

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

April 4, 2017  
9:35 to 10:45 A.M.

### MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M. by Ms. Lynda Eisenberg.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2017 MINUTES

Ms. Eisenberg asked for approval of the minutes from the February meeting of the Technical Committee. Mr. Alex Rawls moved to approve the minutes with Ms. Martha Arzu McIntosh seconding the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION OF RESOLUTION #17-19

Mr. Todd Lang reviewed the process undertaken to develop a draft UPWP, develop focus areas and budget, and to publish for public review. No comments were received from the public. However, the PAC had comments they wished the BRTB to consider. Mr. Lang shared two comments that, if accepted, would require edits to text. The TC accepted one and changed some wording in the second comment. Mr. Lang also indicated language in one of the Anne Arundel County subarea projects had been updated to keep milestones in sync with the description.

Ms. Eisenberg asked for a motion for approval. Mr. Rawls motioned for approval, and Ms. Arzu McIntosh seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. RECOMMENDED ACTION OF RESOLUTION #17-20

Mr. Lang reviewed the resolution and indicated that the proposed goal had been updated since the original distribution to reflect the new, federally accepted DBE goal from the State Highway Administration (SHA). The current goal is 29% and the proposed goal is 27.16%. There were several questions from the members as to what conditions would lead to a lower goal. Mr. Lang explained the process utilized by SHA. Members also asked for clarification as to whom the goal applied – it applies to contracts signed by the BMC on behalf of the BRTB.

Ms. Eisenberg asked for a motion for approval. Mr. Chris Witt motioned for approval, and Mr. David Cookson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. PROGRESS REPORT ON UPWP PROJECTS**

- **Baltimore Region Building Permits Report**

Mr. Blake Fisher presented a summary of the region's 2016 building permit activity. He provided an overview of the region's residential and non-residential permits, providing both current data and historical context for each permit type. Findings from a ten-year comparison at the regional level presents a 36.7 percent increase in the number of housing units permitted since 2007. There was also an interesting near 50/50 convergence between single-family and multi-family permitted units in 2016. This even distribution between unit types has occurred only twice in the past ten years.

With a chart, Mr. Fisher illustrated a comparison between residential permitted units for the region and state from 2007 through 2016. Regional housing units permitted are at their highest level since 2007. The number of multi-family units permitted in 2016 was 61% higher than the regional ten-year average. Mr. Fisher noted a total of 1,902 residential units permitted and \$405.7 million in estimated construction cost across six mixed-use projects in 2016. The mixed-use category experienced growth of 130.5 percent from 2015 in terms of units permitted, and 192.0 percent growth in terms of estimated value permitted.

Lastly, Mr. Fisher presented the 2016 permit activity for new non-residential construction and non-residential alterations, additions and repairs (AARs). The value of new non-residential construction in the Baltimore region totaled \$557.6 million, a decrease of 2.2 percent from the 2015 total of \$570.3 million. The value of non-residential additions, alterations, and repairs (AARs) increased to \$1.7 billion in 2016, up from the 2015 level of \$1.4 billion.

***[PowerPoint: 2016 Building Permit Activity]***

- **PAC comments on FY 2018-2019 UPWP**

Ms. Regina Aris continued the discussion initiated by Mr. Lang under the recommendation for the draft UPWP. There were twelve additional comments from the PAC that were reviewed and discussed by the TC members. After some deliberation on the intent behind several comments, the TC members, by consensus, approved the responses as prepared.

***[Handout: List of Additional Planning Studies from the FY 2018-2019 UPWP]***

- **Regional Patapsco Greenway**

Mr. Zachary Kaufman provided an update on the Patapsco Regional Greenway project. This project will result in a concept plan for a shared-use path through the Patapsco river valley extending from Baltimore City's Inner Harbor to Sykesville, including a connection to the BWI Trail. The preference is for a 10' – 12' wide, ADA accessible transportation trail, though the concept plan will also address areas where this may not be feasible. In addition, the current DNR leadership is not in favor of a wide, transportation style trail upstream from Ellicott City. Toole Design Group began work on the project in November with a project kickoff meeting. They developed draft preferred and alternative alignments for the trail after reviewing relevant plans, conducting field work, and engaging stakeholders through an online survey. Major property owners including BGE, CSX, and DNR were consulted regarding

alignments within their right-of-way. In general, promising conditions for trail development exist throughout a majority of the corridor, but there are challenging areas, particularly near Ellicott City.

