

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - April 17, 2013

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:32 P.M.

Those Present Were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS Director; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Eric Sprague, Bay Metro; Dave Harran, City of Bay City; Dan Hansford, Essexville; Tom Foret, Hampton Township; Jack Hofweber, MDOT; Jim Bedell, City of Bay City; Gary Brandt, Monitor Township; Cory Wale, Bay County Road Commission; Dennis Bragiel, Kawkawlin Township; Mike Niederquell, Wade Trim; Jack Wheatley, Rowe/City of Bay City; Dirk Westbury, BCATS Staff, and Cyndi Gaul, Secretary, BCATS Staff.

Approval of Minutes:

Westbury mentioned that there were five PE projects, not four, that should have been listed under the 2011-14 TIP Amendments. The Patterson Rd Project from Wheeler to Wilder was missing. It was moved by Hansford, seconded by Foret, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2013 as amended. Motion Passed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

Bay Metro Update:

Sprague mentioned that a portion of the Midland MPO was under the Bay Metro service area. Therefore, there is a need to determine Federal funding. Bay Metro will be providing shuttle services for the 2013 Tall Ships Festival from designated parking lots the GM Powertrain and a vacant property near the DEQ building on N Johnson St.

Introductions:

Introductions were made as there were some new faces around the meeting table.

Approval of Draft BCATS 2014-17 TIP for Public Review:

Engelhardt noted that BCATS is required to self-certify that the document would need to be signed by the BCATS Chairman and incorporated into the 2014-17 TIP. The Self-Certification includes the required language for Title VI and ADA compliance.

A motion was made by Sprague, seconded by Bragiel, to approve the Self-Certification Process and to allow Jim Lillo to sign on behalf of BCATS. Motion Passed.

In addition to the self-certification, there also needs to be an adjustment to the maps within the TIP to reflect the removal of Fraser Township from BCATS. The TIP will need to reflect that Fraser Township is no longer a voting member with BCATS as they have been removed from the Urbanized Area. MDOT has also provided BCATS with official language for air quality designation. That language has been added to the draft TIP, replacing the old language for Air Quality determination. The TIP Public Open House will be held on Thursday, May 30, 2013 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Wirt Library located at 500 Center Avenue, Bay City, Michigan.

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A motion was made by Brandt, seconded by Reithel, to allow the draft of the 2014-17 TIP to go out for Public Review with the above noted changes. The new map will reflect the removal of Fraser Township as a voting member of BCATS. Motion Passed.

BCATS FY 2011-14 TIP Amendments:

Engelhardt discussed that there needs to be an amendment to the 2011-14 TIP regarding the PE portion of the Woodside Avenue Project. Approximately \$3,500 in federal funding will be moved from the Road Commission Patterson Road PE project to the Woodside Avenue PE.

Engelhardt talked with Brent Shrinner of MDOT in Lansing and was told that any implementing agency without an engineer on staff, and is using a consultant in that capacity, cannot use that same engineering firm to perform the CE or PE phase of those projects, if federally funded, to avoid a conflict of interest. Options would be to 1) use an alternate engineering firm to perform the CE or PE; or 2) Pay for it without Federal Funds. Engelhardt felt that all local agencies should be aware of this issue, prior to amending the TIP for PE projects.

Public Hearing on BCATS FY 2011-14 TIP Amendments:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:55 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the amendment to the 2011-14 TIP regarding the PE portion of the Woodside Avenue Project. Funding will be moved from the Road Commission Patterson Road PE project to the Woodside Avenue PE project.

The Public Hearing on the MDOT Amendments to the BCATS FY 2008-11 TIP was adjourned at 1:56 p.m. The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:57 p.m.

Approval of the Amendments to the BCATS 2011-14 TIP:

A motion was made by Foret, seconded by Bragiel, to approve the 2011-14 TIP Amendments as listed. Motion Passed.

BCATS By Laws Amendment:

Engelhardt discussed the need to remove Fraser Township as a voting member of BCATS due to the adjusted study boundary (ACUB). Engelhardt also felt it was important to add the new Midland MPO as a non-voting member to the BCATS Committee, similar to the Saginaw MPO. Reithel brought up that MDOT "District" should be changed to MDOT "Region" while changes were being recommended for the BCATS By Laws. Engelhardt discussed the email contacts and voting options changes. He would like to see the BCATS By Laws reflect the changes in technology to allow for voting to be done electronically. Reithel thought that the person would still need to be on a conference call to allow for such a vote.

A motion was made by Bragiel, seconded by Reithel, to make the above changes to the BCATS By Laws. Motion Passed.

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FY2014 Unified Work Program:

Engelhardt discussed the Wilder Road Access Management Plan. Right now MDOT is looking at funding for the Euclid Road Access Management Plan and to incorporation Wilder Rd into the plan. Reithel said that he was still in the process of collecting information for this study. Engelhardt also discussed the US-10 Corridor Study, including M-47, Garfield Road and interchange and Mackinaw Road and interchange. Brandt mentioned that he has received a lot of complaints about Mackinaw Road. Engelhardt plans on a draft Unified Work Program ready to be voted on by the next BCATS Policy Committee Meeting. The funding for cash contribution to BCATS in FY 2014 should be close to last years totals. Those cash contribution resolutions will be sent to the implementing agencies once the total cash match requirements have been determined.

MDOT Transportation Summit:

On Friday, April 19, 2013 MDOT will be holding a Transportation Summit from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Noon) to go through the project list and the five year plan. This summit will focus on anticipated projects in the next few years. Elected Officials will also be at this meeting.

Project Updates:

The **Midland Road Project** will start May 13, 2013. There will be an April 23, 2013 Public Meeting held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for this project. The **Beaver Road Project** will have a June 2013 let date for the from I-75 to Four Mile Road. The Road Commission was awarded Economic Development Grant for the **Salzburg Road and 11 Mile Rd** that will go from Dow Corning's 11 Mile Rd facility to Salzburg Road then to the west to Carter Rd to upgrade the road to an All Season Route. The **Uptown Bay City Project** is up and running. The **North Johnson Street Project** is complete. The **MDOT I-75 Project** in Saginaw County is expected to start on April 27, 2013. The **MDOT Quanicassee Bridge Project** is under water at the moment due to flooding. Prior to the flooding, the bridge project was ahead of schedule. It is expected that this project will be complete Mid-May or June, 2013. The **MDOT M-13/M-84 Road (Salzburg Ave) Project** is underway and was on schedule. However, this project has been temporarily stopped due to weather. The **MDOT M-47/US-10 Ramp/Bridge Project** will be started in 2014. The M-47 ramp will stay open, just bridge traffic will be detoured.

Other/New Business:

Road Conditions:

Engelhardt discussed that surface road conditions are the driving force as to what is getting done as a regional push through MDOT. South Euclid Avenue in the City of Bay City was discussed.

Salzburg (M-13/M-84) Parking Issue:

MDOT is working with the property owners as there are three businesses involved.

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No Engine Breaking Signs:

Bedell mentioned that he receives a lot of questions about the placement of No Engine Breaking signs and has noticed that there is one such sign on US-223. Reithel said that MDOT doesn't allow such signs on State roads.

As there was no further business, the April 17, 2013 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul

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