

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

February 7, 2017
9:30 to 11:35 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Mr. Scott Graf.

1. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 3, 2017 MINUTES

Mr. Graf asked for approval of the minutes from the December meeting of the Technical Committee. Ms. Valorie LaCour moved to approve the minutes with Mr. Alex Rawls seconding the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION OF RESOLUTION #17-17

Mr. Zachary Kaufman introduced Resolution #17-17 to the Technical Committee. The Maryland Transit Administration is requesting to add the Bus and Bus Facilities Mini Overhaul Project and to update funds associated with three projects: Bus and Rail System Preservation and Improvement, MARC Improvements, and MARC Rolling Stock Overhauls and Replacement. The ICG has determined that these projects qualify as exempt. The projects were publicized for public review from January 4 through February 6 with a public meeting and a presentation to the Public Advisory Committee last Wednesday, February 1. No comments were received.

Mr. Michael Helta provided details on the projects. The MARC Improvements and MARC Rolling Stock Overhauls and Replacement projects are being amended to reflect an accounting-related adjustment of section 5337 funds between the Baltimore and Washington MPOs. The scope for both projects remains unchanged. MARC Improvements includes a variety of improvement projects along the Penn, Camden, and Brunswick Lines along with system-wide parking lot improvements. MARC Rolling Stock Overhauls and Replacement involves the purchase, overhaul, and repowering of various MARC railcars and locomotives as well as the implementation of Positive Train Control. The Bus and Rail System Preservation and Improvement project is being amended to include \$20.8 million in section 5307 flex funds for the BaltimoreLink project as well as to increase Section 5307 funds by \$1.45 million. This project includes items such as the replacement of roofs on MTA facilities, rehabilitation of paved MTA facilities, ongoing structural repairs at metro stations, and inspections of metro and light rail structures. The BaltimoreLink funds will be used for transit hubs and transit signal priority. The Bus and Bus Facilities Mini Overhaul Project is being amended into the TIP to reflect a discretionary grant that

will be used to proactively repair and replace multiple bus components at key points in the vehicle's life, thus improving bus reliability and reducing costs.

Mr. Graf asked for a motion for approval. Ms. LaCour motioned for approval, and Mr. Rawls seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[Handout: TIP Amendment Summary, PowerPoint: Baltimore Region FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program February Amendments]

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION OF RESOLUTION #17-18

Ms. Regina Aris introduced resolution #17-18 adopting the Goals for *Maximize2045: A Performance Based Transportation Plan*. The draft Goals and Strategies had been previously presented to the Technical Committee and this latest version includes proposed revisions highlighted in red. The Committee reviewed the proposed modifications and adjusted some wording. Ms. Aris then presented two suggested revisions by individual members of the Public Advisory Committee. In the case of a comment about prioritizing goals the Technical Committee thought that would better be discussed in the development of the prioritization (scoring) system that will be developed later in the process. Regarding the comment about including the word equity, the Technical Committee added a strategy in the "Improve Accessibility" Goal (item B). They felt this additional strategy along with the items spelled out in strategies A. through E. covered the appropriate areas.

Mr. Graf asked for a motion for approval. Ms. Martha Arzu McIntosh motioned for approval, and Mr. Tyson Byrne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[Handout: Draft Maximize2045 Goals]

4. BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON SCMAGLEV PROJECT

Mr. John Trueschler (MTA) and Ms. Angela Jones (AECOM) gave a presentation on the Baltimore-Washington SCMAGLEV project. They presented the Purpose & Need for the project, key environmental considerations, and the public involvement and agency coordination process. SCMAGLEV is a high-speed superconducting magnetic levitation train system. A team is putting together an environmental impact statement to evaluate potential impacts of SCMAGLEV between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., with a stop at BWI Marshall airport. A 15-minute travel time is proposed. The train reaches speeds up to 311 mph.

In 2003, there was a draft EIS published for a Baltimore-Washington Maglev project. This project is different from that one because the current project proposes to utilize the Japanese SCMAGLEV system. The previous project proposed to use the German Transrapid system. For the current project, the project sponsor is a private entity. FRA is providing 80% of grant funding for NEPA and preliminary engineering; Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR) is providing 20%. MTA and AECOM, the consultant, are working on the EIS.

