

BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

November 24, 2020
Baltimore Metropolitan Council
9:04 to 10:03 A.M.

MINUTES

The 325th meeting was called to order at 9:04 A.M. by the Vice Chair, Mr. Ramond Robinson.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A request for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22 and October 16 BRTB meetings was made by Mr. Robinson. A motion was made by Mr. Gary Blazinsky to approve the minutes and seconded by Mr. Bruce Gartner. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

No members of the public wished to address the board at this meeting.

3. REPORT ON PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Monica Haines Benkhedda reported there are no public comment periods this month, however there are a number of opportunities for virtual engagement.

First, BMC is working with FHWA to host the Virtual Active Management Cycle Workshop on Signal Operations Assessment on December 2nd and 3rd from 1 to 4 p.m. Register at bit.ly/333kG1u.

BMC is hosting a virtual forum on the growing new mobility ecosystem of e-scooters, dockless bicycles and e-bikes. The event is called *This is How We Roll! Shared Mobility Forum* on Wednesday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Register at bit.ly/2UlrCN1.

Lastly, the City of Annapolis is developing the Annapolis Ahead Comprehensive Plan. As part of this plan, they are conducting a Mobility Survey. Transportation issues are a critical piece of the Annapolis Ahead Comprehensive Plan so the public is invited to complete a brief survey to share their experiences of moving around Annapolis. Take the survey at bit.ly/330SfRC.

[Handout: Public Involvement Report For November 2020]

4. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Mr. David Cookson reported the following from the November 10 TC meeting:

- MDOT MPA requested to add a federal discretionary grant from the BUILD program to provide resiliency and flood mitigation improvements at the Dundalk Marine Terminal (DMT). This was approved to send to the BRTB for consideration.
- MDOT presented information on the CMAQ Transportation Performance Measures, as well as the Mid Performance Period Reporting for Maryland.
- BMC staff presented on the BRTB CMAQ Mid-Period Performance Report. CMAQ performance plans and biennial updates are required for MPOs in areas that are over 1 million in population and are a nonattainment area for the national ambient air quality standards. On October 1, 2020, the BRTB reported the 2- and 4-year targets for the three CMAQ measures, described a plan to meet the targets, and detailed progress in achieving the targets. The MPO has achieved their 2-year targets for emission reductions from CMAQ projects.
- BMC staff announced that the AMPO conference sessions are available for review for 1 month to all registrants. BMC is looking for responses to the survey that is intended to gauge areas of interest for the FY 2022 UPWP. Staff also discussed progress with focus areas in FY 2021.

5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #21-9

Mr. Zach Kaufman introduced Resolution #21-9. The MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) received a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant to provide resiliency and flood mitigation improvements at the Dundalk Marine Terminal. FHWA requires that these discretionary grants be included in the TIP, thus necessitating this TIP amendment request.

The Interagency Consultation Group has determined that this project is exempt according to the conformity rule, and the Technical Committee recommended sending the resolution to the BRTB as presented.

Mr. Dominic Scurti, Deputy Director of the Office of Planning at MDOT MPA, presented details on the project. The project has three primary components: installation of fifteen backflow preventers to prevent seawater from flowing back into the terminal during storm surge events; construction of approximately 4,000 feet of box culvert with a pump for extreme rain events; and installation of a perimeter barrier to prevent storm surges from overtaking berths.

This project is necessary as storm surges are becoming more frequent and could flood up to 318 acres (72%) of the DMT open storage area. Project benefits include a 70% reduction in the chance of catastrophic flooding and the avoidance of up to 24 inches of flooding that has been experienced in some locations. In addition, the box culvert will promote environmental

sustainability by reducing or eliminating contaminated sediment and groundwater discharging into the Patapsco River.

The total project cost is \$36.7 million, with \$10 million in federal BUILD funds and \$26.7 million in state funds from MDOT MPA. The project will commence in FY 2023, with construction continuing through FY 2026.

Mr. Robinson asked if there were any questions from the members and then asked for a motion. Mr. Theo Ngongang made a motion to move Resolution #21-9 and Mr. Greg Carski seconded the motion. Mr. Robinson asked for a vote and Resolution #21-9 was passed unanimously.

[PowerPoint: TIP Amendment Request for MDOT MPA BUILD Grant]

6. PRESENTATION: 2020 BALTIMORE REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

BMC Housing Policy Coordinator Dan Pontious presented the larger local jurisdictions' history of working together on fair housing issues, including planning related to the legal responsibility of jurisdictions receiving funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to "affirmatively further" the goals of the fair housing act. Mr. Pontious was joined by Baltimore Regional Fair Housing Group Chair, Ms. Amy Wilkinson, from the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, immediate past chair Ms. Erin Karpewicz from Anne Arundel County, and chair of the Regional Public Housing Authority Collaboration, Ms. Marsha Parham-Green from Baltimore County.

Mr. Pontious explained that the Fair Housing Act's prohibitions on discrimination in housing based on race, ethnicity, and other factors also include the requirement that HUD and its grantees -- including state and local governments -- reduce the residential racial segregation and restriction from wealth-building and opportunity that the federal government had promoted through its housing construction and mortgage subsidies from the new deal into the 1960s.

Mr. Pontious then presented data on residential patterns in the region by race and disparities in access to opportunity, wealth-building homeownership, and jobs based on race and disability. He also showed that the jurisdictions analyzed how publicly supported housing in the region relates to access to opportunity. Finally, Mr. Pontious shared some of the action steps included in the analysis, including those focused specifically on transportation. Local government housing agencies welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the BRTB in taking steps to help housing and transportation combine to improve access to regional opportunity - especially education and employment -- in ways that have been difficult for certain demographic groups in the past.

[PowerPoint: Regional Analysis of Impediments]

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 A.M.

Members

Gary Blazinsky, Harford Transit
Greg Carski, Baltimore County Department of Public Works
Steve Cohoon, Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works
Bruce Gartner, Howard County Office of Transportation
Heather Murphy, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Theo Ngongang, Baltimore City Department of Transportation
Sally Nash, City of Annapolis, Department of Planning
Joel Gallihue (for Alex Rawls), Harford County, Department of Planning
Lisa Nissley (for Alex Brun), Maryland Department of the Environment
Ramond Robinson, Anne Arundel County, Department of Planning & Zoning
Kate Sylvester, Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA)
Bihui Xu, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)

Staff and Guests

Bala Akundi, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Regina Aris, BMC
Tyson Byrne, MDOT
David Cookson, Howard County
Rebecca Deibel, BMC
Blake Fisher, BMC
Monica Haines-Benkhedda, BMC
Don Halligan, BMC
Victor Henry, BMC
Lanita Hillen, Housing Commission of Anne Arundel County
Dan Janousek, MDOT
Erin Karpewicz, Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.
Zach Kaufman, BMC
Todd Lang, BMC
Crystal McDermott, BMC
Eric Norton, CMTA
Marsha Parham, Baltimore County Housing Office
Dan Pontious, BMC
Dominic Scurti, MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MPA)
Lisa Sirota, MDOT SHA
Amy Wilkinson, Housing Authority of Baltimore City

Respectfully submitted,

Todd R. Lang, Secretary
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board