to project type. MTA has not submitted their information at this time.
- Staff gave a presentation on the upcoming Spring 2015 data collection plans. This included an overview on the planned vehicular traffic count locations, vehicle occupancy data collection at employment centers, and ideas for bicycle and pedestrian counts.

7. RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #15-25

The BRTB was asked to approve Resolution #15-25 adopting funding levels for urbanized area applicants under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 program. Mr. Robert Berger discussed the application review process conducted by BMC and MTA for the FTA 5310 Program. There are four types of projects authorized under the new program: 1) public transportation projects planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of seniors and people with disabilities when public transportation is insufficient, unavailable or inappropriate; 2) public transportation projects that exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990; 3) public transportation projects that improve access to fixed route service and decrease reliance by people with disabilities on complementary paratransit; and 4) alternatives to public transportation that assist seniors and people with disabilities with transportation. When reviewing the applications, the four main evaluation criteria included: 1) extent and urgency of local needs; 2) coordination and cooperation; 3) vehicle utilization and requested vehicles; and 4) fiscal and managerial capability. All applicants are non-profit organizations.

This month applications from large urban areas of the region were considered. Eighteen applications were received, seventeen from the Baltimore urban area and one from the Harford urban area. Mr. Berger noted that the applications documented a growing need that will have to be met as the region's elderly and disabled population continues to increase. Under the recommendations, fourteen (14) projects would be endorsed as proposed, three (3) projects would be endorsed as amended, and one (1) project would be denied.

Mr. Cardwell asked for a motion to approve Resolution #15-25. A motion to recommend approval was made by Mr. Pat Keller and seconded by Mr. McClune. Mr. Cardwell asked if there was any discussion by the members and then by the audience.

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Cardwell asked whether \$356,025 of program funds would still be available under the recommendations. Mr. Berger replied that he was correct. Mr. Powell asked whether the amount would actually be closer to \$230,000, since \$120,000 would be placed in reserve in case the vehicle bids came in higher than expected, and Mr. Berger replied that he was also correct.

Mr. Philip LaCombe of CMRT urged the Board to restore funding for TRIP. Mr. Ben Cohen of the BWI Business Partnership also urged the Board to restore funding for TRIP. Mr. Cardwell pointed out that funding shortages were common for highway and transit projects. He asked for MTA's position on the recommendations, and Mr. Berger replied that they supported them.

Mr. Cardwell asked for a vote and Resolution #15-25 was unanimously recommended for approval.

[Handout: Attachment 1 to Resolution #15-25, List of Large Urbanized Area Section 5310 Grants]

8. RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #15-1

Mr. Chris Heyn, a Carroll County Watershed Restoration Engineer, described the project and the benefits derived from it. The Transportation Alternatives program allows for projects that address water pollution due to highway runoff. In the vicinity of Eldersburg, the drainage area is 207 acres with 25 acres of impervious surface coming from state and local roads. The existing Elderwood and Oklahoma stormwater facilities were constructed between 1988 and 1992. They were designed for flood management but do not meet standards for 100 year storms or provide water quality treatment. Construction is scheduled for Fall 2015 and cost \$2,158,128. Carroll County has already invested \$88 thousand in design and will overmatch the construction costs by providing \$1,110,658.

Mr. Cardwell asked members for a motion to approve \$1,047,466 toward an amended Resolution #15-1. A motion to recommend approval was made by Mr. Powell and seconded by Ms. Lynda Eisenburg. Mr. Cardwell asked if there was any discussion by the members and then by the audience. Hearing none, Mr. Cardwell asked for a vote and Resolution #15-1 was unanimously recommended for approval.

[PowerPoint: Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Carroll County Elderwood and Oklahoma Stormwater Pond]

9. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 A.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members

George Cardwell, Anne Arundel County, Department of Planning & Zoning
Lynda Eisenberg, Carroll County, Department of Land Use, Planning and Development
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment, Air Quality Planning & Monitoring Program
Emery Hines, Baltimore County, Department of Public Works
Pat Keller, Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), Statewide Service Development
Tony McClune, Harford County, Department of Planning
Frank Murphy, City of Baltimore
Sally Nash, City of Annapolis, Department of Planning
Mike Nixon, (for Don Halligan), Maryland Department of Transportation, OPCP
John Powell, Howard County, Office of Transportation
Bihui Xu, Maryland Department of Planning, Transportation Planning

Staff and Guests

Regina Aris, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Robert Berger, BMC
Tyson Byrne, MDOT
Ben Cohen, BWI Partnership
Victor Henry, BMC
Chris Heyn, Carroll County
Phil La Combe, Central Maryland Regional Transit
Todd Lang, BMC
Ben Pickar, Chair, Technical Committee
Greg Shafer, Chair, Public Advisory Committee
Sara Tomlinson, BMC

Respectfully submitted,

Todd R. Lang, Secretary
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board