The purpose of the project is to increase capacity, reduce travel time, and improve reliability and mobility options between Baltimore and DC. Key environmental considerations and a background on the study area were described. The project team is seeking comments on the Purpose & Need package by February 15th. Cooperating and participating agencies will be provided an opportunity to comment on a number of project documents, including the Alternatives Report in late May 2017.

[PowerPoint: Baltimore-Washington SCMAGLEV Project]

6. FINAL PERFORMANCE MEASURE RULES

Mr. Todd Lang addressed the technical committee on the specific performance management requirements outlined in MAP-21. Mr. Lang told the committee that FHWA is required to establish performance measures to assess performance in 12 areas. State DOTs and MPOs will be required to establish performance targets and assess performance in these 12 areas and FHWA will assess states' progress toward meeting targets in the first 10 of these areas:

1. Serious injuries per vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
2. Fatalities per VMT
3. Number of serious injuries
4. Number of fatalities
5. Pavement condition on the interstate system
6. Pavement condition on the non-interstate NHS
7. Bridge condition on the NHS
8. Traffic congestion
9. On-road mobile source emissions
10. Freight movement on the interstate system
11. Performance of the interstate system
12. Performance of the non-interstate NHS

Mr. Lang went on to explain the details of that assessment focusing on the final 5 through 12 of those performance areas. Mr. Byrne told the committee that on March 29th MDOT will be hosting a meeting featuring Mr. Spencer Stevens, who is leading the performance management effort for FHWA Office of Planning. The purpose of the meeting is to instruct all of the MPOs in the state how to incorporate performance management into the planning process. Mr. Byrne added that MDOT will host a webinar featuring Ms. Nicole Katsikides of the State Highway Administration who will discuss the agency's performance management process.

Ms. Lacour asked if the performance areas will need to be referenced in the FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Mr. Lang responded that we will be required to reference the performance areas in the following FY 2019 TIP.

7. PROGRESS REPORT ON UPWP PROJECTS

- **FY 2018 – 2019 UPWP** – Mr. Lang briefed the Committee on the development of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The schedule calls for the release of the Draft UPWP for a 30-day public review on February 17th. Draft budget tables were reviewed including a discussion of focus areas and regional projects. Mr. Lang asked if there were any objections to release for public comment and there were none.
- **Training on the NEPA process** – Ms. Aris indicated that NEPA training for interested local jurisdictional and state agency staff would occur immediately following the April Technical Committee meeting. Please contact Terry Freeland if you are interested in attending. There has been considerable interest expressed to date including jurisdictions requesting to send multiple staff and we may need to limit additional attendees. BMC staff continue to coordinate with the T2 Center to schedule traffic analysis software training that will likely occur in June.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Sara Tomlinson mentioned that a memorandum from staff to TC members, along with a survey, had been distributed to the members. This memorandum describes how staff will be requesting updates from the local jurisdictions and MDOT on various projects they are working on or planning that reduce air pollution emissions from transportation. As usual, during a conformity determination process, staff maintains a database of emission-beneficial projects. They would like to keep this information updated with projects that have been completed, or new projects that are planned. Tracking sheets will be sent to the state and the local jurisdictions. In addition to this, staff has developed a survey to be completed by TC members about other emission-beneficial projects that are being carried out or planned. The surveys are due back to Sara Tomlinson by March 1.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Alex Brun– Maryland Department of the Environment
Martha Arzu McIntosh – Anne Arundel County Department of Planning & Zoning
Tyson Byrne - Maryland Department of Transportation
Ken Choi – Maryland Department of Planning
Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne’s County
Kwaku Duah – City of Annapolis Department of Transportation
Scott Graf – Carroll County Department of Planning & Zoning
Michael Helta – Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)
Emery Hines – Baltimore County Department of Public Works
Valorie LaCour - Baltimore City Department of Transportation
David Cookson – Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning
Alex Rawls – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning
Russ Walto – Maryland Transportation Authority
Ted Yurek – State Highway Administration (SHA)

Staff and Guests

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Charles Baber - BMC

Laurie Brown - MTA

Yolanda Camp - MTA

Blake Fisher - BMC

Victor Henry – BMC

Angela Jones - MTA

Todd Lang - BMC

Zach Kaufman – BMC

Douglas Simmons - JMT

Rebecca Smith – BMC

Sara Tomlinson – BMC

John Trueschler - MTA

Brian Ulrich – Anne Arundel County

Chris Witt - MDOT