

## **PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 3, 2019  
Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
5:38 to 7:30 P.M.

### **MINUTES**

Mr. Eric Norton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:38 P.M.

#### **1. PRESENTATION: HARFORD TRANSIT LINK**

Mr. Gary Blazinsky, Harford Transit Administrator and BRTB member, spoke about recent updates to Harford Transit LINK including: streamlined schedules, extended weekday hours and added bus stops.

Each year, Harford Transit LINK provides over 330,000 trips on its six fixed-route and demand-response transit service to connect to local employment and activity centers, as well as to link with MDOT MTA's bus and MARC train services. The agency recently revamped the entire route and stop system, as well as launched the Token Transit and RouteShout 2.0 smart phone apps, installed 6 bus shelters in Aberdeen and Bel Air, made some technology and infrastructure improvements.

These changes resulted in improved on-time performance, reduced passenger wait time by 33% and reduced transfer time by scheduling buses to arrive and depart within 10 minutes at major transfer points. In addition, Mr. Blazinsky outlined the agencies initiatives for 2020 and beyond, including Saturday service, upgrading advance reservation demand-response service to same-day service, and utilizing a variety of funding sources to upgrade vehicles, signage, bus stops, and transit facilities. He also shared Harford County's participation in the Choose Civility program and efforts to work with employees to [identify new ideas, share feedback, and collaborate](#) to improve service to riders.

**[Presentation: Harford Transit LINK]**

#### **2. MAXIMIZE2045 UPDATE**

Mr. Terry Freeland provided an update on *Maximize2045: A Performance-Based Transportation Plan*. Staff continue to review the list of projects submitted for consideration in Maximize2045 and conduct travel demand modeling and air quality analyses. Once the scoring and analysis

is completed, the BRTB will consider the mix of projects and release the list of projects along with a draft plan for public review in May and June.

***[Handout: Draft list of projects submitted for Maximize2045]***

### **3. PAC SUBCOMMITTEES & CURRENT ACTION ITEMS**

The following subcommittee reports were given:

- **Policy** – Ms. Janet Eveland reported that the subcommittee met via conference call to discuss comments on the list of projects submitted to the BRTB for consideration in *Maximize2045*.

Subcommittee members developed a list of comments to share with the full PAC. After some discussion it was decided that the subcommittee needed more information including prioritization scores. Staff agreed to send to the subcommittee which will review at their next conference call on April 25 at noon.

***[Handout: Draft subcommittee comments on list of projects submitted for Maximize2045]***

- **Public Involvement and Transportation Equity** – Mr. Norton reported that finding a space in Howard County this Spring has proven challenging. The PAC agreed to postpone the event until the fall. Subcommittee chairs will reach out to members to organize meetings to continue planning for the event and discuss other items to work on.

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The PAC approved the March 2019 minutes.

### **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

The following announcements were made:

- The March meeting of the BRTB was cancelled and the April 23 meeting features consideration of the following resolutions:
  - Resolution #19-18 to approve the FY 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program and associated budget;
  - Resolution #19-19 to set the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal for FY 2020;
  - Resolution #19-20 in support of the region's Title VI Program; and
  - Resolution #19-21 to endorse applications for funding under the new Maryland Job Access and Reverse Commute Program.

- The BRTB issued a response to the PAC's comments on the FY 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

***[Handout: BRTB Response to PAC comments on the FY 2020-2021 UPWP]***

- BMC and the Baltimore Regional Fair Housing Group will host [What's on Tap: Piecing It Together - Framing Affordable Housing Messages](#) on Monday, May 6 at Diamondback Brewing Company.
- [Bike to Work Day](#) – BMC is excited to celebrate the 22nd annual Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 17, 2019. The celebration will feature hundreds of cyclists at over 45 events throughout the region. Registration is open.  
Mr. Arjan van Andel suggested members also promote / participate in [Bike to School Day](#) on Wednesday, May 8.
- [Transportation Camp Baltimore](#) is set for Saturday, May 18th at the University of Baltimore Merrick School of Business. This transportation unconference, led by attendees, is an engaging forum about transportation to the people who use, plan, design, build, advocate for, hack, or just feel passionate about transportation.
- Update on [Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan \(RTP\)](#) – MDOT MTA hosted the first commission meeting for the RTP on March 25, 2019 at BMC. PAC members discussed their role in the RTP development process and any potential conflicts of interest given members' participation in various organizations or coalitions also involved in the RTP process. This led to a discussion of the PAC's mission and role. Members asked to further discuss this at a future meeting. For now, those members currently participating will do so and share information with other members. The next RTP meeting is set for Thursday, April 25 at BMC.
- Presentations from the March 13<sup>th</sup> [New Mobility Transportation Forum](#) are now on the BMC website.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

## ATTENDANCE

### **Members**

Yinka Bode-George – Resident, Baltimore City

Janet Eveland – Resident, Baltimore City

*Proxy Designated by: N. Katsikides, J. Weeks*

Kira Gardner-Marshall – Neighborhood Housing Services Baltimore

Ben Groff – Resident, Baltimore City

Tfadzwa Gwitira – Resident, Baltimore City

Bari Klein – Healthy Harford

*Attended online*

Paul Kowzan – Broadway Area Business Association

Mark Lotz – Resident, Harford County

Ian Moller-Knudson – Howard County Sierra Club

Eric Norton – Central Maryland Transportation Alliance

*Proxy Designated by: M. Davis, Y Hicks, J. Weeks*

Matt Peterson – Resident, Baltimore County

Audrey Sellers – Accessible Resources for Independence, Inc.

Michael Thompson – Turner Station Conservation Teams

Arjan van Andel – Resident, Anne Arundel County

Paul Verchinski – Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA)

Cynthia Wyatt – Resident, Anne Arundel County

*Attended online*

Daniel Yi – Resident – Howard County

### **Staff and Guests**

Gary Blazinsky, Harford Transit

Terry Freeland – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

Monica Haines Benkhedda – BMC