

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

July 7, 2015

MDOT Headquarters

9:30 to 11:00 A.M.

MINUTES

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

1. APPROVAL OF MAY 5, 2015 MINUTES

Mr. Muldoon asked for approval of the minutes from the May meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. Tyson Byrne moved to approve the minutes with Mr. Alex Rawls seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #16-1

Ms. Regina Aris began by stating that the FY 2016 – 2019 TIP is moving forward as it stands with the Baltimore Red Line project included. Changes to transportation projects resulting from Governor Hogan’s June 25 release of “Maryland Invests \$845 Million in New Highway and Bridge Projects” will be reflected in next year’s CTP. As a result, these changes will most likely be reflected in the FY 2017 – 2020 TIP.

Mr. Zachary Kaufman gave a brief overview of the FY 2016 – 2019 TIP. It includes 140 projects requesting a total of \$3.3 billion – \$2.26 in federal funds and \$1.07 billion in matching funds. Of the nine project categories, highway preservation (74) and highway capacity (29) have the largest number of projects. A 30-day public review began on June 12, 2015 and ends on July 13, 2015. A live webinar highlighting projects in the TIP and Conformity Determination was held on June 24, 2015. A public meeting was held on July 1, 2015 at the BMC. No comments have been received to date.

Mr. Muldoon asked for a motion. Mr. Scott Graf made a motion to move Resolution #16-1 to the BRTB as presented and Mr. Rawls seconded the motion with unanimous support from the members.

Ms. Aris discussed the Metropolitan Planning requirement to identify the criteria and process for prioritizing implementation of transportation plan elements. For this TIP, staff reviewed projects in a number of areas, including: safety, system operating effectiveness, multi-modal/access, economic activity and growth, transportation equity and access, environmental impact, including air quality, and system preservation. While most of the areas were reviewed on a qualitative basis, other areas

such as air quality are quantitative. Members agreed with the approach and supported a review of this process in conjunction with emerging federal performance measures.

[Handout and PowerPoint: Attachment 1 to Resolution #16-1, Baltimore Region FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)]

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #16-2

Ms. Aris introduced this resolution, which certifies that the BRTB has conducted its planning activities in compliance with laws and regulations governing the metropolitan planning process, air quality conformity, and other MPO requirements. Ms. Aris noted that the BRTB reissues this self-certification with every new TIP. The current TIP was approved in November 2013, which was the last time the BRTB approved a self-certification document.

Two points were raised regarding the supporting documentation: 1) on page 7 there is a reference to using Google Translate on the BMC website, staff will add a disclaimer that this free service is useful but is not appropriate in all circumstances, and 2) there was some concern with including information on *Maximize2040* prior to adoption. The text states that this is the next plan and is under development with an expected approval date. It does not suggest that there are no additional steps or changes between now and then.

Mr. Muldoon asked for a motion. Mr. Byrne made a motion to move Resolution #16-2 to the BRTB as presented and Mr. Emery Hines seconded the motion with unanimous support from the members.

4. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #16-3

Ms. Aris introduced this resolution which documents the air quality analysis, called a Conformity Determination, of the FY 2016 – 2019 TIP and the Amended *Plan It 2035*. The Interagency Consultation Group (ICG) is the committee that oversees the methodology to conduct the analysis and also provides review of BMC results once they are replicated by MDE. The criteria pollutants that are analyzed for this non-attainment area includes: volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions on an average summer weekday, nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions on an average summer weekday as well as annually, carbon monoxide (CO) emissions on an average winter weekday, and annual direct emissions of Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5). Emissions are calculated for specified horizon years that for this analysis include 2017, 2025 and 2035. The charts show the projected emissions below the approved/adequate budgets for each of the pollutants.

Mr. Muldoon asked for a motion. Mr. Kwaku Duah made a motion to move Resolution #16-3 to the BRTB as presented and Mr. Graf seconded the motion with unanimous support from the members.

[Handout and PowerPoint: Air Quality Conformity Determination of the FY 2016 – 2019 TIP and Amended Plan It 2035]

5. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #16-4

Mr. Kaufman introduced the process for evaluating applications for the 2015 Transportation Alternatives Program. Applications were due on May 15, 2015, followed by a technical review at SHA and a meeting with BMC staff to discuss projects. Criteria for evaluation included federal program eligibility and goals, state planning goals, regional and local planning goals, health, environmental and community impact, and program effectiveness.

