

## TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT FOR THE BALTIMORE REGION (TIMBR) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

1:00 P.M.

### MINUTES

#### 1. WELCOME AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Raj Sharma, Co-chair welcomed attendees.

#### 2. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 2, 2021

There were no comments on the minutes.

#### 3. PROPOSED GOALS AND STRATEGIES FOR THE NEXT LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN, *RESILIENCE 2050*

Zach Kaufman, Long Range Planner for BMC, provided an overview of proposed Goals and Strategies for the next Long Range Transportation Plan, *Resilience 2050: Adapting to the Challenges for Tomorrow. Resilience 2050*, which is scheduled to be approved by the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board in July 2023, will include all major transportation projects to be implemented in the region by 2050. To track the development of Resilience 2050, go to [www.Resilience2050.com](http://www.Resilience2050.com). A site has also been set up to receive public comments on the Plan, [www.Publicinput.com/resilience2050](http://www.Publicinput.com/resilience2050).

The goals and strategies are currently out for public comment and can be viewed at <https://publicinput.com/resilience2050goals>. Comments are being accepted through October 12<sup>th</sup>. The nine goals form the guiding principles/aspirations for the region. Each goal has several supporting strategies to help achieve the goal. The goals are:

- Goals that address the basic functions of transportation
  - Goal 1: Improve Accessibility
  - Goal 2: Increase Mobility
  
- Goals that address the conditions or effects of transportation
  - Goal 3: Improve System Safety
  - Goal 4: Improve and Maintain the Existing Infrastructure
  - Goal 5: Create an Environmentally Responsible Transportation System
  - Goal 6: Improve System Security
  - Goal 7: Promote Prosperity and Economic Opportunity
  
- Goals that address the transportation decision making process
  - Goal 8: Foster Participation and Cooperation Among Stakeholders
  - Goal 9: Promote Informed Decision Making

The comments will be reviewed and addressed, and the BRTB will vote to approve the goals and strategies at its meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

TIMBR Committee members are encouraged to share this information with any colleagues and anyone else in the region.

#### **4. UPDATE ON NEW MSP TIM UNIT**

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Colin Bristow briefed the group on the new MSP TIM unit. The new unit includes 10 troopers, four of which are non-motor troopers. The new unit focuses on I-695 and I-495 to supplement barrack troopers with crashes on the beltways and just off the beltways. The TIM unit troopers continue with their patrols and enforcement and they will assist with incidents as needed. The goal is to have two teams with 10 troopers for each beltway.

All troopers in the TIM unit have taken the TIM training and half of them will become TIM instructors.

Another aspect of the TIM unit is setting up laptops at the CHART Statewide Operations Center to provide MSP troopers in the SOC with access to MSP computer-aided dispatch (CAD). This capability will help with providing resources during crashes.

Each Crash Team will receive a drone and 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Bristow will get one also, for a total of 10 new drones for crash reconstruction. The Crash Teams are not currently in the TIM unit but that is anticipated. The drones will be allowed to fly everywhere a helicopter can fly. MSP is working on getting the video feed from the drones to CHART/mView.

There is also work being undertaken to better integrate CHART Traffic Operations Centers and MSP barracks that are located in the same building but not the same room. This work is starting at the Golden Ring Barrack location; walls are being removed so operators will be in the same room. If this is successful, it will be done in the other TOCs.

In response to a question about how towing can be included, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Bristow responded that he is working on an updated tow policy and working to provide camera images to towers.

#### **5. TIM SELF-ASSESSMENT FOLLOW UP**

Eileen Singleton provided brief updates on priority items identified in the 2020 TIM self-assessment.

- TIM Training
  - There is still a need for more TIM trainers and to have more of the trainers that we have teach TIM classes.
- Multidiscipline After Action Reviews
  - An after action template is being developed in RITIS. It should be available soon but Ms. Singleton has not heard when.
- TIM education for the public and elected officials

- We have been discussing how to educate the public about the Move Over law and that there is a need to revise the law to make it easier to enforce.
- MDOT has recently initiated a department-wide effort on Move Over education, led by the Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO). So regional efforts will focus on supporting this effort for now. The details of the MDOT work are still being developed.
- Ms. Singleton noted that BMC staff are not allowed to write legislation. It was noted that MHSO is also restricted from writing legislation.
- Bob Cumberland noted that Emergency Responder Safety Institute has educational materials for Move Over laws.

