

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 6, 2023

By Phone

MINUTES

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR THE OCTOBER 20, 2023 BRTB MEETING

An in person BMC Board of Directors will begin at 9am on October 20th. Since there are no BRTB Action Items, both Boards will gavel in at the same time. There is a strong interest in hearing about the draft FY 2024-2029 Consolidated Transportation Program. The members would like to confirm that Secretary Paul Wiedefeld will speak at the meeting. There is a Governor's Cabinet meeting so Mr. Wiedefeld is able to join but also needs to leave after addressing the boards. Ms. Holly Arnold (MDOT MTA) and Mr. Will Pines (MDOT SHA) will attend and give an abbreviated tour meeting overview.

Action Items:

- There are no action items for October.

Informational Items:

- Findings of the BMC Audit
- Recap of the Chesapeake Connect trip to Minneapolis
- Public participation opportunity

The Executive Committee approved the agenda for the October meeting.

2. Other

- MDOT sent out a memo on the new Carbon Reduction Program. There has been concern that local initiatives are being ignored in order to advance state initiatives. MDOT will be prepared to address issues related to the rollout of this new program.
- Each year USDOT has a process to address the Federal-Aid Highway Program Obligation Limitation - Redistribution of Fiscal Year (FY) (a given year) Obligation Limitation, otherwise known as August Redistribution. This applies to funds obligated to states that are not authorized in a given year. The funds not authorized are redistributed to states that have authorized all of their funds. Maryland received a significant bump in funding due to this redistribution yet the process for how those funds would be utilized has not been transparent leading to a concern that the Baltimore TIP is not accurate or that all funds went elsewhere in the state. This issue is being discussed between the BRTB and MDOT.

MDOT did send a list of projects receiving funds, a check of the TIP is underway to address the need for possible amendments.

- The Executive Committee discussed a process to share key local activities that members would like to highlight and have BMC promote. The Committee is recommending an opportunity on a quarterly basis for members to share local actions.
- Members agreed to a change for remote participation. To benefit the public, cameras will be on at the beginning of each meeting through the roll call, during votes, or if speaking. This will be shared at the upcoming meeting and applies to all committees.
- Members discussed a BGE email that says they are preparing guidelines related to trails and pathways. Initially it states that BGE will restrict trails from crossing their right-of way among other items. This is causing considerable concern leading to a request for MDOT and the BRTB to meet with BGE officials.
- MDOT mentioned that October is Pedestrian Safety Month and the state has a program called Walktober with a designated walk day and 4 webinars throughout the month.

MEMBERS

D'Andrea Walker – Baltimore County - Chair
Bruce Gartner – Howard County – Vice Chair
Tyson Byrne – MDOT

STAFF AND GUESTS

Dan Janousek – MDOT
Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Todd Lang – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Heather Murphy - MDOT