

INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP

May 4, 2022
9:31 – 10:04 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 A.M. by Ms. Nicole Hebert (BMC).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Hebert welcomed Interagency Consultation Group (ICG) members and guests to the meeting and led introductions.

2. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2022 MINUTES

The members were asked to review the minutes of the April 6th ICG meeting. Mr. Brian Ulrich (standing in for Mr. Alex Rawls of BRTB) made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Catherine Salarano (MDE) seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. CONFORMITY DETERMINATION OF MAXIMIZE 2045 AND THE 2023-2026 TIP

Ms. Hebert provided a brief update regarding progress of the conformity determination for the 2023-2026 TIP and Maximize 2045 LRTP. BMC is working to complete the analysis as swiftly as possible, however due to delays in the validation of the InSITE travel model and moving the new target date for BRTB approval to August 23rd. InSITE travel model validation is anticipated mid-May, after which MOVES2014a runs will be completed. The target date for ICG approval of the conformity determination for public involvement is now June 15th. Ms. Hebert also shared her aim to submit the draft document, with outstanding data noted, to ICG voting members mid-May.

4. 2022-2025 TIP AMENDMENT

Ms. Hebert presented one proposed TIP amendment which is currently listed in the 2022-2025 TIP as exempt from conformity requirements, but for which funding is being revised. The Rural Transit Systems – Capital Assistance project involves the provision of capital assistance to small transit systems throughout Baltimore region to purchase vehicles, equipment and facilities. Ms. Hebert requested a motion to confirm that this TIP amendment is exempt from

conformity requirements. Ms. Virginia Burke (MDOT) motioned and Mr. Ulrich seconded, with unanimous approval of the motion.

[Presentation: DRAFT 2022-2025 TIP Amendments May 2022]

5. CMAQ PLANNING UPDATE

Ms. Hebert gave a brief update regarding progress in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) planning efforts. Coordination is ongoing between BMC, MDOT, and MDOT SHA regarding target setting, which is in progress by MDOT and MDOT SHA. The target date for targets to be proposed by MDOT and MDOT SHA and discussed by ICG is June. MWCOG staff have submitted draft targets for the Washington region to BMC staff for review, for which BMC staff will be in touch with BRTB.

Ms. Burke added that MDOT is setting 2- and 4-year targets for mobile source measures based on upcoming CMAQ projects. These targets are anticipated to be proposed soon. BRTB will have the option to accept these targets for the Baltimore region or recommend adjusted targets. These targets will be incorporated into MDOT and MPO performance management reports, which are due to FHWA October 1st. The BRTB reports will be attachments to the MDOT reports. It was confirmed by Virginia that CMAQ funding for projects targeting mobile source emissions reductions are reserved for projects located within the Baltimore ozone nonattainment area.

6. OZONE SIP PLANNING UPDATE

Ms. Hebert gave a brief update regarding progress in 2015 ozone SIP planning efforts. Since the ICG last met, the EPA has proposed adjusting the Baltimore region 2015 ozone nonattainment status from marginal to moderate. ICG voting members and BMC have met with MDE as part of a working group effort to identify potential RACM for analysis and consideration in the SIP. Ms. Salarano added that the group is currently reviewing a list of potential RACM analyzed in previous ozone SIP development to evaluate which potential RACM will be considered during the upcoming analysis.

7. MEMBER UPDATES

ICG members were given the opportunity to provide updates.

- **BRTB** confirmed that the group is following planning efforts and confirmed the conformity analysis modeling delay.
- **MDE** did not have any updates.
- **MDOT** shared that the organization continues to develop EV formula funding through the IIJA. Mr. Dan Janousek is leading the development of a plan for EV adoption support that is focused on charging station availability near highways and is due to FHWA in August. MDOT is aiming to release the plan early June to submit for formula funding. A solicitation process with MEA is anticipated to distribute funds to applicants, which can range from public to private. Discretionary funding is expected later this year. General EV guidance and NEPA guidance for EV charging infrastructure projects is anticipated for release May 13th.

- All in all, sixty million dollars are expected to be available for spending over the next five years. In order to access these funds, certain charger type, kilowatt capacity, and charging station distance requirements will need to be met. In these planning efforts, MDOT is also working to incorporate environmental justice and alternative fuel corridors.
- **EPA Region 3** was unable to attend the meeting.
- **FHWA MD Division** did not have any updates.
- **FTA Region 3** did not have any updates.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Hebert checked in with the group regarding in-person meeting preferences. It was agreed that at least one in-person ICG meeting per year could be beneficial. Ms. Hebert will prepare a recommended annual in-person vs virtual meeting schedule at the next ICG meeting.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Kwame Arhin – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Maryland Division
Ryan Long – Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – Region 3
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
Virginia Burke – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Brian Ulrich (for Alex Rawls) – Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB)

Staff and Guests

Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Emily Bull – MDE
Nicole Hebert – BMC
Dan Janousek – MDOT
Keith Kucharek – BMC
Todd Lang – BMC