



# PAC OVERVIEW

Public Advisory Committee  
*January 11, 2017*

# PAC MISSION

- Serve as an advisory body to the BRTB
- Provide independent, region-oriented citizen advice to the BRTB on issues related to the development of:
  - Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
  - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
  - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and amendments
- Promote public awareness and participation in the regional transportation planning process
- Promote equity in the regional transportation planning process

# MEETINGS

- Meetings

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Baltimore Metropolitan Council.
- Occasionally meeting are held in other jurisdictions (1-2 times per year, with advance notice)

- 2017 meeting dates *(subject to change)*

- ★ February 1

- ★ March 1

- ★ April 5

- ★ May 3

- ★ June 7

- ★ July 5 (reschedule?)

- ★ August 2

- ★ September 6

- ★ October 4

- ★ November 1

- ★ December 6

# SUBCOMMITTEES

- PAC Subcommittees
  - **Public Involvement and Outreach Subcommittee** - Conducts outreach and focuses on improving the BRTB public involvement process and activities
  - **Policy Subcommittee** - Focuses on transportation plans and policies.
  - Membership Subcommittee – Review PAC applications, work with staff to follow-up on member concerns and ideas
  - **Ad Hoc Equity Subcommittee** *New Proposal!*
- Subcommittee Meetings
  - All members serve on a subcommittee.
  - TBD – Typically in the past, these subcommittees meet monthly, usually before the main PAC meeting at 4 or 4:30 p.m.
  - Review documents ahead of time and discuss comments via e-mail .

# LEADERSHIP

- PAC Chairs

- Chair
  - Eric Norton
- Vice Chairs
  - Angela Jones
  - Kevin Engler
- Subcommittee Chairs
  - TBD

- BMC Staff Contacts

- Monica Haines Benkhedda is primary contact on BMC staff
- Other staff attend on rotating basis: Todd Lang, Regina Aris, Don Haligan, and Terry Freeland

# CONSENSUS PROCESS

- Guidelines from PAC bylaws:

- FORMAL VOTING: No formal votes will be taken during discussions of issues.
- PRESENTATION OF VIEWS: Present your views and views of your constituents in a respectful, constructive way.
- RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES: Try to bridge gaps in understanding, seek creative resolution of differences and commit to the goal of achieving consensus.
- BLOCKING CONSENSUS: Do not block or withhold consensus unless you have serious reservations with the approach or solution that is proposed for consensus.
- OFFERING ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS: If you disagree with the proposed approach or solution, offer an alternative.
- ALTERNATES: A member's alternate is authorized to participate in the discussion of an issue and act as the member's proxy in reaching consensus. Absence of a member or his/her alternate should not be interpreted as either agreement or disagreement with the issue. As long as a quorum is present, consensus can be reached in the absence of the member and his/her alternate.
- SUPPORT FOR AN AGREEMENT: If consensus is reached, members agree to support and advocate for the agreement within their own organizations and before the BRTB.
- LACK OF CONSENSUS: As an advisory body to the BRTB, CAC members are requested to convey differences of opinion directly to the BRTB, rather than to external organizations. If consensus is not reached on an issue, the lack of consensus shall be conveyed to the BRTB.
- GUESTS: Guests are invited to observe and listen to the proceedings, but are not permitted to interrupt the discussion taking place.