

INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP

May 14, 2025
9:30 – 9:51am

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Ms. Anna Marshall (BMC).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Marshall welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2025 MINUTES

Ms. Marshall asked for a motion and a second to approve the minutes from the April 2, 2025 ICG meeting. Mr. Brian Ulrich (BRTB) made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Sophia Cortazzo (MDOT). The members then voted to approve the minutes, and they were unanimously approved.

3. CONFORMITY DETERMINATION OF THE 2026-2029 TIP

Ms. Marshall presented the Regional Emissions Analysis Results using a PowerPoint. The first slide provided the 2023 motor vehicle emission budgets for both NO_x and VOC emissions, which was what the conformity analysis was using to compare results with. The next slide detailed the projected emissions for NO_x and VOCs in tons per day for each horizon year. The emission levels for each horizon year were measuring below the mobile emission budgets, which means that the Baltimore region is in conformity with the SIP, and will not delay the attainment of the ozone standard. Mr. Ulrich asked about why the emission numbers decrease when VMT increases. Ms. Marshall explained that it could be because of increased efficiency in cars and more EVs on the road in future years. Ms. Catherine Salarano (MDE) said this is probably from emission rates decreasing from legislation like the Phase 2 Heavy Duty GHG rule, the SAFER rule, and the Tier 2 Light Duty Vehicle standards that are phased in from 2017 to 2025.

Ms. Marshall asked for a motion and a second to approve the regional emission results. Mr. Ulrich made a motion, and Ms. Catherine Salarano seconded it. The members then

unanimously voted to approve the emission results of the 2026-2029 TIP to be released to the public.

[PowerPoint: Regional Emission Analysis Results]

4. 2025-2028 TIP AMENDMENTS

There were five TIP amendments that the ICG reviewed. Ms. Ndemazea Fonkem (BMC) provided an overview of each amendment. All five were from MTA, and they were all proposed to be exempt from conformity requirements. They were: 1) Bus and Paratransit Vehicle overhaul and replacement, 2) Zero emission infrastructure and rolling stock, 3) Francis Scott Key Bridge transit incentives, 4) MARC facilities, and 5) Urban Transit Systems – operating assistance. Four of the projects were due to modifications, adding more funding. The Francis Scott Key bridge transit incentives project is a new project, adding \$1.2 million in CMAQ funds for a pilot program to encourage employers to provide transit benefits for employees and to encourage new transit riders.

Ms. Marshall asked for a motion and a second to approve the exempt conformity status of the five TIP Amendments. Ms. Salarano (MDE) made a motion, and Ms. Cortazzo (MDOT) seconded it. The members then unanimously voted to approve the motion.

5. MEMBER UPDATES

ICG members were given the opportunity to provide updates.

- **BRTB** – Mr. Ulrich shared that the BRTB approved the FY 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program, which is the BRTB's annual transportation budget. MDOT Secretary Paul Wiedefeld provided updates on the FY 2025-2030 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP). This included information about the Port of Baltimore, which has bounced back after the Key Bridge Collapse.
- **MDE** – MDE didn't have any updates at this time.
- **MDOT** – Ms. Cortazzo shared that CRP Round 2 is underway and in the process of project selection. MDOT is meeting with the different MPOs.
- **FHWA** – Ms. Jasmine Champion shared that they are reviewing the MDOT STIP jointly with the FTA.
- **FTA** – No updates at this time.
- **EPA Region 3** – No updates at this time.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

It was confirmed that the next ICG meeting will be an in-person/hybrid meeting on Tuesday, July 1st at 9:30 A.M, to be held jointly with the Technical Committee.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Jasmine Champion – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) MD Division
Sophia Cortazzo – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
Brian Ulrich – Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB)

Staff and Guests

Anna Marshall – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Ndemazea Fonkem – BMC
Regina Aris – BMC
Md. Mokhlesur Rahman– BMC
Marcia Ways – MDE