Mr. Kaufman briefly presented a site map and description of each project. The Baltimore region received a total of ten (10) applications totaling \$5,693,906 in TAP funding requests. The total amount available to the Baltimore region is \$3,569,756. There is also \$572,365 available to the Aberdeen-Bel Air South-Bel Air North urbanized area (incorrectly stated as Aberdeen-Bel Air-Havre de Grace at the meeting), though no applications were received for this urbanized area. Under the recommendations, six (6) projects would be endorsed as proposed pending a discussion with SHA on certain components of each application, one (1) would receive an award to be determined to complete initial planning, and three (3) would not receive funding from the Baltimore region allocation. Projects recommended for funding total \$3,332,772 in TAP requests, not including the one award to be determined. Those projects not recommended for funding will still be reviewed for consideration under statewide funding. There is approximately \$10 million available statewide.

After some discussion on the project applications, Mr. Muldoon asked for a motion. Mr. Byrne made a motion to move Resolution #16-4 to the BRTB as presented and Mr. Rawls seconded the motion with unanimous support from the members.

[Handout: Attachment 1 to Resolution #16-4, Applications to the 2015 Transportation Alternatives Program; PowerPoint: 2015 Transportation Alternatives Program]

6. RECOMMENDED ACTION ON RESOLUTION #16-5

Ms. Aris provided background on the updated Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan. Staff completed the required four-factor analysis in determining the “reasonable steps” the Board must take to ensure meaningful access to the information and services it provides. The four factors include: 1) the number and proportion of LEP persons in the eligible service area; 2) the frequency with which LEP persons come in contact with the program; 3) the importance of the service provided by the program; and 4) the resources available to the recipient. As a result, the analysis indicates that no LEP population is represented in a sizable manner in the region. While that is the case, it is recommended that the BRTB acknowledge the growing Latino population and provide interpreter services as appropriate and translation of several key documents. This Plan will be updated every four years based on the most current Census data available.

Mr. Muldoon asked for a motion. Mr. Byrne made a motion to move Resolution #16-5 to the BRTB as presented and Ms. Martha Arzu McIntosh seconded the motion with unanimous support from the members.

7. PROGRESS REPORT ON UPWP PROJECTS

- ***Maximize2040* Update**

Ms. Aris asked for assistance from the members on identifying typical or representative projects under the set-aside funding for complete streets/bike/pedestrian investments. Since none of the projects in the set aside categories are capacity oriented they do not need to be included in the plan. However, there is a desire to give some description of typical projects, particularly in the early years of the plan. Members were asked to send project ideas to Mr. Terry Freeland over the next two weeks.

- **Regional CMAQ Bike Rack Grant**

Mr. Jamie Mac Bridges reported that since BMC, on behalf of the BRTB, applied for and received a grant from the CMAQ Program for \$31,100 to purchase 295 bike parking racks for six local jurisdictions within the Baltimore region, staff have worked to identify an effective, efficient and replicable procurement process.

Through an affiliation with U.S. Communities, the leading national government cooperative purchasing program, BMC can use competitively solicited contracts — which meet local, state, and federal purchasing requirements — to procure needed goods and services, and to save time/resources. Mr. Bridges detailed the BMC plan to use a U.S. Communities contract to procure the needed bike racks.

He asked members of the Technical Committee to identify the most probable point of contact with each of the six local jurisdictions to coordinate the procurement. Mr. Bridges will work with these contacts to verify financial commitment, compile product orders, and coordinate product deliveries.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business identified. Mr. Muldoon thanked MDOT for providing the room. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 A.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Tyson Byrne - Maryland Department of Transportation
Ken Choi – Maryland Department of Planning
Kwaku Duah – City of Annapolis Department of Transportation
Scott Graf – Carroll County Department of Land Use, Planning and Development
Michael Helta - Maryland Transit Administration
Emery Hines – Baltimore County Department of Public Works
Martha Arzu McIntosh – Anne Arundel County Office of Planning & Zoning
Brian Muldoon – Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning
Tara Penders – State Highway Administration (SHA)
Alex Rawls – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning
Betty Smoot - Baltimore City Department of Transportation

Staff and Guests

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Charles Baber - BMC
Jamie Mac Bridges – BMC
James Gillece - MTA
Derek Gunn - SHA
Zach Kaufman – BMC
Jefferson Miller – Howard County Office of Transportation
John Powell – Howard County Office of Transportation