***[Handout: Traffic Incident Management for the Baltimore Region (TIMBR) Committee September 29, 2021]***

## **6. STATE AND LOCAL TIM UPDATES**

### 2021 TIM Self-Assessment

- This year we will focus on specific questions that we identify we should work on to focus on areas where we need to improve and streamline the discussion.
- Scheduled for: October 26, 10 to 11:30 AM

### Local and State TIM Updates

- SOC Reconfiguration is 99% complete. Some radio update work still needs to be done. The new SOC should be completed soon and be ready to use in time for winter operations. The TIMBR Committee will plan to get a tour of the new SOC when it is ready and we are in person again.
- MDTA
  - Doing a pilot program of putting cameras in five of its patrol vehicles that cover the Bay Bridge to facilitate getting real time video. There has been a lot of traffic going over the Bridge during the pandemic. Video will be sent to CHART. CHART video is sent to mView; ability to view the video depends on the security level of the video.
  - 50% of operator staff is new, working to get them all TIM trained

### Upcoming Planned and Special Events

- Bay Bridge race will be held on October 31<sup>st</sup>; the eastbound span will be closed for the race starting at 5 AM and reopening about 12 PM. About 9,000 people are registered, this is lower than in past years, which had about 14,000 participants.
- 2022 Maryland Cycling Classic bicycle race will be held Sunday, September 4, 2022. The route is still being developed, but the finish will be in the Inner Harbor.

### Planning a Virtual Regional TIM Conference

- A virtual TIM conference will be planned to be held during the national Crash Responder Safety Week, November 8 to 12.
  - The only conflict noted is the Operations Academy being held on November 8 and 9.
- In addition to the proposed ideas in the handout, there was a suggestion to include an update on the MSP TIM unit.
- Pat McElroy will consider ideas for a towing presentation.

- Anyone interested in assisting with planning the program for the conference should contact Ms. Singleton.

#### TIM Training Update

- In Maryland, 308 people have taken the TIM Train-the-Trainer course and 8,841 people have been trained, which equates to 38.1% of TIM responders.

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## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

Next meeting: December 1 (First Wednesday quarterly)

### **ATTENDEES**

#### ***Members:***

T.J. Bathras, MDOT Maryland Transportation Authority, Operations  
Jennifer Biddle, Howard Co Dept. of Public Works  
1/Sgt. Colin Bristow, Maryland State Police, CHART Liaison  
Andrew Burke, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
David Cookson, Howard Co Dept. of Planning & Zoning  
Robert Cumberland, Emergency Responder Safety Institute  
Joe Davis, MDOT Maryland Transit Administration, Support Operations  
Lt. Aaron Dombrowsky, Howard Co Police  
Sgt. Jerry Eaton, Harford Co Sheriff's Office  
Hiwot Habtemariam, MDOT State Highway Administration  
Dan Janousek, Maryland Dept. of Transportation  
Tanya King, Daniel Consultants  
JJ Lynott, MDOT Maryland Transit Administration  
Alvin Marquess, Jacobs  
Pat McElroy, Tim's Automotive and Towing/TRPM Board  
1/Sgt. Jonathan Novack, Maryland State Police  
Andy Orr, State Highway Administration  
Timothy Peck, State Highway Administration  
1/Sgt. Tyrone Powell, Maryland State Police  
Cpt. Jason Pulliam, MDOT Maryland Transportation Authority Police  
Joey Sagal, MDOT State Highway Administration  
Raj Sharma, Baltimore City Dept. of Transportation  
Kristen Skogsberg, Maryland Dept. of Transportation  
Off. Jonathan Strickler, Baltimore Co Police  
Ron Westervelt, MDOT Maryland Transportation Authority  
C. Patrick Zilliacus, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

#### ***Staff***

Cindy Burch, Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Zach Kaufman, Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Eileen Singleton, Baltimore Metropolitan Council