Mr. Nate Evans, project manager at TDG, presented the draft alignments to members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group in March. TDG also conducted a community meeting on March 29 at the Miller Branch of the Howard County Public Library. The vast majority of the 45 to 50 attendees were supportive of the project, but a few members of the public expressed opposition to any further paved trail development within Patapsco Valley State Park. A second community meeting will be held from 6:30 – 8:30 on Wednesday, April 12 at the South Carroll Community Center. TDG staff will finalize the alignments based on community input including neighborhood connections, sites for public access, trail section standards, and the location of major structures. The final product will also include an implementation matrix that will break the project into manageable segments. The implementation matrix will identify the following for each segment: agency lead and supporting organizations; short, medium, and long range improvements; opportunities and constraints; cost estimates; and potential funding sources.

***[PowerPoint: Patapsco Regional Greenway Update]***

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

- **Scenario Planning**

Mr. Freeland noted that the Public Advisory Committee has recommended a scenario planning effort to support the development of *Maximize2045*. He distributed a handout briefly describing the PAC recommendation as well as three other options for scenario planning that the Technical Committee and BRTB can consider. The four options are:

1. Follow up on 2014 scenario activities by keeping members informed about developments in trends in population/employment shifts, climate change effects, and changing vehicle technologies (i.e., continue what we're already doing).
2. Accept the PAC's recommendation to model some scenarios incorporating assumptions about land use, climate change effects, and integration of new technologies (needs to be scoped out some more).
3. Revisit the modeling done for different land use pattern / transportation system combinations as part of the imagine 2060 effort during the development of the 2011 plan.
4. Analyze the effects of different investment scenarios (as was done by the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments in recent years). This approach analyzes the effects on system performance of varying levels of funding to address different needs (e.g., emphasize preservation, emphasize transit, etc.).

Mr. Freeland asked the committee members to consider these options. The Technical Committee will continue to discuss this at the next meeting.

***[Handout: Options for Scenario Planning for the 2019 Baltimore Regional Transportation Plan – Maximize2045]***

- **Milestones for *Maximize2045***

Mr. Freeland distributed a chart that listed key milestones by date. Mr. Freeland recapped the approach the BRTB and staff followed to set performance measures and performance targets for *Maximize2040*. He reported that the expected day for release of the final rules for performance measures for system condition and system performance is May 20, 2017. He stressed the need to coordinate with MDOT all efforts to develop regional performance measures and targets for *Maximize2045*.

- **NEPA Training**

Mr. Freeland stated that menus were available if staff remaining for the training wanted to have items delivered. Due to the amount of time available, members chose to go out for lunch prior to the training.

- **2018 – 2021 TIP**

Mr. Kaufman reminded TC members that letters of financial reasonableness for the 2018-2021 TIP are due by Friday, April 28.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### ***Members***

Alex Brun– Maryland Department of the Environment  
Ken Choi – Maryland Department of Planning  
Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne’s County Department of Public Works  
David Cookson – Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning  
Lynda Eisenberg – Carroll County Department of Planning  
Michael Helta – Maryland Transit Administration  
Emery Hines – Baltimore County Department of Public Works  
Martha Arzu McIntosh – Anne Arundel County Department of Planning & Zoning  
Alex Rawls – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning  
Jerry Smith – State Highway Administration  
Betty Smoot - Baltimore City Department of Transportation  
Chris Witt – Maryland Department of Transportation

### ***Staff and Guests***

Regina Aris - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)  
Charles Baber - BMC  
Victor Bonaparte – BMC  
Terry Freeland - BMC  
Blake Fisher – BMC  
Don Halligan - BMC  
Mary Lane – Carroll County Department of Planning  
Todd Lang - BMC  
Zach Kaufman – BMC

Technical Committee  
April 4, 2017  
Page 5 of 5

Shawn Kimberly - BMC  
Sara Tomlinson – BMC  
Brian Ulrich – Anne Arundel County Department of Planning & Zoning