The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region

TRAFFIC SIGNAL SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, June 20, 2019
Centennial Park, Howard County

MINUTES

1.   WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bo Zhou welcomed everyone to the annual summer meeting of the signal subcommittee of 2019 in Centennial Park and thanked Howard County staff for securing the pavilion. A round of introductions followed the opening comment.

2.   REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Notes from the last meeting on March 7, 2019 were approved without any modifications.

3.   FIELD OBSERVATIONS OF THE ALWAYS-ON FIRE HOUSE TYPE MARYLAND PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL

Mr. Yao Cheng (MDOT-SHA) described a field study underway at three sites using different types of pedestrian activated signals. The three are:
   o Site 1- Flashing yellow hazard indication beacon (HIB): *MD 500 at Jamestown Rd*
   o Site 2- Pedestrian hybrid beacon (PHB): *MD 410 WB at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School*
   o Site 3- Always-On fire house type Maryland pedestrian signal**:** *US 1 at Hartwick Rd*

Following a description of each of the sites, Mr. Cheng summarized the observations from the three locations. They are as follows:
   o Most vehicles (more than 75% for all sites) stop properly for pedestrians; about 10% of vehicles do not stop properly for pedestrians.
   o About a half of the pedestrians (44% to 59% for all sites), push the button.
   o Relatively, HIB causes the most safety concerns; PHB and Maryland pedestrian signal seem to be safer because pedestrians are guided with a signal to follow.
   o MD pedestrian signal yields the lowest violation rate.

[PowerPoint: Field Study for MD Pedestrian Signals]

★ 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300, Baltimore, MD, 21230 ★ Phone 410-732-0500 ★ www.baltometro.org
Voting: City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Harford County, Howard County, Queen Anne's County, MD Department of Transportation and Harford Transit. Non-Voting: MD Department of the Environment, MD Department of Planning, and MD Transit Administration.

4.   **AUTOMATED SIGNAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES USING EMERGIND DATA SOURCES**

Mr. Greg Jordan (UMD, CATT Lab) described how trajectory data that is being collected from individual trips could be used to calculate signal performance measures. The data includes:
   o   Departure time and location (trip origin)
   o   Route selection and travel time
   o   Arrival time and location (trip destination)
   o   All personally identifiable information is removed

Trajectory data can be used for mid-block signal timing analysis, turning movement support and origin-destination patterns. Mr. Jordan displayed a prototype OD data suite that is being developed at the CATT Lab and includes an intersection analysis tool. His presentation includes several screen-shots of this tool.

[PowerPoint: Signalized Arterial Performance Measures]

5.   **LOOK ALIVE FEATURING SIGNAL WOMAN**

Mr. Bala Akundi provided a brief overview of a pedestrian and bicycle safety campaign that was developed for the Baltimore region with funding support from the Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO). BMC hired a media consultant, Sherry Matthews Group, to build and launch this campaign. It was launched on June 11th in Towson with guest speakers that includes Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski, Jr., MDOT MVA Administrator Ms. Chrissy Nizer, BMC Executive Director Mr. Mike Kelly and others. The media campaign is currently underway for an 8-week period and includes TV spots, billboards, gas pump toppers, transit advertising and social media. For information about the campaign, go to www.lookalivemd.org.

6.   **TRAFFIC SIGNAL FORUM/ITSMD ANNUAL MEETING**

Mr. Bala Akundi noted that planning is well underway for the October 16th regional signal forum and ITSMD annual meeting. Mr. Neil Pedersen has agreed to deliver the morning keynote address and ITS America President and CEO Mr. Shailen Bhatt will be the lunchtime speaker. The planning team is working on developing sessions around signals and ITS and registration will be open later this summer.

7.   **TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE**

Control Technologies seeks to provide its customers with the very best traffic signal control and ITS solutions. Mr. Jim Lampe with CT highlighted a new application using Blyncsy that collects traffic data and a transit AVL layer and displays it for the public. For more information go to www.cttraffic.com<http://www.cttraffic.com/.

ATTENDANCE

Ben Myrick, MDOT SHA
Yeshitlaw Argaw, MDOT SHA
Yao Cheng, MDOT SHA
Minseok Kim, MDOT SHA
Sean Laffey, MDOT SHA
Eddie Bostic, Century Engineering
Greg Jones, Frederick County
Bo Zhou, Anne Arundel County
Bo Yuan, Endesco
Subin George, Howard County
Jennifer Biddle, Howard County
Greg Jordan, UMD – CATT Lab
Anyesha Mookherjee, MDOT SHA
Jim Lampe, Control Technologies
Bala Akundi, BMC