

## **COOPERATIVE FORECASTING GROUP**

Thursday, December 17, 2015

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

Offices@ McHenry Row 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Noon to 2:00 P.M.

### **MINUTES / SUMMARY**

The Chairperson, Ms. Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, called the meeting to order at 12:15 P. M.

#### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Scott Graf moved the approval of the Cooperative Forecasting Group (CFG) minutes of the October 28, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kui Zhao. The minutes were approved.

#### **2. BRTB UPDATE – QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY – MARGRET KAII-ZIEGLER**

Mr. Shawn Kimberly updated the CFG on the relationship the BRTB established with Queen Anne’s County government officials. This outreach was driven by 2010 Census population reports that resulted in the expansion of the Baltimore urbanized area east of the Bay Bridge into portions of Queen Anne’s County. Only a population of about 20,000 resides within the boundaries of the expanded urbanized area. In recognition of this change and following a series of meetings with county officials, the BRTB invited the County to become a non-voting member of the BRTB on a trial basis. The BRTB will vote on that proposal at their meeting next Tuesday. He shared a map identifying the portion of the county, Kent Island and Grasonville, included in the urbanized area.

#### **3. YEAR IN REVIEW AND LOOK FORWARD –SHAWN KIMBERLY**

Mr. Kimberly provided a brief overview of committee work completed during 2015. Round 8B was completed in January but not endorsed by the BRTB due to timing constraints, as the 2015 Long Range Plan was well underway using the Round 8A forecasts in its modeling activities. Additionally, the changes and updates were not statistically significant. The 2005 Activity Center Boundary definitions were reviewed and updated in February. A survey of forecasting methods was emailed to 45 MPO’s. A working subcommittee of CFG members reviewed and analyzed replies from the 9 respondents. A draft schedule for work activities for the Round 9 forecast was discussed and finalized. The spring of 2018 is the target completion date for endorsement. During the year a series of informative presentations were made. They included: Changing Demographics in the Baltimore Region- Mark Goldstein, Harford County

Development Tracker – Dan Rooney, Howard County Search Plans Application – Jeff Bronow and Baltimore City Econ View – Jamie Williams.

The 2016 work calendar includes several activities supporting Round 8B. Local updates to forecast numbers are due on January 15<sup>th</sup>. So far, CFG representatives have indicated their jurisdiction's intention. Baltimore and Howard Counties plan to make some adjustments. Anne Arundel and Carroll Counties will not make changes at this time. Baltimore City and Harford Counties are weighting their options. Regarding the Master Establishment File and the ES202 data, Mr. Kimberly reported that he has received the data set (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015) from DLLR. In house geocoding is underway currently. He anticipates having the analysis complete and available for review at the February CFG meeting.

The Washington Council of Governments is currently at work on their Round 9 forecast. They are at the stage of reconciling local submissions (3% threshold) with the results of their econometric model (purchase forecast) regional control forecast. At this point in their process, local employment numbers are higher than the numbers provided in the model.

The BRTB retreat, scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup>, will kick-off the 2017 UPWP budget process.

#### **4. NEXT STEPS FOR THE FORECAST SURVEY – RICHARD CAMPBELL**

Mr. Richard Campbell reported that, due to scheduling conflicts, the subcommittee did not meet. He polled the subcommittee members who were in attendance as to their availability and scheduled a conference call meeting on January 6.

#### **5. CARROLL COUNTY AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM – DEBORAH BOWERS**

Deborah Bowers, Program Manager for Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation, presented an informative overview of the history, operation and accomplishments of the program. The program conserves farm land by purchasing development rights and granting perpetual easements that enable property owners to continue traditional agricultural uses. The program reinforces the rural character of the northwest portion of the county and blocks suburban sprawl. About 2000 acres of farm land are preserved each year. She noted that 66,000 acres have been preserved through three County programs (Ag Land preservation, Rural Legacy and the Land Trust) to date.

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

CFG members spoke briefly about projects of interest in their jurisdiction and the meeting closed with the Chairperson thanking Dan Rooney for organizing the holiday luncheon enjoyed during the meeting and thanking everyone for their contributions to the menu.

**NEXT MEETING – February 24, 2016**

**ATTENDANCE**

***Members***

Deborah Bowers – Carroll County Department of Planning  
Jeff Bronow – Howard County Department of Planning  
Richard Campbell - Anne Arundel County Department of Planning  
Mark Goldstein – Maryland Department of Planning  
Scott Graf – Carroll County Department of Planning  
Jamie Williams - Baltimore City Department of Planning  
Dan Rooney – Harford County Department of Planning  
Alfred Sundara – Maryland Department of Planning  
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler - Anne Arundel County Department of Planning  
Kui Zhao - Baltimore County Department of Planning

***Staff and Guests***

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Victor Bonaparte - Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Shawn Kimberly - Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Cedric Southerland - Baltimore Metropolitan Council